

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Vol. XXXV Number 1 Issue 199 January, 2016



*A New Year, a New Volume, and Plenty to Read*

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## ‘The 16<sup>th</sup> Century Traveling Bookseller’



Times sure have changed; today we can go to a ‘bricks and mortar’ bookstore for some browsing and fellowship or we can purchase just about any book you can image from the many booksellers who make use of the Internet to display their inventory. A few clicks and your selection is on the way. Not exactly much fellowship but it sure is fast.

Before Gutenberg perfected his printing press, books were for the most part hand printed creations that were pretty much in the domain of a wealthy few. The invention of the printing press in the fifteenth century ignited a firestorm of information that the world was just waiting to see. As time moved into the 16<sup>th</sup> century printed books became available first in Germany and Austria and then spread to Italy and the far reaches of Europe. The reading public was exposed to religious works as well as other subjects. Sometimes books would be sold by a vendor at a local town square market and sometimes the vendor would carry his books across the countryside to the smaller towns and villages. In the above image the bookseller has obviously made his way into a small village bringing his cart of books to the customer. The bookseller’s name could be Johann, Migel, or Georges, it does not make any difference. The point being, a new business venture has been born and the bookseller and the customer have developed a relationship. The seller and buyer exchange has continued through to the present time and there are many stories to learn about the famous buyers and sellers of books. The MBS Conclave is part of this ongoing exchange of buyers and sellers with the Book Fair that is part of each Conclave, it will certainly be a grand event in McKinney, Texas this year.

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A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

*Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977*

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Volume XXXV, Number 1, Issue Number 199

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## *The Microbibliophile*

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**Sherry Mayo**, Publisher **James M. Brogan**, Editor

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## Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

Here we are at the beginning of a new year and the start of a new journey through the world of miniature books. I hope to jostle your minds and provide you with some great information about the world of miniature books. In addition to our regular features, I will supplement all of *The Microbibliophile* with an article theme that brings some booksellers to our pages. Some old, some new, some unique, some we wish we had known. I hope that this will be of interest to you. I am ready with a basket full of ideas and certainly open to your suggestions and help along the way.

Subscription renewals are important to the future of *The Microbibliophile*. As with everything, most people are on time and some are very busy. If you have not sent in your renewal, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Parents give their children their name, a safe home to grow up in, and should see that they are well trained in sound learning. No wealth can be compared with the gift of an education in liberal studies. Literature indeed exhibits not only facts as well as thoughts and facilitates expressions. Young children are the future of our existence. Miniature books are a part of this literature and education. Please give some thought about how you can help a student understand literature. More about this as the year unfolds.

The current issue contains five new miniature book reviews. A recap bibliography from Bo Press, as well as a classic 'Treasure Island', and Franklin's book about his experiments with electricity from Plum Park. There is a fiction book from a new publisher Owen Legg and another matchbox book from Green Chair Press.

Featured in this issue is an article by Jerry Morris about a bookseller, Wally Harris. Georges Toneman provided an outstanding article about the Catharijne Press, and Todd Sommerfeld keeps us up to date with his busy bibliophile activities in Ohio. Lastly, Robert Hanson takes us back a few years to when he first started publishing *The Microbibliophile*.

If you would like to submit a review of a favorite book, new or old, or an informative article about a miniature book or a related topic, please do so. Our lives have too much sunshine to not spread the joy with some printed words. Please share *The Microbibliophile* with a friend, bibliophile or not, if they like what we offer, I can send them a post-paid sample issue as well as a subscription form. You can never tell when you may unlock a secret question from someone's thoughts. Who can foresee what joy may reside on the next page.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your life. 📖



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

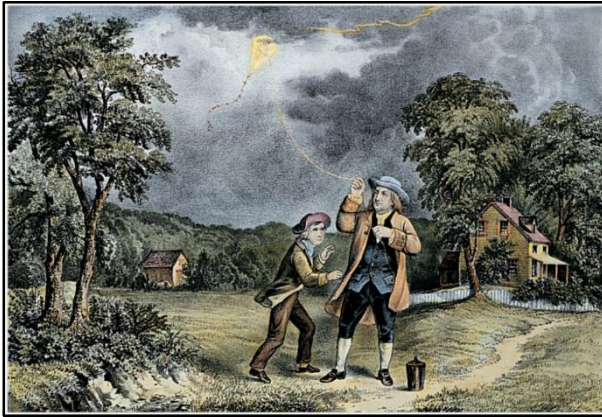
“Old minds are like old horses,  
you must exercise them  
to keep them in working order”

