

The

H·A·L·C·Y·O·N

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY

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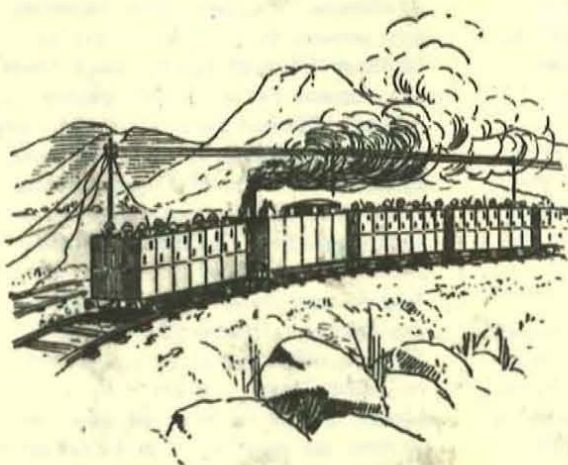


The Churchill Collection

The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library has recently acquired an outstanding collection of material relating to the life of one of this century's greatest statesmen and finest orators, Sir Winston Spencer Churchill. The collection, assembled over a period of some thirty years by John G. Edison, QC, a graduate of the University of Toronto, consists of several hundred titles which superbly illustrate Churchill's remarkable achievements and talents as a soldier, journalist, politician, historian and artist.

LONDON TO LADYSMITH

VIA PRETORIA



Winston Spencer Churchill

London to Ladysmith, by Winston Churchill (1900).

First editions of Churchill's works are very well represented in the collection, as are subsequent printings and several scarce Canadian imprints and unrecorded variants. His first book, *The Story of the Malakand Field Force*, published in 1898, is based largely on his own experiences on the Indian north-west frontier. In addition to the first English edition of this work, other important early titles forming a part of the donation include *The River War* (1899), which recounts the British Sudanese campaign culminating in Kitchener's victory at Omdurman; two books on the Boer War, *London to Ladysmith* (1900) and *Ian Hamilton's March* (1900); and a novel entitled *Savrola* (1900). Two of the rarest Churchill items, *Mr. Broderick's Army* (1903) and *For Free Trade* (1906), comprising collections of

speeches, were printed in relatively small numbers, and are present in facsimile.

Churchill's ability as a writer of history is demonstrated in several important multi-volume sets. Among the better known are *The World Crisis*, *The Second World War*, and *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*. The last title was also published in magazine format in 112 weekly parts, fully illustrated in colour and black and white. Of special interest are two works signed by Churchill: the first, a one-volume abridgement of *The World Crisis*, is inscribed to John Lyle, the Canadian architect; the second, a limited edition, bound in leather, of *Marlborough: His Life and Times*, Churchill's four-volume biography of his distinguished ancestor. In addition to the books written by Churchill, the collection has many items to which he contributed forewords, prefaces, introductions and articles.

Since his death, numerous

editions of his books, speeches, essays and correspondence have been published. The collection has several examples, one of which is the three-volume *Churchill & Roosevelt: The Complete Correspondence* (Princeton University Press, 1984). The most ambitious publishing venture of this type to date is the thirty-four volume *Collected Works of Sir Winston Churchill* undertaken by the Library of Imperial History in 1973 to commemorate the birth centenary. The only complete collection of Churchill's book-length works, this attractive set is bound in vellum, with gilt edges and marbled endpapers, and each volume is in a slipcase stamped with the Churchill coat of arms. Mr. Edison's set is unique in that it contains a second copy of volume one, which is signed on the title page by Anthony Eden and Harold MacMillan, both of whom were Conservative Prime Ministers of Britain after Churchill.

