



Aldus Society Notes

January, 2014

Volume 14, No. 1

January 9 - Aldus Collects 2014

Aldus begins 2014 with the 5th anniversary of our January "Aldus Collects" program on January 9th. It's the time when we learn what our fellow members collect.

George Cowmeadow Bauman will once again be hosting the program.

- NANCY CAMPBELL will talk about "Books that Work", architecture books which she frequently uses professionally.
- AMY BOSTIC will present along with her young friend Cameron Stauffer. They'll talk about the hunt for Carnegie libraries in Louisville this past summer.
- BILL RICH is pleased to share a little about his collection of George Gissing books.
- SUSAN REED has a collection of "Little Black Sambo" editions which she will discuss.

Each speaker will have 10-12 minutes to share a passion with us, followed by a short Q&A followed by more social time.

February 13, 2014 - *The Rise and Fall of Early American Magazine Culture* by Jared Gardner

Jared Gardner will talk about his recent book, *The Rise and Fall of Early American Magazine Culture*. After a multi-year project writing a history of graphic

narrative or comics in the 20th century, Gardner returns to American magazines. His talk focuses on the question of why sensible, practical, and penny-wise men and women devoted considerable time and resources to making these early magazines, publications which were doomed to inevitable failure by almost any of the calculations by which pragmatic early Americans usually made decisions. Finding the answer required stepping away from the model of literary history through which one presumed a kind of natural destiny for the book (and especially the novel) as the ideal endpoint in the evolution of print. Gardner realized the men and women who worked tirelessly on behalf of the early magazine utilized print media to craft spaces through which a virtual public sphere might be defined, inhabited, and made productive. The story of periodicals does not end in the nineteenth century. In the early years of the second great print revolution, we see an unleashing of energies and experiments very much reminiscent of early American magazine culture. Gardner will conclude by suggesting that as this 21st-century version of the story remains far from fully plotted, its resolution at least partly depends on the lessons we learn from those producers and readers who set out to create and activate very different models of cultural exchange than those which we have historically privileged.

Jared Gardner is an associate professor of English and film studies at Ohio State University. Copies of Jared Gardner's book will be available for purchase.

Aldus Society Meetings

*Regular meetings of the Aldus Society are held at 7:30 p.m.
on the second Thursday of the month between September and May.*

Thurber Center, 91 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio

Socializing at 7:00 p.m.

Free parking behind Thurber House and at State Auto rear parking lot (between 11th St. and Washington)

The Aldus Society

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Aldus Society Notes is published three times a year. For article ideas and submissions contact the Newsletter Editor, Miriam Kahn at mbkcons@gmail.com, mbkcons@netexp.net, or 614-239-8977.

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President Speaks

Dear Aldus Friends,

The great Australian poet Les Murray begins one of his most recent poems, "I am an old book troglodyte....," and the phrase struck me as a description some might assign to our own Aldus Society: a bunch of book troglodytes. It's true, we do occasionally spend time lamenting the ascendance of the Kindle and the e-book; and the rapid transformation of many libraries from book repositories to media centers. The notion, though, that we are cave people would be far from accurate. As much as we continue to love and be passionate about the content, history, creation, and physical reality of "all things book," I would suggest that we are not all reactionary anti-modernists. Readers, collectors, librarians, and booksellers are all cognizant of the changes in the world of books but many take advantage of new opportunities in that world. For example, when I started buying and selling books in the late 1970's, the "Bible" of the trade was the *AB Bookman's Weekly*, a periodical which listed thousands of books "wanted and for sale." It was a good week when your AB arrived in Wednesday's mail as opposed to the usual Thursday, as this gave you a little better shot at a quick phone call to buy a "sleeper" or two. Today the AB is long gone, and booksellers and collectors have free access to sites such as <http://vialibri.net> which can be used to search tens of millions of books for sale in seconds. Vialibri also includes a notification service which provides daily notices in response to "books wanted" requests. Another modern tool which provides an amazing body of research data regarding the availability, buying and selling, and evaluation of used and antiquarian books is <http://americanaexchange.com>, which in ten years has become one of the preeminent sites of its type on the web; and how many of us have bought books through Amazon or eBay? On the research side, OCLC's WorldCat has effectively replaced the old National Union Catalogue as the standard reference for institutional holdings. So far, I've resisted buying an e-reader, but I have heard quite a few of our members talk about them and the ways in which they have contributed to their increased access and enjoyment of reading.

We've had a wonderful first half of the 2013-2014 Aldus season, and the next 6 months promise continued learning, enjoyment and friendship, with great speakers, field trips, First Saturdays and special events - no cave dwellers here!

Happy 2014 to all! - Ed

Newsletter Editor Notes

Within the pages of this newsletter are articles long and short contributed by many members of the Aldus Society with little prompting and cheerful abandon. Bill Rich writes about his search for Gibbon's magnum opus and Genie Hostler explores the printing history of Ohio's gazetteer by Kilbourne. There are shorter articles about Aldus gatherings, books, collections, exhibits, and collectors, and a tribute to recently departed Ivan Gilbert. We look forward to five informative and educational meetings this spring featuring four of our own collectors Nancy Campbell, Amy Bostic, Bill Rich and Susan Reed; two authors Jared Gardner and Joy Kiser; Bob Fleck collector, bookseller and publisher of Oak Knoll Books; and the extraordinary conservator, Harry Campbell. If you still have time to ponder, you might pick up one of the new books on books including Travis McDade's *Thieves of Book Row*, Simon Garfield's *To the Letter*, Charlie Lovett's *The Bookman's Tale*, and most intriguing of all Keith Houston's *Shady Characters*. Thanks to those who write articles and sent photos, and most especially to Don Rice who copy-edited the longer articles. - *Miriam*

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Body copy is set in Garamond, and headlines are set in Franklin Gothic.

March 13, 2014: Ron Ravneberg Lecture: Presented by Bob Fleck, Oak Knoll Books

38 Years and Counting, A Life of Bookselling, Publishing and Bibliomania

Bob Fleck, owner of Oak Knoll Books and Oak Knoll Press <http://www.oakknoll.com/>, will talk



about his life in the book world. From the perfect training in rare books (Chemical Engineering Bachelors at University of Delaware, Masters Chemical Engineering at University of Virginia), Bob has had a bibliophilic life that eventually led to his Presidency of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (1996-1998) and

Presidency of the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (2002-2006). He will share the trials and tribulations of chucking a real paying job and trading it in for a job as a bookseller/publisher in the specialty field of books about books.

Along the way he has travelled all over the world buying books and making friends with his fellow booksellers and collectors. Bob will share some of those adventures with us and promises to eliminate all mention of his failures in his talk and only emphasize his triumphs (with perhaps a few exceptions)! He has his

own collection of course and if you are fortunate he might let you know all about his history of Delaware collection.

Bob lives in New Castle, Delaware, a charming old colonial town in an old colonial home one half block from his business which is in an Opera House built by the Masons in 1879. He is married to Millie and has four children and six grandchildren. His youngest son Rob has worked in the business ever since graduating from college seven years ago and has his eyes set on continuing the business.

April 10, 2014: Genevieve Estelle Jones, America's Other Audubon: Presented by Joy M. Kiser

In 1876, Circleville, Ohio, native Genevieve Estelle Jones was suffering from a broken heart after her father forbade her from marrying the man she loved. Hoping to take her mind off her troubles, she visited the Centennial World's Fair in Philadelphia where she saw engravings from John James Audubon's breathtaking *Birds of America*. The daughter of a country doctor, Genevieve had collected birds' nests and eggs since she was a little girl and had always been frustrated that there was no reference book to help her identify them. Inspired by Audubon's example, Genevieve became determined to create her own book illustrating the nests and eggs that Audubon had omitted.

Genevieve's father Nelson wrote the prospectus for a book that would be called *Illustrations of the Nests and Eggs of Birds of Ohio*, subscriptions were sold, and Genevieve and a girlhood friend threw themselves into

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Board Adopts Revised By-Laws for the Organization

On October 8, 2013 the Board of Trustees for Aldus voted to adopt revised By-Laws for the governance of the Organization. The vote followed the work of a sub-committee (Wes Baker, Amy Bostic, and Emerson Gilbert) appointed by the Board in the spring 2013 to review the By-Laws and recommend revisions. In September, 2013, the sub-committee circulated the proposed revisions to the Board for review and comment before the vote in October. Following several comments from Board members that led to additional revisions, the Board adopted the By-Laws.

