IN THIS ISSUE

“Common” Books ................. 2
A Young Transcendentalist .......... 3
New Associates Coordinator ....... 3
More on the Middle East ........... 4
Blessed Margaret Pole .......... 4
Talbot Collection on Exhibit ....... 4
A Lobby Full of Books ............ 5
Lauinger Gift Celebrated ....... 5
Some Thoughts on Education ........ 5
A Note of Appreciation ........ 6
Join the Associates ........ 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 17
Washington, D.C.
Talk by author Peter Tanous (C’60)
Reception and book signing to follow

DECEMBER 4
New York
Talk by Paul LeClerc, Librarian,
New York Public Library

DECEMBER 11
Washington, D.C.
Annual Holiday Party in Riggs Library

OCTOBER – DECEMBER
Prints by Jörg Schmeisser
Fairchild Gallery

MORE events to come!

Previously unrecorded edition of Robinson Crusoe

ROBINSON CRUSOE AND FRIENDS

The popularity of ROBINSON CRUSOE dates from its first publication in 1719, and literally hundreds of editions have followed, many of them in America since it first appeared here in 1774. Like all other 18th century American editions, the one published by Woodhouse in Philadelphia in 1791 is an abridgment; like many of those others, its existence was until now known only from an advertisement. Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Shirley Pearlman Leva, the Woodhouse edition has come to Georgetown in the company of nearly a hundred other volumes, many of them collected by Dr. Leva’s father, Washington bookseller David Pearlman.

Besides the Crusoe, the gift includes books in a variety of fields: the first publication (1634) of a volume of neo-Latin tragedies by various Jesuit authors; the first American edition of Darwin’s On the Origin of Species (1860); and the first edition of Oliver Wendell Holmes’s The Common Law (1881), as well as that of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Vegetable (1923, in dust jacket). The rare Baptist Confession of Faith (Philadelphia, 1765) rubs shoulders with a dozen volumes from Thomas Knox’s very popular “Boy Travellers” series in their florid polychrome bindings of the late 19th century. And, against all odds, the collection includes yet another previously unknown 18th century American imprint, the 1795 second edition of Jedidiah Morse’s History of America.

An unexpected treasure is the pair of scrapbooks kept by Charles Daniel Drake (1811-1892), briefly a senator from Missouri and then for 15 years chief justice of the

(continues on page 6)
"COMMON" BOOKS

The fresh appearance of a list of books—no matter what books, it seems—often prompts a need to check which items on the list may be at hand. When the list is a catalog of rare books offered for sale, the need to check is tempered by the availability of funds. But when the list is entitled "Top 100 Monographic Records in OCLC Libraries," the need is spurred by the desire to know whether or not Georgetown has among its holdings those books that most people desire in their libraries.

Prepared by Patrick McClain, systems analyst in the OCLC Office of Research, the biennial listing gives very precise limits to what it measures: the number of records for specific editions of specific works reported by library members of OCLC. Thus the 13th edition of The Chicago Manual of Style (1982) ranks 14th overall in reported holdings, while the 14th edition of the same title, published in 1993, ranks 16th. As McClain points out, "once again, reference and business books dominate the top 100," but historical works and memoirs push them hard. Only literature seems to lag, with only six novels and no poetry at all making the list. Barbara Tuchman heads the list in number of qualifying titles with three; authors as various as Henry Kissinger, Studs Terkel, Bob Woodward, Alvin Toffler, and William Manchester have two appearances each.

The overall leader is the same book that has led the list since its first publication in 1989, In Search of Excellence: Lessons from America's Best-run Companies, by Thomas J. Peters and Robert H. Waterman, Jr., held by no fewer than 3,728 libraries. The oldest book on the list is Kunitz and Haycraft's American Authors, 1600-1900: A Biographical Dictionary of American Literature, published in 1938 (ranked 86th); the next oldest, Rachel Carson's Silent Spring (1962), ranks 24th. The most recent work, the 1995 edition of MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, ranks 88th.

