

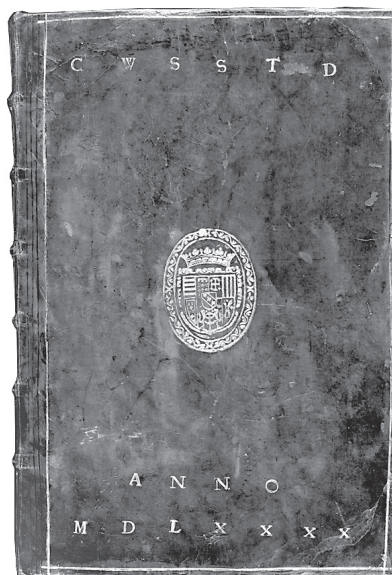
The

H·A·L·C·Y·O·N

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

ISSUE No. 34, November 2004

ISSN 0840-5565



Benedictus Pererius, De Communibus, 1576

Due to the generosity of Florence Drake, the Fisher Library has recently been able to acquire a first edition of *De communibus omnium rerum naturalium principiis & affectionibus* (Rome, 1576) by Benedictus Pererius (Benito Pereira), a treatise on Aristotle's *Physics* used as a source by Galileo for his lectures at the universities of Pisa and Padua in the early part of his career. It has been presented as a memorial to the life and career of the late Professor Stillman Drake, the great scholar of the scientific achievements of Galileo and other aspects of the history of science and technology. When Stillman and Florence Drake moved to Toronto in 1967, and Stillman took up his position in the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, they brought with them a large and important collection of books and manuscripts relating to many aspects of the history of science. The heart of the

collection, which was placed on deposit in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, was the finest assemblage of works by and about Galileo in private hands, and it provided a nucleus for what was to become one of the richest collections of early scientific literature in North America. Over the years, by purchase and gift, the whole collection has been acquired by the Fisher Library and remains one of the major legacies of Stillman Drake. In it are later editions of the Pererius *De communibus*, dated 1586 and 1609, but the first is a genuinely rare book and had eluded the grasp of even so tenacious a collector as Stillman Drake.

Pererius (1535-1610) was a Spanish Jesuit who taught at the Collegio Romano between 1561 and 1567; specifically, he lectured on natural philosophy in 1565 and 1566 and his course on Aristotle's *Physics* was summarized in *De communibus*. Among his fellow professors were Franciscus Toletus, Christopher

IN THIS ISSUE

Benedictus Pererius, *De Communibus*, 1576
The Mansfield Woodhouse Collection
The Collard Bequest

A "Prima" Week in a Small Czech Town
For the Information of our Donors
Events and Exhibitions

Clavius, Hieronymus de Gregoriis, Antonius Menu, and Paulus Valla. Their works, both published and in the form of manuscript notebooks, had a direct influence on Galileo's early career as well. Galileo was appointed to the chair of mathematics at the University of Pisa in 1589, moved to Padua in 1592, and around that time composed a treatise called *De motu*. That he used the work of Pererius and his colleagues can be demonstrated by a comparison of MS no. 46, a commentary on the natural philosophy of Aristotle, written in Latin in his own hand, in the Galileo Collection of the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale in Florence. It is now called Galileo's Early Notebooks and was made substantially available in English in 1977. It is generally supposed to have been composed around 1590 and contains many references to Pererius. Galileo's question, for instance, on Aristotle's proof that the universe had existed from all eternity is answered by reference to Book 15 of *De communibus*. Galileo would have used these detailed notes throughout his teaching career, that is until 1610, although by mid-1590 he had become very influenced by the work of Copernicus and had begun to reject Aristotelian views.

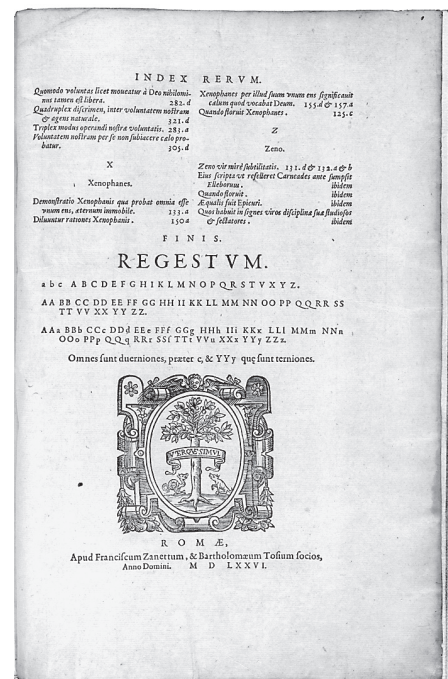
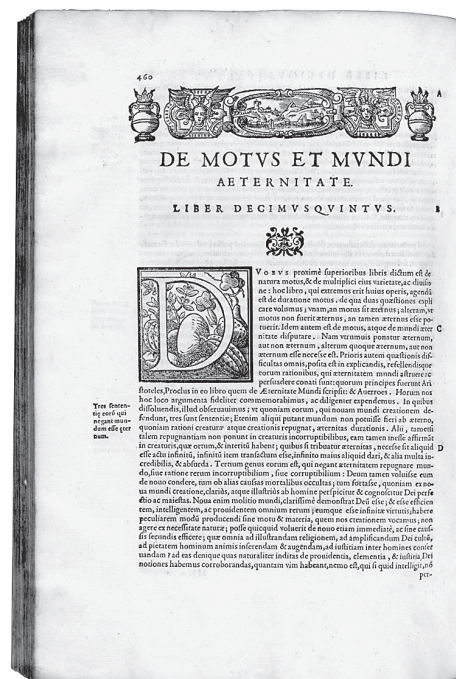
De communibus was published in many subsequent editions all over Europe and