The revised By-Laws allow the Board to conduct business through email so long as an appropriate defined notice procedure is followed and provides for the creation/election of a Vice-President officer position. The Board has not yet voted on whether to create the position, and those discussions continue. The revised By-Laws identify the Standing Committees of the Board as follows: (1) the Executive Committee; (2) the Membership Committee; (3) the Program Committee; (4) the Publicity Committee; (5) the Nominating Committee; and (6) the Finance Committee.

If anyone would like to review the By-Laws adopted by the Board in October they can request a copy from either Ed Hoffman, president of Aldus or from Amy Bostic, sub-committee chair.

May 8, 2014: Conservation of Johannes Herolt's *Sermones de tempore*, c. 1450: Presented by Harry Campbell

Recently acquired by The Ohio State University Libraries (OSUL) Rare Books and Manuscripts Department <http://library.osu.edu/find/collections/rarebooks/>, Herolt's *Sermones* is a mid-15th century bound manuscript on paper. Herolt (ca. 1386-1468) was a Dominican friar of Nuremberg, vicar of the Katharinekloster, and one of late-medieval Germany's most prolific sermon writers and preachers. This volume includes Herolt's collection of model sermons on topics and themes related to the liturgical year and cycle of saints' festivals. This sermon collection proved to be exceptionally popular, both during Herolt's lifetime and afterwards. It has been estimated that at least 500 manuscript copies of the collected sermons survive today (both complete and fragmentary), and as many as 186 separate editions of them were printed by the year 1500, with another 60 editions printed from the 16th-18th centuries.

In the summer of 2011, the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department requested that this book be conserved including treatment of the text for tape removal, stabilization of the ink and paper, and rebinding in 15th century German period style with leather spine and exposed wooden boards. OSU's copy had been re-covered sometime in the 20th century in quarter leather and paste paper over thick mill board. Also, at some time(s) in the past 50 years, a number of pages had been reinforced with various clear plastic tapes to support areas where the acidic iron gall ink was corroding the paper. In many of these areas, tape had been applied to both sides of the leaves. Originally, at least two scribes worked on this manuscript (one working on the temporal cycle, and the other on the Lenten sequence), and the condition of the various inks used ranges from near pristine to extensively corroded. The acidic and deteriorating ink

was present on approximately 70 leaves in the last quarter of the text block.

In September 2011, conservators in the OSUL Conservation Unit <http://library.osu.edu/about/departments/preservation/book-arts-division/book-arts-laboratory/> began treatment that included dis-binding, tape, adhesive residue, and stain removal, and mending pages. The final step entailed re-sewing and binding in period style, as requested by the curator, using wooden boards, alum-tawed leather for the spine, metal fore-edge clasps, and creation of a custom box to

house the book and earlier binding components including parts from the original 15th century binding structure. The most significant part of the treatment was the difficult and time-consuming removal of tape and adhesives, followed by reassembly of areas of text where much ink had been lost, leaving only the paper fragments between the lines of writing.

In addition to Harry's discussion of the conservation treatment, he will describe the collaboration between the conservator and a land owner in southern Ohio for the "harvesting" of the beech wood used for the boards. Cut from a storm-damaged 150 year-old American Beech tree, the property owner donated the wood, the milling, drying, delivery and stacking to the Libraries specifically for this project and for potential use on future binding projects.

Harry Campbell is the Book and Paper Conservator for OSUL, managing the Conservation Unit of the Preservation and Reformatting Department with a staff of two full-time employees including an Assistant Rare Books Conservator

and a Collections and Exhibits Conservation Assistant. Mr. Campbell has been with the OSUL in this position since 2003 and was Head of Collection Maintenance at OSUL from 1985-1994. In between he worked as Senior Conservator at the Etherington Conservation Center from 1995-2002. He had apprenticeship training from the University of Cincinnati Libraries Conservation Department, 1981-1984, under the direction of Gabrielle Fox and Virginia Wisniewski. He graduated from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 1972, majoring in painting.



Ohioana Collects

by Miriam Kahn

Ohioana Library's mission is "Connecting Readers with Ohio Writers." For the past 85 years, the librarians have collected books by Ohio authors and about the state. The library houses more than 45,000 books by or about Ohioans; 10,000 pieces of sheet music; biographical files on notable Ohioans; personal papers of Ohio authors and artists; and numerous scrapbooks created by Ohio civic and cultural organizations have found their way to the climate controlled room of the library. This vast, non-circulating collection features books by Allan Eckert, Conrad Richter, and even Daniel Drake, to name just three of my favorite authors. Ohioana Library sponsors BookFest the second Saturday of May which brings hundreds of authors and booklovers to Columbus, Ohio; On The Road book tours throughout the summer; and Ohioana Awards in October honoring authors, poets, and illustrators. A blog, written by Stephanie, sheds light on the riches hidden in the collection <http://ohioanalibrary.wordpress.com/>

Between mid-August and November, there was a changeover in staff beginning with the new librarian, Stephanie Michaels; a new director David Weaver who added running the organization to his development position; and Office Manager Kathryn Powers.

You can visit the Ohioana Library in person at 274 E. First Avenue, Suite 300 in Columbus, Ohio or online at www.ohioana.org. Tucked in the back of the State Library of Ohio, this private library is open to all Monday through Friday, 9-4:30.

Donald Tritt Swiss Collection

The 8,000 books collection of Aldus member, Don Tritt, has found a home. It now rests in the Swiss American Historical Society in New Glarus, Wisconsin, and will be available, with other materials, to scholars around the world.

In the last publication of the Society (Fall 2013), Don tells the fascinating story of how his collection started from looking in Columbus bookshops for Swiss materials to preserve. His search then ranged to different parts of the world where sometimes he would experience an "extra beat of the heart" when he found a special treasure. He relates the involvement of his collection even to the time when he added an attached library for it to his home.

The Aldus Society is an important part of the story since Don says, "In 2000, finally realizing I had become

a book collector, I joined the Aldus Book Collecting Society in Columbus, Ohio. Later in 2003, I was the featured presenter on the topic: Encounters with Switzerland: Adventures in Book Collecting."

The many experiences of this collector make a great story, and if any member would like to read it, please contact Don at dtritt@roadrunner.com or 740-587-0213.

AUDUBON, from page 3

drawing nests and learning the art of lithography. The nests and eggs were drawn true to size and printed on Whatman's Hot-pressed Antiquarian paper—the same brand of imported paper that Audubon had used. After completing only four illustrations, Genevieve was stricken with typhoid fever and died. Devastated, her grieving family vowed to complete the book in her memory.

Joy M. Kiser, a former librarian for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, will present a mini documentary on Genevieve that will include aspects of the family's story, archival photographs, and many details that could not be included her book, *America's Other Audubon*.¹ Additional information about the book are found on the website <http://americasotheraudubon.com/>. Joy M. Kiser was born in Akron and began her professional career as the librarian for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History in 1995. In 2001, she moved to Washington, DC, to become the librarian for National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). She has recently relocated back to Ohio and now works as an Advancement Research Specialist at Kent State University.

Copies of Kiser's book will be available for purchase at the April meeting.



¹ For a longer article about this book see: John Gladden, "Legacy of Love" *OhioMagazine* (October 2013) <http://www.ohiomagazine.com/Main/Articles/4833.aspx>

Fabulous FABS Tours and Symposiums

The 2013 Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies (FABS) Annual Tour was held in Baltimore in October, and guests stayed in the historic downtown Mt. Vernon district. Geoff and Lois Smith were the only Aldus representatives this year. Stops on the tour included The George Peabody Library at Johns Hopkins University (pictured); the Walters Art Museum for illuminated manuscripts and the “Hall of Wonders”; the Art Museum and its Cone Collection of Impressionist



Art; various stops at JHU for scholarly stained glass treasures, an epigraphy lab, and a book conservation workshop; the Historical Museum; and the Evergreen Museum, a gilded age mansion built by the Garretts, scions of the B&O railroad fortune. Our host for the entire tour was the delightful Earle Havens, curator of Rare Books and

Manuscripts Sections (RBMS) at Johns Hopkins.

