Ex libris: 03/03 (Winter 1980)

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Ex Libris

JOURNAL OF THE USF LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

Winter, 1980
Exhibits

EXHIBITS OF rare and unusual items from the University's collections are displayed in the Library on a continuing basis. Display areas are located on the fourth floor of the main library building, both in the lobby and in the Special Collections reading room. Exhibits are changed quarterly.

Quarter II, 1980: Autographs and Manuscripts From Six Centuries

Original signatures and manuscripts written by famous persons have a fascination far beyond the mere content of the messages they convey. They provide a unique feeling of contact with people we can never actually meet. Drawn from the University's manuscript collection, the documents comprising this display will range from a 1492 dispatch signed by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain to a note by President John F. Kennedy. Included are holographic writings of such diverse personages as Thomas Jefferson and Pablo Picasso. The exhibit will be on display from January 7 to March 19.


Going far beyond the utilitarian task of making money difficult to fake, the detailed engravings adorning 19th Century American currency provide a unique view of America and her people. Including a diversity of themes from patriotic scenes to sailing ships, the illustrations on the nation's cash provide a monetary portrait of an idealized America, revealing much about how Americans saw themselves and their country. Drawn from the Library's Wollowick Collection of American Currency, the items forming this display comprise a fascinating panorama of American culture in the last century. Included are specimens of state, bank corporation, and Confederate notes of diverse formats and often peculiar denominations. The exhibit will be on display from March 31 to June 11.

Quarter IV, 1980: A Cartographic History of Florida

Through the colorful medium of maps and charts, the Library's summer exhibit will illustrate the development of Florida as a geographic entity. Original and facsimile maps drawn from the University's collection and ranging in date from the 16th to the 20th Century will be used to tell the story of Florida's past. Included will be cartographic works of map makers like Thomas Jefferys, Guillaume Delisle, and Abraham Ortelius. Many of these interesting early maps have elaborate, hand-colored decoration that make them art objects in their own right. Displayed will be navigational charts, land surveys, early railroad maps, city plans, and a variety of other cartographic items, all showing different facets of Florida as seen by cartographers of many nations in many times. The exhibit will remain on display from June 23 until August 25.

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Cover: Pietas et Congratulatio Collegii Canta-brigiensis apud Novanglus (Boston, 1761).
Small folio in contemporary red morocco, elaborately gold tooled with the arms of George III, King of England.
Not printed at State expense.

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Ex Libris

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Major Acquisitions

IN SPITE OF the past year's lack of state funds allocated for acquisition of research materials, the Library has added a goodly number of important items to its collections. Many of these interesting and significant works have been obtained through the support of the Associates, both through individual gifts and through the united efforts of our organization. Although it would be too cumbersome to list all of the rare and unusual items acquired in the immediate past, it might be in order to mention a few of the outstanding items.

Bibliographically speaking, perhaps the most exciting book added to the USF collection in some months is our very fine copy of the first anthology of American poetry ever published. Entitled *Pietas et Congratulatio Collegii Cantabrigiensis apud Novanglus*, this volume was printed in Boston in 1761. As an example of the finest American printing, it was preceded only by Benjamin Franklin's *Cato Major*. The first book printed in the colonies to use Greek type to any great extent, the work consists of thirty-one pieces in English, Latin, and Greek composed by distinguished Harvard students and alumni expressing praise and loyalty towards England's King, George III. The USF copy is one of a few special copies issued on fine paper for members of the royal family. It is a small folio volume bound in original red morocco, elaborately gold-tooled with the arms of George III. A handsome work both inside and out, this rare volume is a very fortunate addition to USF's collection.

Also of note both for its content and its binding is a fine 24-volume special extra-illustrated copy of Adolphe Thiers' *History of the Consulate and Empire Under Napoleon*. The historical works and other writings of French historian and statesman Marie Joseph Louis Adolphe Thiers (1797-1877) were immensely popular in their day and went through many editions. This edition was published in London by Willis and Sotheran in 1860. It is extra-illustrated with 811 portraits and views, 180 of them hand-colored. The set is also notable for its fine full blue morocco binding, elaborately gold-tooled with Napoleonic symbols such as the imperial eagle and the golden bee. The set was bound by the famous binder Bayntun of Bath, England.