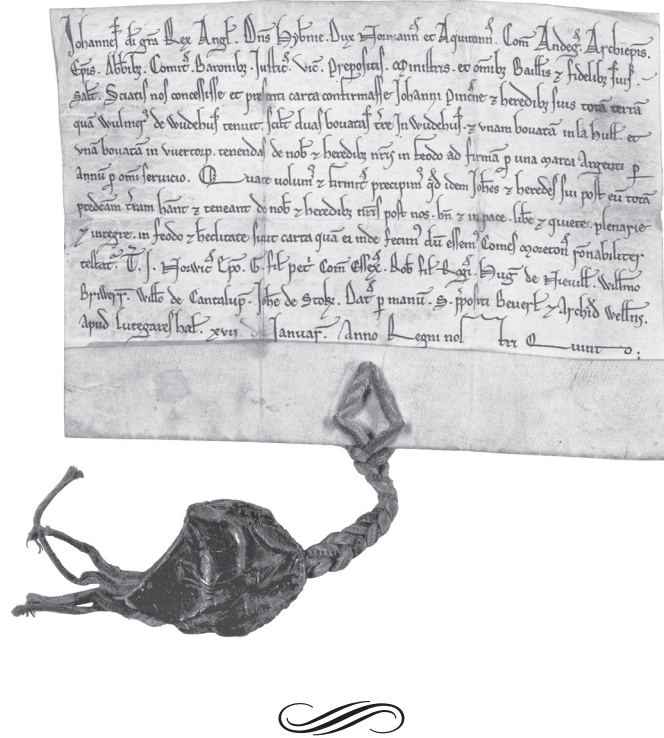
was used as a philosophy textbook in Jesuit schools. It was staunchly Aristotelian, especially in the section on dynamics, and most of the theories of 'violent motion' were rejected, especially the Parisian impetus theory. In the debate on the nature of mathematics Pererius took the extreme position that neither mathematics nor any other science could satisfy Aristotle's criteria for certainty, even though Aristotle himself had admitted that abstract mathematical demonstrations were the most accurate.

This copy of *De communibus* belonged to Charles de Lorraine, Bishop of Metz (1567-1607) and its contemporary French calf binding contains two versions of his coat of arms. The binding has also been initialed 'CWSSTD' and dated 'Anno MDLXXXX'. It is a fine copy of an important book and surely must please the shade of Stillman Drake, who once differentiated between a 'private library' and a 'book collection for use'. He put his 'book collection' to very good use indeed and it, along with the first edition of *De communibus*, will continue to provide research resources for scholars in many disciplines.

Richard Landon

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library





The Mansfield Woodhouse Collection

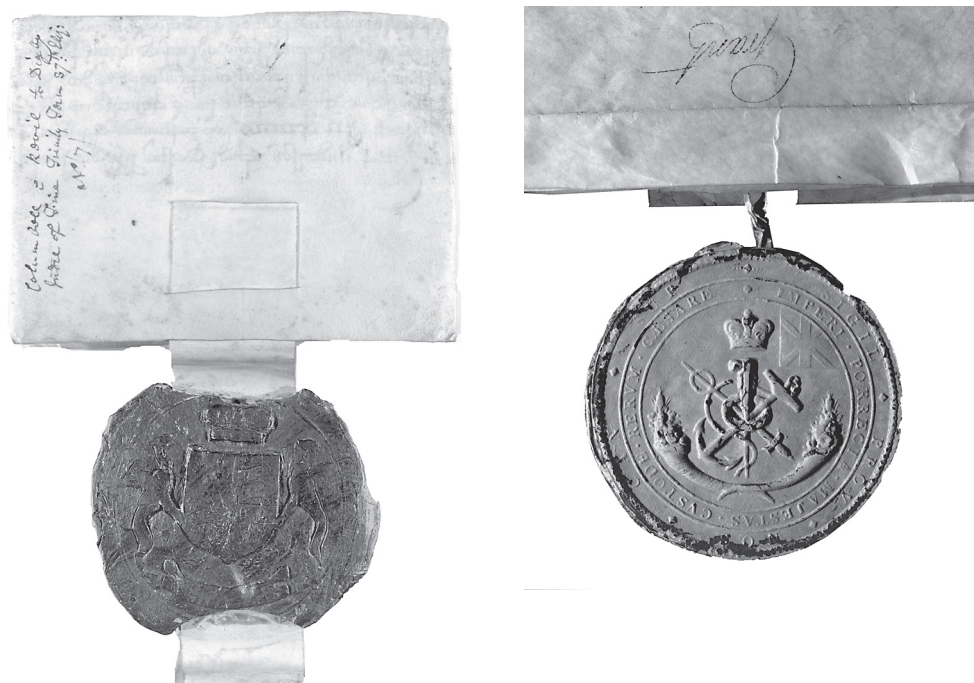
It is a tale worthy of the “Antiques Roadshow”: an uncle recently deceased; a house in need of cleaning; a long-forgotten piece of luggage discovered in an attic closet. But, in the end, a wonderful archive of one family’s history spanning seven centuries, has now found its new home at the Fisher Library.

