THE ASSOCIATED FRIENDS

Manuscript Given by Dr. Gabriel Wells

Dr. Gabriel Wells attracted wide attention by purchasing at the Benefit Auction held at Delmonico’s in February four important items which he at once gave to four university libraries. Rutgers, Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, all received gifts from "the outstanding bidder" of the sale, as the New York Times Book Review called Dr. Wells. The Rutgers gift is especially important for its historical significance. The unhappy history of Spain for the last century and more has been punctuated by revolutions and counter-revolutions. One of these revolts took place in 1868 when Queen Isabella was forced to flee in the face of a republican uprising. The news of this event was approved in the United States by all those who welcomed republican regimes where ever they appeared, and in at least one case a group of prominent citizens united to send an expression of their pleasure to the new government. An Address of American Citizens to the Spanish Government and People, which Dr. Wells bought at Delmonico’s and gave to the Library is the original manuscript of the document which these enthusiastic American friends of freedom drew up in support of the new Spanish government. It bears such names as those of Peter Cooper, Charles A. Dana, Horace Greeley, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and many others who were eminent in their generation. It forms, moreover, an important piece of evidence concerning the attitude of Americans of two generations ago toward those who were fighting for the right to govern themselves. The Associated Friends are indeed grateful to their Honorary President for his generosity in thus adding to the many gifts which he has already made to the Library.

Gifts

The list of those who have given books or other valuable presents to the Library is a long one. We should like to be able to describe in some detail every gift, but since this is impossible, we shall have to content ourselves by naming the donors with gratitude.
New Members

Since October first twenty-three persons have become members of the Associated Friends. This brings the total membership to three hundred and nineteen.

Charles L. Allen
John A. Anderson
John H. Birss
William S. Bishop, '87
M. J. Brines
Robert W. Carle
Robert V. Daly
C. Rexford Davis, '28
O. Watson Flavelle, '97

Adeline Gordon
Clayton M. Hall
Charles F. Heartman
Charles F. Kellner
Morris Kellner, '31
David Layton, '94
John F. McGovern, '12
Louis F. Ruf, '85
Frederick J. Sickles
President Lincoln in 1863

A few days before President Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address, Alexander Gardner, the photographer, took four pictures of him. Of these photographs, one was slightly defective and was not used. Lost until about five years ago, it turned up at a sale in the Anderson Galleries. After that it passed from hand to hand, finally coming into the possession of Mr. I. Robert Kriendler, of the Class of 1936, who has just presented it to the Rutgers Library. The picture is remarkable in that it has never been retouched or modified in any respect and that it thus shows Lincoln exactly as he looked in 1863. The Library is grateful to Mr. Kriendler for his thoughtfulness in giving it this especially interesting picture.

Building the Library with a Will

Within the last few months the Library has increased its funds and its holdings of books by several legacies. Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, of the Class of 1898, by his will again enlarged our collections. We note that every issue of The Journal has contained some notice of books presented by Dr. Lipman. From the estate of Mr. Clarence Garretson, of the Class of 1899, the Library has received $5,000, which will become available upon the termination of a life interest in the residuary estate. Friends of the Library will be glad to know that payments on the legacy of Mr. William A. Chapman have amounted to over nineteen thousand dollars. The terms in which Mr. Chapman made his bequest are so generous and free that we shall quote them:

It is my desire that this fund may be known as “Library Fund of the Class of 1873,” and I express my hope that this small beginning may serve to attract the attention of willing friends of Rutgers University to the desirability of establishing an endowment adequate to the needs of the Library. It is my desire that, if possible, this fund be kept intact and that the income thereof only be used for the acquisition of manuscripts, books, pamphlets, etc., giving preference to Americana of the Colonial period, although I attach no condition to the gift.