Two interesting nautical volumes have also been added to the collection. The first of these is Joseph Mead's *An Essay on the Currents at Sea*, printed in London for J. Marshall in 1757. An important early oceanographic study, Mead's book postulates "That this EARTH is not of a uniform density ... but that the CURRENTS of the Gulph of FLORIDA, also on the Coast of BRASIL ... are Currents of Circulation, kept up by different Densities in this Earth, and its Motion round its AXIS." A very scarce volume, as far as can be ascertained no other copy is recorded as being located in Florida. The second nautical work is an 1826 French volume entitled *Le Pilote Americain, Contenant La Description des Cotes Orientales de L'Amerique du Nord ... suivi D'Une Notice Sur Le Gulf-Stream*. This interesting guide to American waters was translated from English by P Magre at the direction of the French Government, and was published at Paris by L'Imprimerie Royale.

ONE OF the Library's most recent accessions is a 27-page holograph manuscript by 19th Century American writer James Roberts Gilmore. Signed with Gilmore's pen name "Edmund Kirke," the manuscript forms two parts of a serialized children's story about the Battle of the Wilderness (May 5-6, 1864) entitled *The Little Prisoner*. The two parts of the
story present, although obviously intended as part of a larger work, form a complete episode in themselves.

Gilmore was well qualified to write about the South, having travelled there extensively as a cotton shipper before the Civil War. Convinced of the necessity of Black emancipation, early in the Civil War he published several novels which, with other writings, are credited with having helped decide the North on the question of emancipation. From 1862 until shortly after Lincoln's proclamation emancipating the slaves Gilmore published a magazine advocating emancipation. A short time after the proclamation, the government entrusted Gilmore with an unofficial peace mission to the Confederacy. Unfortunately negotiations broke down and nothing came of this effort to end the war. Later in life Gilmore continued his literary activities, writing several American histories and biographies in the 1880's.

In addition to the items we have singled out for specific mention above, significant growth was experienced in virtually all areas of our collections. Several dozen items were added to the early American textbook collection, while a considerable number of girls' series books joined those already in our Hudson Collection of American Series Books. The 19th Century American literature collection grew a good deal in the past few months; although no spectacular rarities were added our holdings of works by American writers, particularly juvenile writers, made steady gains. Steady growth was maintained in the Library's Florida research collection as well. Among the more interesting items added were a collection of early picture postcards of the Tampa Bay area, including a hand-colored set of interior and exterior views of the Bellair Biltmore hotel taken circa 1920. And of course, we have received several significant gifts of books for the next book sale even at this early date. All in all, with the help of its friends the Library has not done too badly during the past few months in spite of its increasing budgetary stringency.
WHILE THERE has been no systematic effort made to collect representative examples of fine bindings we have been able to amass work by a number of important binders as well as unsigned bindings of many types.

Among the earliest and most interesting of our bindings is a large folio binding of the 17th Century. This binding in full red morocco bears the royal arms of King Charles II of England. The book is *Atlas Japannensis* by Arnoldus Montanus published in London, 1670. Since King Charles died in 1685 we can date the binding between 1670 and 1685.

A second royal binding in our collection covers the first anthology of American poetry and the first book printed in the colonies to use Greek type extensively. As an example of the finest American printing, it was preceded only by Benjamin Franklin's *Cato Major*. The work is entitled, *Pietas et Congratulatio Collegii Cantabrigiensis apud Novanglus*. The binding of this small folio volume is the original red morocco, elaborately gold-tooled with the arms of George III, rebacked with the original spine laid down, (showing the famous vignette of liberty by Thomas Hollis).

A particularly important binding in the collection is one on a book which is interesting to us for a number of reasons. First it was bound in what is known as the Etruscan style, by Edwards of Halifax, the originators of this type of binding, employing classic elements in its design. This volume also is adorned with a fore-edge painting of Blenheim Palace executed by the Edwards firm who were leading exponents of the art of the fore-edge. Finally the book itself is the first edition of *British Birds* illustrated by Thomas Bewick.