**John Adams, 1735 - 1826**



*U.S. postage image 1938*

## MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



*Endpaper illustration, Currier and Ives 1876  
Library of Congress, Washington*

**Experiments and Observations on Electricity made at Philadelphia in America**, by Benjamin Franklin is the most recent scientific miniature from Tony Firman of the Plum Park Press, 2015. The publisher’s pre-publication notice explains that the qualification “in America” was added to the title since the book was originally published in London in 1751. We also learned that in recognition of Franklin’s work with electricity, the Royal Society awarded him its Copley Medal in 1753, which would be equivalent to the Nobel Prize today.

I am sure that everyone has heard the story of Franklin flying the kite in an electrical storm to test his

experiments regarding electricity and lightning. People in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century sort of knew about electricity but certainly did not understand what it was all about. Franklin started the first scientific laboratory in America where he began his studies of electricity. Franklin was so interested in these mysteries of science that he put his printing business in the hands of others and devoted himself almost full time to his scientific work. The purpose for the kite was based on the need to get an object high enough in the sky since no tall buildings existed in Philadelphia at the time. The underlining question was to determine that electricity and lightening were in fact the same thing. The experiments lead to the development of the lightening rod by Franklin.

This miniature is a collection of four very detailed letters written by Franklin to Peter Collinson, of the Royal Society, in 1747, outlining Franklin’s experiments and conclusions. Collinson, being a ‘patron’ of the Philadelphia scientific community, proceeded to publish the letters as a volume in 1751.

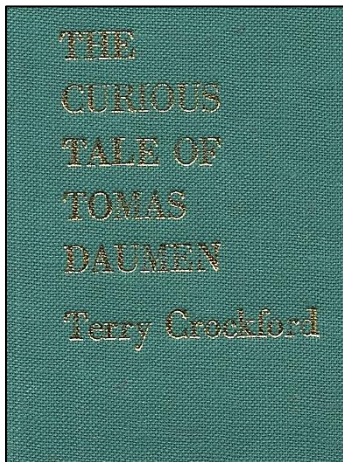


*Frontispiece,  
Painter, B. West, 1816  
Philadelphia Museum of Art*

‘Experiments and Observations’ is bound with a fawn colored leatherette with a dark green spine label attached. The label is printed with gold font. The book consists of 280 pages and includes all of the original illustrations that were included with the 1751 publication. It measures 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 2" and makes a very handsome book worthy of this important scientific work. The endpapers carry a print of the famous Currier and Ives illustration printed across both the board paper and the fly-leaf to show the interesting detail of the original work. The frontispiece is a printing of a painting by Benjamin West, c. 1816. The typeface is Baskerville 6.5/7.5, which makes this a very readable miniature. The edition contains 20 copies, each signed and numbered by the publisher, \$45 plus shipping. 📖

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Hazlet, TX 76052*

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[www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)*



**The Curious Tale of Tomas Daumen**, by Terry Crockford and published by Owen Legg’s Woodcraft Press, 2015

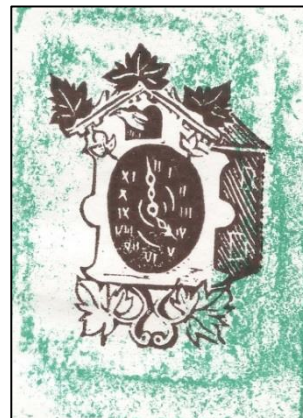
The tale recounts a story about Tomas, a German clockmaker. His name in translation means Tom Thumb. The story presents the many happenings that Tomas encounters while taking a journey in an attempt to sell his clocks so that he will have sufficient money to feed his family throughout the year. The story is set in an earlier period of time when people traveled by foot or horse between villages, however some of the problems that affect Tomas is somewhat familiar in that the price of parts and supplies are always going up and customers are not as willing to part with their hard earned and limited monies for a clock. Tomas sets off on his journey but decides to take a nap by the side of the trail. When he wakes up a very small man, less than 6" tall, has joined him and proceeds to give him some advice on just where he may be able to sell his