Another notable strength of the collection lies in the variety of scarce broadsides, pamphlets, newspapers, magazines and ephemera it contains. Present are many of Churchill's important speeches and radio broadcasts, issued as separate publications on such topics as Irish home rule, British naval policy and the nature of democracy. A portion of the material is devoted to Churchill's funeral, and includes special issues of magazines and newspapers as well as the order of service and ceremonial to be observed at St. Paul's Cathedral. The ephemera is particularly noteworthy, ranging from postage stamps, first day covers and medals, to cigarette cards and phonograph records. A handsome set of twenty-four solid sterling silver medals produced for the American Express Company by the Royal Mint of Great Britain, and depicting events in the life of Churchill, reflects both the historical significance and continued popularity of this fascinating man.

Mr. Edison's interest in Churchill extended to the acquisition of an impressive body of secondary literature. There

are a number of volumes on Churchill's family and many biographies of and memoirs by close political and military associates such as Lord Beaverbrook, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke. Biographical works on Churchill include all the major studies by such noted historians as Henry Pelling, Robert Rhodes James and Stephen Roskill, and the recently completed eight-volume official biography (with companion volumes) begun by Randolph Churchill in 1966, and continued by Martin Gilbert after the former's death. In recognition of the importance of our collection, the International Churchill Society has generously offered to donate the remaining companion volumes it plans to publish, any future works on Churchill, and its quarterly journal, *Finest Hour*.

The Edison gift compliments the university's holdings of twentieth-century British history and will be of great value to future scholars and students interested in studying this great man. An exhibition is scheduled for the fall of 1990.

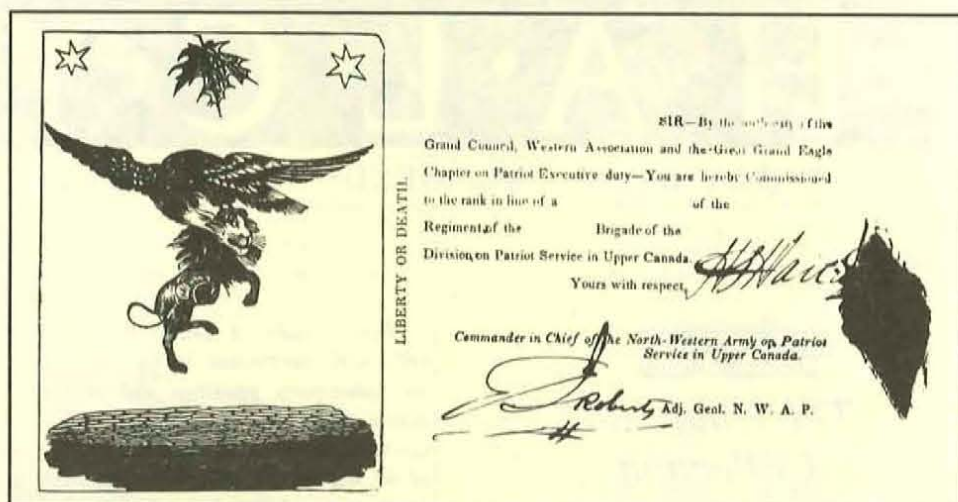
Graham Bradshaw
Robarts Library



Gifts to the Fisher Library in 1988: A Record Year!

The most exciting single acquisition of the past year for the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library was undoubtedly James Wolfe's copy of Gray's *Elegy*, about which a separate keepsake was published in October 1988. This significant and evocative item of Canadiana was acquired from a private American collector with the help of a major grant from the federal Cultural Property Export Review Board and generous contributions from a number of Friends of the Fisher Library. It was presented by the Friends in October 1988 as the spectacular seven millionth item in the University of Toronto's Library system.

Quite apart from this splendid acquisition, the generous gifts and donations which the Fisher Library received in 1988



From 1839, a printed form, partially completed in manuscript, for a commission in a regiment of "The North-Western Army on Patriot Service in Upper Canada". The commission is signed by H.S. Handy, self-styled General of the Patriot Army of the Northwest. Handy had been one of the founders of the Secret Order of the Sons of Liberty which had been formed after the Rebellion by Americans sympathetic to the cause of the rebels with the avowed aim of fomenting revolution in Upper Canada.

made the year a record one. The total appraised value of gifts in kind received reached over \$1,700,000. The following outline of collections and single items received can highlight only some of the exceptional gifts.