On March 19, 2003, brothers Paul and Robert Cross of Simcoe, Ontario arrived at the Fisher Library together with their wives, carrying an old, battered suitcase covered in vintage luggage labels. They had phoned about a week before and explained that, in the process of tidying up their late uncle Doug Cross’s estate, they had come upon this trunk full of paper – “that didn’t feel like normal paper.” In addition, they noted that many of these documents had what appeared to be seals hanging from them, and that the vast majority were written in Latin. After speaking with an official from their local museum, the brothers were encouraged to contact the Fisher Library to see if anyone here might be able to explain what the documents were and suggest an appropriate strategy for their preservation, should they be of any value to the academic community. After Fisher director, Richard Landon, took a quick glance inside the suitcase, it became clear that these folded pieces of parchment were not mere historical curiosities. Indenture after indenture, and will after will began to tell the story of a group of related families

and their long association with the Manor of Mansfield Woodhouse in Nottinghamshire, England from the thirteenth to the nineteenth centuries. The process of listing the almost two hundred documents that the Crosses had entrusted to us began in earnest.

Shortly thereafter we received a phone call from one of the Cross brothers’ cousins, Brock Park. He explained that while researching his family history some years earlier, the same uncle had told him to go up to the attic and take from the trunk whatever documents might be useful to him. His arms weighed down with parchment, Mr. Park returned to his home and began to work his way through a wide variety of deeds, testaments, and military commissions, many of which detailed the family’s history in early nineteenth-century Canada. Now that his cousins had approached the University of Toronto, he wondered if perhaps this might not be the opportune time to reunite the two halves of the late Douglas Cross’s manuscript legacy.

According to White’s *Directory of Nottinghamshire* for 1853, Mansfield Woodhouse had “long been the residence of respectable families.” An ancient Roman settlement, it had been the seat of the Earls and Dukes of Portland since 1689. Indeed, among the documents are numerous deeds sworn out before Margaret Bentinck, Duchess of Portland (1715-1785), herself a great collector of books. But besides this great family,



Previous page: Land indenture and seal from the reign of King John dated 1204. Above left: Portion of the verso of a land indenture with seal from the reign of Queen Elizabeth I dated 1596. Above right: Small verso portion of an 1806 land grant with the Great Seal of Upper Canada.

the Halls, Meakins, Digbys, and Snowdens (to name but four others) left their own marks on the political and social landscape of this small corner of the heart of England, as these numerous papers bear witness. The oldest document in the collection is for a royal land grant in “Wulmer de Woodhouse,” made out to one John Pincayne, and dated January 17, 1204. About a third of the great red wax seal of King John still hangs from it. Another indenture from 1596 sports the great seal of the Virgin Queen herself. Other documents include excruciatingly detailed marriage contracts, demonstrating that the nuptials of an English heiress meant much more than merely gaining a son — it also meant losing property, both real and filial. Detailed abstracts provide a genealogy of sorts, showing how property changed hands over two and three centuries, and often included the names of tenants as well as owners. Court judgments and military commissions flesh out many of the social and political controversies of the age, while the numerous wills demonstrate both a piety and practicality that are completely lacking in modern estate instruments.

About the year 1830, Geoffrey Brock Hall left the pastoral beauty of Nottinghamshire for the wilds of Upper Canada, settling in Nanticoke. He had previously served with distinction in the British military, and after immigrating to these shores he became a Justice of the Peace, and was commissioned

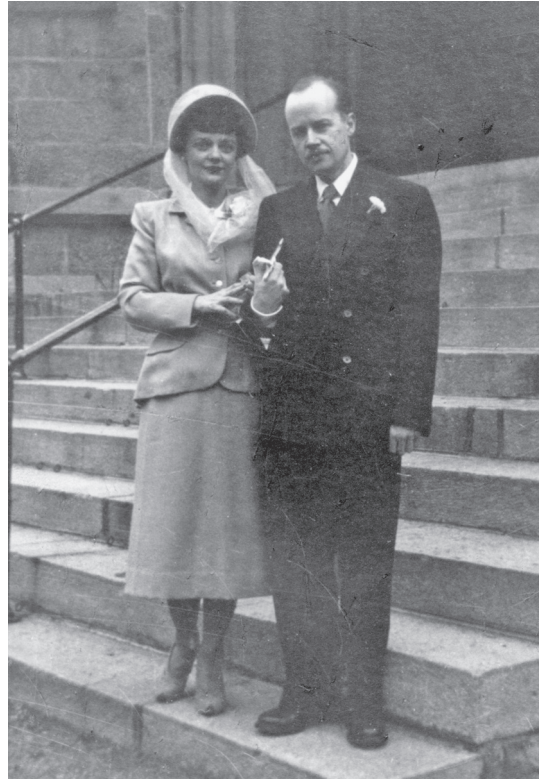
as a colonel in the colonial militia. Moving to Guelph, he cleared much of the land in that new village, building lumber and grist mills, helping to lay out the lots, and naming numerous streets. Not surprisingly, he began to acquire land throughout the province, and that Canadian legacy is also well represented in the collection, with several early land indentures, for example, involving such colonial noteworthies as Allan Napier MacNab of Hamilton, Alexander Macdonell of York, and King’s College (the forerunner of the University of Toronto). In addition, one particularly beautiful 1806 land grant still retains the Great Seal of the Province of Upper Canada.