clocks. They continued their walk for some time toward the town of Elidor where there is a castle and of course a princess. The story and the adventure continues and Tomas does sell some of his clocks. The most important part of the journey is that Tomas has come away with the idea to replace the traditional sound of clock chimes with that of a cuckoo. He returns to his home village with his head full of wonderful ideas that will insure his success as a clockmaker.

The book consists of 46 pages of text, that is hand set in a 10 pt. Perpetua type and hand printed on a 8 x 5 Adana press.

The book is bound in a bright green book cloth with the title gold stamped on the face and the endpapers done in a marbled Jenna Lewis paper complementing the cover material and color. In addition to being hand printed the paper used is a 60 gsm. Offenbach Bible paper, which enhances the overall presentation of the tome. There are twelve full-page color illustrations included enhance the reading of the text. The book measures 2 1/4" x 3". The price of the book is £30/\$45 plus postage, the edition includes 50 copies, each signed by the publisher. A leather bound copy is also available; please check with Owen for this pricing.

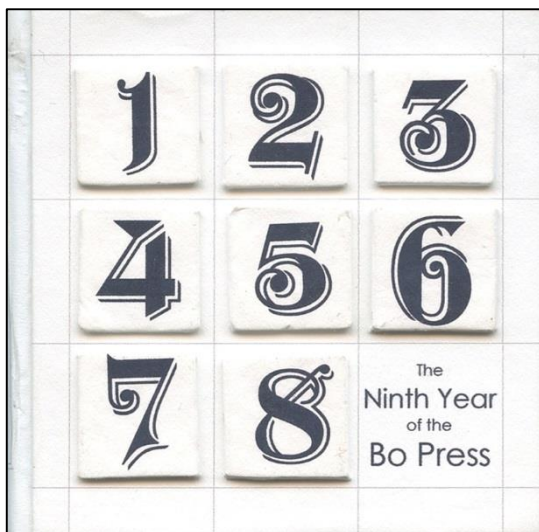
A welcome is in order, as Owen Legg is a publisher that is new to *The Microbibliophile*. Owen has been publishing books since 1972; Tomas Daumen is his 15th book and his smallest to date. A friend, Terry Crockford wrote the story specifically for Owen. 📖



*Daumen's clock*

Contact information: Owen Legg, Woodcraft Press, 152 Hadlow Road  
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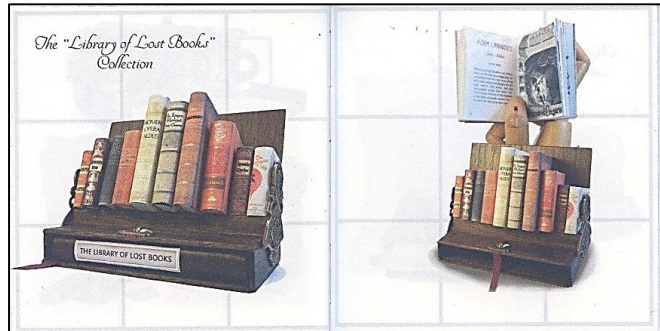
**The Ninth Year of the Bo Press**, by Pat Sweet, published by Bo Press, 2015. Another great year of miniature books and bookish creations from the studio of Pat Sweet in Riverside, CA. The starlight must beam thru the windows of this magical place that Pat calls her workroom. Just based on the number of books and the diversity of subjects included there must be a few lightning bolts bouncing across the floor as well. Things get more interesting with time and the ninth year at Bo Press is no exception.