In the 17th and 18th Centuries the most characteristic British binding was the panel binding. Several excellent examples of the panel on early volumes are present. A fine example of 1724 (unsigned) is illustrated.

In addition to our Royal Bindings, we have a number of bindings that carry armorial bearings. A large folio 19th Century polished calf is illustrated.

While calfskin was most commonly used as the binding material for early British books, morocco (goatskin) is more highly regarded both for durability and elegance. Both leathers are found plain or tooled in a great range of designs from simple lines (fillets), and lacy edges (dentelles) to elaborate allover...
patterns (fanfare). These can be either plain (in blind) or gilt. The leathers were frequently dyed in such colors as red, blue, and green, though more often left natural. While full leather was most common until the 19th Century, ½ or ¾ leather with marbled boards or cloth became a standard type of covering.

A FEW NAMES became outstanding in binding during the 19th Century. Most prominent among the British binders were such names as Bayntun of Bath, Riviere, Sangorski, and Sutcliffe and Zaehnsdorf, all of whom achieved a degree of fame. Many of the books bound by these firms are merely good workmanlike exercises, but some exhibit considerable artistry. Examples of the work of some of the lesser known binderies is also present. Such names as Root, Stikeman, and Pratt are found in the collection. Until about the 1820's books in Britain were bound individually in the style selected by the collector or the bookseller. Full editions were not bound for the publishers as they are in modern times. The first "edition binding" in cloth was done for William Pickering in his Diamond Classics series beginning in 1824.

Many types of decorative work were added to enhance the appearance of these books. Inlays of contrasting colored leathers and elaborate treatment of the edges of the book done by applying heated tools to the end surfaces creating a design (gauffering) are only two of these. An incunabula from our collection, a Horace of 1498, has both armorial bearings and gaufered edges.

Some of the more interesting bindings relate the decoration of the book to the contents. Two of these are shown here - Alice on spine of an 1899 Alice in Wonderland and Napoleonic symbols on an edition of Thiers History of Napoleonic Era.

Vellum bindings were not popular in Britain as they were difficult to decorate, however, at the close of the 19th Century, William Morris popularized the limp vellum binding which had a brief vogue lasting into the present century. The binding of the Doves Press edition of the Bible is a good example executed
Most of the bindings of the late 19th and early 20th Century exhibited little originality and while the workmanship utilized in their execution was frequently excellent they were usually rehashes of previous styles. We invite all of our interested readers to see the items we have mentioned as well as numerous other bindings of interest in our collection. For information on another type of binding popular in Britain in the late 19th and 20th Century we suggest you read the article on our G. A. Henty Collection in the Fall 1979 issue of EX LIBRIS.

Large folio volume bound in 19th century polished calf gilt-tooled with the armorial bearings of its owner.
A Fantasy Florida for Young Eyes

This article has recently appeared in the *Tampa Tribune* and appears here with their permission.

INDIANS SKULK through dense undergrowth while the great saurians (alligators) silently and hungrily glide beneath the surface of stagnant swamps. Overhead great noisy flocks of pink birds call as the wily panther stalks its prey. Meanwhile the ragged and shiftless (and certainly untrustworthy) Crackers lounge lazily in the sultry Florida afternoon.

This ridiculous passage epitomizes the vision of Florida drawn by the authors of most books for American youth in the years 1890 to 1930. Many other elements were woven into these naive stories but the basic formulas varied but little. Juvenile literature in America reflected the interest young people everywhere have in the exotic and unusual. They were fascinated by the worlds that were unknown to them. The Everglades and the Seminoles were among the intriguing subjects found in this literature over and over again. To a lesser extent the orange groves, the Indian River (with its romantic name), and Tampa Bay with overtones of pirates and treasure also played their part in these stories. Apparently the image of the Florida Crackers was interesting to American youth and many stories weave them into the plot. More often than not this is in a most negative light. In girls books the added elements of romance and luxury made Palm Beach the locale of a number of stories.