Georgetown owns an average of 2.52 cataloged copies of each of the 100 titles, having the specified edition of 95 of them. In three cases, Georgetown has variant editions: two earlier, but one more recent than its more popular predecessor. But in two cases the book is not on the shelf, not in any edition, and we can but hope that concerned Associates or friends will have occasion to step into the breach and offer us copies of the two desiderata:

✔ Chris Van Allsburg. The Polar Express. 1985
✔ Russell Freedman. Lincoln: A Photobiography. 1987

Book held by 2,781 OCLC member libraries
A Young Transcendentalist

The library recently acquired a collection of some 250 autograph letters written by a wide circle of friends and relatives to author, journalist, and reformer Franklin Benjamin Sanborn (1831-1917). Dating for the most part between 1850 and 1855, they document Sanborn’s intellectual and social activities between the ages of 19 and 25, from his early education as a private student with Dr. J. G. Hoyt in Exeter through his years (from 1852 to 1855) at Harvard. Sanborn’s family and friends help us to understand his intellectual development, his passion for knowledge and studies, his philosophical and theological beliefs, and his high standing in the community. The letters touch on subjects of particular interest to Sanborn, including spiritualism and mesmerism, the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Theodore Parker, and the abolition movement.

Sanborn was born in Hampton Falls, New Hampshire. His early education was gained at the Phillips Academy in Exeter. In November, 1854, he visited Emerson, who invited him to take over running a school once kept by John and Henry Thoreau. During this time he shared a residence with poet William Ellery Channing and was becoming increasingly involved in abolitionism. By 1857, Sanborn was a zealous disciple of John Brown; two years later, he would be a member of the “Secret Six,” those who knew in advance of the raid on Harper’s Ferry. Arrested in 1860 for refusing to testify before the Senate against Brown, he was released on a writ of habeas corpus.

Sanborn devoted a substantial part of his life to newspaper work, as editor of the Boston Commonwealth (1863-67) and of the Springfield Republican (1868-72). He was also a devoted biographer and editor of Bronson Alcott, Emerson, Hawthorne, and Thoreau, as well as of his youthful idol, John Brown. With the aid of William T. Harris, Sanborn founded in 1879 the Concord School of Philosophy, a summer school that featured lectures by Sanborn and Bronson Alcott on the work of Emerson, Hawthorne, and Thoreau.

This early correspondence provides a useful supplement to Sanborn’s lengthy autobiography, Recollections of Seventy Years (1909), helping to flesh out for us the intellectual and political atmosphere of Concord in the middle of the 19th century.

NEW ASSOCIATES COORDINATOR

The library welcomes Elizabeth L. (Liz) Thompson as its new coordinator of Library Associates activities, taking the place held over the past several years by Melanie Savage.

A political science major at Marietta College with minors in Spanish and philosophy, Liz studied for one term in a “Washington Semester” at American University. Following graduation she worked briefly as an intern for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey before going on to a succession of jobs with Washington firms.

Her return to academe promises to be auspicious.
TALBOT COLLECTION ON EXHIBIT

With the kind help of Professor Roberto Severino of the Italian Department, a major exhibit of autographs from the Talbot Collection will be on display in the Gunlocke Room from October through January. The collection, donated to Georgetown by noted autograph dealer Mary Benjamin, is named in honor of Francis X. Talbot, S.J., former editor of America.

Besides a rare autograph of St. Ignatius, the exhibit will include items written by such figures as Father Damien of Molokai, St. Francis Borgia, St. Philip Neri, St. Alphonsus Liguori, and Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J.

An illustrated electronic exhibit catalog will be available on the Special Collections web page, at http://gulib.lausun.georgetown.edu/dept/specoll/

MORE ON THE MIDDLE EAST

An acquaintanceship with Doris Lyons, director of Georgetown's Office of Sponsored Programs, prompted Jennifer Owen Murphy of Great Falls to present Lauinger Library with the collection of books on Saudi Arabia and the Middle East formed by her father, Garry Grant Owen. Mr. Owen, who served in Saudi Arabia from 1934 until 1958, was vice president for governmental relations of Aramco. In the course of his work he supervised trips to the United States made by King Saud and King Faisal.

The collection, numbering in all well over 100 volumes, provides some quite important additions to Georgetown's collections, such as first editions of Sir H. J. Brydges's Account of the Transactions of His Majesty's Mission to the Court of Persia (London, 1834); Sir Richard Burton's Personal Narrative of a Pilgrimage to el-Medinah and Meccah (London, 1855-56); Howard Carter and A. C. Mace's The Tomb of Tut-Ankh-Amen (London, 1927-33); Carsten Niebuhr's Travels through Arabia (Belfast, 1792); and a complete set of the six volumes of works on northern Arabia by Czech explorer and scholar Alois Musil, published by the American Geographical Society in its series on oriental explorations and studies, 1926-28.