The Ninth Year as you can see is fabricated to resemble one of the old-fashioned 'sliding puzzle' games. I am not sure if the connection is directly to the nine squares and the nine years or all of the

complexities of selecting the thoughts, ideas, materials, and production tasks to publish such a fine selection of miniature books. Between the covers, the book is divided into two major sections of information; miniature books and miniature bookish creations. It was certainly an honor to be able to provide the readers of *The Microbibliophile* with the reviews for each of the books of the ninth year:

*'Nightengale's Catalogue'*, such an array of things that can be used in everyday life  
*'Three Rats at Sea'*, what was more exciting, the journey or the homecoming?  
*'The Orchard of Chance'*, a vision of color and texture to excite the mind  
*'The Waldseemuller Map'*, the cartographer who introduced America as a map component  
*'The Library of Lost Books'*, was it active human malevolence or human thoughtlessness  
*'Had I But Known'*, the Golden Age of Mystery  
*'The Cookie Book'*, a reflection of days gone past, folded paper, and a shimmering prize

The bookish miniatures are small works of art designed to reflect the world of bibliophiles of years past. 'A Fanciful Orrery', maybe the 'Traveling Writer's Desk', or even 'A Medieval Book Stand' are certainly things to excite your mind. Each item in the ninth year collection is presented with a color image of the item on the verso page and the recto page is designed as a full-length fold down page revealing the pertinent facts about the miniature.

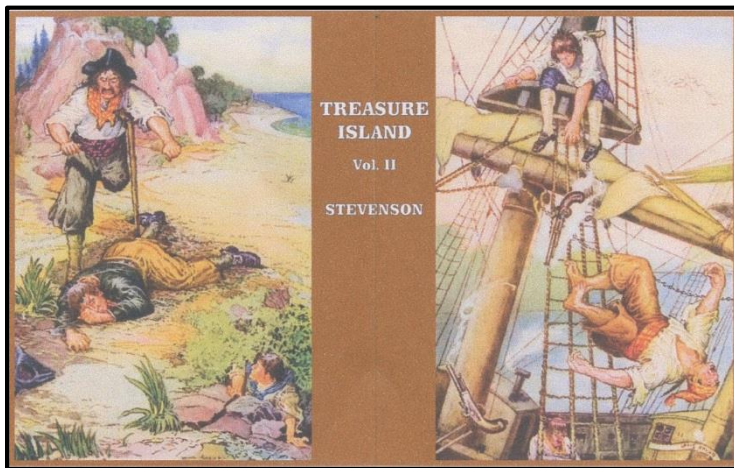


The cover of the book, as I mentioned in my opening, is designed as a 'nine square puzzle' with each of the numerals printed on a raised 'tile'. The background image of the cover and the actual text pages reveal a faint cross hatch line design to enhance the illusion of the puzzle. The cover is fabricated with a white paper and carries an affixed spine label as well. The front and rear endpapers carry the same puzzle design with a large '9' printed across the pages. The book measures  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " and is signed by the author,

The introduction is a reflection of Pat's thoughts about her 2015 works. She closes with the message "Thanks to all the lovely people who bought my little books. Selling them is almost, but not quite, as much fun as making them." The edition is sold out but who knows when a copy may appear somewhere in the world. Certainly, a job well done both with this miniature recap and all of the Ninth Year creations. I am certainly looking forward to the tenth year to see what new things will come from the Bo Press studio. 📖

Contact information: Pat Sweet, Bo Press Miniature Books, 231 East Blaine Street, Riverside, CA 92507  
E-mail: [bopress@charter.net](mailto:bopress@charter.net) or [www.bopressminiaturebooks.com](http://www.bopressminiaturebooks.com)





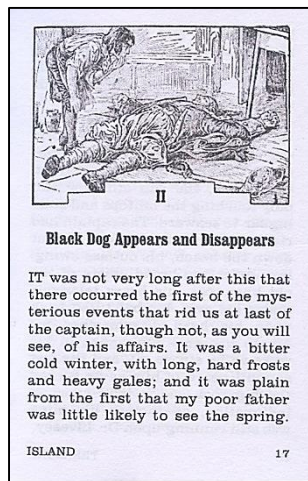
*Printed color illustrations on the rear (left) and front (right) covers*

Park edition has been published in two volumes, each bound in paper covered boards printed with original colored illustrations on the front and rear covers.

