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The Private Library

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE PRIVATE LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

A Charles Lamb Library
C. A. Prance
The Stanbrook Abbey Press
Philip Ward

The Library of Alexandria: Notes on Current Work
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Association Affairs

Book Trade Changes
Recent Private Press Books

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The Private Libraries Association is a society of people interested in books from the amateur or professional point of view. Membership is open to all who pay one guinea on January 1st each year regardless of the date of enrolment.
Visits and Meetings

Members in the London and Home Counties area have on several occasions taken the opportunity of meeting informally to discuss bibliographical subjects, and of visiting as a party some library or printing-works. The Council now wishes to institute similar groups in the great cities of Britain, and the Secretary would be glad to hear from members in, say, Glasgow or Manchester who would be interested to organise such regional groups.

Members in the East Midlands and Home Counties are invited, with their family and friends, to the Library of King's College, Cambridge, on Thursday, 26 April, at 2.30 p.m., when the Librarian, A. N. L. Munby, will describe the three libraries of the College, showing an exhibition of some of the finest books. Those interested should inform the Hon. Secretary.

A CHARLES LAMB LIBRARY
by C. A. Prance

Although I had read some of the Essays of Elia with pleasure while at school and subsequently bought the book, it was not until 1914, the year of the centenary, that my interest was keenly aroused. The next year the Charles Lamb Society was founded. The publicity given to it, together with the reading of some of E. V. Lucas's books, further prepared the ground and when, in 1926, I had the good fortune to visit the interesting bookshop of George Seaford at Portsmouth, I was ready to acquire what Lamb items were available and I could afford.

At a shilling each I carried home some of the pleasant volumes of Ainger's edition of the works, but it was only later that I realized most of them had belonged to the same owner, Major Samuel Butterworth, R.A.M.C. He was, I think, a scholar and collector of Elia; one from whom even E. V. Lucas, Lamb's most scholarly editor, acknowledged correction. He had also been a frequent reviewer of books about the early nineteenth century for such publications as The Bookman. He had died a few years before I discovered his books, and Seaford had bought his library. It had contained such things as a copy of Coleridge's Remorse, inscribed to Barron Field from Lamb, and Seaford had assembled the pick of the books and had sold them to Francis Edwards, whose catalogue quoted 157 volumes, including thirteen albums of letters, deeds, newspaper cuttings, etc., for a total of £125. I have been told that they went to America, but there were still a number of the less important books in Seaford's shop when I visited it.

My first batch from that source included the Poems, Plays and Miscellaneous Essays, with Sotheby's label to say that it had belonged to Swinburne. In the introduction Ainger acknowledges his debt to Swinburne for permission to examine Lamb's manuscript annotations written in the interleaved copy of Wither in Swinburne's possession, and in my volume is Lamb's essay on Wither which he bases largely on his notes in the interleaved copy. The only pages in the book which are dog-eared are those of Ainger's notes on the Wither essay.

The two volumes of the Letters contained a note from the Editor of The Academy asking Major Butterworth for a review of 500 words, and he has made many pencil notes in the books for that purpose. In the Life by Ainger, Butterworth has written 'From Sir Theodore Martin's Collection'. Here is almost a link with Lamb, for Sir Theodore married Helen Faucit the actress, and she had played with Macready, so I did not begrudge my shillings. Until Seaford's shop was destroyed by a land mine in 1941 I visited it whenever I could, and found many Lamb items, usually filled with Butterworth's careful notes, which are not the least interesting part in a collection of Elia of about 700 volumes.

An interest in Charles Lamb entails, perhaps more than for most authors, a desire to know all that can be found about him, his life, his work, his letters, even his friends—and they were many and often distinguished by no ordinary talents. In the Footprints of Charles Lamb by B. E. Martin, 1891, was one of my early purchases from Seaford, ex libris Major Butterworth, and this particular copy is autographed by the author and his two illustrators, John Fulleylove and Herbert Railton. It had, in fact, been Railton's own copy; but best of all it contained a fairly full bibliography by E. D. North, and I studied this most carefully. The number of Lamb items seemed to be legion, even in 1891.

Most people know Charles Lamb by his Essays of Elia and I have the first edition of 1823. The title page has Elia. Essays which have appeared under that signification in London Magazine. London: Printed for Taylor and Hessey, 91 Fleet Street and 13 Waterloo Place. 1823. It is the second issue of the first edition and bears the book-plate of the Earl of Chichester. The first issue has only the Fleet Street address, for although the publishers acquired their second property during 1822, I do not think that they began to use it until the following year. The printer was Thomas Davison of Whitefriars and the book is excellently printed and easy to read typographically. The Essays had run in the London Magazine from August 1820, where they had been the chief glory of that very brilliant periodical.

Just as good as the first Elia is the second, the Last Essays of Elia, published by Moxon in 1833, again from essays contributed mainly to the London Magazine, although this time some of the items were reprinted from other magazines. The publisher, Edward Moxon, was very close to Lamb for he had married Lamb's adopted daughter, Emma Isola.

Then comes a volume entitled Essays of Elia, to which are added Letters, and Rosamund, a Tale. It was published in Paris in 1835 by Baudry's European Library and contains an unsigned memoir which is actually by John Forster. Besides the Elia essays and Rosamund Gray, the volume includes the Characters of Dramatic Writers and some miscellaneous essays; but the only letters were some of those contributed to The Reflector.

While the early editions of the Essays naturally appeal greatly to the collector, such well-documented editions as those of E. V. Lucas and Messrs. Blunden and Page are invaluable for elucidation, and to the Elia-lover their notes are a delight. Another edition for which I have a soft spot is that issued by Dent in January 1962.
1899 with illustrations by C. E. Brock and an introduction by Augustine Birrell. J. M. Dent has produced other attractive editions of Lamb's work. I have in mind his beautiful Temple Library series which includes the Essays in two volumes, also with Birrell's introduction, but with etchings by Herbert Railton. I have also managed to find a folder containing the six etchings by Railton printed on vellum and published separately by Dent in 1890. The Temple Library also included Lamb's Specimens edited by Israel Gollancz. Poems and Essays by Leigh Hunt and Landor's Pericles & Aegina. The small volume of each was limited to five hundred copies for England and the same number for America. The volumes are a delight to handle and some of them were printed by the famous firm of Whittingham at the Chiswick Press. Another attractive edition of the Essays was that published by T. N. Foulis in 1905 with decorations by Joseph W. Simpson.

Undoubtedly the palm for annotation of a single essay goes to Sir Frank Douglas Mackinmon, for whom in 1927 the Clarendon Press published a splendid edition of 'The Old Benchers of the Inner Temple', in which the essay occupied nine pages and the notes seventy-two pages! In the author's Inner Temple Papers 1948, where the essay and notes are reprinted, the latter have been extended and the proportion of pages is ten to eighty-nine. To the true Elian, however, they are not long enough even there.