Geoffrey’s brother, Francis Hall retained the family’s estate in Nottinghamshire, as well as the hereditary title of Sheriff. When Francis died without issue, the estate and title passed to the Canadian branch of the family. It was presumably at this point that the bulk of the British documents now in the Fisher Library made their way across the Atlantic, and passed from surviving sibling to sibling, until they became the possession of Letitia Hall Lepad (1843-1932), who left them to her son Geoffrey Brock Hall Lepad (1879-1953). When his wife, Ella Blanche Park Lepad died, her executor, Douglas Park, took possession of the documents, and they remained in his home until shortly after his death in 2002, after which his nephews finally donated them to the University of Toronto — a circuitous

route indeed, but one that has finally come to a happy and propitious end.

Now that these documents have found a permanent home in the Fisher Library, how will they add value to the university’s ongoing research endeavours? Perhaps most immediately, they will provide more opportunities for the many students who approach the Fisher from the History Department (and the Centre for Medieval Studies in particular) looking for specimens on which to hone their paleographical skills. The wide variety of hands represented over a seven-hundred-year span is unprecedented in our collection. In addition, for students of art or law we can now provide an abundance of legal seals that document the development of that particular testamentary instrument. But they are perhaps most interesting because, in their collectivity, these documents afford a remarkable overview of the development of a single English family representing that class once known as the “gentry” as it established itself on both sides of the Atlantic. Laurence Olivier once remarked: “I often think that could we creep behind the actor’s eyes, we would find an attic of forgotten toys and a copy of the Domesday Book.” Mr. Park’s attic may not have surrendered his family’s toys; but it did allow us a glimpse of their world as seen through their eyes.

