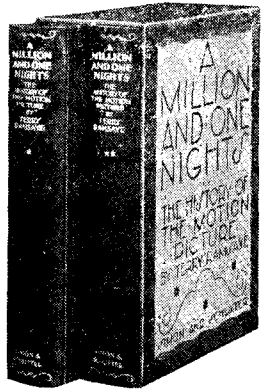


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## The Phoenix Nest

TWO delightfully illustrated books that have come to us recently are *A. S. Turberville's* illustrated introduction to the eighteenth century, put forth by the Clarendon Press and entitled "English Men and Manners in the Eighteenth Century," and "A Mid-Century Child and Her Books," by *Caroline M. Hewins* (Macmillan). Mr. Turberville considers the illustrations to his own volume fully as important as the letterpress, and they are admirably chosen. The book as a whole is manufactured with the impeccable taste common to Oxford publications. The smaller book, "A Mid-Century Child," bears a lavender binding stamped in gold in delightful imitation of the decorations common to mid-nineteenth century books. The illustrations are culled from such books as "Snow-Berries, A Book for Young Folks, (1867)," "Friendship's Offering (1835)," "The Token (1830)," "Marmaduke Multiply," "Youth's Keepsake," "Grandma's Book of Rhymes for the Nursery," and so on. There are some delightful plates in color and *Anne Carroll Moore* has written an introduction....

*Sig Spaeth*—or Dr. Spaeth, which title does not do justice to this wit of the musical world,—has just burst upon the market with two books, either of which—if you have any tunefulness in you—should delight you. There is "Words and Music," a book of burlesques (Simon & Schuster) and "Read 'Em and Weep," the Songs You Forgot to Remember (Doubleday, Page). Spaeth, in the former, presents his famous parodies familiar to his lecture audiences and those who have heard him over the radio. But here at last are the words and music you couldn't remember for laughing. "Read 'Em and Weep" is the result of *con amore* research into old songs of sentiment, melodrama, and ribaldry, for the reader as well as for the amateur performer. It plucks priceless pearls of popular vocalization from the past....

We hear that next year Houghton Mifflin will publish a book on old New England tombstones, by *Esther Forbes*, who wrote "O, Genteel Lady." Miss Forbes has spent about twenty years in cemetarial investigation....

The young *Nathalia Crane's* new book of poems, "The Singing Crow" (Albert and Charles Boni), is dedicated to the poet, *Virginia Moore*, author of "Not Poppy." Miss Crane's book is plentifully decorated by *Mac Harshberger*. This thirteen-year-old child poet is a mystery among children. Many of her newer poems seem obscure to us, though often there is unusual insight in the expression, a feeling for words fantastically brilliant. These four verses from "The Dust," for instance, seem to us remarkable:

*Under the microscope all seems sincere;  
There is a hillside, a valley, a weir.*

*There are diameters posing as fens,  
There are the Apennines—under the lens.*

*Spread on a slide is the great Gobi Plain;  
Carthage and Nineveh rise from a stain.*

*Laid out in atoms of amber and rust,  
Surely an angel arranges the dust.*

Again, "Experiments" is extraordinary in compressing a grisly fancy into a quatrain, as well as in its phrasing:

*There is a weird for every empty shell,  
A hant resides where once the orchid fell;  
And in collapsing chancels of the mole,  
A shambling ghost still plays his eyeless rôle.*

In the title poem and in "A Singer Gone," we do not quite understand about "the daughter of the Hood" among "the lords in black." There is some superb concise phrasing in the former, though the full meaning of the poem is not at all clear....

It is still not too late to get your answer in for the five hundred dollars the firm of Boni and Liveright is offering for an essay on the question (anent *Dreiser's* "An American Tragedy") "Was Clyde Griffiths guilty of Roberta Alden's death and therefore subject to the penalty of capital punishment for first degree murder?" The judges of this contest are *Arthur Garfield Hays* (who was in charge of the defense at the Scopes trial in Tennessee last year), *Bishop William Montgomery Brown* (Formerly Bishop of Arkansas and excommunicated for heresy last year), and *Heywood Brown*. Manuscripts must be typewritten double space and on one side of the sheet only. They must be submitted, together with all inquiries, to *Donald S. Friede*, 61 West 48th Street, New York City, before December 31, 1926. No manuscripts bear-

ing a postmark later than midnight December 30th will be considered. Boni and Liveright will publish the best of the essays in book form and pay a royalty of fifteen per cent, to be divided equally among all the contestants whose essays are included....

Our own *May Lambertson Becker*, whose address is 126 West 85th Street, announces "Studies in Contemporary Literature: A Series of Lectures," for 1926-27. There are twenty lectures in all, including a review of novels of the season, a study of character in biography, one on the Irish Theatre, one on *Eugene O'Neill*, on the stage in London, a year's British fiction, the bond of Poetry, and so on. Mrs. Becker will suggest reading-lists on any of these subjects through her department in this Review, "The Reader's Guide"....