FABS tours are famous for their catered affairs, and this year was no different. Guests were treated to a private cocktail party in the *piano nobile* of Diana Edward Murnaghan, whose historic home featured a fine art collection; lunches at the beautiful Mt. Vernon Club, and at the chatty Conversation Club; dinners at the Peabody Library and the JHU Faculty Club; and a Sunday brunch at the home of Richard Macksey, retired JHU professor whose library contained over 70,000 high end books – there was seating, believe it or not!

Once you’ve been on one of these tours, you don’t want to miss the next one! The 2014 FABS Tour is sponsored by the Rowfant Club in Cleveland from June 11-15, 2014. Information is on p. 7 of the fall issue of the FABS newsletter. Contact Terry Shockey (shockey.terry@gmail.com) for details and to reserve a spot, limited to 50 participants.

An Ex-POW and P. G. Wodehouse: A Bookstore-ies

by George Cowmeadow Bauman



A tall, slender, silver-haired man in a tan summer-weight jacket slipped in the side door, and after we greeted each other pleasantly, he asked, “Do you have any biographies of opera singer Richard Milton?”

I replied that I didn’t think we did. I’ve learned to be careful about stating definitively that we did or didn’t have a customer’s request. He seemed a little disappointed, but then began a story.

“Several years ago the “New York Times” asked for information on Milton for a book that was being written about him. I responded with my story about being in a POW hospital in Belgium during the war. We prisoners were told that we could listen to the Armed Forces Radio broadcast of Milton’s singing if we would sweep the commissary floors. You never saw such clean floors, for we really liked his music!

“It’s just as well you don’t have one, for my wife would really get on me for bringing home another book. I have about 500 at home, including a 4-foot shelf of P. G. Wodehouse.”

We talked about Wodehouse and how I acquired our large collection from a daughter selling her father’s Wodehouse books, and who was amazed at what we were willing to pay for books she didn’t enjoy.

“Well, he keeps me laughing, and after what I went through as a POW, aside from that great opera music, laughter is what helps me get through life.”



“Secondhand booksellers are among the most friendly and the most eccentric of all the characters I have known. If I had not been a writer, theirs would have been the profession I would most happily have chosen.” - Graham Greene

Aldus Celebrates the Season

by George Cowmeadow Bauman

A great, festive crowd of Aldus members and their guests turned out at La Scala Italian Bistro on Dec. 12th to celebrate not only the season, but also our Society and one another. Our tables were all full for dinner well-organized by Lois Smith, and Laralyn and her angels had the auction tables looking like Santa had really emptied his pack on the display tables.

While no official amount was available at press time, Laralyn Sasaki, spending her honeymoon with Aldus, said she thought it was our highest total ever raised. No fist- or book-fights broke out over any given auction item, though competition for some items were quite vigorous. Kassie Rose, Amy Bostic, and Emerson Gilbert were kept busy as we paid for the goodies we'd won. Several members required boxes to pack up their winnings. Fortunately, there were a couple of strong young elves to help us load our sleighs for the wintry trip home. Santa arrived early for many Aldus members.

Christine Hayes received the Carol Logue Biblio-Fellowship Award for service to Aldus. As he presented the glass trophy to Christine, Geoff Smith praised her many years as Secretary to the Board, as well the cookies and coffee she makes for each of our programs. "I'll make cookies till I die!" Christine said to the crowd as she enjoyed the special moment.

This annual gathering shows the best of Aldus. We have wonderful people doing all the organizing of the auction and the dinner, and volunteers helped set up the auction tables. As well, all the members who donated the hundreds of auction items are to be thanked for their generosity.

Joy is one of the hallmarks of this season, and the members of Aldus seemed to have a wonderfully joyous evening.



OSUL Center for Book Arts & Logan Elm Press

Since its inception, the Logan Elm Press has supported collaborative research, creative exploration and the enhancement of knowledge through the Arts of the Book, including printing, binding, typography, and papermaking. As part of The Ohio State University Libraries' Department of Preservation and Reformatting, the Press is dedicated to preserving and advancing the age-old technology of the book and has offered editors, designers, scholars, writers, craftspeople and artists the opportunity to engage in hands-on, interdisciplinary teaching and learning experiences, including credit and non-credit courses, workshops, seminars, lectures, demonstrations, exhibitions and conferences, which are open to OSU students, faculty and staff as well as the community at large.

The Press has produced and published unique, high quality limited edition books and ephemera that reflect the interests and talents of the OSU community along with the highest standards in the book arts. Many Logan Elm press books and ephemera have won praise for their workmanship and literary and artistic significance and are regularly acquired by major institutional and private collections. The Press also has been awarded numerous grants from federal, state, and local government agencies, national corporations and philanthropic institutions.

In 2012, The Ohio State University Libraries received an American Library Association Carnegie-Whitney grant to create a digital Catalogue Raisonné of all of the books and broadsides printed and published at the Logan Elm Press from its beginning in 1979 to the present. We have now completed the bibliographic records, along with numerous digital images for 160 items, to be deposited for long-term preservation and world-wide electronic accessibility in The Ohio State University Libraries' Knowledge Bank at: <http://kb.osu.edu/dspace/handle/1811/54232>.

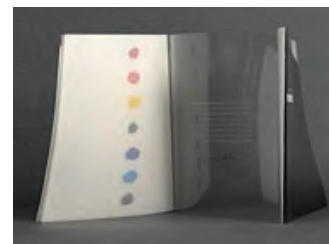
***Toilet Worship* By M J Bole**

This artists book collages over fifty years of scatological meanderings, segues, tangents and autobiographical intricacies of bathroom minutia. Printed on Mohawk Superfine 100 lb. cover paper using a combination of color laser xerography and photo-polymer plates on a Vandercook No. 4 letterpress. Each copy includes a four-color process gatefold and a sheet of perforated gum-backed stamps stencil-printed at Knust Press, Netherlands.



***Blacklists/Whitelists* By Suzanne Silver**

This book experiments with meaning in non-narrative content. It was hand-printed letterpress from photopolymer plates on glassine and is hand-bound into a dos-à-dos painted vinyl structure wrapped in a clear polyester enclosure. Blind embossed, die cut, white-on-white and black-on-black pages can be read recto verso and verso recto, opening and closing in numerous layers to investigate the physical act of "reading" as the cumulative effect of superimposed texts & images.



***Book in a Bottle: The Story of Captain Cook* By Rebecca Harvey**

This OSU Ceramicist is fascinated by words in 3D. Her book, printed on a sheet of 9-1/2 foot long handmade paper with feathery deckle incorporates text and images, is rolled inside a hand-blown glass bottle with wooden stopper. This publication is currently in production at Logan Elm Press.



***How to Make This Book* illustrated by Charles Issac Lipovich** was printed in 2012. This 2 signature codex is hand printed, sewn, and bound in paper covers. Three hundred copies were printed on Mohawk Superfine 100 lb test soft white smooth paper. To see the book in action click on the QR Code or visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiVRcRNB47o/.



Bibliophilia and the Cuban Revolution

by John M. Bennett

Leonardo Padura, *La neblina del ayer*, Tusquets, 2005; translated, by Peter Bush, as *Havana Fever*, Bitter Lemon Press, 2009.

I don't read much detective fiction, but this novel in Leonardo Padura's (Havana, 1955) *Mario Conde* detective series is a true bibliophilic delight and at the same time provides an exciting and deeply thoughtful meditation on Cuban history over the past century and a half and more. The protagonist is a retired detective who is making a slim living selling used books in today's Havana, when he happens upon a previously unknown private library in a decaying mansion. One of the book's greatest pleasures are the descriptions of the amazing bibliographic rarities Conde finds there. This aspect of the book reminds me of a tale by Borges, except that in this case, the books are real (I double-checked) and not invented by the author. In addition, there is a vivid picture of the Cuban book trade, of its libraries, and of the corruption and machinations of the world of books in Cuba, extending to its connections abroad. But all these bibliographic mysteries and discoveries are placed in a complex and fascinating historical context, involving the strange disappearance of a beautiful Bolero singer of the 1950's; gangsters such as Meyer Lansky; Fulgencio Batista; a wealthy Cuban family come to naught; Havana's grim contemporary poverty and underworld; a group of the protagonist's friends; and the Cuban revolution, an immense ambiguous presence throughout the whole novel. The relationships between the books mentioned and the other stories of the novel make for some intriguing speculation.