*P.J. Carefoote
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library*

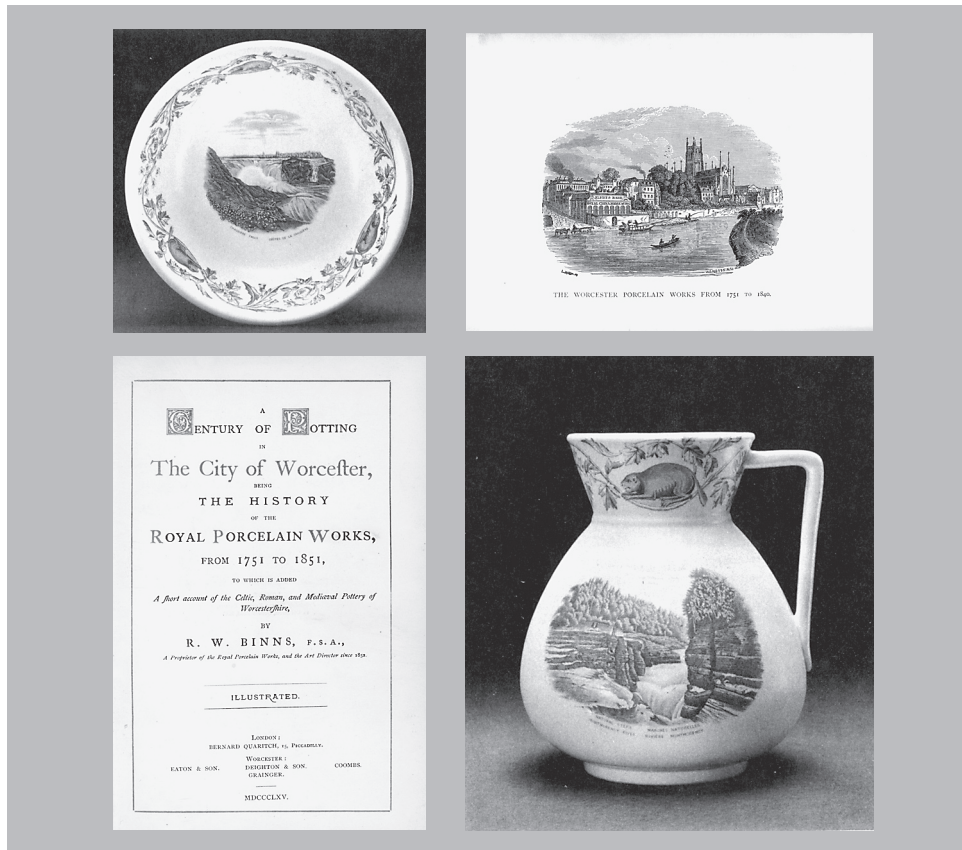


The Collard Bequest

About twenty-five years ago I was visited one day by a dignified gentleman who had dropped in to the Fisher Library without an appointment. Apparently I stopped whatever I was doing to talk with him and gave him a brief tour. He introduced himself as Edgar Collard, a name I vaguely recognized, and we mainly talked about our collections of Canadiana. A few weeks later he telephoned to make an appointment for himself and his wife. She was introduced to me as Elizabeth Collard and I knew exactly who she was: the author of *Nineteenth-Century Pottery and Porcelain in Canada* (1967, revised edition 1984), the standard and authoritative work on the history of ceramics in Canada and the importation of British ware into the Dominion during the nineteenth century. I had even met her briefly, in the Village Book Store, where she bought books on the history of ceramics from Martin Ahvenus. The Collards informed me that they were both book collectors: Canadian history for Edgar, continuing a tradition begun by his father, and the history of ceramic ware for Betty, as she liked to be called by her many friends. What I did not realize then was that she also had a major collection of 'crockery,' as she referred to it, both Canadian and English. The first time

I visited their apartment in Ottawa I was literally overwhelmed by the experience of taking tea surrounded by eleven hundred pieces of pottery ranging from the mid-eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries. Most of the pieces were English, but many were decorated with scenes of Canada and she obviously had a special affection for blue and white spode. One could also not help but notice the several thousand books, double-shelved, which lined the walls of the living room and, indeed, every other room as well.

Edgar and Betty were Montrealers, although she had been born in the Eastern Townships and had attended Mount Allison University, the University of Toronto, and the University of Maine. Edgar was born in Montreal, went to McGill, and spent his whole career with the *Montreal Gazette*, becoming its editor in 1953. He also contributed a weekly column called "All Our Yesterdays," short essays on Montreal's rich historical past, concisely and elegantly written. He continued the column after his retirement and for fifty-six years never missed a weekly deadline. Both Collards published several books, both were awarded honorary doctoral degrees, and both were inducted into the Order of Canada.



Items from the Betty Collard Ceramics Collection.

Early in my relationship with the Collards I decided that these were people who had already decided what they wanted to do with their estate and the only question in their minds was whom to do it with. They had no children, nor even any close relatives, and their only connection to the University of Toronto was Betty's one year as a student. I kept in touch with them in a casual way, visited them when I was in Ottawa, and tried to be helpful to them. As Edgar grew older his health deteriorated and he was unable to leave the apartment very often. I then began to make special trips to Ottawa, usually accompanied by my wife, Marie Korey, for we had by now become close friends of the Collards. They had begun to make regular gifts of books to the Fisher Library, and often David Mason and his partner, Deborah Dearlove, would come along as well to do appraisals. I had assumed that we would ultimately receive all the books, prints, and manuscripts, but wasn't certain what else was to be part of the legacy. During one of the visits it was revealed that a substantial amount of money was to be included to establish an endowment fund for the Fisher Library to acquire historical Canadiana to add to the collection

of Edgar's books. I knew that he had a special interest in ephemeral material — pamphlets, broadsides, commercial flyers and the like — as this was the kind of material that had provided the basis for so many of his columns. We spent an enjoyable afternoon discussing the concept of Canadian ephemera and finally agreed that, apart from the obvious voyage, travel, and exploration narratives, all Canadiana was essentially ephemeral. The Collards could not tell me how much money might be available because it turned out that Betty's principal hobby was rolling over Guaranteed Investment Certificates and she was very skillful at managing money.

Edgar died in 2000 at the age of 89 and my phone calls and visits to Ottawa increased, as Betty was understandably lonely. We dealt with more gifts of books, but also discussed what she should do about her collection of 'crockery' and the many fine paintings which still hung on the walls of the apartment. Not surprisingly several institutions were very interested in various parts of the collections, but, in the end, Betty could not persuade herself to change the will that she and Edgar had made together and, apart from a few specific bequests, the Fisher Library became the residuary legatee for the whole estate.



From the Edgar Collard Canadiana Collection, clockwise from top: Title page and three pages with ornaments and type specimens from *The Peterborough Review Specimen Book* (Peterborough, 1869). *H.M. Ships Heda and Griper in Winter Harbour*; *Parry's Journal*, 1821.

Betty died on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2001. Her joint executors were her old friend, Donald Roy, from Montreal and Royal Trust, both of whom proved to be sympathetic and efficient. The GICs and savings were straightforward, but the enormity of the task of winding up the estate only became apparent when Marie and I arrived in Ottawa in April 2002 and examined what had seemed to us a smallish two-bedroom apartment. It was actually quite large, and so full that every available bit of space had been utilized for the storage of something. First came the books; we spent five days packing 270 cartons and 80 packages for shipment to Toronto, fearful all the while that one false move would bring a whole rack of blue and white platters crashing to the floor. There were books in the closets and under the sinks of both bathrooms, and an eight-place Georgian dinner service under the settee. After the books and papers had been removed to Toronto, the serious question of what to do with everything else became pressing because the owners of the apartment wished to renovate it and rent it out again. I contacted Sothebys/Ritchies in Toronto and they agreed to sell everything for

us at auction: ceramics, paintings, furniture, carpets, jewellery, and hats. My only stipulation was that the 'crockery' be catalogued as a separate sale and illustrated to provide a record of one of the most important collections ever assembled. On December 7, 2002 the sale drew a full house, and a dozen telephones, to Ritchie's. Lot 1 featured a small eighteenth-century blue and white cream boat, which carried an estimate of \$250-\$350; when it sold for \$8000 I knew that a rewarding evening for the Fisher Library had commenced. That sale and all the others containing Collard treasures were successful, and the final total of the endowment fund, from all the sources, is almost two and a half million dollars.