The desire to know more about Lamb leads, of course, to the collected editions of his work and to the numerous lives which have been written, as well as the incidental memoirs of his contemporaries. The fourth edition of 1820 was issued when the author was forty-three years old, and had not yet published any of his Elia essays. The two volumes are bound as one and bear the stamp of the Russell Institution in Great Coram Street. It was here that Hazlitt gave his first lecture. Next comes the three-volume collected edition issued by Moxon in 1836 (although volume 1 of my set is from the 1835 edition), but this added nothing to the work already published. During the next twenty years Moxon issued a number of variations of the collected work, but a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of Lamb was the publication in 1864 of J. E. Babson's Elia: Being the Hitherto Uncollected Writings of Charles Lamb.

On the title page Babson has the old proverb 'The king's chaff is as good as other people's corn', and he had published some of the material the year before in the Atlantic Monthly. Other editions of the works include those edited by R. H. Shepherd, Charles Kent, Percy Fitzgerald, Alfred Ainger, William Macdonald and the standard work in seven volumes so carefully edited by E. V. Lucas, with invaluable notes. A book of considerable interest as tracing hitherto unknown work is Bertram Dobell's Sidelights on Charles Lamb 1903.

Most important, too, are the letters, and, in fact, most lives of Charles Lamb lean very heavily for material on his wholly delightful letters. Often they contain what are first sketches for the famous Elia essays. As Lord Birkett has said, 'no one will really understand Lamb unless he reads the letters'. First in time comes The Letters of Charles Lamb with a Sketch of his Life by Thomas Noon Talfourd, as the title page says 'one of his executors'. Edward Moxon, who was the other executor, published it in 1837, and my copy has the book-plate of Oliver Brett (Viscount Esher). Eleven years later, after the death of Mary Lamb, Talfourd followed this by Final Memorials, containing material which he did not wish to publish during the lifetime of Lamb's sister. While not notable for accuracy of text, Talfourd's volumes are important as the first in their field. There are many interesting and valuable volumes on Lamb's life and letters, such as those by W. C. Hazlitt, but the standard edition of the letters is that edited by E. V. Lucas and published in 1935 in three volumes. Some errors occurred in it and have been corrected by Messrs. G. L. Barnett and Carl Woodring, but it is a delightful publication nevertheless, and the ample notes add greatly to the pleasure of reading it.

Like Lamb I much enjoy the Elizabethan dramatists and have the first edition of his Specimens of English Dramatic Poets who Lived About the Time of Shakespeare 1808, and the second edition of 1813, which consists merely of the remainder sheets with a new title page. Both have been rebound, but my copy of the third edition of 1835 is in the original cloth binding, and is the first to include the Extracts from the Garrick Plays originally published in William Hone's Table Book. The Dramatic Specimens called forth high praise from Swinburne. I have the Table Book too, which is a miscellany always worth dipping into, and it was published for Hone by Hunt and Clarke. Hunt was nephew to Leigh Hunt and Clarke was Charles Cowden Clarke, friend of Keats. An attractive volume is A Brief History of Christ's Hospital. It is by John Iliff Wilson, but contains Lamb's account of his old school which appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine in 1808. The second edition was issued in 1820 and it has been clothed by Riviere in a handsome red morocco binding.

The books for children are among the scarcest of Lamb's books and I have no first editions of any of them. They can be read in the monumental edition of Lamb's works edited by E. V. Lucas and in the reprints of Messrs. Field & Tuer. My copy of the reprint of Prince Donis is number 34 of the 500 signed proof copies. These children's books were published by M. J. Godwin and Company at the City Juvenile Library in Skinner Street, in reality by the wife of William Godwin, Lamb's 'bad baby', and I have the 1819 edition of The Adventures of Ulysses and the 1820 edition of Mrs. Leicester's School, so that I know how the books looked to the author and his friends.

My earliest Lamb volume is the second edition of Coleridge's Poems issued in 1797, which includes Poems by Charles Lamb and Charles Lloyd. The dedication of Lamb's section of the book is to Mary Ann Lamb, 'the author's best friend and sister'. Lamb's next book of poems was volume 2 of his Works 1818; then in 1829, the first printed publication from reception of the title The Poetical Works of Rogers, Campbell, Montgomery, Lamb and Kirke White. The publishers, A. and W. Galignani, maintained that it was more complete than any of the London editions of the authors concerned, and that the cost was between one-third and one-sixth of the London prices. For Lamb, the publishers reprinted the poems from the Works 1818, with some additional pieces from magazines. My copy is in the original boards. I have also the attractively printed volume of The Poetical Works of Charles Lamb published by Moxon in 1816, two years after Lamb's death. An interesting book, not often seen today, is The First Book of Poetry for the Use of Schools by W. F. Mylius, a Christ's
Hospital master. My copy is the tenth edition dated 1828, and it contains twenty-two poems signed 'Mrs. Leicester', and reprinted from Poetry for Children, one of the scarcest of Lamb's works. He said that one-third of the poems were his, Mary Lamb contributing the rest.

An early Lamb item is a play, *Time's a Tell-Tale* 1807, by Henry Siddons, son of Mrs. Siddons. Lamb wrote the Epilogue, but it was received so badly by the audience at Drury Lane that another was substituted on the second night. I have also a copy of *Saturn in Search of a Wife* 1831. Lamb's hilarious ballad illustrated by George Cruikshank. Unfortunately it is not in the original pink paper covers, but it is beautifully bound in full calf.

The standard life of Charles Lamb is that by E. V. Lucas in two volumes first published in 1905. In it, Lucas allows Lamb to speak for himself, for much in his letters and his work was autobiographical. The result is undoubtedly the best life of Lamb that we have, and it is a great pity that it has not been kept in print. The latest printing was that in 1921 in the attractive pocket size volumes, but they did not contain the illustrations and appendices of the larger edition. While I do not much mind the loss of John Lamb's appendices on Portraits of Lamb, Lamb's Common-place Books and other appendices on Lamb's Library, among the most interesting parts of the original edition.

Who has not chuckled over Lamb's accounts of the vagaries of the inimitable George Dyer, 'with a head uniformly wrong, and a heart uniformly right', and of the original prefaces of poems? My copy contains the preface to his poems? My copy of the original edition.

There were eighty pages of Preface, and not till that morning had he discovered that in the very first page of said Preface he had set out with a principle of Criticism fundamentally wrong, which vitiated all his following reasoning. The Preface must be expunged, although it cost him £30—the lowest calculation, taking in paper and printing! In vain have his real friends remonstrated against this Midsummer madness. George is as obstinate as a Primitive Christian—and wards and parries off all our thrusts with unanswerable reasoning. 'Sir, it's of great consequence that the world is not misled! Although my copy is without the preface, it has a number of manuscript corrections in Dyer's handwriting, so I know that it was handled by the 'good-natured heathen'. George Dyer was the author of a number of books, and one which I have in the original boards is his *Memoirs of Robert Robinson* 1796, said by Wordsworth to be one of the best biographies in the language. It contains Dyer's poem *Monody on the Death of Robert Robinson* which appeared in the *Poems* 1801 in altered form. From Lamb's friend, the poet, George Dyer, 'with a head uniformily wrong, and a heart uniformily right', who has not chuckled over Lamb's accounts of the vagaries of the inimitable George Dyer, who describes a visit to Dyer in 'Jack Abbot's breakfast', down to the American collector, A. Edward Newton, and S. M. Rich, one of the founders of the Charles Lamb Society, George Dyer has amused and fascinated; and Newton made Dyer the subject of one of the little books which he published as Christmas presents for his friends. My copy has the bookplate of Holbrook Jackson.