Among those books are a 1552 edition of Bartolomé de las Casas' *Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias*, a 1605 edition of El Inca Garcilaso's *La Florida del Inca*, a first edition of Voltaire's *Candide*, rare 18th and 19th century Cuban ethnographic and historical imprints, the rare first edition, published in Mexico, of the poems of the great Cuban poet José María Heredia, and first editions of works by Jorge Luis Borges and Alejo Carpentier, which indicate that the family who compiled the library was adding to it up through the late 1950's. One of those book collectors is a major figure in the convoluted mystery that forms the plot structure of the book.

Padura, who lives in Havana, has published many books, most of them focusing on Cuba, and has

managed to walk a fine political line, not suffering major harassments from Cuban authorities. Partly this is due to the immense international success he has enjoyed, and partly due to the lack of *direct* reference to such topics as *El Barbudo* (The Bearded One, or Fidel Castro). Some of his books have been published in Cuba, as well as in Spain and other countries. So his books can be read either as a critique of contemporary Cuban society, or as a celebration of it. Or both, which is the sign of a great novelist. I can't recommend this book strongly enough to anyone interested in books, or in Cuba, or just in a compelling mystery tale.

Leonardo Padura is only the latest major writer from a small country with an outsized tradition of great writers, including José María Heredia, José Martí, Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda, Julián del Casal, Alejo Carpentier, José Lezama Lima, Reinaldo Arenas, Guillermo Cabrera Infante, Dulce María Loynaz, Samuel Feijóo, Heberto Padilla, Mariano Brull, Nicolás Guillén...the list goes on and on.

Many of Padura's books have been translated into English; one that has received considerable international attention is *El hombre que amaba a los perros*, (Tusquets, 2009), translated as *The Man Who Loved Dogs*, (Bitter Lemon Press & Farrar, Straus and Giroux, apparently to be released in January 2014). This novel, translated by Anna Kushner, is set in Mexico in the 1940s and concerns Ramón Mercader, the man who assassinated Leon Trotsky. It too is an excellent and rich work.



BOOK HUNTING NOTES

A Collectors' Conundrum: Completing a Set of "The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"

by Bill Rich

Occasionally collectors are offered a multi-volume set of books that is incomplete, one or more volumes having gone missing. Often, it is the first book of the set that is gone – where, who knows? Taken out of the house to be read, misplaced, borrowed, stolen, whatever, but never returned. Such broken sets are anathema to serious collectors, even if an intact set would constitute a valuable, sought-after acquisition. Truly up-scale dealers, and often those of any pretensions whatsoever, will not have them in their shops. But, when offered, they are priced at a small fraction of the cost of a complete set. The collector of fewer resources than those of Mr. Bill Gates might be tempted. Nevertheless, the best advice is “don’t do it,” unless the price is that of a very used book, and then you can suit yourself. The chances of completing the set by finding a copy of the exact missing volume, with a binding matching those you already have, is miniscule.

I have this year completed a badly broken set, but it has taken me thirty-five years to do it. The book in question is the first edition of Edward Gibbon’s *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. This is, of course, one of the great histories in the Western tradition, and is a major product of the Age of Enlightenment and a monument of English Augustan prose. No one ever said it was too short, however. It was first published in six massive quarto volumes, in London over the years 1776-1788. Volume 1, which carries the story essentially down to the time of Constantine, was a major success when first published in February 1776 in an edition of 1000 copies, which were quickly sold out. Such was the demand that a second edition of 1500 copies was printed in June of the same year. It sold so rapidly that a third edition had to be printed the next year. These were exceptional sales for an 18th-century book, especially one that sold for a guinea, which is more than a pound sterling. This was almost the equivalent of a month’s wages for a working man. Inspired by the success of a work that already had taken years to write, Gibbon pressed on and in 1781 published Volumes 2 and 3 of the history. There is a famous story of Gibbon’s presenting these books at the English court. The corpulent Gibbon, literally sewn into his best knee britches and formal court attire,

presented the two volumes. They were received by King George III’s younger brother, Prince William Henry, the Duke of Clarence, with these words: “Another damned thick book! Always scribble, scribble, scribble! Eh, Mr. Gibbon?” So much for five more years of mind-breaking scholarship in the opinion of the idiot duke. Undeterred by the royal sneer, Gibbon continued, and, on May 8, 1788, published the final three volumes in an edition of 3,000 copies each. The entire project had taken him fifteen years and is, by my count, 3,934 big quarto pages – one of the longest works in the English language.

My first acquaintance with the *Decline and Fall* was as a high school freshman. I had started to take Latin, which was still offered in the public high schools in those far-off days. My old Dad, with highly unrealistic expectations of the capabilities of his stripling son, bought me the three-volume Modern Library edition, and encouraged me to go at it. This did not work out. I did not read any significant part of it until years later. However, it did encourage me to work on my Latin. Somewhere, Gibbon noted “My English text is chaste, and all licentious passages are left in the obscurity of a learned language.” All the extravagant sexual escapades of some of the worst emperors were relegated to Latin footnotes. I did my best to read them, but most were far beyond first-year Latin.

But I digress. In later years I have read considerable parts of this masterpiece, particularly in Vol. 1. Here are found the famous fifteenth and sixteenth chapters which give an analytical discussion of the rise and increase of Christianity in the early Empire. I can’t resist giving a sample of the ironical, skeptical, questioning prose of these chapters. Here is Gibbon wondering why the darkness that enveloped the world for three hours after the death of Jesus (narrated in three of the Gospels) somehow escaped notice:

“But how shall we excuse the supine inattention of the Pagan and philosophic world to those evidences which were presented by the hand of Omnipotence, not to their reason, but to their senses? During the age of Christ, of his apostles, and of their first disciples, the doctrine which they preached was confirmed by innumerable prodigies. The lame

walked, the blind saw, the sick were healed, the dead were raised, daemons were expelled, and the laws of Nature were frequently suspended for the benefit of the church. But the sages of Greece and Rome turned aside from the awful spectacle, and, pursuing the ordinary occupations of life and study, appeared unconscious of any alterations in the moral or physical government of the world. Under the reign of Tiberius, the whole earth, or at least a celebrated province of the Roman empire, was involved in a preternatural darkness of three hours. Even this miraculous event, which ought to have excited the wonder, the curiosity, and the devotion of mankind, passed without notice in an age of science and history. It happened during the lifetime of Seneca and the elder Pliny, who must have experienced the immediate effects, or received the earliest intelligence, of the prodigy. Each of these philosophers, in a laborious work, has recorded all the great phenomena of Nature, earthquakes, meteors, comets, and eclipses, which his indefatigable curiosity could collect. Both the one and the other have omitted to mention the greatest phenomenon to which the mortal eye has been witness since the creation of the globe. A distinct chapter of Pliny is designed for eclipses of an extraordinary nature and unusual duration; but he contents himself with describing the singular defect of light which followed the murder of Caesar, when, during the greatest part of a year, the orb of the sun appeared pale and without splendour. This season of obscurity, which cannot surely be compared with the preternatural darkness of the Passion, had been already celebrated by most of the poets and historians of that memorable age”.

The several scholarly references in this passage have been omitted, but paragraphs such as this presenting serious historical-critical analyses outraged orthodoxy. Boswell detested Gibbon. After the publication of the first volumes, Boswell likened Gibbon to “an infidel wasp” who “should be crushed.” And, of course, the entire work was soon placed on the Roman Catholic Church’s Index of Prohibited Books where it remained until the Index was abolished in the early 1960s. (Come to think of it, an enviable collection of Western thought could be formed from books that made it onto the Index in those times.) It is also interesting to Americans that this work, first published at the beginning of our Revolution against the tyrannies of King George III, was nevertheless honored and freely published under this presumably oppressive government.