The outstanding collection of Portuguese literature and history donated by Professor Ralph Stanton has already been described in the previous number of the *Halcyon* and has been the subject of a recent Fisher Library exhibition. The breadth and depth of this collection will be surprising scholars in many fields for years to come.

A single volume of great significance in the history of New World exploration was donated by Mrs. Audrey Williams from the library of her late husband: the first Latin edition of Hernando Cortes' second letter to Charles V of Spain, written in 1520, and published in Nuremburg in 1574. In this letter Cortes recounts his discoveries in Mexico, gives his impressions of its ruler, Montezuma, and provides the first description of Mexico City.

The Library was also extremely fortunate to receive two major collections of Italian literature and history this year. Professor Hannibal Noye, formerly of the Hispanic Department at the University of Toronto, donated over three hundred volumes of Italian literature including the first Italian translations of Corneille and Racine, two volumes of manuscript, and a large number of eighteenth century Italian plays and operas. Professor Noye

had already given part of his excellent personal library to the Library in 1986 and has always taken a great interest in the development of the Library's Italian collections. The second large gift of Italian works came from Mrs. Elspeth Emery who donated the fine collection assembled by her late husband, John Emery of Stratford, Ont. His collection included sixteenth century editions of Boccaccio, Machiavelli, and Tasso, some interesting seventeenth century English translations from the Italian, and a number of eighteenth century English accounts of travel in Italy.

In the field of English literature the Library received a number of gifts from its Friends. Professor Peter Heyworth gave several valuable works, as did Professor Hans De Groot. Hugh Morrison donated part of his comprehensive Edmund Blunden collection which forms a welcome addition to the Library's Endicott Collection of English literature, 1880-1930. The Endicott Collection was further enriched this year by Professor Richard Handscombe's donation of his John Cowper Powys collection. To this gift Professor Handscombe will add in 1989 his collections of the works of the two other Powys brothers, T.F. and Llewelyn. The works of all three Powys brothers are eagerly sought by collectors since many appeared in limited editions and are now very scarce. Two particularly fine items in Professor Handscombe's J.C. Powys collection are copies of his second published work,

Odes and Poems (London, 1896) and what appears to be the author's own copy of his third work, *Poems* (London, 1899).

A very large collection of Penguin Books comprising more than 2700 volumes and no less than fifty-eight different series has been donated by Hugh Anson-Cartwright. The gift includes the first impression of the first Penguin Book, *Ariel*, by André Maurois, published in 1935, as well as early impressions of other Penguins published in that same year and immediately succeeding ones. Not only are there long runs of the familiar Penguin Classics, Penguin Poets, King Penguins, and the various Pelican series, but there are examples of such less well known series as the Fighting Forces Penguin Specials, Penguin Books on Planning and Design, Penguin Film Review, Penguin Music Magazine, Penguin Hansard, and a whole flock of other birds—Peacocks, Puffins, Ptarmigans, and Peregrines.

In the area of British history, the Library was indeed fortunate to receive as a major gift the comprehensive Churchill collection assembled by John Edison and described in a separate article in this newsletter. Another generous donor was Professor W.E. Swinton who gave his collection of works about Mary Queen of Scots together with some other British historical materials. In the latter group is an extremely interesting seventeenth century manuscript by Henry Guthry (1600?-1676), Bishop of Dunkeld, entitled *Observations on ye ryse & progress of the lait rebellion against King Charls y 1st in so far as it was carried on by a malcontented faction in Scotland under pretext of reformation*. The manuscript was published in 1702, after Guthry's death, as *Memoirs of Henry Guthry*. The collection also includes a volume in Professor Swinton's gift, entitled *A Direction for the English travailler by which he shal be inabled to coast about all England and Wales* (London, 1643) consists of maps of sections of England with mileage charts appended, rather like a seventeenth century Motor League guide.