Leigh Hunt, constant friend of Lamb, and a great lover of books, started to write poetry when he was very young, and his father, Isaac Hunt, arranged for the publication of his *Juvenilia* 1801. The sub-title is 'a collection of poems written between the ages of twelve and sixteen'. My copy is in the original boards and is the third edition of 1802. Written on the endpaper are the words 'Leigh's poems' which makes me wonder if it belonged to a member of the author's family. It opens with an impressive list of subscribers of note, and also among the names are several who were at Christ's Hospital at the same time as Lamb: Samuel Bloxham, Ball, Middleton and Woodthorpe. That man of weight, Daniel Lambert, took one copy, and many copies went to the aristocracy of the land. Turning to the verses themselves after the magnificent catalogue of subscribers is as Edmund Blunden said 'like passing under a triumphal arch into a schoolboy's study'.

Next comes a copy of Leigh Hunt's *Foliage* 1818, which besides Hunt's 'The Nymphs', akin to Keats's 'Endymion', includes Epistles in verse to Charles Lamb and William Hazlitt, as well as Sonnets to Keats, Shelley, Haydon and Reynolds. Later Leigh Hunt firsts or early editions include *Amyntas* 1820, his translation from Tasso which was dedicated to Keats, the *Poetical Works* 1832, delightfully printed for Moxon, and *Imagination and Fancy* 1844, long one of my favourite books, with an attractive preface of his own. My copy is in the original cloth. 'It also has the name 'Ashbury' stamped on the endpaper. Lamb wrote an acrostic to Dorothy Asbury, the wife of his doctor, J. V. Asbury: I wonder if either of them ever owned my book. I have also *A Book for a Corner* 1849 and *Table Talk* 1851, both in the original cloth.

A delightful volume, describing a collection of books from Leigh Hunt's library, bought by James T. Fields, is *Mrs. Field's Shelf of Old Books* 1894, which came to me from Major Butterworth's library. An earlier work, issued in the same year as Lamb's *Elia* and by the same publishers, is *Flora Domestica* or *The Portable Flower-Garden with Directions for the treatment of Plants in Pots; and illustrations from the works of the poets. Although no author's name appears on the title page, the writer was Elizabeth Kent, Leigh Hunt's sister-in-law, and Hunt had provided her with many of her poetical illustrations which included Shelley and Keats as well as older poets. In her preface is a charming description of Shelley rambling in the fields. I have, too, *Leigh Hunt's London Journal* 1834-5, which reprints a number of pieces by Lamb and by the same publishers, is *Flora Domestica* or *The Portable Flower-Garden with Directions for the treatment of Plants in Pots; and illustrations from the works of the poets. Although no author's name appears on the title page, the writer was Elizabeth Kent, Leigh Hunt's sister-in-law, and Hunt had provided her with many of her poetical illustrations which included Shelley and Keats as well as older poets. In her preface is a charming description of Shelley rambling in the fields. I have, too, *Leigh Hunt's London Journal* 1834-5, which reprints a number of pieces by Lamb and his contemporaries. One of which is by Edward Moxon.

Charles Lamb and Thomas Hood first met in the offices of Taylor & Hessey, the publishers of *The London Magazine*, where Hood was working, and their friendship continued until Lamb's death in 1834. While my earliest Hood items are those which appeared in *The London*, the first separate publication I can show is the *Odes and Addresses to Great People* 1825, written on the endpaper are the words 'Leigh's poems' which makes me wonder if it belonged to a member of the author's family. It opens with an impressive list of subscribers of note, and also among the names are several who were at Christ's Hospital at the same time as Lamb: Samuel Bloxham, Ball, Middleton and Woodthorpe. That man of weight, Daniel Lambert, took one copy, and many copies went to the aristocracy of the land. Turning to the verses themselves after the magnificent catalogue of subscribers is as Edmund Blunden said 'like passing under a triumphal arch into a schoolboy's study'.

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Much of it is reprinted from The London, and like so many books of the early nineteenth century it is very well printed. It will be remembered that this was the book which Thomas Westwood claimed to have picked out of the strawberry-bed. He lived next door to Lamb in Enfield and has related Lamb’s eccentric way of dealing with presentation copies: ‘A Leigh Hunt... would come skimming to my feet through the branches of the apple-trees.’ Then finally a copy of Hood’s Own 1839, the illustrations of which I find unattractive, but the book contains Hood’s Reminiscences which give excellent pen portraits of Lamb and his friends and, in particular, of the London Magazine circle.

Of Coleridge, Southey, Clare, Hazlitt and De Quincey, I have a number of volumes, mainly biographies or reprints of their books; but a few of the earlier volumes may be worth mention. Coleridge’s Poems 1797 have already been noted, but a quaint item is The Devil’s Walk 1839, a poem described on the title page as by Professor Porson, but in reality by Coleridge and Southey. The illustrations are after the designs of R. Cruikshank and on the cover, for it is in the original wrappers, is stated ‘Price One Shilling’, which is just what I paid for it on a book-barrow in London. Three volumes which might have an association value, quite apart from their beautifully printed and charming contents, are The Minor Poems of Robert Southey 1832, well preserved in original boards. Inside on the front endpapers are pasted labels advertising Slater’s Old Steyne Library, Brighton, ‘fortnightly subscription 5s.’, and on them is written ‘Purchased at Public Sale 18 Nov 1841 G. M. Bird’. Now a Doctor George Bird was physician to Leigh Hunt and many well-known Victorians. Is it too much to hope that he owned these books?

Poems Descriptive of Rural Life and Scenery. By John Clare. A Northamptonshire Peasant. 1820, although rebound, is a handsome volume. Clare was first introduced to the world as a poet in The London Magazine, and the publishers, Taylor & Hessey, did a great deal to smooth his path to fame. This volume like my first edition of De Quincey’s Walladmor, has bound in a catalogue of the publisher’s books, which was helpful when searching for authors who did or might have contributed to The London Magazine during Taylor & Hessey’s ownership of the publication. Clare’s poems are delightful and this is his first book. Walladmor, so-called ‘translation’ from the German, was a hasty piece of work and is no very creditable performance.

To collect Eliana brings very forcibly to mind that Charles Lamb was, as he said of Charles Lamb and Co., a man with many friends, some of whom were of such distinction that the amount written about them is large. Consequently I have collected, besides the famous authors already mentioned, such books as those on Admiral Burney (Fanny’s brother and Lamb’s whisk partner), John Rickman, Thomas Wainewright (painter, dilettante and poisoner), B. R. Haydon (painter and friend of Keats), Bernard Baron (banker poet and Lamb’s correspondent), ‘Dante’ Cary of the British Museum, William Godwin, the Lloydys, Fanny Kelly and the Wordsworths. A few volumes actually belonged to his friends, and some items bear the signature of Vincent Novello, Thomas Allsop, Thomas Westwood and Basil Montagu.