My first encounter with this classic work in first edition was in the late 1970s in a book barn in central New York State, the never-to-be forgotten (for me) Lantern Book Shop in Livonia. This was an ancient brick building of many rooms, with unfinished concrete floors, beside an abandoned railroad siding in the

boonies. And each room was filled with books culled from many an old household in the region, all for sale at low price. The store was more of a book depot than anything else. I suspect that anything deemed desirable by more centrally located dealers was promptly culled and shipped off. Nevertheless, many a treasure I now esteem was recovered from the Lantern in those old days. On one occasion, there were five massive books that formed the foundation of just one pile on the concrete floor. Removing the upper books in the pile, I saw that the title page of one of the big books was, sure enough, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Several things were apparent. One was that condition was abysmal. If ever the term “reading copy only” could be applied to a classic of 18th-century literature in first edition, it would be these books. What remained of the bindings showed full decorated 18th-century calf. Some of the volumes had both covers missing; on all the others, the covers were completely detached. Most of the spine leathers were gone or entirely missing, the books being held together by the binding ligatures and mull. On the other hand, each volume was clearly a first edition. A quick examination showed me that the scarce and most significant Vol. 1 was missing, and Vol. 2 was lacking the last page of text, the only actual incomplete volume in the lot. Vol. 5 was also completely missing. There were two copies of Vol. 3 and one copy each of Vols. 4 and 6. All these volumes seemed surprisingly complete, with the fold-out maps, half titles, and errata sheets present. The leaves were clean, creamy laid-paper of the period, without the foxing that disfigures so many old books from later times when acid-containing, machine-made wood pulp papers were introduced.

After this inspection, I took my stack of other selections to the Lantern’s proprietor and casually asked what he would want for the rubbishy, broken *Decline and Fall* set on the floor of his back room. Without much hesitation, he said “How about \$10?” “O.K.,” says I, with the air of someone who offers to help in cleaning out a garage. It was something of a task to carry them out to my car – each volume is larger than 11” x 9”, and weighs about 4 pounds. You definitely do not want the full set in your backpack. Not exactly “reading copies” if you’re reading in bed.

And so I became an owner of this broken set. And, even with my modest standards at the time, they were in no condition to display on my shelves. I had vague ideas of getting them rebound, but it would have been a kind of sacrilege to have them bound in modern buckram. They were placed in the corrugated cardboard box that

the Lantern owner had supplied me, and kept on a shelf in a closet of my home. There they remained until we sold our house in Western New York and moved to Columbus. Here the box was put in another closet, a kind of collector's leper colony, filled with books not fit for display. It was not until almost the turn of the new millennium that I was shamed into doing something about the *Decline and Fall*. My friend Ron Ravneberg was a great bibliophile and one of the founders of the Aldus Society in Columbus. He collected 18th-century books (notably, the voyages of Capt. Cook and related material on 18th-century exploration). He shared his dictum that a private owner of 18th-century books of any consequence was, after all, but a temporary custodian. Such collectors have a positive societal duty to protect, conserve, and restore these books – otherwise they should be left for others who could do this job. Ever since, I have tried to do these things, and to remember Ron's words.

My recourse was to Harry Campbell, the chief book conservator at Ohio State's Rare Book and Manuscript Division. He undertook the extensive independent job of rebinding the books in 18th-century full calf antique style, complete with red and black spine labels, gilt-lettered (Fig. 1). As is the good professional practice, all original materials not used in the restoration were

original blue paper wrappers, and that the pages were uncut. This book had not been bound. As was standard with 18th-century English publishing, the volumes were first issued in heavy paper covers; the buyer could then have the bookseller bind them to suit, or commission his own binder. In these temporary housings, the folded leaves of the paper sheets were as they came from the papermakers, with the exposed edges of the leaves untrimmed, rough as they left the papermaker's frames ("deckle edges"). In the binding process, these edges were then cut smooth. "Uncut" refers to these rough edges; it does not mean that the outer folds of the individual pages have not been separated. The term "unopened" is applied to this latter condition. So my Vol. 6 is an uncommon survival – but not unique. The standard bibliography of the *Decline and Fall* notes that a few copies in the original blue paper wrappers survive in institutional libraries. Good conservation practice dictates that in rebinding, the deckle edges be preserved, and the leaves definitely left in their original untrimmed state. Such is the case with my Vol. 6, and hence its slightly taller size.

Having gone this far, and proudly displaying my beautiful if broken set, I now tried to keep an eye open for the missing Vols. 1 and 5, and, even, a Vol. 2 with the last leaf intact. Any collectors reading this, who have tried a similar exercise, are permitted to smile derisively. Nevertheless, by the time I began the search, Internet super-search engines were available, and I could search the world from home. My favorite search engine is Bookfinder.com, <http://www.bookfinder.com/>, which incorporates several of the others. What I found initially was that there were generally no sets offered that contained all the quartos in first edition. When, occasionally, such were offered, the price was up in the five figures. Many later printings and editions there were, of course, available; some of the later 18th-century octavo editions in eight volumes also command a healthy price. None of these were for me. When there were broken sets offered, they didn't include Vol. 1, and I would have to pay a considerable price for volumes I already owned; the vendors would not sell single volumes from their broken sets (I checked). Finally, a dealer advertised a broken set for which he priced the individual volumes separately – at about \$200 each. He had a Vol. 5, which I promptly bought. It is in original 18th-century full calf, and is very nice (also shown in Fig.1). Then I experienced something that has never happened before or since. The dealer called me, and offered to buy back my copy at an advance over the price

FIG. 1



"Decline and Fall". Copies bound in period calf by Harry Campbell. Vol.5, in unrestored 18th Century calf, is on top of the stack.

carefully logged and separately preserved. And good conservation teaches the collector. It will be noted from the figure that Vol. 6, at the bottom of the stack, is somewhat taller than the other volumes. Vol.6 was the only one of the original broken set that retained no trace whatsoever of an original leather binding. Harry pointed out to me that this volume had traces of the

I just paid. Another collector wanted just the volumes the dealer had for sale, but wouldn't do it without the Vol. 5. This collector hardened his heart, however, and decided to hang onto his copy.

After all this, I still lacked Vol.1 and a totally complete Vol. 2. But this year, a dealer in St. Catherines, Ontario, posted this listing (abbreviated here):

"The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, London 1776-81. 3 Volumes only of six. Very good set in unrestored original leather bindings, 4to. Volume 1 is the second edition, 1776, issued almost immediately after the first. Volumes 2 and 3 the first editions, 1781. Spines tooled with elaborate design including the date and dragon head gold embossed. Boards weak but holding on all three volumes."

This sounded pretty good to me. I was reconciled to never getting the absolute first of Vol. 1, but the second edition, printed a few months later in the same year of 1776 was something I was willing to settle for. The "Boards weak but holding" was a little off-putting, but any completely unrestored 18th-century calf binding is going to be weak at the joints, particularly big volumes that had been read. The dealer gave photos and quoted a price a little less than a hundred times what I had paid to the Lantern bookshop thirty-five years ago. The books are everything I hoped, the bindings being those commissioned by an English noble family (Fig.2).

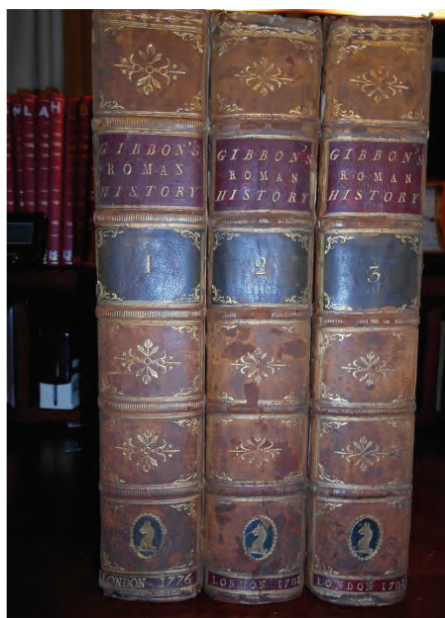


Fig. 2

The first three volumes of "Decline and Fall", in contemporary decorated calf.