The far-sighted philanthropy of two remarkable people has already begun to bear fruit. We were recently able to acquire from an English antiquarian bookseller an eyewitness account of the 1837 Canadian Rebellion printed in Holt, Norfolk in 1838. It is apparently the only copy in Canada. Edgar and Betty would be pleased and proud.

Richard Landon

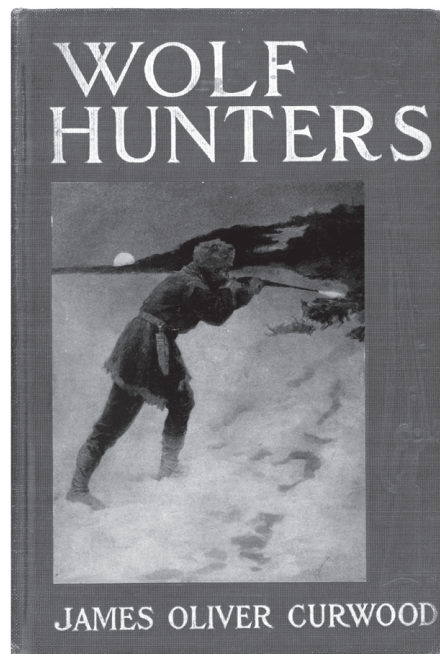
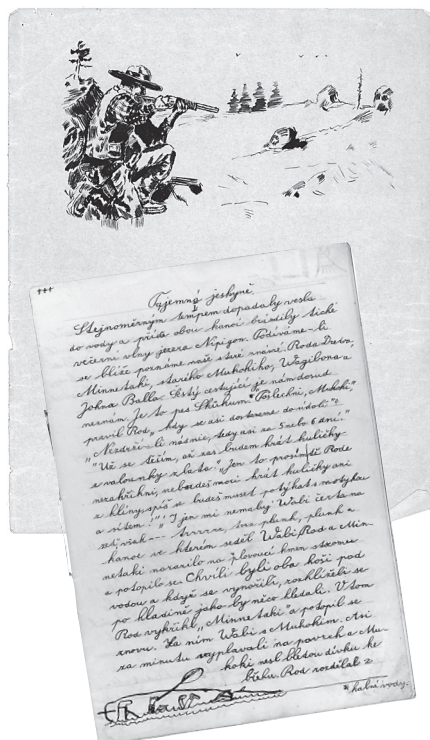
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



A “Prima” Week in a Small Czech Town

On September 29, 2004, Czech-Canadian author, Josef Škvorecký, celebrated his eightieth birthday. In honour of this event, the Literární akademie in Prague, in collaboration with the Institute for Czech Language of the Czech Academy of Science, the Czech centre of the International Pen Club and the Town Council of Náchod, organized an international symposium on the life and work of one of Náchod's most famous sons. The Fisher Library was asked to participate, since it is the repository of the Škvorecký papers. I, as unofficial curator, by virtue of my native tongue and background, was asked to present a paper on the collection held by the Fisher Library and to prepare an exhibition that would illustrate some unknown aspects of Škvorecký's life and work. Speaking about the collection was easy; I have been dealing with it since the late 1970s; but what secrets could I reveal about an author who has given so many interviews? Where would one start? I knew that when

he was deprived of his right to publish after the brief appearance of *Tankový prapor*, he used the name of a friend to publish some mystery stories and that that fact was not generally known. In one of them, an astute reader could put together the first letter of each chapter and come up with “Škvorecký et Zabrana fecerunt ioculum.” Did the public also know that this world-famous fiction writer had originally wanted to be a poet and it was only after he moved to Prague after World War II, that he branched out into fiction? Or the fact that Škvorecký wrote his first novel at the age of 10, inspired by the Canadian writer James Oliver Curwood, and that it was set in the Canadian West? Or that several books were banned because the censors found a reference to Škvorecký? This happened to a well known writer on parrots whose otherwise acceptable book was censored when, in a colour illustration a Senegal parrot was portrayed sitting on a pile of books, one of which was by the



Left: The first novel written by Josef Škvorecký (age 10) with an illustration by his father. Both were inspired by James Oliver Curwood's *Wolf Hunters* (above).

banned Škvorecký. I gradually built up a respectable amount of material, but it was too late to mail it, even by courier, and I had to bring it with me.

On September 14, a very nervous librarian boarded the plane, clutching a very full briefcase to her chest. Here I was with a priceless collection of irreplaceable manuscripts. Did I dare sleep on the plane? Would I remember to take them from the overhead storage bin? I didn't sleep but I did remember to take all my belongings upon arrival in Prague. Almost home free. Two days after landing in Prague, I arrived in the small town of Náchod on the Czech/Polish border, where I met the curator of the regional museum and we discussed how best to display the material I had brought. It was quickly evident that he was a major fan and delighted to be able to work with original materials. Assured that the papers were in excellent hands, I set off to explore the town. I had seen pictures of Náchod before I arrived, having been given a picture book on it, with text by Škvorecký, so I was eager to see the place in real life. It is quite pretty, with the requisite castle on the hill, a baroque town hall, an impressive central square and intriguing little alleys and courtyards.