Volumes which came to me from Major Butterworth’s collection and not often seen to-day, are Reminiscences of Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Robert Southey by Joseph Cottle, and Thomas Allsop’s Letters, Conversations and Recollections of S. T. Coleridge. Cottle was Coleridge’s publisher and friend as well as the friend of Lamb, Southey and Wordsworth. Thomas Allsop has been described as ‘Coleridge’s favourite disciple’ and for a time he shared lodgings with Lamb in Enfield.

There is, of course, no end to what may be included in Eliana. For example, it is obviously necessary to read some of Lamb’s favourite authors to appreciate fully his comments on them. This brings in Thomas Fuller, so I have some of the attractive folios of the old Cavalier parson; Sir Thomas Browne’s Works 1686; Robert Burton’s Anatomy of Melancholy 1676; Sewell’s History of the Quakers 1722; Izaak Walton, John Bunce, and the Duchess of Newcastle’s Life of her husband. Thus, apart from my own preferences, I have been led, with Lamb as guide, among much ‘good old English reading’. The Lamb contributed much to periodicals, so in addition to the set of the London Magazine, odd volumes of the Gentleman’s Magazine, the New Monthly Magazine, and the Athenaeum have crept in, with some of the annuals to which he contributed.

Then there are the bibliographies. That by E. D. North has already been mentioned, but I have also J. C. Thomson’s useful volume—the copy actually belonged to the late S. E. Winbolt, and is full of his notes, made when he was preparing his book on Coleridge, Lamb and Leigh Hunt: The Christ’s Hospital Anthology. Of great help, too, are the six pages on Lamb Edmund Blunden contributed to the Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature, one of my cherished possessions. An interesting item is the catalogue issued in 1897 by James Tregaskis & Son, and containing 24 books comprising Some of the Rarer Works of Charles Lamb. Although my copy of the catalogue does not quote prices, the collection was, in fact, offered as a whole for £5,000; if no offer was received within a short time, the books were to be sold separately, and the highest price asked for a single book was £2,700 for a copy of The History of the King and Queen of Hearts 1805. I am afraid that none of these expensive books found its way to me, but the catalogue, which is one of only 250 copies, is beautifully illustrated with facsimiles and has been well bound. It bears the book-plate of Viscount Esler.

Other catalogues of interest, since they contain much Eliana, are those issued by the Anderson Galleries, New York, for the sale of the books of William Harris Arnold in 1924 and Harry B. Smith in 1936; while a particularly attractive one is that by English Literature in the Early Nineteenth Century 1789-1852, with an introduction by Edmund Blunden and issued by Elkin Mathews in 1930. All the last three catalogues were found on the book-barnes of Farringdon Road in London. Of the greatest interest to lovers of Lamb is the splendid account—were it twice as long—of Charles Lamb in the Harvard Library contributed by Carl R. Woodring to the Harvard Library Bulletin in 1936. It seems colossal cheek to try to describe ones own modest collection after reading such a record, but I am buoyed up by the hope that some small fact may emerge to help or please the student of Eliana.

Mention should be made of the C.L.S. Bulletin, the organ of the Charles Lamb Society, of which I have a complete set from the first issue in May 1915, and of the fact that it contains a useful bibliography of current books and articles.
on Charles Lamb. Another publication with a valuable bibliography is the *Keats-Shelley Journal* (of America); while students will ever be grateful for The Language Association of America's *The English Romantic Poets and Essayists. A Review of Research and Criticism* 1957, edited by C. W. and L. H. Houtchens. The chapter on Charles Lamb is by George L. Barnett and Stuart M. Tave, and among the authors covered by other chapters are Hazlitt, Southey, Leigh Hunt and De Quincey. The same Association has also published a volume on the major Romantic poets. No reference seems made specifically to books which contain criticism of Lamb's literary work. These are many, including such items as Oliver Elton's *A Survey of English Literature* 1780-1830 and the *Cambridge History of English Literature*, and, of course, there is much criticism in the numerous books about Lamb which have been mentioned.

Finally, a collector of Lamb is sure to acquire a lot of miscellaneous material, and true to type, I have a collection of newspaper cuttings, prints, sketches and letters, mainly concerned with Elia and his friends. I am afraid that they are not all mounted as they should be, which is surely like those fifteen bound volumes of Elian ephemera compiled by the late S. M. Rich and now deposited in the library of the Charles Lamb Society.

THE LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA:
notes on current work
by Edward Alexander Parsons

In the third century BC, the Ptolemaic kings, first under Demetrius of Phaleron, Aristotelian scholar and statesman, launched the Museum and Library of Alexandria. The Library was the greatest repository of knowledge, manuscripts, before the invention of printing in the West. It lasted some nine centuries and was destroyed, when, as Mommsen said:

"With the first library in the world Alexandria retained at the same time, through the whole imperial period, a certain primacy of scientific work, until Islam burnt the library and killed the ancient civilization." (Theodor Mommsen: *The Provinces of the Roman Empire*, London, 1909, Vol. II, p. 271.)

With the fall of Alexandria in the middle of the seventh century and the destruction of Constantineople in 1453, the historic curtain fell and no special study was made, that has been preserved, of the greatest library in the world before the invention of printing in the West.

Dr. Osan in 1819 discovered the Plautine Scholium, and in 1830 it was published by Meincke.

Singularly, in 1838 three German scholars ventured on the subject of the Museum and the Library:


G. Parthey, *Das alexandrinische Museum*, 1838.

And then there was a long sleep for more than a century, until in 1952 an attempt was made to treat the subject fully.*

Since then several contributions to Alexandrian scholarship have appeared, and I wish to mention the more important, with quotations.

First, Harold T. Davis' *Alexandria: The Golden City*, Evanston, Ill., 1957, is a most interesting book, which must attract many readers, in particular by its scientific biographies. In his eighteenth chapter, the author says:

"The Great Library is Destroyed and Alexandria Dies."

"For some time passing through tumult, fire, flood, and pestilence, during nine long centuries and more, the soul of the Alexandrian Museum was destroyed. The great Library, the jewel of that ancient city, the one golden link between the culture of ancient Greece and the culture of modern man, was given to the devouring flames." (Vol. II, p. 466.)

"With the Moslem conquest of Alexandria and the destruction of the Library the history of the golden city comes to an end." (Vol. II, p. 467.)


Dr. Westermann, a distinguished scholar, must be a gentleman with a most delightful personality. In his most interesting study, he passes upon the minor controversies with a delicate touch: Ptolemy Soter, Demetrius, Ptolemy II (giving him his full glory) and so on, through the treacherous path of Ptolemaic history. He believes Callimachos was not a librarian, but he is most valuable in his comments on paleography. Then at the end he tells agreeably how all institutions must have an end, how the other libraries of Greece, the Hellenic cities and even those of Rome passed away. He gives the reason for the destruction of the Library of Louvain, but of no other library, concluding his study: "All this is certainly true; but it is the carelessness of men and their apathy towards the preservation of the mental treasures of the past which are the more now, after passing through the dissolution of great libraries. It is through the books of our gifted predecessors that we keep our contacts with all that the men before our time have thought and handed down to us as our possession. To this cause of human indifference I would assign the disappearance of the great library of Alexandria and of so many other book collections which once contained the intellectual treasures of antiquity, so many of which, we have lost."

