GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

BY CLARK L. BECK, JR.

BOOKS

The Library has acquired a rare account of the first Japanese embassy to the West. The acquisition of Guido Gualtieri, *Relationi della Venuta de gli Ambasciatori Giapponesi a Roma, sino alla Partita di Lisbona* (Venice, 1586) was made possible through the Friends of the Library Fund. Chronicled are the activities of the Japanese from their arrival in Rome to their departure from Lisbon. Also described are their reception by the Pope, letters from three Japanese princes, and the Pope’s reply. The Library maintains a fine collection, both printed and manuscript, on Japan during the latter half of the nineteenth century, which this volume complements appropriately.


Of American or New Jersey interest are Ebenezer Pemberton, *A Sermon Preached in New-Ark, June 12, 1744, at the Ordination of Mr. David Brainerd* (Boston, 1744); Aaron Ogden, *Memorial of Aaron Ogden, of Elizabethtown, in the State of New Jersey* (Washington, 1811), Frelinghuysen Fund; Joseph Allen, *An Alarm to Unconverted Sinners, in a Serious Treatise* (Hanover, N.H., 1816); and Emilie Marthecia Whitten, illuminator, *The Perfect Woman* (Boston, 1901).

MANUSCRIPTS

Autobiographical manuscripts and original photographs of several antebellum era New Jersey congressmen have been acquired (Famulener Fund). The accounts are in the form of letters, either by the legislators themselves or close relatives, to Charles Lanman, publisher of the *Dictionary of the United States Congress* beginning
in 1859. Included are autobiographies for John T. Bird, representative 1869-1873; James Fitz Randolph, senator 1875-1881; Joseph Fitz Randolph, representative 1837-1843; Charles Haight, representative 1867-1871; John T. Nixon, representative 1859-1863; James Parker, representative 1833-1837; John L. N. Stratton, representative 1859-1863; John C. Ten Eyck, senator 1859-1865; John R. Thomson, senator 1853-1862; and Edwin R. V. Wright, representative 1865-1867. The likenesses of three congressmen are represented by original photographs. Images of Garnett B. Adrain, class of 1833 and representative 1857-1861, and John R. Thomson, senator 1853-1862, are proof photographs made by Washington, D.C., photographer James E. McLees in 1858. A proof photograph of Representative Andrew Jackson Rogers (1863-1867) was probably taken at the Matthew Brady studio in Washington about 1863. The Library previously acquired similar autobiographies for six other New Jersey legislators and now holds these accounts for most of the state’s Civil War period congressmen.

Some 150 letters received (plus a few drafts of letters sent) by Salem County physician and U.S. Representative Isaiah D. Clawson have been added also (Chapman Fund). Clawson served as a Whig between 1855 and 1859, and the letters are a rich source of commentary on both local and national issues during those tumultuous years. This substantial run of correspondence is especially welcome since it focuses on South Jersey public opinion, which tended to differ drastically from that of the state’s northern and central sections.

The Library has acquired a handsome letter from John Adams to John Neilson, Cornelius Ten Broeck and Samuel Clarkson, in which the second President plans a trip to New Brunswick (Blauvelt-Demarest Fund). Writing on October 31, 1797, President Adams accepts the city’s invitation and schedules the visit for the afternoon of November 8. The Adams letter complements a similar item already in the Library’s collection—a political commentary which Adams wrote as Vice-President on the state of U.S.-French relations to John Schureman, class of 1795, as representative of the “young men of New Brunswick.”

Additions have been made to the Library’s social welfare holdings. Ten cartons of records of the Passaic Home and Orphan Asylum are the gift of the Association through Mrs. Merritt Ierley,
a former president. The material dates from the home's beginnings in the 1880's to its close in 1962. Given were minutes of the board of governors meetings, 1885-1969; minutes of the Ladies Auxiliary, 1897-1952; register of orphans, 1896-1961; orphans' case files; treasurers' reports, 1893-1956; donation books, 1896-1962; material relating to the home's closing; and miscellaneous clippings, photographs, publications, etc. The essentially complete run of records provides a solid resource for studying the history of American social welfare, as do those of the Sheltering Arms Children's Service, 1852-1966, and the Jewish Family Service Association of Essex County, 1938-1962, both of which are among the Library's manuscript collections.

Mrs. Eone Harger, first director of the New Jersey Division on Aging, has donated the personal papers of her tenure as director. Presented were correspondence, speeches, notes, reports, subject files and clippings, 1959-1979; material relating to White House Conferences on Aging, 1968, 1970-1972, 1980-1982, the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, 1971, 1974-1978, and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, 1973; and miscellaneous publications, 1953-1980. The material fills five cartons.

The Library's collections relating to contemporary political issues have been expanded by some recent acquisitions. The Institute for World Order has presented its records through Saul H. Mendlovitz, a former president and member of the Rutgers Law School faculty. Forty-two cartons of archives by the Institute and its predecessor organizations—the Association for Education in World Government, the Association for Education in International Government and the Institute for International Order—comprise the gift. A New York-based group, the Institute is non-profit and committed to achieving world peace through curriculum revisions, public education and the sponsorship of scholarly research. The records include articles of incorporation and bylaws, 1948, 1959, 1966, 1970-1972; minutes of the board of directors, 1970-1978, and of the executive committee, 1972-1977; correspondence of Executive Committee Chairman Harry B. Hollins, 1958, 1961-1979; correspondence, etc., of Presidents Saul H. Mendlovitz, 1963-1980, and Robert C. Johansen, 1977-1980; Grants Committee projects file, 1977-1979; records of disarmament projects such as Americans Talk Peacekeeping, 1971-1973, Operation


Mrs. Esther Margolius has given the papers of her late husband, Sidney Margolius ’34. Margolius was a prolific journalist whose major interests were consumer problems, consumer economics and consumer and social legislation. He wrote fifteen books and more than 350 articles on these subjects and served on national and state consumer councils and committees. The forty-eight cartons of material comprise subject files relating to consumer research; correspondence, reports, hearings, etc., concerning the National Commission on Product Safety, 1969-1970; copies of magazine articles, 1938-1975; correspondence and subject files emphasizing publications, awards and organizations, 1950-1979; and correspondence with readers, 1952-1978. Apart from the Rutgers connection, the records form a valuable complement to those of the Consumers’ League of New Jersey, for which the Library is the official repository.

Finally, the Library is fortunate to receive the papers of one of recent history’s most colorful members of Congress. Former Representative Millicent Fenwick has donated nearly 300 cartons of her official papers. The gift enhances greatly the Library’s holdings of twentieth-century New Jersey politicians’ papers, including those of former Senators Clifford Case and Harrison Williams, former Representative Edward Patten and Representative James Florio. Received were correspondence and legislative notes, 1975-1983; administrative, projects and personal files, 1975-1977; administrative and projects files, 1981-1983; and personal files, 1977-1981.