On reading these too often uninformative stories it is fairly easy to tell which authors had actually visited Florida and based their descriptions on fact. Some writers such as Wilmer Ely in his Boy Chums series display considerable knowledge of the state. Ely gives excellent description of Florida before WWI. His book *Boy Chums in the Gulf of Mexico* gives detailed descriptions of the Greek community at Tarpon Springs in 1913 as well as much information on the sponge fishing industry of that time. Six of the Boy Chums titles have Florida locales and all of these are most informative.

The Dime Novels that use Florida as the scene of action vary from two issues of *All Sports Library* written in 1905 and 1906 by Maurice Stevens, the product of an author who had visited the Indian River area of Florida and spent some time observing the fauna of the region to mere mentions of Florida locale in many titles. Modern day ecologists would be aghast at the casual description of the mass slaughter of all sorts of Florida
birds from egrets to pelicans in Stevens' stories. The characterization of the Florida Cracker is consistently unflattering. The kindest description is the phrase "poor white trash." Despite their negative aspects, much useful detail of Florida life is presented and a reading of these two tales is far from boring. Such background as the description of the way in which raccoons fight or the proper method of angling for various species of fish then found in the Indian River seem both accurate and the result of first-hand observation. Too often, however, the Florida locale is merely mentioned and it is obvious that the plot could have been laid anywhere for all the local color it contains. Such a story is "Tampa's Dynamite Fiend" in the Starry Flag Weekly series dated June, 1898. There are brief references to the Tampa Bay Hotel that could easily have been taken from newspaper descriptions during the Spanish-American War.

This article recently appeared in the Tampa Tribune and is reprinted here with its permission.

SOME OF the Dime Novels reflect a brief railroad trip to Florida. One of these is "The Bradys In the Everglades" in The Secret Service series. Little detail other than what might be observed through a pullman car window shows up in this 1901 epic.

The Young Rover Library item entitled "Link Rover's Best Scheme or A Hurricane of Humor Along the Coast" by Gale Richards reveals that the author had traveled as far as the Royal Palm Hotel in Miami and seen some Seminole Indians. This 1905 epic was one of at least four stories apparently based on a trip taken by the author. The best known of all Dime Novel writers, Gilbert Patten, appears to have come to the Cumberland Island, Amelia Island, and Fernandina areas at the turn of the century. His famous series Tip Top Weekly has a title "Frank Merriwell's Party" in which the beach at Fernandina is described in some detail.

Perhaps the most amusing of the Dime Novel accounts of Florida is in the British series True Blue Library and is entitled "In the Grip of the Crackers." This epic story of
the adventures of two young Britishers in the St. Johns River area of Florida strikes a number of violent themes before concluding on a positive note with the heroes on their way to becoming wealthy in their vastly successful orange grove. The ignorance of the Florida Crackers and the venomous violence of the local black population are contrasted to the civilized demeanor of the British and a Northerner who is on the scene. This turn of the century story bears no date but can be dated in the late 1890's from external evidence. While the dialogue is far from believable and the simulated Cracker accents are less than accurate the descriptive passages ring true and reflect the experience of a firsthand observer.

The University of South Florida collection of girls books in series has a number of titles that indicate Florida locales. Some of these are romantic stories which could have had any title and bear no relationship at all to Florida. *The Automobile Girls at Palm Beach*, (1913), has an over-ample supply of noble titles and description of clothes and social events, but virtually nothing is written to set the scene in Florida. By way of contrast *The Moving Picture Girls Under the Palms*, (1914), goes into considerable accurate detail with its description of St. Augustine and Florida flora and fauna. The passages about manatees are quite well done and not far from fact.

The book titled *Mary Jane Down South* gives fair descriptions of Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Daytona that could only have come firsthand from the author. The visit of Mary Jane to the home of Harriet Beecher Stowe at Mandarin on the St. Johns River is well described and in some detail. The pseudonym "Laura Lee Hope," a house name of the Stratemeyer syndicate appears as author for both *The Moving Picture Girls Under the Palms* described above and *The Outdoor Girls in Florida*. In both titles an adventure with a manatee pulling a boat forms a major incident in the story.