In his *History of science* (Vol. II, Harvard University Press, 1959) George Sarton demonstrates his vast conceptions of science from the beginning through the last three centuries BC until there appeared "a new incomprehensible mystery, that of Jesus Christ, and its gradual triumph characterized an entirely new period." (p. 527.) There is a brilliant description of the Library of Alexandria based on learning, study and opinion. It ends as follows:

"The old Christians and the proselytes hated the Library, because it was in their eyes a citadel of disbelief and immorality; it was gradually undermined and brought into decay." *E. A. Parsons. The Alexandria Library*, Cleaver-Hume Press. 506.

January 1962
The Library was now concentrated in the Serapeum and the latter was finally destroyed under Theodosius the Great (emperor, 379–395), by order of Theophilus (bishop of Alexandria, 385–412), whose anti-pagan fanaticism was extreme. Many of the books may have been salvaged but, according to Orosius (Book V) the Library was virtually non-existent in 416.

The story has often been told that when the Muslims took Alexandria in 640, then again in 645 sacked it, they destroyed the Library. The “khilafa” Umar is supposed to have said: “The text of those books is contained in the Qur’an or not: If it is, we do not need them; if it is not, they are pernicious”. That story is unproved. There was not much if anything left of the original library to be destroyed. The Christian fanatics had argued in the same vein as their Muslim emulators. Moreover, the pagan books were far more dangerous to the Christians, who could easily read them, than to the Muslims, who could not read them at all.'

M. A. H. El Abbadi: The Alexandrians From the Foundation of the City to the Arab Conquest. This dissertation submitted to Jesus College, Cambridge, in September, 1960 is an able study of their political organization, and economic and administrative rôle in Egypt.

It evinces an elaborate and careful research of ancient sources and an appraisal of the studies of modern scholars on the subject of the population of Alexandria and the political, administrative and economic history of Macedonian and Roman rule in Egypt. There is little said about the famous position of Alexandria as the intellectual centre of the ancient world.

We quote:

'Like all great centres of learning, the world-wide reputation which Alexandria enjoyed in this respect for over a thousand years attracted to it many scholars, both professors and students, from the outside world. The efforts of the early Ptolemies to make Alexandria a rival of Athens were soon successful; and a glance at the available list of “Librarians” reflects from the beginning the international character of the Alexandrian Museum and Library and their staff. Among them we read the names of Demetrios of Phaleron, from Athens, Zenodotus of Ephesus, Callimachus of Cyrene, Apollonius of Rhodes, Aristophanes of Byzantium, and Aristarchus of Samothrace (p. 182).

Our chief aim here is to attempt to throw a side-light whenever possible on the social life of those who belonged to the schools of Alexandria and in particular of the students who were alien residents in the city’ (p. 109).

The Library is mentioned only once in the copy sent to the writer and Dr Abbadi graciously told the writer in a letter from Alexandria that:

'The subject of the Library I treated very briefly when I dealt with the city as a seat of learning in a part of a chapter on population. (Chap. III, pp. 109–114 plus notes 182–198 of the same chapter.) In this respect your book was of course most useful though we did not always agree concerning the destruction of the Library by the Arabs.'

And finally he states:

'Even after the tragic death of Hypatia and the probable burning of the great Library (p. 196) during the pagan persecutions of those days, Alexandria continued to be an important seat of learning as we have seen in the days of Severus of Antioch in the fifth and sixth centuries' (p. 114).

And so two schools of thought still persist on this interesting subject. One follows the unfortunate agnostic chapter in Gibbon, with some, treating the subject gently, as if it was a matter of Christian or Muslim faith. Some ventured to suggest that the manuscripts just wore out and the Library quietly disappeared.

The other school has attempted to examine every known source of classical antiquity and later learning and available sources of Muslim record and writings, and have formulated twelve reasonable conclusions that the remains of the Library existed until Alexandria was conquered and sacked and the Library destroyed. It should be remembered that Mommsen and John Henry Newman and many great historical scholars believed likewise. I ventured to ask about this subject from the most distinguished historian of our time and he stated that he had not made a special study of this subject.
All the printing is done by the enclosed nuns themselves, working in cramped conditions. The staff consists of five nuns, of whom two are novice-apprentices. In addition two nuns act as secretaries, dealing with orders, general correspondence and packing.

Of the many books printed at the Press, some have become well-known. Abbot Gasquet and Edmund Bishop's Bosworth Psalter appeared first over the Stanbrook imprint, and until Allison Peers' new translation of the works of S. Teresa of Avila appeared, the standard English edition was that printed at Stanbrook. At present there are several liturgical books in hand. Fine printing has long been traditional, however, and as well as a number of books, the Abbey Press has produced several greetings folders containing prints in calligraphic type faces with hand illumination.

Of Siegfried Sassoon's book of poems The Path to Peace, Thomas Rae wrote in The Private Library for April 1961: 'This is the most beautiful book so far produced by the Benedictines of Stanbrook, and a more perfect combination of the skills of the printer and calligrapher is difficult to imagine'. Subscribers to The Private Library will receive with this issue a leaf from the book by courtesy of the Abbess of Stanbrook.

The new book, which has just appeared, is Unless the Grain Die, translated from S. Augustine of Hippo and S. Ignatius of Antioch. The edition, printed in Monotype Spectrum, consists of 160 copies on Barcham Green hand made paper bound in quarter leather, with endpapers and two half-titles on paper by John Mason, and forty 'specials' entirely on John Mason paper in full leather.

There is a full history and bibliography of the Press in course of preparation, but until it appears in late 1962 or early in 1963, the following check-list of post-war titles may be of interest.

Check-list of Stanbrook Abbey Press books printed since 1945

Benedictines of Today, by Dom Romanus Rios, O.S.B. 1946
Caslon Old Face, 12 pt. 8vo vol. 533 pp.
Rituale Monasticon ad usum Monialium S. Benedicti Congregationis Angliae. 1947
Dolphin, 12 pt.
The Way of the Cross, with illustrations. 1950
Dolphin, 12 pt.
Sunday Vespers and Compline, in Latin and English. 1953
Old Style, 12 pt.
A Ladder of Four Rungs: a Treatise on Prayer by Dom Guy II. A Middle English version, translated by Dom Justin McCann, O.S.B. 1953
Old Style, 12 pt.
Christmas Lyrics, 15th century. First published 1956, reprinted 1957
100 copies in two colours—20 on W.S.H. hand made paper bound in vellum—80 copies on Abbey Mills antique laid, paper cover (Charles I hand made). Perpetua, 12 pt. solid, initials hand done, Stanbrook.
Reprint: 400 copies on W.S.H. hand made bound in white parchment. Initials by Margaret Adams.
On the Birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ by Saint Leo the Great, 1958
500 copies on Barcham Green hand made paper, Cockerell marbled covers.
Cancelleresca Bastarda, 16 pt. Didot ledesd 3 pts.
Magi Veniunt, Expositio Sancti Ambrosii Mediolensis, 1959
The Path of Peace: selected poems by Siegfried Sassoon, 1960
Large Post 4to, 31 pp.