On Wednesday, September 22, the conference officially opened. The town was very busy that morning, as police and body guards were securing the area around the Josef Čížek theatre, location of the opening ceremonies, prior to the arrival of the President of the Czech Republic. Václav Klaus briefly addressed a packed house about Škvorecký's importance to the Republic. Other speakers offered their thoughts on Škvorecký as a Central European writer, Škvorecký within the context of Czech and world literature and the phenomenon of 68 Publishers. Michal Schonberg of the University of Toronto at Scarborough, speaking Czech to a live audience for the first time in twenty years, spoke of his attempts to produce a biography.

After lunch, the audience consisted of the actual conference attendees, and discussions were held in two smaller rooms. Speakers included old friends and classmates, translators of Škvorecký's books, jazz fans who had corresponded with Škvorecký for years, academics who had studied aspects of his works, people he had helped, and fans. The most interesting aspect for me was putting faces to names. Many were familiar, as they had written to Škvorecký and I had read their letters when I was listing them for appraisal. My hotel roommate was a scholar living in Sweden who had written a book on Škvorecký that I had catalogued. So many people had responded to the invitation to speak that parallel sessions had to be held. It was difficult to choose which session to attend; should I go to the session on Škvorecký and Náchod as a literary area or the one on the role of jazz in his works; a session where his translators discussed their adventures or a session on his short stories? Once I had no choice, being pulled out of a talk because Czech television was at the exhibition and wanted me to discuss some of the items I had brought. Paul Wilson, a long time Škvorecký translator, and I managed to act like professional presenters and pointed out various manuscripts and letters from fans as the television camera whirled. Vanna White had nothing on us!

On Thursday evening, there was a concert held in honor of Zdena and Josef Škvorecký with a surprise ending. We were asked to keep our seats for a brief interval while the stage was reset and suddenly the music of "Gaudeamus igitur" rang out and a procession of red and black robed personages filed down to the front of the hall. In a ceremony reminiscent of the Middle Ages, Škvorecký was given an honorary doctorate from the literary academy and after the various representatives of academe had bowed to him and congratulations were offered, he gave a very moving speech in which, among others,

he thanked the Fisher Library for preserving his work and for allowing it to come back to its native land for a period.

On Friday morning, the local archivist, another Škvorecký fan, took a small group to various locations around Náchod that appear in some form in his books. The Hotel Beránek (i.e., lamb) is called the Hotel Lion by Škvorecký, the Hotel Italia, the Hotel Espania, etc. She discussed his classmates who had their names altered also, a friend named Suchý (Dry) becomes Mokrý (Wet), etc. We saw the factory where Škvorecký did forced labour under the Germans; the villa where one of the girls lived (now the local police headquarters), the bridge on which he stood watching another girl studying in her room. It all made me want to reread some of the novels, now that I knew the town better. Then as a special treat, we were taken to a local pub, the Port Artur, where Škvorecký and friends had played jazz as teenagers and hung out. It was now only open on weekends, but the conference organizers had asked the owner to open for a couple of hours for this auspicious occasion. There we found Zdena and Josef Škvorecký, along with several of his classmates, listening to a jazz trio. We were invited to ask questions, and for about an hour

a lively and informal discussion ensued. It was the perfect ending to a great conference. Then it was time to remove the Fisher Library's materials, return to Prague and from there home. The nervousness returned. Would the Czech authorities allow the manuscripts to leave the country? Taking inspiration from my mother, who never declared anything and always got away with it, I said nothing and nothing happened. All the materials were returned safely to archival boxes on the shelves of the Fisher Library.

The conference was very well organized and the speakers informative. I learned a great deal about Josef Škvorecký, which will be very useful when I am asked about our holdings. It also gave me a sense of how complete our collection is and made me understand that we, as an institution, are fulfilling an important role in collecting and preserving this sort of material. Finally, it gave me the chance to confound Czech speakers with my old-fashioned Slovak. That was fun! My sincere thanks to Richard Landon, Director of the Fisher Library, for insisting that I go, and to the Chief Librarian, Carole Moore, for authorizing the funds to get me there.

Luba Frastacky

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



For the Information of Our Donors

As the University's policies and procedures governing the processing of gifts-in-kind (GIKs) have undergone some significant changes recently, we thought Friends might like an overview of the process that we go through whenever we receive donated material.

Each time a donation is accepted, a paper trail has to be established and maintained. The first step is the completion of a Fisher donation form, a copy of which is added to the annual Master file. Another copy is placed in the Appraisers' file so that we can track and group items for monetary appraisal. A third copy is placed in the Donor's file. A final copy is left with the gift on designated shelves in the second basement to await description and evaluation. And you thought we lived in a paperless society?

The next step is preparing the appropriate documentation to enable the appraisers to place a monetary value on the gift. For printed items the Fisher staff prepares a detailed gift list describing each item, including full bibliographical details as well as information on provenance and condition. For manuscript gifts a detailed finding aid is prepared.