*Treasure Island* is certainly an adventure novel narrating the tales and exploits of ‘buccaneers, with their treasure maps and buried gold.’ Prior to being published in full length book format it was in fact published in a serial fashion as part of the *Young Folks* magazine beginning in 1881. *Treasure Island* is traditionally considered a coming-of-age story, and is famous for its atmosphere, characters, and action. The characters are, in my opinion, the strength of the novel. The main characters are ‘Jim Hawkins’, a young son of an inn keeper eager, to go to sea, ‘Dr. Livesey’, the model of common sense, ‘Long John Silver’, the peg-legged ringleader of the pirates, ‘Captain Smollett’, the steady handed captain of the ship, ‘Squire Trelawney’, the voyage financier, and ‘Billy Bones’, the old pirate with the treasure map. Together these characters are woven into the adventure of a lifetime written by Stevenson. There are some dates on the treasure map putting the beginning of this sea tale at about 1750.

As mentioned, this miniature publication is presented in two volumes. Volume One contains 17 chapters and moves the reader from the windswept introduction through the end of the voyage to the treasure island and the munity of the ship. Each chapter begins with an illustrated head. Additional full-page illustrations are placed throughout the book and add to the excitement of the story. I just have to stop and study the illustrations; they are like the organ music of a silent movie for me, that twist of new imagery and information that draws you into the story. Volume Two follows along the publication of details concluded in Volume One and is equal in richness and adventure. As you can imagine there is a lot of fighting and trading of allegiances. Eventually the

**Treasure Island**, by Robert Lewis Stevenson originally published in 1883, by Cassel & Co., London, this miniature by Plum Park Press, Hazlet, TX, 2015. There are not many people who have missed the opportunity to read *Treasure Island* at some part of their school curriculum. This is truly a literary classic and this edition has been published based on the 1883 edition, including all of the original illustrations as drawn by Louis Rhead. The Plum



*Chapter ‘head illustration’*



***Frontispiece,  
Long John Silver***

treasure is found and the ship returns to Bristol, where the loot is divided and Jim Hawkins declares he, for one, will not undertake another voyage.

The frontispieces of the volumes are colored illustration of Long John Silver with his cutlass drawn and let us not forget the parrot on his shoulder. Each volume consists of 300 pages and the dimensions are 3" x 2". There are 20 copies in the edition, each signed and numbered by the publisher. The typeface is URW Claredon Light 6/7 pt. printed on very white Navigator Platinum 75 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper, which make for a very readable book with pages that are easy to turn. The price of the book is \$50, plus \$5 for shipping and handling. Kudos to the publisher, Tony Firman, a well planned and executed publication. Many of the fine points and features that make this a five star miniature. If you order both volumes, the publisher includes a small treasure chest and a copy of the secret map with the set. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 507, Hazlet, TX 76052  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)

**Teapot**, is another in a series of miniature pop-up books published in a matchbox from Green Chair Press, by Susan Angebrannt. This pop-up is focused on a simple item that can be found in most kitchens throughout the world, a teapot. According to the author, her white china teapot and the chill of the autumn air were her inspiration for this simple book. The teapot is shown as sitting on the windowsill and when you look through the cutout window, you are treated to a view of a maple tree in all of its seasonal color.

The white paper which carries the text and the paper-cut pop-up is mounted on a heavy stock orange paper and folded to gently fit in the handmade matchbox which is printed in a pale beige with an image of the stark white teapot on the cover and the title 'Teapot' on the spine.

The book itself is 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> " x 2" and is a small accordion type structure. The matchbox is handmade and certainly well done, with a beige ribbon attached to help remove the book from the box, measuring 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> " x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> " Great subject, well-executed construction, and a very affordable price, \$20 plus \$4 shipping. 📖



***Cover of matchbox***

Contact information: Susan Angebrannt, Green Chair Press, 369 Hadisway Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501  
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## **BOOKSELLERS, *THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE* 2016 THEME:**

As we begin each new publication year, I try to create a focal point or interject a ‘theme of information’ into the various issues for the year. I hope that this will be a stimulus of thoughts and ideas for the readers as well as those who contribute information to *The Microbibliophile*. In previous years, some of these themes have been various lists of book types, St. Onge publications, and Charles Dickens. During 2016, I thought it would make an interesting theme line to visit and discuss booksellers. My current list of possible persons for discussions range from William Caxton, David Bryce Sr., Louis Bondy, A.S.W. Rosenbach, Jake Zeitlin, Ernest Dawson, Hans Kraus, and even some of those booksellers that sold their books in St Paul’s Churchyard. My list is just a rough line in the sand, I welcome your suggestions and help. This is the one place where more cooks do not spoil the broth.