*Genevieve Taggard*, well-known American poet, and author of "For Eager Lovers," "Hawaiian Hilltop," and the most recent "Words for the Chisel" (Knopf), is announced by *William B. Feakins* for a series of lectures with readings from her poems. Miss Taggard is a charming speaker....

The radio station of *The Chicago Daily News*, W. M. A. Q., in collaboration with Northwestern University, is presenting a course of Radio Lectures on "The New Universe," the modern worlds of science, society, art, religion, philosophy, and their relations to each other. They invite all and sundry to tune in every Wednesday at 8:10 P. M. There will be twenty-eight lectures in all. They began on October 20th. Students may register for the course subject to a fee of five dollars charged for handling the papers....

So far as we know, The Society of Woman Geographers is the only woman's organization of the kind in existence. It was organized in 1925, by a group who felt that there should be some medium of contact between women distinguished in geographical work and its allied sciences. Its Associate Membership admits widely travelled women who are interested in furthering all forms of exploration. Among active or corresponding members of the society are such writers as *Mary Austin*, *Florence Ayscough*, *Stella Benson*, *Helen Churchill Candee*, *Rose Wilder Lane*, *Jean Mackenzie*, *Blair Niles*, *Annie S. Peck*, and *Grace Thompson Seton*....

The "Ivory Tower" tea room, 23 Minnetta Lane, Greenwich Village, has just opened. It is a quiet rendezvous for the cultivated, with *Louise Lafitte*, the hostess, and is open at seven P. M....

*Bob Linscott* of Houghton, Mifflin, and *Conrad Aiken* recently sailed for England. They were to be a week in London and then a week at Conrad's home in Rye. Then Linscott was to go to Paris to visit *Archibald MacLeish*, whose "Streets in the Moon" Houghton Mifflin is just publishing in a limited edition of five hundred copies at five dollars per. Aiken has been here for the last two months working on a novel and an anthology of poetry and a number of reviews....

The Viking Press are arranging to publish next Spring a new story by *Sylvia Townsend Warner*, the author of "Lolly Willowses." Its central character is said to be a South Sea missionary....

*Margaret Wilson*, author of "The Able McLaughlins," and the more recent "The Painted Room," has been living in England since marrying an Oxford professor. Now she is in this country on a short visit. She will return to England to live in the shadow of the historical old Wormwood Scrubs prison in London, inasmuch as her husband has been appointed Deputy Governor of the prison....

*Justin Sturm* played full-back and end at Yale and was a star of the Yale-Princeton game in 1921. His name is well-known to sport writers and sport fans. But he has bewildered some of his athletic friends by writing "The Bad Samaritan," a novel lately published by Harpers....

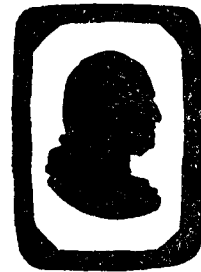
We have received several full versions of the ancient and honorable ballad of *Abdullah Bulbul Ameer*, since our mention of *Christopher Wren's* mention of it. *B. G. E.*, *Edith S. Mitchell*, of La Grange, Illinois, and *Benjamin P. Bowland*, of Cleveland Heights, Cleveland, Ohio, write us about it. One of these days when we have more space we are going to print the full version with variant readings....

Farewell! (as *Byron* said), a word that must be, and hath been, a sound which makes us linger;—yet—farewell!

THE PHOENICIAN.

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*Filled with enthusiasm over the perusal of certain books on Japan, he went to this country under contract with Harpers to write a number of sketches of Japanese life.*

*Shortly after his arrival, he severed connections with this firm, and became an Instructor of English at the University of Tokio.*

*He married a Japanese and, after the birth of his son, became a citizen of Japan.*

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# The World of Rare Books

By FREDERICK M. HOPKINS

## SALE OF SWARTZ AMERICANA

**P**ART I of the library of Simon J. Swartz of New Orleans consisting of 938 lots of Americana was sold at the Anderson Galleries November 8, 9 and 10, bringing \$31,799.75. This collection consisting of books, broadsides, autograph letters, and documents relating to the Louisiana Territory, the Mississippi Valley, and the development of the West is one of the most important that has been offered at public sale. The collection covered the early days of discovery and settlement; Louisiana under French and Spanish rule; its cession to the United States; the troublesome times of the Burr conspiracy; the War of 1812 and Andrew Jackson's connection therewith; and other important events down to the present time.

A few representative lots and the prices realized were the following:

Black Code. Code Noir ou loi Municipale, servant de Reglement pour le Gouvernement & l'administration de la Justice, Police, Discipline & le Commerce des Esclaves Nègres, dans la Province de la Louisiane, entrepris par Delideration du Cabildo en vertu des Ordres du Roi, que Dieu garde, consignés dans sa Lettre faite a Aranjuez le 14 de Mai 1777. 8vo., sewn, New Orleans, 1778. Excessively rare. \$550.