**WHILE MANY** of the boys series books of the 1890-1930 period use the device of a Florida locale to achieve interest in their readers few indeed added to the knowledge of Florida and its landscape. The Florida adventures of St. George Rathbone make tame but interesting reading today. His book *Paddling Under Palmettos* published in 1902 is based on his vacations spent in a canoe on the Indian River. The detail is mainly of fishing and hunting and is still of interest to the modern reader.

*The Big Five Motorcycle Boys on Florida Trails* by Ralph Marlow subtitled *Adventures Among the Saw Palmetto Crackers* gives a laughable but only too true idea of the state of the Florida roads as of 1914. The major villain of the
piece is imported from Ohio but, as usual, the Florida cracker is portrayed as mean, shiftless, ignorant, and gullible.

Louis Arundel's series the *Motor Boat Boys* has one volume devoted to Florida, *The Motor Boat Boys Among the Florida Keys*. This 1913 epic takes the heroes around Florida from East to West. The only source of information on the State seems to have been a map. There is no descriptive detail at all and the reader learns little about the locale of the story.

Another book that promises much but delivers little of interest is *Boy Scouts In the Everglades* by Archibald Lee Fletcher. This rather slangy 1913 epic gives minimal detail to set the scene.

*The Outdoor Chums on the Gulf* by Captain Quincy Allen purports to be about the area from the Florida Keys to Cedar Key. Except for the mention of alligators there is little to be found in the text that is of Florida interest.

The naivete of both authors and readers disappeared at the close of the 1920's with a well written juvenile titled *The Boast of the Seminole* by Lange published in 1930 as a volume in a series of *Indian Stories With Historical Bases*. This action packed adventure in Florida during the Second Seminole War describes in considerable detail the "skulking Indians," and "great saurians" but has the virtue of long and accurate descriptions of such diverse items as fiddler crabs and coontie. To its credit it uses and translates numerous Seminole words. Lengthy quotations from the writings of William Bartram balance the blood and thunder of skirmishes with Indians and the book ends with the timely statement, "... and may the white man not despoil the land which has been entrusted to his care!".
Autographs and Manuscripts at the University of South Florida
By Paul Eugen Camp

Among the most interesting and perhaps least expected items to be found at the University of South Florida Library are the many autographs of famous persons which may be seen in the Library's Special Collections Department. Unknown to many members of the University community, the Library's collections contain actual letters and other original writings of such people as President Thomas Jefferson and General Robert E. Lee. These unique artifacts provide visitors to the Library with an opportunity to see close up the actual hand writing of people usually known only as characters in history books. Presidents, kings, poets, and artists, even revolutionaries - all these and more are represented in the Library's holdings, ready for examination by any interested visitor.

Most of the autographs housed in the Library's rare books area have been acquired as parts of the Special Collections Department's manuscript resources. Gathered to support research use of the Department's book collections, original manuscripts provide scholars with the raw material for creative investigation. Three distinct collections of manuscripts are housed in the Department: the Library's own manuscript collection, the manuscript collection of the Florida Historical Society, and a group of important manuscripts on long-term loan to the Library from private owners.

The bulk of the manuscripts forming the Library's own collection has been received by gift over the years, usually donated by persons concerned that important papers in their possession be ensured against destruction and made available for scholarly use. In this category are the extensive personal papers of LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida from 1955 to 1961. The Collins Papers constitute the Library's largest single manuscript collection to date, rivalled only by the still growing papers of Congressman Sam Gibbons which are also located at USF. Reliance on donation for the development of the University's manuscript collection is dictated both by the fact that such unique private papers are quite often still in private hands, and by the traditional shortage of state allocated funds for acquisition of specialized research material. Some important manuscript collections and significant single documents have, however, been purchased from allocated funds when the materials came on the market. The most significant collection acquired by purchase is the Library's Dion Boucicault Collection. The surviving manuscripts of Irish-American playwright and actor Dion Boucicault (1820-1890), this collection was the subject of two articles in the Spring, 1979 issue of *Ex Libris*. Building a major manuscript collection by

Letter signed by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain on August 12, 1492, nine days after Columbus sailed on his voyage of discovery.
purchase, however, is a difficult proposition today due primarily to the often prohibitively high prices of important items on the open market. History-conscious donors of family and other private papers are and will remain the most important source of original research material for the University's collection.