Our appraisers are called upon throughout the year, as donations accumulate. Gifts arriving early in the calendar year may have to wait until we build up enough material to occupy an appraiser for at least a full day. On the other hand, gifts arriving later in the year, as tax deadlines loom, may also be held up awaiting appraisers who are kept very busy meeting our end of the year requests, as well as those of other cultural institutions.

For any gift over an appraised value of CAD\$1000.00, the donor is required to complete a Deed of Gift stipulating whether or not they have owned the property for more than three years, and whether it was acquired with the intention of donation. They must also assert that the donor is the sole owner of the property and that the property is free of debt or lien. If this form is not filled out in duplicate, and returned to us to be

countersigned by a senior administrator, the University's Office of Advancement will not issue an income tax receipt.

Once the gift has been appraised and the donor informed, the Library embarks on yet another round of paperwork. The Library must complete a Gift in Kind donation form and send it to the Division of University Advancement along with copies of the appraiser's letter and the signed Deed of Gift. The role of the Advancement Office is to vet the information and send a copy to the Receipt Management Office. In addition to two copies for our own files, the Library also forwards copies of the GIK form to the University's Fixed Assets Officer, and the Library Development Office.

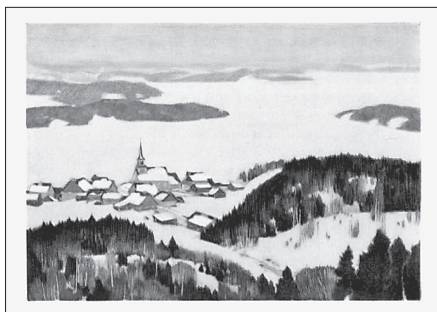
For gifts being submitted for certification to the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board (CCPERB), the documentation required is even more complex: conservators' reports, inventory summaries, spread sheets comparing the appraisals, verifications of authenticity, justifications for why the property should be considered of outstanding significance and national importance, photocopies of selected items of special interest within the collection being donated, biographies of authors, and possibly even critical reviews of their work. The Board meets three or four times a year and packages must arrive in Ottawa about two months in advance of the meeting, in order for their staff to have the time to go through all the documentation. Meeting dates in the near future are January 12-14, 2005 (deadline: November 12, 2004), March 23-25, 2005 (deadline: January 21, 2005), and June 15-17, 2005 (deadline: April 15, 2005).

We hope this overview gives everyone a better understanding of the work that goes on behind the scenes, and some of the timelines involved. Additional information on gifts to the Library can be found on the newly redesigned Fisher website at:

<http://www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/about/gifts.html>



Cards on the Table...



Winter scene by Clarence Gagnon, from *Louis Hémon, Maria Chapdelaine* (Paris: Éditions Mornay, 1933)

Commercial cards not your style? The Library has a new Christmas card for 2004!

You can purchase Christmas cards, note cards, and most exhibition catalogues at the Short Term Loan Office, Room 3008, on the third floor of the Robarts Library, or through the Fisher web site at www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/publications/cards.html. You can also buy cards at most fall meetings of the Friends of the Fisher Library.



Christmas card by F.S. Haines from the Fred Coates papers in the University of Toronto Archives.

Editor's Note

This issue was edited by Barry Walfish and Maureen Morin, and designed by Maureen Morin. Comments and/or suggestions should be sent to Barry Walfish, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A5 (416) 946-3176.

The Halcyon: The Newsletter of the Friends of The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library is published twice a year, in June and November. *The Halcyon* includes short articles on recent noteworthy gifts to and acquisitions of the Fisher Rare Book Library, recent exhibitions in the Library, activities of the Friends and other short articles of interest to the Friends.

Members of *The Halcyon's* editorial board are Anne Dondertman, Richard Landon, and Barry Walfish from the Fisher Library, and Maureen Morin from the Information Commons.

For more information about the Fisher Library, please visit the web site at www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/



Mark your calendar for upcoming events...

Exhibitions 2004~2005

Exhibition hours: 9 ~ 5 Monday to Friday
All exhibition openings begin at 5:00 p.m.

4 October – 21 December 2004

The 80s and NOW :
The Photographs of NOW Magazine

24 January – 29 April 2005

Nil Obstat: An Exhibition of Banned,
Censored & Challenged Works in the West
Exhibition opening
Monday 24 January 2005

16 May – 2 September 2005

Recent Acquisitions of Canadian
Literary Papers

Planned Events 2004~2005

All lectures begin at 8:00 p.m.

Monday 22 November 2004 *The Alexander C. Pathy Lecture on the Book Arts*

The Art of the Architectural Book
Gerald Beasley, Avery Architectural and
Fine Arts Library, Columbia University

Wednesday 23 February 2005 *The David Nicholls Memorial Lecture*

*Popularizing French Culture in
America, 1870-1900: The Role of
the Seaside Library Series*
Carol Armbruster, Library of Congress

Tuesday 22 March 2005 *The Gryphon Lecture on the History of the Book*

Chapbooks and Popular Culture in Britain
Barry McKay, Barry McKay Rare Books,
Cumbria, England



H·A·L·C·Y·O·N

University of Toronto Library
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A5