Early works of British history also formed part of Professor Alan Pritchard's gift, which included as well four seventeenth century Italian emblem books. Professor Robert Fenn contributed several important political and economic works including a second edition of Adam Smith's *The Theory of Modern Sentiments* (London, 1761).

The Library's large holdings of Czechoslovakian material were again

enriched by gifts of contemporary historical and political material from Professor Gordon Skilling. Professor Skilling has also donated funds to enable the Library to add to its already extensive collection of "unofficial" works which cannot be published in Czechoslovakia but are circulated clandestinely in typescript or photocopy. Additional Czechoslovakian material was also received from Mrs. Viera Frastacky who donated many items from the collection of her late husband, Rudolf Frastacky. Other members of his family and friends have contributed funds for further acquisitions of "unofficial" Czechoslovakian material.

Again this year the Library was fortunate to receive an outstanding donation of early Canadiana from Louis Melzack. His gift includes many political pamphlets and broadsides published in Upper and Lower Canada in the 1790's and early 1800's, items which are ephemeral in nature, scarce, and, in some cases, unique.

Several broadsides in the Melzack gift relate to the Rebellion of Upper Canada in 1838. One of these, dated November 9, 1838 and signed by William Morris, Colonel of the 2nd Lanark Regiment, warns the inhabitants of the township of Lanark and vicinity that "we feel it our duty to apprise you that another attempt to invade these Provinces, is about being made by numerous bands of lawless citizens of the United States".

Space does not permit a listing of the many issues of early Quebec and Ontario newspapers which also formed part of Louis Melzack's generous gift. Especially noteworthy, however, is a volume of the *Quebec Gazette*, published by John Neilson, covering the years 1792 and 1793 with many supplements and several additional contemporary broadsides bound in.

Many other generous gifts were made to the library's Canadiana collections. John Mappin contributed over fifty political and historical works from the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Mattie Clark donated several interesting first World War broadsides including nine programmes for Toronto memorial services held to commemorate "the fallen heroes of Earlscourt and District". Margaret Edison added twenty-one original drawings, linocuts and stencils by the Canadian graphic artist Thoreau MacDonald to the Library's collection of his work.

Authors donating additional material

to the collections of their papers already in the Library include Margaret Atwood, Dennis Lee and David Solway. David Solway, recently the recipient of a newly established award for Quebec poetry written in English, deposited drafts of a new book of poems and a book of essays, both to be published in the coming year, and Ronald Hambleton donated an extremely interesting collection of materials arising out of interviews he conducted in the fifties and sixties for the CBC and BBC. Included are letters and typescripts from Max Beerbohm, Pablo Casals, Walter De la Mare, T.S. Eliot, William Golding, Laurence Housman, Carl Jung, Bertrand Russell, Osbert Sitwell, J.R.R. Tolkien, P.G. Wodehouse and several other well known literary figures. Similarly Jon Pearce added to his papers materials he had accumulated for a series of interviews of Canadian writers, published in 1980 as *Twelve Voices*.

The Ernest Buckler Papers received three separate additions of correspondence this year. David Garbary donated letters from Buckler to his mother, Evelyn Garbary, a British actress who was co-founder of the Mermaid Theatre in Wolfville, N.S.; and Rachel Grover and Doris Sangster each contributed additional sequences of Buckler letters.

Two new collections of literary papers were established this year. Barry Callaghan gave the Library the editorial files for his international literary magazine, *Exile*, founded in 1972 and now in its thirteenth volume under his editorship. The extensive files contain copies of works submitted by a wide variety of well known Canadian, American, and European authors. Shirley Gibson gave the drafts and papers relating to Graeme Gibson's innovative first novel, *Five Legs*, published by Anansi Press in 1969.