Although the Library accepts with gratitude autographs and manuscripts of notable persons whatever their nationality or area of achievement, active collecting is generally limited to materials supportive of our major research book collections. The emphasis in acquisition of original manuscripts is on materials relating to the history and development of Florida, with particular stress placed on items relating to Tampa and the southwestern part of the state. Second in priority is acquisition of original literary manuscript, correspondence and other writings to support the Library's collection of books by 19th Century American writers.

By far the most numerous category of manuscripts in the Special Collections Department are those relating to Florida. The Library's own extensive Florida holdings are greatly strengthened by the highly significant manuscript collection of the Florida Historical Society. Together, the two collections provide a rich and varied trove of Florida research materials ranging in date from the 17th to the 20th Centuries. Included are many types of manuscript, such as letters, journals, diaries, account books, business records, and many others.

Although primarily of importance for the irreplaceable historical data they contain, these documents are a treasure house of Florida-related autographs. Not only are notable Floridians represented, but also many famous non-Florida residents who played important parts in the development of the state. Signatures may be found here of figures like President Andrew Jackson, who in 1821 served as Florida's first American Governor, of David Levy Yulee, who was the state's first U.S. Senator (1845) and perhaps Florida's most famous Jewish citizen, and of Key West lawyer Stephen Russell Mallory (1813-1873), who served the Confederacy as Secretary of the Navy, as well as those of other famous and near-famous persons in Florida's past.

IN ADDITION to autographs of notable personalities associated with Florida, the Department's manuscript collections include many important holographic accounts and journals, some of great length, telling of early Florida life. Perhaps one of the most interesting is a manuscript account of the Indian Key Massacre. On August 7, 1840 a band of Indians killed most of the inhabitants of Indian Key, Florida. Among those killed was renowned botanist Dr. Henry Perrine (for whom Perrine, Florida is named). In 1885 Dr. Perrine's daughter Hester Perrine Walker, who escaped death by hiding beneath a wharf, wrote a detailed account of the massacre for her grandchildren, the original of which is now located at the USF Library.

A considerable number of the Library's original papers relate to the history of Tampa
and environs. Among the Tampa-related items are, for instance, several holograph letters written by Colonel George Mercer Brooke, who in 1824 built Fort Brooke, the military post about which Tampa grew. Another Tampa item is an 1881 petition from the town of Tampa to Congress asking that the 16-mile Fort Brooke military reserve be granted to the municipality as a park. The petition, which was not granted, bears the signatures of most of the town's leading citizens (and those of many not-so-leading Tampans as well). The families of many of the petition's signers reside in Tampa to this day. On a more modern note the USF manuscript collection also includes the papers of the late Cody Fowler relating to Tampa's bi-racial committee of the civil rights era, as discussed in Dr. Steven Lawson's *Ex Libris* article "The Civil Rights Era in Tampa: A Forgotten Legacy" (vol. 1, no. 4). These manuscripts and others like them constitute a major resource for the study of our community and its development.

Next in importance to the Library's Florida papers are its 19th Century American literary manuscripts. Though the University has been actively collecting such documents for less than five years, still a significant body of original American literary items has been developed. Among the autographs of famous pre-1900 American writers in the collection are those of Joaquin Miller (1841?-1913), once internationally acclaimed as "the Byron of Oregon" of Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896), whose novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* did so much to bring on the Civil War; and of Ann Sophia Stephens (1813-1886), an exceedingly popular writer of "respectable" romances who, ironically enough, is remembered chiefly as the author of the first dime novel, *Malaeska, the Indian Wife of the White Hunter* (1860). Particularly well represented are American women novelists and poets, some still famous like Mrs. Stowe, more almost forgotten, like Sarah Josepha Hale (1788-1879) who in 1830 wrote the classic nursery rhyme "Mary Had A Little Lamb."

Two of USF's most interesting items of literary Americana are manuscript copies of "America," and the "Pledge of Allegiance," each in the author's own handwriting. "America," which has on several occasions been proposed as a replacement for "The Star Spangled Banner" as our national anthem, was written by poet Samuel Francis Smith in 1832. The USF copy, written and signed by Smith, is dated August 8, 1838.