SIR JOSIAH SYMON'S LIBRARY
by Geoffrey A. J. Farmer

It was in 1925 that Sir Josiah Symon first suggested to the Board of Governors of the Public Library Museum and Art Gallery of South Australia that his collection of over 7,500 books (excluding approximately 2,500 law books), together with the fittings and photographs from his library, should be presented to the public library for preservation as an entity.

Mr H. R. Purnell, the Librarian, was asked by the Board to inspect Sir Josiah's collection, and in his subsequent report he stated that this library was 'one of the finest private libraries in South Australia, and probably in the whole of Australia. It is especially rich in English literature and Shakespeare, and a valuable collection of Australiana'.

Sir Josiah had been collecting books before his arrival in South Australia in 1866, for included amongst his luggage when he landed were two boxes of books, which were increased eventually to approximately 10,000 volumes. This collection, kept at Sir Josiah's home, 'Manoah', in the Adelaide hills, reflected his various interests in literature, biography and history, as well as his
professional interest in law, the 2,500 books relating to which were presented to the University of Adelaide.

The library is a very good example of the ‘gentleman’s library’ which could be formed in more spacious days before the rising price of books and the compactness of modern homes forced private collectors to a greater degree of specialisation. Books on most topics of intellectual activity are in the collection, and a glance at ‘The ‘Manoah’ Library Catalogue’, published by The Hazell Press, Adelaide, 1924, gives an idea of the range of the collection. Today, unfortunately, private collectors can rarely manage to collect outside fairly limited fields, due to the quantity of books published, their high cost, and the ever-present difficulty of storage.

Quite apart, therefore, from particular treasures in the collection, it is fascinating as an example of a kind of private collection that is now seldom formed, and possibly could not be formed, at least in Australia. Of obvious interest too, is the fact that in 1934 the entire collection of 20,000 books plus fittings, were insured for only £17,000, an amount which today would buy perhaps 500 books towards a similar collection.

The Public Library was able to accommodate the collection in a large room at the northern end of the building on the first floor, and in this room were installed the library shelves and cupboards from ‘Manoah’, the portraits were hung, and the books shelved. Together with reading tables and Sir Josiah’s desk, the library in its new setting bore out Sir Josiah’s wish that it should hold the same character of friendliness to those who frequented it in the future, as it did to himself. The library was officially opened by Lady Symon on September 27, 1935, the anniversary of Sir Josiah’s birthday.

Books from the collection are not available for loan, and can only be used in the Public Library. The collection is catalogued, the cards being kept in the Symon Library, with some entries duplicated in the Reference Library catalogue. Most of the books contain one of Sir Josiah’s two book plates, one being an armorial design (see Fox-Davies’ Armorial Families for a description), and the other showing the exterior of the library at ‘Manoah’. The collection being as an example of a kind of private collection that is now seldom formed, at least in Australia. Of envious interest too, is the fact that in 1934 the entire collection of 20,000 books plus fittings, were insured for only £17,000, an amount which today would buy perhaps 500 books towards a similar collection.

Although some 2,500 volumes of legal books were presented to the University of Adelaide, there are still 500 volumes left in the 300’s, mainly law books. Books on constitutional and criminal law predominate, with some 50 volumes of trials. The most interesting of the trials books is a copy of the 1st edition of The trial of the Honourable Admiral Byng at a court-martial, as taken by Mr Charles Fearne, Judge-Advocate of his Majesty’s Fleet, Dublin, 1758. Bound in with this (in original calf in poor condition), is The proceedings of a general court-martial held at the Horse-Guards ... upon the trial of Lord George Sackville, London, printed for A. Millar, in the Strand: and, Dublin, reprinted for G. and J. Rivington, in Change-Street, 1800. There is also a copy of John Selden, Titre titles of honour, 2nd edition London, 1631, rebound in calf, and A history of the military transactions of the British nation in Indostan from the year 1745, London, printed for John Nourse, Bookseller in ordinary to His Majesty, 1793. In view of Sir Josiah’s work for, and keen interest in, the cause of Australian Federation, it is particularly interesting to have copies annotated by him of Draft of a Bill to Constitute the Commonwealth of Australia, 1891, and a later draft of the Bill dated 1897.

The classes 400-700 contain only some 500 volumes, amongst which may be mentioned The native tribes of South Australia, comprising papers by Tuplin and others, Adelaide, Wigg, 1879; The aborigines of Victoria, by R. Brough Smith, 2 volumes Melbourne, 1878; The forest flora of New South Wales, by J. H. Maiden, 6 parts in 6 volumes Sydney, 1904-196; A general history of quadrupeds, T. Bewick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1790; the 1st edition 1843, and the 2nd edition 1871, of The South Australian vignetours and gardener’s manual. An entertaining point revealed by these two editions is that in the first the author, George McEwin, is described as a gardener to George Stevenson Esq. and, indicating his rise in society, in the second he is ‘George McEwin, J.P. Glen Ewin’. Among the books on art and architecture is a copy of The fine arts of the English School, illustrated by a series of engravings from paintings, sculpture, and architecture of eminent English artists, edited by John Britton, and finely printed as a small square folio by Charles Whittingham at the Chiswick Press, London, 1812. With literature, we come to one of Sir Josiah’s main interests, the 800’s consisting of approximately 3,000 volumes, with particular emphasis on Shakes-
peariana, there being over 600 books on this subject. Looking along the shelves, the first book of interest is The defence of poetry, by Sir Philip Sidney, to which are prefixed several copies of verses by Edward, Lord Thurlow; London, W. Bulmer, 1811. The book contains an armorial book plate of Henry Edward Bunbury, and the following a.l.s. is pasted to the inside back cover:

November 7th 1811

Sir,

Although I have not the Honour to be personally known to you; yet I take the liberty of requesting your acceptance of the Defence of Poetry, written by Sir Philip Sidney; I regret that I have not such a copy of the book with me, as I would have wished to present to you; but, such as it is, I beg you to accept it, as a very slight testimony of the Respect, with which I have the Honour to be

Your Obedient and very humble Servant,

Sir Charles Bunbury,

Bart.

The American literature consists mainly of sets by authors such as Hawthorne, Lowell, Cooper, Poe and Whittier, and includes the Cambridge History of American Literature, 4 volumes 1918-21.

Sets of Carlyle, De Quincey, Hazlitt and Macaulay commence English literature, the first impressive set being the Library edition of Ruskin, 59 volumes London, Allen, 1903-12; 2062 copies of this edition were printed by the Ballantyne Press, Edinburgh. The first private press item on the open shelves, (most of the fine printing is kept in a glass-fronted case), is the Nonesuch Press four-volume edition of Wycherley, 1924, number 881 of 900 copies. A five volume set of The works of Horatio Walpole, Earl of Orford, London, 1798, has a wood cut vignette on the title page of Strawberry Hill, Walpole's home, where his Strawberry Hill Press was located.