A very interesting manuscript collection was donated by Dr. Barbara Collip Wyatt, of Rome, Georgia, who gave a collection of scrapbooks, memorabilia, and offprints documenting the career of her father, Dr. James Bertram Collip, co-discoverer of insulin with Drs. Banting, Best, and Macleod. The Collip Papers will complement the Best and Banting Papers already in the Fisher Library.

Earlier manuscript material received this year includes six beautiful manuscript leaves from medieval liturgical works dating from the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, donated by Michael McNally. A major gift from Dr. Stillman Drake added

several important seventeenth century manuscripts to the Library's Galileo Collection. These included manuscript copies of four works by Galileo which, like many of his works, were circulated extensively in manuscript before their eventual publication. Perhaps the most significant of the manuscripts is a treatise on tides, *Trattato del flusso e reflusso del mare*, composed by Galileo in 1616 and never published from this manuscript version although later incorporated in a revised form in the *Dialogo* of 1632. Another interesting manuscript is a copy of Galileo's lengthy letter to Christine of Lorraine, Duchess of Tuscany, in which he reconciles free discussion of the Copernican system with the writings of the Church fathers. Written in 1615, the work was not published until 1636, but was widely known through manuscript copies.

The Library's holdings in the history of natural science were further enriched this year by another donation from Dr. Daniel Lowe who gave several important botanical works. Among these were the first edition of the first Canadian flora, *Canadensium planarum historia*, by J.P. Cornut (Paris, 1635), and two works by F.A. Michaux: a very fine copy of *Flora boreali-americana* (Paris, 1803), with fifty-one engraved plates by P.J. R  dout  ; and a three volume set entitled *The North American Sylva* (Paris and Philadelphia, 1817-1819) which contains one hundred and fifty-six engraved and hand coloured plates. In addition the Library received several additional British botanical works from Professor Stephen Tobe. Two particularly welcome works are *Botanologia, the British herbal*, by W. Salmon (London, 1710) and *The British herbal*, by John Hill (London, 1756).

K. Martyn, Acting Director
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



Meetings of the Friends 1988-89

For the 1988-89 session, the Steering Committee endeavoured to provide a full and varied programme of events for the Friends of the Fisher Library. There was a mixture of lectures, receptions and exhibition openings which brought to the Library a number of subject specialists and other personalities who entertained members and expanded horizons.

The season opened on 4 October 1988 with a reception to celebrate the University of Toronto Library's seven millionth book acquisition. The Friends of the Fisher Library presented General James Wolfe's copy of Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Church-Yard* to the Hon. John B. Aird, the Chancellor of the University, for the Fisher Library. This book is a national treasure, representing a direct link with a critical turning point in Canada's history. It plays a unique role in our cultural heritage, and we are proud to have repatriated it and to house it in our library, where it may be seen and studied by all Canadians. A keepsake was produced for this event, and any member who has not received a copy and would like one, should contact Alan Horne (978-7644).

Later in October, Professor John Robson spoke on "John Stuart Mill's Books and Papers: Dispersal and Collection." John Robson, who is a University Professor at the University of Toronto, described how Mill's library was dispersed after the death of his step-daughter in 1907, and how attempts to reunite the items have had only a limited success. There is a major collection of the books at Somerville College, Oxford, and a large number of the papers have ended up at the London School of Economics.

Dr. Christopher Ridgway has been Librarian at Castle Howard in Yorkshire, England, since 1984. In November, he gave a scholarly and fascinating illustrated lecture on more than two hundred years of book collecting at Castle Howard. As much concerned with the sort of persons who collected the books as with the books themselves, he related the evolution of the library to changing cultural tastes and priorities both within the Howard family and in a wider historical context. Just as Mill's library has suffered from dispersal, it was sad to hear that the library at Castle Howard has been subject to a similar fate, brought about by a rift in the Howard family. Dr. Ridgway was on a speaking tour of the United States in October and November, 1988, sponsored by the Book Arts Press of the School of Library Service, Columbia University. It is good to note that Professor Belanger of Columbia University, who arranged Dr. Ridgway's tour, is



Left: Professor Ralph Stanton.