Original letter in the hand of American poet William Cullen Bryant.
1885. The "Pledge of Allegiance," recited daily by generations of American school children, was originally written by Francis Bellamy and published in *The Youth's Companion* in 1892. Bellamy retired to Tampa in 1921, where he remained until his death ten years later. The Library's holograph copy of the "Pledge" was written by Bellamy for Pauline Truelson Gibbons around 1928. Mrs. Gibbons, a member of the Library staff, generously donated her copy of the "Pledge" to the Library.

THE LIBRARY'S own holdings of 19th Century literary materials are supplemented by a number of manuscripts on long-term loan to the University. The most extensive of these is the personal collection of Mr. J. B. Dobkin of San Antonio, Florida. The Dobkin Collection includes original letters by American writers like Timothy Shay Arthur (1809-1885), remembered for his temperance writings like *Ten Nights in a Barroom*, and American travel writer and explorer Bayard Taylor (1825-1878). These privately owned papers generously placed on long-term deposit with the Library's Special Collections Department are a most welcome addition to its research capabilities.

Although primary areas of collection development are Florida and American literary manuscript, there are many other types of original writings represented in USF's holdings. One may discover autographs of famous Americans of many periods and regions. There are, for instance, letters of such titans of the Confederacy as General Robert Edward Lee (1807-1870) of the Army of Northern Virginia, and Jefferson Davis (1808-1889), first and only President of the "Lost Cause." On the other side, one may see autographs of Union officers like General Philip H. Sheridan and Lee's nemesis, General Ulysses Simpson Grant. Present also are signatures and other writings of famous women like feminist Susan Brownell Anthony (1820-1906), who led the fight for woman's suffrage. Among the more unusual items is a handwritten letter from a Chickasaw Indian leader named Wolf's Friend. Addressed to Indian trader William Panton, it is dated April 30, 1797 and discusses the Chickasaw nation's desire for continued peace.

A category well represented at USF is autographs of American presidents ranging from Thomas Jefferson (third President, 1801-1809) to Richard Milhous Nixon (thirty-seventh President, 1968-1974). The Library's collection of presidential autographs includes letters, signed photographs, and other documents. Although not every president of the United States is represented, enough are to make a very interesting collection. Presidents like Andrew Jackson, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Theodore Roosevelt, and every president from Franklin Delano Roosevelt onward are represented, along with many others.

A great many autographs of famous European personalities are also present in USF's manuscript collections. Among the autograph letters, signed photographs, and other holographic items may be seen the handwriting of such notables as Spanish artist Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), French actress Sarah Bernhardt (1845-1923), and English poet...
Robert Browning (1812-1889). Perhaps the most interesting of all the manuscripts in the Library is a document dated August 12, 1492 and signed by both King Ferdinand (1452-1516) and Queen Isabella (1451-1504) of Spain. Written nine days after Columbus set sail on his voyage of discovery, it is a military directive to the Spanish commander on the border with the Kingdom of Navarre. Other notable manuscripts include two letters written and signed by German scientist Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859). Though generally forgotten by the public today, von Humboldt was once called the second best known European of the 19th Century (second only to Napoleon). His Kosmos, a description of the physical universe in five volumes, is a landmark publication in the history of science.

The famous, the near-famous, and the nearly forgotten—all are richly represented in the manuscript collections housed in USF's Special Collections Department. The handwriting of many persons acting in many times and places survives there for modern eyes to see and modern minds to touch. Each autograph, as unique as the hand that shaped it, is a personalized time capsule from an individual whose works we perhaps know, but whose essential humanity is often hard to grasp across the years. Whether one's motivation is scholarly research or simply personal interest, seeing these fascinating bits of history is a reward and educational experience well repaying a visit to the Library.
Third Annual Library Associates Book Sale:

The Annual Book Sale took place as scheduled in the University Center Ballroom on November 4, 5, and 6, 1979. We are pleased to announce that the sale was most satisfactory, both from our viewpoint and from those of the hundreds of booklovers who picked up book bargains. As has become customary, the sale opened with a Sunday evening session open to members of the Associates only on the fourth. The public portion of the sale began on the fifth and continued through the sixth. As was the case last year, prices were reduced to 100 per volume for the final hours of the sale. This finished off most of the surviving volumes, leaving us with a tidy sum to finance Associates activities in the coming year.