Vol. 2, in addition to being complete, has bound in it the engraving of Gibbon commissioned for the 1781 volumes; this is not present in all sets (Fig.3).

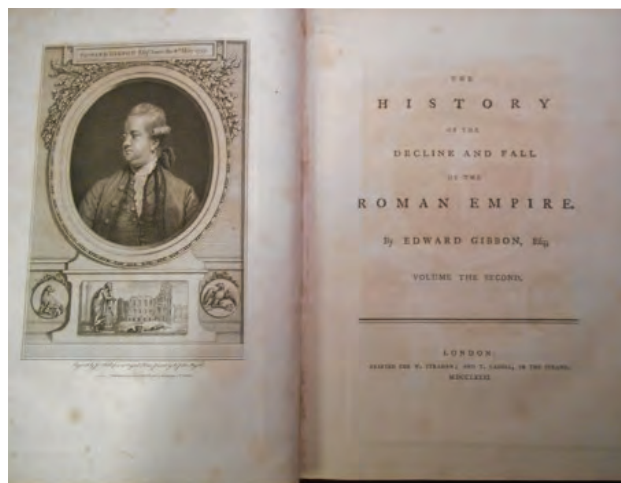


Fig. 3

Vol. 2 of "Decline and Fall", title page and frontispiece the Gibbon portrait.

So this is the end of what would be regarded by most of the book-collecting world as a definitely quixotic quest. But my rationalizations are many. I have a set of a great classic, a book I love, in beautiful appropriate bindings. And, considering how the volumes were published over twelve years, says this rationalizer, the disparities in the leather bindings can be lived with. And these very copies are great to read (if you have a convenient table or reading desk!). As Gibbon himself wrote: "Books are those faithful mirrors that reflect to our mind the minds of sages and heroes."



The Aldus Society

www.AldusSociety.com

The Ohio Gazetteer – Ohio's First Best-seller

by Jane Ware and Genie Hoster

The *Ohio Gazetteer*, researched and written by John Kilbourn, Columbus's first bookseller, has been credited as the most important book to facilitate the settlement of Ohio.

In 1811, John Kilbourn arrived in Worthington, Ohio, just months after his graduation from the University of Vermont. Kilbourn was a nephew of James Kilbourne, the founder of Worthington. Born in Berlin, Connecticut, in 1787, John Kilbourn had graduated with a BA degree, which was upgraded to an MA several

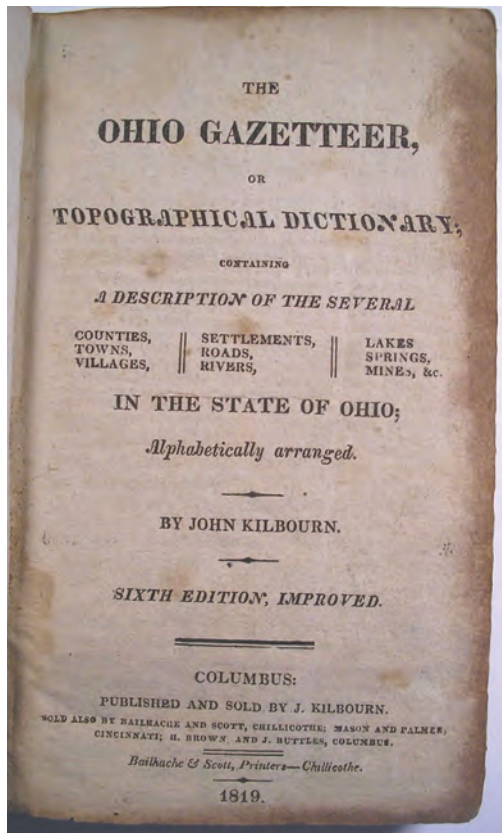
From Pittsburgh he had a much more difficult journey on rudimentary roads which, after more than three weeks of travel, eventually brought him to the newly established village of Worthington.

Of Worthington, Kilbourn later wrote in his *Ohio Gazetteer*: "This village is beautifully situated upon a rolling site of ground on the east side of Whetstone River, on the great road leading from Kentucky by way of Chillicothe, Columbus, &c. to Lake Erie. In the middle of the public square, in the centre of the town, the post road leading from Zanesville to Urbana, Greenville, &c. crosses the former."

After the War of 1812, Easterners heard many far-fetched stories about perils which lay west of the Ohio River. Kilbourn sensed that people were apprehensive about venturing into the Ohio territory, so he decided that a factual book describing Ohio and its various regions, towns, rivers, and roads through the wilderness would entice people to the promising new locale that he and his family members had relocated to. The late antiquarian book specialist Ernest J. Wessen wrote in one of his catalogs:

They knew the kind of land they wanted but where was it to be found in the vast Ohio country? Returning soldiers brought back yarns which were quite as conflicting as the bewildering claims of competing land speculators; while slanted articles in newspapers were paralleled by bitter letters from misguided relatives and former neighbors. Not only was information as to the quality of lands and agricultural possibilities in the different sections of the State vague, but no two local authorities agreed as to the systems of survey, or the purchase requirements in the various sections. Grotesque blunders in the works of such distinguished geographers as Jedidiah Morse and Nathaniel Dwight added to the confusion: Chillicothe was placed on the Great Miami instead of the Sciota [sic]; Kaskaskia and Mackinaw were located on the Wabash River; while thriving settlements were indicated where there were in fact only Indian reservations closed to white settlers.

Having trained as a geographer and mapmaker during his college years, it occurred to Kilbourn, before he even moved to Columbus from Worthington, to publish a book that might shed light on the misinformation about the Ohio Lands. He began collecting his correspondence with lawyers, legislators, postmasters, and acquaintances from his travels



years later in recognition of his work experience, as was the custom at that time. (Regarding the spelling of the surname Kilbourn: James Kilbourne's branch of the family opted to end the spelling of their last name with an "e," although there seems to be no reason other than perhaps an attempt to make their name seem more refined. John Kilbourn's side of the family never used the "e" on their last name.)

The journey from his home in Connecticut took John Kilbourn along the waggoners' road through New Jersey and across the width of Pennsylvania, crossing rolling mountains and rain-swollen rivers. On many occasions, he spent nights in crude and unpleasant inns.

throughout the state in order to learn about every town and county in Ohio. The result of Kilbourn's pioneering efforts, the *Ohio Gazetteer*, more than any other publication of the time, facilitated the settlement of Ohio during the early nineteenth century.

These gazetteers, as well as his map-making proficiency, would earn him the honor of being considered Ohio's official geographer and map-maker at that time.

The first copy of his *Ohio Gazetteer: or Topical Dictionary of the Several Counties, Towns, Villages and Settlements in the State of Ohio* was published in July 1816. His book promised a "Descripyion [sic] of counties, towns, villages, settlements, roads, rivers, lakes, springs, mines, etc.," all in 166 diminutive pages, whose covers measured 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 6 inches. Land speculators as well as settlers would refer to the book. It was printed by his close friend, publisher P. H. Olmstead (who published the *Intelligencer and Gazette* newspaper in Columbus).

In the first edition he wrote of Columbus that "it stands on a beautiful scite [sic] of rising ground," noting that in 1815 Columbus had 816 people, two churches, a bank, schools and shops, and state buildings, "including the brick state-house and the penitentiary, under construction."

After it quickly sold out, a second edition appeared four months later. With the influx of settlers from the eastern states, Ohio was changing so rapidly that it was almost impossible to keep up-to-date. After two years, a phenomenal 6,000 copies had been sold. This was Ohio's first best seller.

With paper difficult to obtain, the third and fourth editions (both issued in 1817) would be printed in various locations including Columbus; Albany, New York; and a third variant is imprinted Columbus/Baltimore, Maryland. The New York and Maryland editions were distributed in the eastern states from Vermont to Virginia, saving costly transportation charges from being added to the base price of the book. By the third edition (if not before – a subject of lively speculation), fold-out maps and town plans began to be bound in, as well.