Right: Trevor Eyton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Brascan Limited.

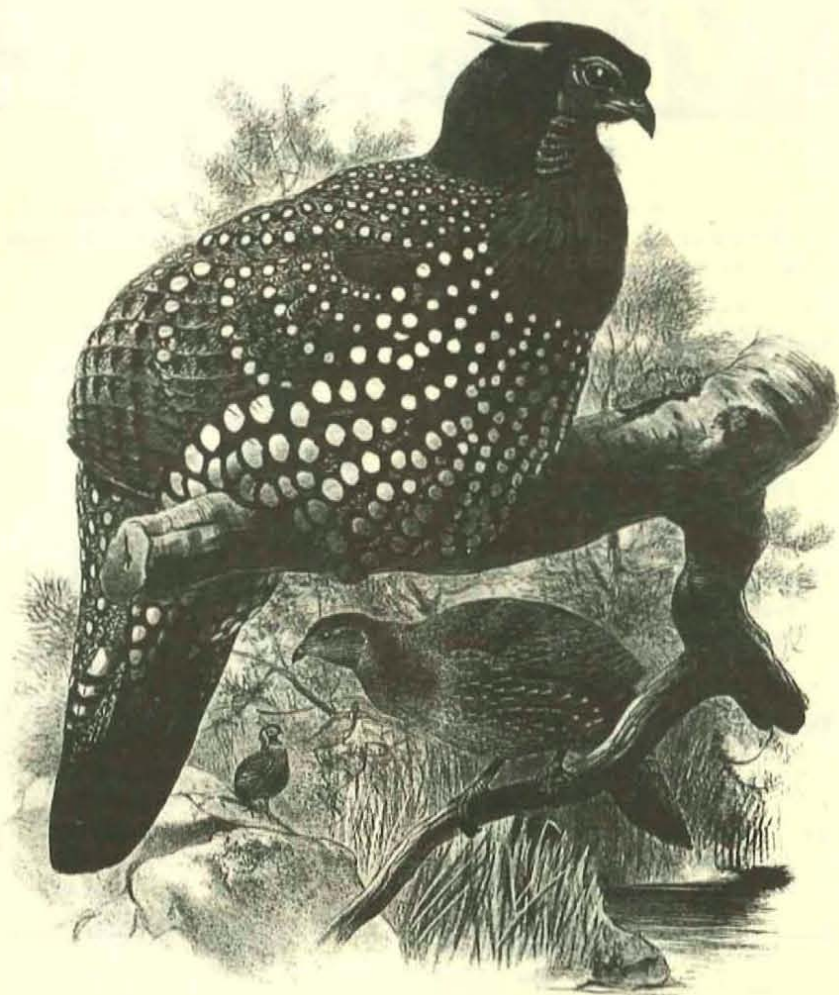


himself on our programme for next year.

On 19 January 1989, there was a reception to honour two important Library donors. Professor Ralph Stanton, Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Studies at the University of Manitoba, had started collecting Portuguese books while visiting Rio de Janeiro in 1945, as a student at the U of T. He reports that he shipped back some thirty-seven bags of books when he returned to Canada shortly after, and has been a serious collector ever since. Professor Stanton has donated his collection to the Fisher Library and this magnificent gift was celebrated by an exhibition and reception. (More details of the Stanton Collection may be found in *Halcyon 2* and the guide to the exhibition, *Portugal in Chronicle and Epic*.) The other donor honoured on 19 January was Brascan Limited. Since 1979, Brascan has been supporting Brazilian studies at the University in a number of ways, including presenting books and other research material to the Library. With their help, the Library has now assembled the finest collection of Brazilianana in Canada, and one of the richest in the world outside Brazil. Brascan Limited has made a most generous pledge to renew support for five more years which will enable the Library to add many more volumes which would otherwise be unobtainable.