BLESSED MARGARET POLE

Proceeds from the endowment fund named for the mother of Cardinal Reginald Pole, staunch English Catholic and papal diplomat during the Reformation, serve to strengthen the library's holdings in English Catholic history and particularly in acquiring rare or unique materials in that field.

Blessed Margaret's fund has grown markedly with the recent first installment of a new gift from its founder, Maurice Adelman, who has pledged a multiple-year gift to enhance the fund during the upcoming capital campaign. Readers of the Newsletter may recall the article in the August '94 issue describing the gift of Mr. Adelman's fine private library, which he donated earlier that year and which materially strengthened Lauinger's holdings in the field to which income from the Pole fund is dedicated.
The lobby of Lauinger Library is an especially popular site for Georgetown faculty, students, and other booklovers on Thursdays from 11.30 to 2.30, when collection development staff preside over the sale of duplicate gift volumes and other items not appropriate for the library’s collections.

Booksales are held most Thursdays during the academic year, and each year they earn several thousand dollars, money which is used to support the purchase of additional library materials. Members of the Associates and other friends are encouraged to take part when the occasion offers.

LAUINGER GIFT CELEBRATED

On September 21, Georgetown President Leo O’Donovan, S.J., and University Librarian Susan K. Martin hosted members of the Lauinger family at a Mass and brunch in celebration of their gift to the library of a million dollars. The gift, pledged late last year, will help to support the library’s preservation efforts as well as developing collections reflecting the Catholic magisterium. Father O’Donovan celebrated the Mass in Copley Crypt which was attended by Frank Lauinger, with his wife Kathleen and four children (two Georgetown graduates); Mary Lauinger Melvin, with her two daughters (one a Georgetown graduate) and her granddaughter; Phil Lauinger; and Tony Lauinger, with his son Michael (currently in his second year in the Medical School).

During the brunch in Lauinger’s Murray Room the five Lauinger siblings (Frances Lauinger Biolchini was unable to attend) presented the library with Joseph Mark Lauinger’s medals from Vietnam together with the moving account of his heroism in the battle that cost him his life. The medals and commendation will be suitably displayed with the picture of the Lauinger brother for whom the building, which opened in 1970, is named.

SOME THOUGHTS ON EDUCATION

"I call therefore a complete and generous education that which fits a man to perform justly, skilfully and magnanimously all the offices both private and public of peace and war."

-Milton

"'Tis Education forms the common mind,
Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclin'd."

-Pope

"All men who have turned out worth anything have had the chief hand in their own education."

-Scott

"Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre, but they are more deadly in the long run."

-Twain
A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We thank all those friends of the library who have donated books, manuscripts, or other library materials since June, 1997. Among them are:

- **Helen King Boyer**  
  Additional graphic arts materials and manuscripts

- **Marie-Thérèse Cosme**  
  Additional printed books and letters relating to China and Teilhard de Chardin

- **Laurie L. England**  
  Fine and commercial paper ephemera from various paper companies

- **Patricia G. England**  
  Printed books and broadsides, including a fine edition of a work by Denise Levertov

- **Roderick M. Engert**  
  Additional papers of Cornelius Engert and printed books on a variety of subjects

- **“A Friend”**  
  The Book of Common Prayer, an edition printed in New York in 1793 by Hugh Gaine

- **Hans H. Landsberg**  
  Printed books in the fields of art history and Italian literature

- **Mark Samuels Lasner**  
  First edition of Coventry Patmore’s Odes (1868) inscribed by Aubrey de Vere

- **Roderick S. Quiroz**  
  Additional prints and artwork by Prentiss Taylor

- **Solange Soulié**  
  Autograph diary of Pierre LeRoy, S.J., for the year 1983

ROBINSON CRUSOE AND FRIENDS (continued from page 1)

U. S. Court of Claims. In them Drake preserved copies of his numerous political and literary publications from 1828 to 1860, a real boon since most of them appeared in periodicals of rather limited distribution, and many of them were published anonymously, or over a variety of pen names. The gift also includes records of William Gunton, a Washington pharmacist and sundries merchant, whose shop in 1822 was located on the northwest corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 9th Street, N.W. Much of the volume is given over to records of prescriptions made up during the first seven months of 1824. The remainder, however, of greater interest to us after this lapse of time, consists of a priced inventory of Gunton’s shop and household, from which we learn that his reading material included such things as a copy of *The Federalist*, Lewis and Clark, Cowper’s *Task*, and the memoirs of Napoleon.