Kilbourn established a distribution network of bookstores and newspaper offices throughout Ohio. Following a popular practice for publishers at the time, he offered free copies of the book to newspaper offices which ran ads for the *Gazetteer* in their papers.

In the eighth edition (1826), Kilbourn wrote the following, which answers any question one might have regarding the need for continuously publishing newer editions:

The progress of the states of the West, in population, wealth, and improvement, is so rapid, as not only to defy political calculation, and set at nought all former precedent, but also to outstrip the geographer in his greatest speed. The tide is so strong and incessant, that the change is perpetual, and what is true today will be doubtful tomorrow, and entirely false in a week to come.

To no state does this remark apply more strikingly, than to Ohio, the astonishing growth of which, within the last thirty years, would have seemed a miracle at any former age of the world. Within the memory of thousands now living, Ohio was a wilderness, the abode only of savages and wild beasts; it now contains...more than half a million of inhabitants, who exhibit evidences of improvement, and are prosecuting schemes of enterprise, that would do credit to the oldest nations.

In its October 1826 issue, *North American Review*, the nation's most esteemed literary magazine, offered a favorable in-depth analysis of Kilbourn's efforts and then brazenly proposed a suggestion to the Ohio legislature:

The towns, counties, rivers, and remarkable places, are arranged in alphabetical order, with such remarks attached to each, as its importance would seem to require. The number of inhabitants in the several townships, and the distances between the principal towns, are carefully noted. In short, all the geographical and statistical knowledge usually found in gazetteers, has evidently been collected with great industry by the author, and exhibited in a manner at once perspicuous and satisfactory. He gives some curious particulars respecting the ancient mounds and fortifications in Ohio...

But nothing has struck us as more odd, in looking through the book, than the number of places of the same name. We will add here a few examples... Clinton, seven; Concord, eight; Fairfield, nine; Franklin, sixteen; Green, eighteen; Harrison, sixteen; Jackson, eighteen; Jefferson, eighteen; Liberty, eleven; Madison, nineteen...Springfield, thirteen; Union, twenty seven; Washington, twenty-two...and so of others. The legislature of Ohio could not do a wiser thing, than to appoint a committee of ingenious men to devise as many distinct names, as there are separate towns in the state, and then to let them be assigned by lot. This would require no great stretch of invention the part of the said committee, and the benefit hereafter would be incalculable.

By 1829, the *Gazetteer* was in its ninth edition and now numbered a creditable 280 pages and included his folding map of Ohio. This particular edition was dedicated to General Lafayette, whom Kilbourn

had interviewed during the General's return tour of the United States in 1825. In the tenth edition he wrote that Lafayette, "who, (in answer to my letter accompanying a copy of the book), said that its perusal had, in some measure, answered the object of a personal tour thro' this interesting state."

By that year, Kilbourn reported that Columbus had grown to 2014 inhabitants, more than double the population when he first published the *Gazetteer* fourteen years earlier. He noted that the city did not have enough schools for its 560 children, "so some did without." He wrote that by this date the public buildings were completed. The two-story State House had a steeple with a bell. There was also a state office building and a federal court house, which Kilbourn deemed the only one of the three "which bears any external appearance of architectural skill and taste." He pointed out that nine-tenths of Capitol Square was not used, except as a "pasture for cattle, in the heart of the town; which makes an awkward appearance to strangers."

In the 1831 edition, the last before his death, Kilbourn reported that an astounding 14,000 copies of the *Gazetteer* had been sold since its inception. During his lifetime, Kilbourn's Ohio *Gazetteer* went through a total of ten editions from 1816 to 1831.

For book collectors whose ardor lies in Americana, a copy of the *Ohio Gazetteer* in collectible condition can be a real trophy. Finding a copy complete with maps is difficult; early travelers to the region would remove them, as they were easier to carry than an entire book. And traveling for months on the narrow, dark forest paths, over the mountains between the East and Ohio, perhaps in a saddlebag or a coat pocket, through driving rain storms and freezing blizzards did little to enhance the appearance of this little tome.

Like many books at this time, it would seem that most – if not all – of the *Gazetteers* were issued in wraps or with printed boards for covers. If desired, owners could have their copies rebound, and various book

dealers' catalogs over the years have listed them bound in vellum, full leather, "sheep," and half-leather, as well as in wrappers and in printed boards with uncut pages. Along with differing bindings, dealers' catalogs describe these books with varying dimensions as well, probably because they were trimmed at the time of rebinding.

Some collectors consider the sixth (1819) edition the most collectible, as it was issued with individual county maps as well as three folding maps, including a map of Columbus. The late Joseph Dush (whose landmark

Americana collection was auctioned in 1997 by C. Wesley Cowan – admirably assisted by our own Ed Hoffman) owned a copy of this edition in which the maps had been beautifully hand-colored. A copy of the fourth edition, printed in Albany, New York, by Joshua Fisk in 1817, has yet to be recorded in a dealer catalog or library collection anywhere.

Precious few copies of Kilbourn's *Gazetteer* are currently being offered for sale on the internet at this time. Bartleby's Books has a listing for a ninth edition

(1829) including the fold-out map, with an asking price of \$1250; and William Reese has a copy of the tenth edition (1831) which is lacking the map, but has Isaac Whiting's book label in it, and is asking \$450 for it.

After Kilbourn's death in 1831, the eleventh edition of the *Gazetteer* was undertaken by "a friend" who was, in reality, Kilbourn's colleague, bookseller Isaac Whiting. Whiting and his printer, Scott and Wright, would become mired in the publication of this edition. "About the time designated for the commencement of the work," the anonymous publisher of *The Gazetteer* explained in the preface, "the cholera made its appearance in Columbus...and during the continuance of its ravages; it was found impracticable to go on with it." But indeed, they did go on with it, and the eleventh edition appeared in 1833. After this edition, Warren Jenkins would continue revising and publishing the *Gazetteer* through 1841. Copies of Jenkins' editions currently begin in the low \$200 range, and prices go up to around \$600.



Exhibits Around the State

Of What is Past, or Passing, or to Come: The Irish Literary Renaissance: Exhibit at the Thompson Library at The Ohio State University September 18, 2013 through January 6, 2014. Geoffrey D. Smith, Professor and Head of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library and one of the founders of the Aldus Society led the First Saturday tour, on October 4th, of the collection for Aldus members. The Ohio State University Rare Books and Manuscripts Library exhibits some of their Irish literary holdings, including first printings and signed editions of some very influential and revered Irish writers William Butler Yeats, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and others. On display will be first editions of the major works of Yeats, Joyce and Beckett. Facsimile copies of original Beckett manuscripts, among the greatest treasures at Ohio State, will also be on display. Visitors will explore the moment at the end of the nineteenth century and through the twentieth century when Irish writers burst boldly onto the international literary scene as they claimed their national independence and cultural identity. Visit it online at <http://library.osu.edu/projects-initiatives/exhibits/IrishLiteraryRenaissance/>

“Seeing the Sea Through Different Eyes,” a collaborative exhibit pairing photographs taken at sea by CPO Kathryn Woods Prentice, USN, and unique marbled images they inspired, created by her mother, Aldus Society member and Clintonville artist Ann Alaia Woods, is now open at the Whole World Restaurant, Columbus, OH. The exhibit also includes several of Woods’ abstract paste acrylic paintings evoking Greco-Roman mythology. Prentice’s photos were taken from the U.S.S. McFaul as it was being deployed from Norfolk to the Persian Gulf. Ann Woods is an internationally-known calligrapher and book artist, whose work is in collections as diverse as the King of Spain, the Library of Congress, the Morgan Library in New York, and that of Glenn Kotche, percussionist for Wilco and On Fillmore. More about Woods and her work is at www.aimiaartworks.com

“Fresh Impressions: Early Modern Japanese Prints” at the Toledo Museum of Art through January 1, 2014, is literally a once in a lifetime exhibit; the watercolor prints were last shown in 1930, and because the colors are fugitive, will not be shown again in the foreseeable future. Fifteen contemporary Japanese artists are included in the 343 prints, augmented by kimonos, Kabuki costumes, and samurai swords from

the Museum’s holdings. The prints are fascinating for their historical range from the 1600s to the present, including the important revival of Japanese printmaking in the late 19th and early 20th centuries known as shin hanga, famous for its exchange of influences, especially of Japanese styles on Western art movements of the time. A further exploration of the exchange of ideas between Western and Eastern cultures is also on display in “Ebb & Flow: Cross Cultural Prints.” A free digital catalog is available online (<http://www.toledomuseum.org/exhibitions/online-catalogues/ebb-and-flow-cross-cultural-prints/#1>). The museum also has placed its collection of Japanese netsuke, one of the largest in the world and comprising more than 500 pieces, on view.