The English poets are well represented by sets of writers like Burns, Browning, Chaucer, Cowper and Milton, and the 2nd edition of The works of John Dryden, together with A life of the author, by Sir Walter Scott, Edinburgh, Constable, 1821. This is in 18 volumes, still in original boards, with the published price of £9 9s. on the title labels. Sets of Scott, Swinburne, Tennyson and Wordsworth complete the English poets. A small selection of anthologies includes John Bell's Classical arrangement of fugitive poetry, London, 1799-92, and George Moore's Pure poetry, London, Nonesuch Press 1924.

A large part of the literature collection is devoted to the English dramatists, with sets of Beaumont and Fletcher, Chapman, Dekker, Marlowe, and Shakespeare. Included amongst the twenty editions of Shakespeare's works are: E. W. Ashbee's edition of 1868, 24 volumes limited to 31 sets. This is a collection of lithographic facsimiles of early quarto editions; the complete set numbers 48 volumes, but apparently only 15 complete sets exist: Plays of William Shakespeare, with notes by Samuel Johnson and George Steevens, revised by Isaac Reed, 6th edition London, 1813, 21 volumes; Works, edited by W. Aldis Wright; the Cambridge Shakespeare, London, Macmillan, 1893-95, 40 volumes limited to 500 sets; Works, by James O. Halliwell, 1853-65, 16 volumes in royal folio, Jaggard's Shakespeare Bibliography, gives further details concerning these editions. Another facsimile edition in the collection is the four volume folio published by Methuen, 1904-10, of the comedies, histories and tragedies, faithfully reproduced from the editions of 1623, 1632, 1664, and 1685. A surprising omission is the Stratford Town Edition, 1904-07, 10 volumes Shakespeare Head Press, with text revised by A. H. Bullen, particularly as many other collections of texts and poems which Bullen edited are included in the collection. Volumes of criticism, related Shakespeare material, and Shakespeare-Bacon controversy works fill out the Shakespeare collection, including of course, the three books on W.S. which Sir Josiah himself wrote.

English fiction is represented by, amongst other authors, sets of Jane Austen, the Winchester edition, London, Grant Richards, 1898, 10 volumes; the Brontep, Haworth edition, London, Smith Elder, 1890, 7 volumes; Dickens, Hardy, Gaskell; Kipling, the Bombay edition, London, Macmillan, 1911-27, 26 volumes; Meredith; Scott, the Border edition, London, Nimmo, 1804, 48 volumes. The best English speeches are represented by sets of writers such as Burke, Canning, Peel and Horace Walpole.

Australian literature occupies only two shelves, Sir Josiah's main interest in Australiana being in journals and narratives of expeditions. Many of the items are South Australian publications, but the following books have wider interest: Marcus Clarke, For the term of his natural life, Australian copyright edition, Melbourne, George Robertson, 1885; Simpson Newland, Paving the Wayward Path, London, Gay & Bird, 1891. This South Australian classic is inscribed from the author to J. H. Symon. A. W. R. McNicol, Sea voices (poems), printed and illustrated in Niasa Cuthbert by Geoffrey Ingleton in 1932, being one of the several books from Ingleton's private press, the Golden Lantern Press. The European literature shelves display sets of such authors as Goethe, Rousseau, Molière, France and Tolstoi, with the classics represented by Plutarch, Demosthenes and Homer.

The 900's cover Sir Josiah's other main interests apart from literature, those of history and biography. Most of the sets and volumes are standard works, such as Hakluyt's Voyages, Purchas' Pilgrims, Napier's History of the Peninsular War, and numerous sets of works on English history. The main interest of this section is in the Australiana, of which the following is a brief list:

An account of the voyages undertaken by the order of his present Majesty for making discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere and successively performed by Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook, 2nd edition London, Strahan & Cadell, 1773, 2 volumes. Holmes, Captain Cook—a bibliographical excursion, 1952. No. 5.


A voyage to the Pacific Ocean ... performed under the direction of Captains Cook, Clerke, and Gore, London, 1853, 2 volumes.

A journal of a voyage to the South Seas in his Majesty's Ship Endeavour ... from the papers of the late Sydney Parkinson, London, 1809. Collation of this volume agrees with the majority except for: p. (335) and (356) which are bound in January 1962.
following p. 212: and, hand coloured chart of both hemispheres, following, p. 22. A voyage to the South Sea... for the purpose of conveying the bread-fruit tree to the West Indies in his Majesty's ship the Bounty, commanded by Lieutenant William Bligh. London, Nicol, 1792. Ferguson, Bibliography of Australia, No. 125, volume 1.


A voyage to Terra Australis... in his Majesty's ship the Investigator, by Matthew Flinders, London, Nicol, 1814, 2 volumes plus folio atlas. Ferguson No. 576, volume 1.

Amongst the other items of Australiana, the following are noteworthy: Three expeditions into the interior of Eastern Australia... by T. L. Mitchell, London, Boone, 1838. Ferguson No. 2555, volume 2; an Ackerman plate book An historical account of the colony of New South Wales... in illustration of twelve views, London, Ackerman, 1821. Ferguson No. 842, volume 1; South Australia illustrated, by George French Angas, London, 1846: Ferguson No. 4458, volume 4.

To complete the picture of the Symon collection, a minor interest of Sir Josiah's was fine printing, and a glass fronted case contains examples of private press books which include the Kelmscott Press Golden Legend, Doves Press Poems of Wordsworth, and volumes from the High House, De La More, and Riverside presses. Also in the case are some volumes which were valued for their scarcity. They include Thomas Hood's The dream of Eugene Aram, the murderer, London, Tilt, 1831; The Germ, Nos. 1-4, January-March 1850, mint condition in original parts as issued, in slip case; George Barrington An account of a voyage to New South Wales, Ferguson No. 357, volume 1; and, bound with this, Barrington's The history of New South Wales, Ferguson No. 345, volume 1; The Australia directory, volume 1, 1830, Ferguson No. 1315, volume 1. These important and ephemeral publications, pamphlets, are contained in 50 volumes, mainly of Australian legal and political interest, and there are a number which are not held in the Reference Library's extensive collection of South Australiana.

RECENT PRIVATE PRESS BOOKS

Once upon a time, as they say in the fairy stories, printing and publishing costs were low enough for books which would have only small sales to be issued through the normal book trade channels. The volumes issued by private presses were, more often then not, finely-produced editions of texts which were easily accessible elsewhere; they seldom contained original literary work which would not or could not have been published otherwise. When original work was issued under private press imprints the reasons were nearly always artistic, rather than economic. Today, alas, the situation is very different from that of the fairy story. The costs of production have risen so steeply that the commercial publisher who hopes to remain solvent cannot afford to issue books which will be unprofitable. At the same time the character of the private press movement is changing too, and is assuming a new importance as it takes over the responsibility for publishing books of merit which are not sound commercial propositions.

When this expansion of function is considered, it is impossible not to sympathise with those who sometimes complain that contemporary writers on the little presses pay too much attention to the physical aspects of their books to the neglect of the texts they contain. But the writer of a general reviewing column such as this is presented with the task of being an authority able to pontificate on the divers subjects of the books which come under notice, and it is a temptation to fall back on physical assessment alone.