Again this year staff for the sale was provided by volunteers from the USF library science program. For undertaking the monumental tasks involved in staging the sale a portion of the proceeds have been given to the Library, Media and Information Studies Graduate Department to support its special programs. Particular credit is due to Mr. Mike Snow, who largely saw to the pricing of the thousands of volumes and directed the overall operation of the sale. Mr. Snow is currently completing his master’s degree in library science at USF, so unfortunately, this is the last year we will be able to enjoy his outstanding services in connection with our book sale.

By any standards the sale was a great success. In the months since it was held the Special Collections staff has received many calls from persons who had heard rumors of the sale and wanted to find out about it. Though too late for this year, hopefully these people will swell our clientele next November. The Fourth Annual Book Sale is already scheduled for the University Center Ballroom again next November. We are actively accumulating books already, and have at present gathered nearly a thousand volumes. Since next year will to all appearances be very lean financially for libraries, we will be counting on all our well wishers to make next year’s sale the best yet. If you have books you do not need, please call us at 974-2731 for information relative to donations.

First Library Associates Student Book Collection Contest:

To promote the collection and enjoyment of books by members of the USF community, the Library Associates, with support from the University’s Library, Media, and Information Studies Graduate Department will hold a student book collection contest this spring. Two one hundred dollar prizes will be awarded to the USF students judged to have collected the most significant personal library entered in the contest. The contest is open to all regularly enrolled students of the University, including those attending any of USF’s branch campuses. At least one of the prizes will be awarded to an undergraduate.

Collections entered in the contest will be limited to no less than ten and no more than fifty items, defined according to some area of interest (such as a particular author or subject, type of book, etc.). The substance of the collection will be of prime importance, judging being based on such factors as thoroughness, imagination, and coherence. Consideration may be given to the excellence of design and production of books comprising a collection, but rarity and monetary value per se will be of secondary importance in the judging.

Contestants wishing to enter the contest will do so by submitting a typed, annotated
bibliography including each item entered, cited in a consistent bibliographic style. All books entered must be the property of the contestant. The bibliography must be prefaced by a statement of purpose indicating the scope and goals of the collection, along with a list of ten titles the contestant would like to add to the collection if circumstances permitted. Preliminary judging will be done on the basis of these three documents, and finalists will be requested to bring their collections to the Library for final judging.

Persons interested in entering the 1980 contest may obtain contest rules and information from Mr. J. B. Dobkin at the Special Collections Department, USF Library (Tampa, 33620, telephone 974-2731). Deadline for applications is April 7, 1980. Final judging will take place on April 14-15. The awards will be presented at a luncheon ceremony on April 18th, which we hope all Associates members will plan to attend if possible.

Credit for the development of the student book contest is due to two members of the Associates' Board, Mr. Bruce Fleury and Dr. Fred Pfister. The contest rules and procedures were developed by these two gentlemen after an extensive survey of the nation's academic libraries lasting well over a year. Perhaps the most detailed study of American student book contests ever conducted, the results of Mr. Fleury's and Dr. Pfister's research will form the basis for an article that has been accepted for publication by College and Research Libraries, a major professional library journal.
Any person who wishes to help in furthering the goals of the USF Library Associates is eligible to become a member. Regular, sustaining, patron, corporate, and student memberships are available on an annual basis (September 1 to August 31). Student memberships are open only to regularly enrolled students of the University of South Florida, and are valid only so long as the member remains a regular USF student. Life memberships are also available to interested persons.

Membership in the Associates includes a subscription to *Ex Libris*, a journal of articles and news about Associates activities, library developments, and other topics likely to be of interest to Bay area bibliophiles. The member is also entitled to attend all Associates functions and, in addition, is eligible for book loan privileges at the University Library, subject to prevailing library regulations.

So, if you are interested in helping us to obtain a better library for the University and its community, and want to participate in the many services and activities offered to members by the Library Associates, please use the membership blank below and become one of us today.