Object of Devotion: Medieval English Alabaster Sculpture from the Victoria and Albert Museum: Dayton Art Institute October 26, 2013-January 5, 2014. As part of the exhibit called *Object of Devotion: Medieval English Alabaster Sculpture from the Victoria and Albert Museum*, a number of rare books from the same period are displayed. There are 60 alabaster panels and freestanding figures in the exhibit that were displayed in the homes, chapels, and churches of both aristocratic and non-aristocratic Christians in the 15th and 16th centuries. Numerous books are from the Rose Collection. In Case you missed it, there’s a virtual exhibit <http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/event/art/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/object-devotion-medieval-english-alabaster-sculpture-victo>



The Clients of Sherlock Holmes: Westerville's chapter of the Baker Street Irregulars

by Sherry Rose-Bond, BSI, ASH, CSH, 2/-

The Aldus Society recently hosted Mike Whelan, the “Wiggins” (chairman) of the Baker Street Irregulars (Oct. 10, 2013). His presentation stirred an outpouring of interest in all things Sherlock Holmes among the attendees. Perhaps you were one of them.

Have you ever asked any of the following questions? Is Sherlock Holmes still alive and, if so, how old is he? What is Dr. John H. Watson's middle name? How many wives did Dr. Watson have? Where did he do his military service? What university did Holmes attend? What happened to him after everyone thought he died at the hands of Professor Moriarty at the Reichenbach Falls? What is Holmes' attitude towards women? What was the relationship between Dr. Watson and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle? How many Sherlock Holmes adventures are there? Who were the Baker Street Irregulars? Who ARE the Baker Street Irregulars? If you HAVE wondered about these and any other issues dealing with Sherlock Holmes, then you are probably a Sherlockian!

You'll be pleased to know that you are not alone in central Ohio. In fact, there is a society of like-minded individuals here who would welcome your company. This organization is The Clients of Sherlock Holmes, a scion society (offshoot) of the Baker Street Irregulars (the prestigious international organization of Sherlockians). The Clients meet at the Dublin branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library on Saturday afternoons, three times a year. Occasionally, we meet in other places for special events (such as the upcoming Sherlock Holmes exhibition at COSI in 2014). We may discuss an assigned Adventure, consider specific aspects of the Canon, visit Sherlockian locations in England and other countries, evaluate new Sherlock Holmes movies, television programs, theatrical performances, and books, and share information about past and upcoming events sponsored by other organizations.

If you would like to know more about The Clients and what we do and/or are interested in joining us, simply e-mail your interest or questions to violethunter@columbus.rr.com. Advanced Sherlockians will understand the significance of this e-mail address, but we are happy to welcome Sherlockians at all levels of knowledge!

First Saturdays

“First Saturday” is a monthly book session for Aldus Society members at the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library at the Ohio State University Libraries. Appropriately, we meet on the first Saturday of most months at the Thompson Main Library in the Special Collections Reading Room at 10:00 a.m. Be advised, however, that in the fall, First Saturdays are often preempted by home football games and other extenuating circumstances, i.e., watch your e-mail for notices about First Saturday.

In essence, a First Saturday session focuses on an aspect of rare books, great books, illustrated books, bindings, medieval manuscripts, American fiction, etc., and allows attendees to see and handle the real, physical books. First Saturdays have been a feature of the Aldus Society for over ten years and will continue through the foreseeable future.



Mark Your Calendars: Coming in 2014

December 5, 2013 - March 2, 2014 - EXHIBITION: “Illuminating the Word: The Saint John’s Bible” at Canton Museum of Art www.cantonart.org

In 1998, Saint John’s University and Benedictine Abbey commissioned renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson to produce a handwritten, hand-illuminated Bible. We invite you to explore this work of art that is truly a gift to the world. This exhibit represents a monumental achievement that intersects Christianity and world religions in a contemporary masterpiece of Medieval craftsmanship, materials and calligraphy. An experience of a lifetime, not to be missed! This magnificent new exhibition, Illuminating the Word: The Saint John’s Bible, opens December 5, 2013, at the Canton Museum of Art with 34 display cases holding 68 of the original pages of the unbound work. For more images see <http://www.saintjohnsbible.org/>

February 8, 2014 - An International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes will be opening at COSI. This exhibition was developed by Exhibits Development Group and Geoffrey M. Curley & Associates in collaboration with the Conan Doyle Estate Limited, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, and the Museum of London.

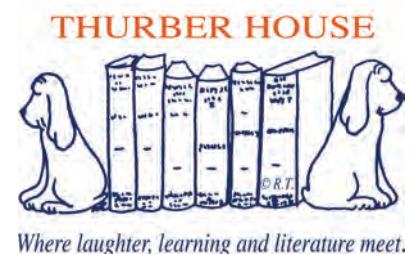
March 15, 2014 - Field Trip - Join the Aldus Society on Saturday, March 15th at 10 a.m. as we tour the O.S.U. Herbarium and its library <http://herbarium.osu.edu/>. The Herbarium is located inside the Museum of Biological Diversity at 1315 Kinnear Road Columbus, Ohio. The Herbarium’s collection of dried plants makes it possible for botanists to determine a plant’s original distribution and track changes in climate and human impact. To help researchers with their work, the Herbarium has a library of approximately 30,000 volumes, ranging in age from the mid-16th century to the present. A large portion of this library came from the collection of 53,000 volumes of botanical prints and books that were donated by Ann W. and Emanuel D. Rudolph were distributed to several libraries on campus. Mr. Rudolph, a professor of botany, specializing in lichenology, polar botany, and the history of science, died suddenly in an automobile accident in 1992. John V. Freudenstein, director of the Herbarium, and Tod Stuessy, John’s predecessor as director, will lead us on the tour. The trip will be followed by lunch at the Lavash Café at 2985 N. High Street in Clintonville. You will have a chance to sign up for the field trip as we get closer to the date.

June 11-15, 2014 - The 2014 FABS Tour is sponsored by the Rowfant Club in Cleveland, Ohio. Contact Terry Shockey (shockey.terry@gmail.com) for details and to reserve a spot, limited to 50 participants.

Thurber House is proud to host The Aldus Society!



Visit us daily from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., and check out www.thurberhouse.org for information on upcoming author events, education programs, and children’s programming.





The Aldus Society

P.O. Box 1150

Worthington, Ohio 43085-1150

Ivan Gilbert

This past year we lost a good friend in Ivan Gilbert, M.D. (1922 – 2013), a founder and among the first trustees of The Aldus Society. Ivan was a man of many talents: entrepreneur, bibliophile, writer, philanthropist, and athlete. In his lifetime Ivan created many successful businesses, the latest being American Health Holding, when he was in his eighties; he had a lifelong love of books and his trade catalog collection is now a named collection in the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library of the Ohio State University Libraries; he authored many books of poetry and prose; and he gave generously to the medical sciences, education, his community and his faith. For those Aldus Society members who do not know, Ivan was also an All-American member of the first Ohio State NCAA fencing championship team and a subsequent member of the OSU Athletics Hall of Fame. Foremost, Ivan loved his family, his wife Marcella and his sons Laurence, Richard, and Jonathan. His friends came from all walks of life, and he will be missed by all.

Tony Clark Fund for Aldus Student Memberships

One free membership in The Aldus Society is available each year for a student who is registered full or part-time at an institution of higher learning. The gift from the Tony Clark Fund is worth \$15 and entitles the student to full benefits of membership in the Society. For more information contact Ed Hoffman at ehoffbk@aol.com