It is in the publication of poetry particularly that the little presses can play their full part. Three recent volumes of verse from North America are particularly important textually, and are models of how their texts should be presented. The setting (in Lutetia italic and Romanè) and presswork of the Stone Wall Press's Error Pursued are exemplary, and the very plain handling of Helen Pinkerton's poems suits their classical simplicity admirably. Her lines On the Two Mary's in a Fresco of the Crucifixion present her art in a fine miniature:

The purer Eve and the impure,
Stand here forever separate,
One love seems all that is secure,
The other, tenuous and late.
One love seems stronger, never crossed,
Maternal passion simplified.
Perhaps it is. The other's cost,
In devils, mitigates its pride.

John Beecher's Phantom City presents verse of a very different sort from this. The volume, very similar in design to his In Egypt Land issued from his Rampart Press in 1960, contains a number of poems in blank verse inspired by the derelict mining towns of the American West. Mr. Beecher’s response to the misfits who drift into these ghost towns is compassionate, but he has a fine eye for the bogus as well:

HIGH GLASS JUNQUE he advertised
playing the tourists
Might as well put SMALL POX on his sign
as WORKS OF ART
Here in a shop not big enough
to pitch a pup-tent in
all camouflaged with odds and ends
fat ladies throned on midget toilet bowls
plastic skeletons and spooks
mass-produced for ghost-town tourist traps...

At the Klanak press in Vancouver, printing is not done on the premises, but—as with the Golden Cockerel Press—is done by commercial firms to the

1Stone Wall Press, 1819 G Street, Iowa City, Iowa.
2Rampant Press, P.O. Box 1506, Scottsdale, Arizona.
press's specification. The standard of work is high, but the method produces work which is at times rather too sophisticated. The simplicity of the design of Ralph Gustafson's *Rocky Mountain Poems* is a little too contrived for his raw evocation of the mountains' challenge. In the press's earlier collection of short stories by several authors, *Klanak Islands*, the same oversophistication is again apparent, but suits the mood of some of the stories very well. The quality of the work, as in all collections, is uneven, but the stories all show the vigour of contemporary Canadian writing.

With James Clyman, frontiersman, the Champoeg Press in Portland, Oregon, continues its series of scholarly editions of early works on the Pacific Northwest. Clyman's reminiscences are not easy going for the casual reader, but for the student of American expansion into the West the volume will be invaluable. Clyman was a versifier, if not a poet, and some of his verses on his home in California present a charming picture of his later life; not at all what the innocent lover of 'Westerns' would expect.

*Kidare,* by P. K. Thomajan, which is the second book from Dwight Agner's Centaur Press in Continental, Ohio, is an attempt—ably supported by Walter Kaprielan's very effective linocuts—to give expression to the pleasures of childhood memories. But this very American remembrance of things past is not altogether satisfactory to a cynical English reader.

As usual, several books which are primarily of typographical interest have been published. From the Grace Hoper Press comes *A commonplace Book for Typophiles.* Most of the quotations and designs have already appeared in the Press's earlier commonplace books, but it is remarkable and instructive how well they have been cut down to the smaller format of the Typophiles Chapbooks. Julius Goodman has issued from Junto, his private press in Grosse Point Park, Michigan, his first volume, *Marks and Manners,* being excerpts from Ringwalt's *American Encyclopedia of Printing set* (and with surprisingly good results) in ATF Century Old Style. In *The Ward Ritchie Press and Anderson Ritchie & Simons* just issued by the Press we have a magnificently produced and illustrated record of the sterling work which it has been producing since the revival of interest in typography in southern California thirty years ago.

In 1959 Vincent Torre produced a remarkable essay in the Japanese manner in his *Haiku,* of which only five copies were printed. He has followed this with a book of woodcuts, *Seeds,* which is an attempt at producing pictures à la chinoise. Though, naturally, it is not in the same class as the work of such contemporary artists as Chi Pat-Shih, this volume from the Ink-Well Press is a handsome piece of work, and as Torre has printed a hundred copies it should be possible to obtain it rather more easily than *Haiku!*

*Klanak Press, 374 St James Crescent, West Vancouver, B.C.*
*Champoeg Press, Reed College, Portland 2, Oregon.*
*Centaur Press, Box 215, Continental, Ohio.*
*Grace Hoper Press, 2130 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco 11, Calif.*
*Junto, a Private Press, 877 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe Park 30, Mich.*
*Ward Ritchie Press, 1932 Hyperion Avenue, Los Angeles 27, Calif.*
*Ink-Well Press, 1527-45 Street, Brooklyn 19, N.Y.*

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**BOOK TRADE CHANGES**

The publishers of the *Directory of Dealers in Secondhand and Antiquarian Books in the British Isles* have been informed of the following further changes to the entries in the 1960-62 edition. They will, of course, be glad to learn of any others so that they can be included in subsequent lists. The number preceding each entry indicates the section in the directory.

**Deletions**

4. Francis McHugh, Glasgow.
46. B. L. Wilson, London W.C.2.
54. Edward M. Carlson, Bideford.
58. Stanley Uden, Bournemouth.

**Additions**

64. Cranford, 5 Dorp Street (Corner of Long Street) Cape Town, South Africa. TN: 3-3147. Est: 1943. Large sec. and antiq. stock; also fine old furniture. Shop; early closing, Saturday. Prop: Rael Sizanowitz.

**Amendments**

23. Gallery Rembrandt from Islington Row, Birmingham, now at 50 Greynolds Lane, Monkspath, Shirley, Solihull, Warwick. TN: Shirley 2484.
24. Sebastian d'Orai Limited, from 21 King Street, now at Ivanhow, 9 Stoneygate Road, Leicester, TN: 79440.
26. T. Lambert, from 347 Gertrude Road, now at 2 Horseshoe Close, Costessey, Norwich.
27. T. Lambert, from 347 Gertrude Road, now at 2 Horseshoe Close, Costessey, Norwich.
34. A. C. Hannay, from 3 Bank Street, now at 6 Market Street, Braintree, Essex. TN: Braintree 1912.
35. D. S. Gunyon, from Almondsbury, now returned to The Old Vicarage, Boley Hill, Rochester, Kent. TN: Chatham 45838.
36. E. J. Martin, from Wakenaam Hill, Kenton, now at The Garden Flat, Rocke House, Trefusis Terrace, Exmouth, Devon.
40. D. Fredericks-Davies, from 422 St John Street, now at 412 St John Street, London E.C.I.
42. D. & M. Rose, from 24 Highgate Road, now at 1a Fortress Road, Kentish Town, London N.W.5.
44. Atlantis Bookshop, delete name of proprietor, Michael Houghton.
45. Economists Bookshop Limited, from Clements Inn Passage, now at Clare Market, Portugal Street, London W.C.2.
47. M. Morton-Smith, from Guildford, now at Heron Court, Zeal Monachorum, Crediton, Devon. TN: Bow 248.
47. Thomas Thorp, Street has been renumbered, now at 170 High Street Guildford.

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January 1962
The name of John Roberts Press is well known to collectors of fine editions and privately printed books. Their productions range from the twenty-guinea magnificence of a folio ‘Song of Songs’ to the more modest charm of ‘Twelve by Eight’, recently published by the Private Libraries Association.

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