W. Thomas Taylor has been an antiquarian bookseller in Austin, Texas, for fifteen years, and a designer/printer for five years. On 30 January, he gave members an account of amazing thefts from state libraries and the subsequent forgeries of Texas documents, including the Texas Declaration of Independence. From a meticulous examination of type sizes, distorted and broken letters, and provenance, Mr. Taylor has deduced that some thirteen different printed documents have been forged, and has identified fifty-four copies of these documents. The exposure of the perpetrators of these crimes is not imminent, for much more research needs to be done.

David Lank, an investment banker who is a leading expert on the history of wild life art, the author of seventeen books, and a member of the Grolier Club, was the guest speaker on 2 March 1989. He gave a double-screen slide presentation about the works of the leading Victorian artists and the intellectual, artistic and scientific context within which their careers developed. Joseph Wolf, a German artist who went to



CERIORNIS MELANOCEPHALA

Ceriornis melanocephala: from a colour plate by Joseph Wolf, first published in 1872, now re-issued in *Monographs of the Pheasants* (1988).

England in 1848, illustrated several of the finest animal books of the nineteenth century, including Daniel Elliot's *Monograph of the Phasianidae, or the Family of Pheasants* (1872). Mr. Lank had recently presided over a new edition of this book, which reproduces not only the seventy-nine colour plates but also the artist's ninety-five original drawings. A copy of this sumptuous folio volume, limited to 275 copies, has generously been donated to the Fisher Library by Mr. Lank.

The Friends were delighted to take advantage of the presence in Toronto, during the spring of 1989, of Dr. Geoffrey Martin, formerly Keeper of the Public Records in Britain from 1982 to 1988, and Professor of History and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester. On 7 April 1989, Dr. Martin talked of the new facts discovered about Domesday Book (written on the orders of

William the Conqueror in 1086-87) when it went through a conservation process in preparation for its commemorative exhibition in 1986.

Towards the end of the session, the Friends of Fisher were invited to the opening of an exhibition to celebrate the bi-centenary of the French Revolution. The exhibition of pamphlets, books and other material relating to the first year of the Revolution—"1789—Année de la Liberté"—is on display in the Fisher Library through August 1989. The reception and the official opening on 2 May 1989 were presided over by Paul Hassoun, Attaché Culturel at the Consulate General de France, Toronto, and Carole Moore, Chief Librarian of the University.



Plans for 1989-90

A programme of meetings, receptions and other events is being arranged for the Friends of the Fisher Library. Please remember that the following outline is subject to confirmation.

September 1989

Exhibition and Reception -
Fifteenth century Italian wood-
cuts from the Biblioteca
Classense, Ravenna (sponsored
jointly with the Italian Cultural
Institute, Toronto)

October 16, 1989

Reception at the President's
Residence to launch our 5th
year

October 28, 1989

Dr. Robert Nikirk, librarian of
the Grolier Club, New York

November 1989

Professor William Blissett will
speak

January 1990

Open House in the Fisher
Library, with an exhibition of
major donations of the last five
years, and a guest speaker

March 1990

Professor Terry Belanger, De-
partment of Library Service,
Columbia University



Notes from the Editor

Thomas Fisher, the great-grandfather of the Library's two benefactors, Charles and Sidney Fisher, was born in Yorkshire in 1792 and came to Toronto (then "York") early in the 19th century. Mr. Sidney Fisher has kindly sent in for the *Halcyon* an article on Thomas Fisher which we hope to include in issue number 4 (Fall 1989).

Thanks for the preparation of this issue are due to Veronica Fisher in the Robarts Library. She has been responsible for the layout of this issue and for seeing it through the press. The photographs are the work of Jim Ingram and Philip Ower.

Please send comments and suggestions about this issue or future issues to the Editor, Alan Horne, Director, Development and Public Affairs, University of Toronto Library, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A5 (416-978-7644).

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