Broadside. The proclamation establishing Spanish law in place of French law in Louisiana, New Orleans, 1769. One of the earliest specimens of Louisiana printing. \$450.

Burr (Aaron). "Private Journal," 2 vols., 8vo., Rochester, 1903. Edition limited to 250 copies. \$90.

Hearn (Lafcadio). A. L. S. 5 pp., 8vo., New York, February 12, 1890, to Henry H. Alden, relating to financial arrangements for his Japan trip. \$230.

Hearn. Autograph manuscript, signed, entitled, "The Night of All Saints," 4pp., 8vo., New Orleans, October 15, 1879. \$310.

Hennepin (Louis). "A New Discovery of a Vast Country in America," etc., maps, 8vo., half morocco, London, 1698. Tonsion issue of the first English edition. \$165.

Hutchins (Thomas). "An Historical

Narrative and Typographical Description of Louisiana," etc., 8vo., levant morocco, by Sangorski & Sutcliffe, Philadelphia, 1784. Uncut copy of the original edition. \$80.

Jackson (Andrew). A. L. S. 3 pp., folio, Nashville, January 8, to his wife, a beautiful domestic and patriotic letter. \$100.

Lafitte (Jean and Pierre). A remarkable collection of material, mainly autograph letter and documents, relating to the pirates Jean and Pierre Lafitte and their part in the war of 1812. \$830.

## AMERICANA AT HEARTMAN'S

**A**N interesting sales of Rare Americana comprising books and pamphlets relating to the American Revolution, a few first editions and association copies, and some very fine literary and historical autograph letters and documents were sold by Charles F. Heartman, at Metuchen, N. J., November 6, and some very good prices were realized. A few lots with prices were as follows:

Almanac. "Weatherwise's Town and Country Almanack for the Year 1782," 12mo., stitched, Boston, 1781. With rare folding plate by Paul Revere. \$65.

American Revolution. "A Letter from a Veteran to Officers Encamped at Boston," 8vo., morocco, printed by Hugh Gaine, New York, 1774. \$72.50.

Revolution. Howe (John). "A Journal kept while employed as a British Spy," etc., 8vo., morocco, Concord, N. H., 1827. \$72.50.

Dana (Richard Henry). "Two Years Before the Mast," 16mo., cloth, New York, 1840. First edition. \$72.

Evans (Lewis). "Geographical, Historical, Political, and Mechanical Essays," small 4 to, morocco, Philadelphia, 1755. Second edition. Printed by Franklin and Hall. \$121.

Franklin (Benjamin). Indenture Made the Fourth Day of September, 1755, between William Seal and the Trustees of the General Loan Office of Pennsylvania . . . etc. . . . Signed by William Seal and certified by A. Hamilton. \$355.

French and Indian War. Original Manuscript Orderly Book kept at the Head-

quarters of Major Durkie at Crown Point, from August 10th to October 10th, 1759, 101 pp., small 4to, vellum. \$4.25.

Lowell (James Russell). "Democracy and Other Addresses," 8vo., half morocco, Boston, 1887. From the collection of Francis Jackson Garrison, with several autograph letters written by Lowell inserted. \$110.

## A JUST TRIBUTE

**M**ISS FLORA M. LAMB, who directs the publication of "The Mosher Books," has just issued a second collection of prose and verse chosen by the editor of *The Bibelot* entitled "Amphora," a companion volume to a collection of the same name published in 1912. This volume was partially planned by Mr. Mosher but he did not live to complete them. In addition to selections which he had included in his catalogues from 1912 to 1923, this is really a memorial volume, containing essays and poems by Mr. Mosher, a sonnet, "October in Memory of Thomas Bird Mosher" by Thomas S. Jones, Jr.; a dedication "To Thomas Bird Mosher" by Spencer Miller, Jr.; a "Foreword" by John L. Foley; a tribute, "A Golden String," contributed by Christopher Morley to *The Saturday Review*, July 11, 1925, and a pen portrait of Mr. Mosher entitled "Aldi Discipulus Americanus," contributed by Frederick A. Pottle to *The Literary Review*, December 29, 1923, both reprinted here. The frontispiece is an admirable portrait of the Portland publisher. The dedication is a just and well-phrased tribute:

"The law of excellence and the law of democracy stand in apparent confictions one with another in our modern age. They seem outwardly to have little in common. Yet Thomas Bird Mosher resolved this conflict through a sharing of enduring prose and poetry with his fellowmen. It was his gift to know what was excellent; it was his passion to share this excellence as widely as possible; it was his destiny to attain the realization of his ideal. He linked beauty which is ageless in art with the desire for the best which is timeless in the spirit of man.

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