‘Modern’ booksellers began to market their treasures shortly after the printing press was invented and the trade spread across Europe like a firestorm to satisfy the needs of the people. However, booksellers did actually exist prior to the printing press but there was not a wide product line available and the customers tended to be more wealthy than not. In addition, the trade existed in the Orient for hundreds of years prior to the printing press.

In our current world, it is necessary to define the distinction between booksellers, whose trade consists of selling books and publishers, whose business is primarily the production of books from the manuscripts provided by an author and their work as the intermediary between the author and bookseller. You could also define the bookseller as an intermediary between the author, the publisher, and the purchasing public. In the miniature book world; often a publisher is also a bookseller, so there are some very faint gray lines concerning the definition, unless of course these folks have different hats that they wear on different days.

So let us see how we can learn about these sellers, what special things they sold, how they added value to the relationships they had with their customers, and their legacies to the trade. I hope that it will be learning experience for everyone and an enjoyable journal as well. 📖

## **GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:**

Next issue, Volume XXXV, Number 2, Issue 200, (expected publish date; March 1, 2016):

- An Antiquarian Delight, maybe a finger bible or a book that looks like a broom!
- Famous Miniature Book People, perhaps Ian Macdonald, founder of the Gleniffer Press
- *Memoirs of a Bibliomidget*, by Anne Bromer
- A story about a great bookseller, name TBD
- *The Construction of the New York Subway*, published by Plum Park Press
- Maybe something special about ‘Kaboom!’, by Pat Sweet
- How about something from you?

Keep me posted on what is going on at your press or with your collection. Anticipation and searching is half of the fun. We all love the details. 📖

# **FAMOUS PEOPLE IN THE WORLD OF MINIATURE BOOKS:**

## **Guus and Luce Thurkow, The Catharijne Press**

### **By Georges Toneman**

During the 19th century and first half of the 20th century the activity of Dutch publishers of miniature books diminished considerably. True, the famous 2 ½ pt Didot was used a few times in beautifully printed miniature books by the renowned Dutch printer Joh. Enschede ( the *Grondwet* of 1861 and the *Évangile selon Saint Matthieu* of 1900 ). Apart from these outstanding miniature editions there were only a small number of prayer books and almanachs printed.

The second half of the 20th century however showed a growing number of people making miniature books of various quality and names like Tine Krijnen, Philip Elchers in Groningen, and Jan Janssen, in Maastricht, became known for their above average craft(wo)manship.

A revival was in the offing. It started in 1984 when a Dutch couple, Guus and Luce Thurkow, produced their first miniature book. Eighteen more gems were to follow until they stopped in 2003. Their press was called ‘The Catharijne Press’ a name inspired by the city of Utrecht where they were living when their production started. It was an immediate success and for very good reasons.

Well before they started as miniature book publishers, years of apprenticeship in the 70s were required to get the necessary expertise and skills. Activities such as visiting museums, auctions, buying and reading professional literature, restoring and binding books were part of the learning process. Guus and Luce realised that the making of miniature books required special skills. They made a few miniature books just for fun and gave them as presents to friends, thereby improving their skills by training them in this special field. Guus once sighed: “with miniature books everything is twice as difficult: missing a folding line by ½ mm is already visible, the type fount is small, paper should have a low gram weight, the binding yarn should be thinner than average, and so should the board or leather used for the cover.”

In the beginning of the eighties Guus came into contact with the then President of the newly founded Miniature Book Society Kalman Levitan, who gave him some useful hints. Guus understood that the Dutch market alone was too limited for the starting-up of his miniature book venture. There were only five Dutch collectors known, among whom the famous Abraham Horodisch. He therefore concentrated on the US market and consequently the texts were mainly in English.

The first book was *Two Poems* in 100 copies only. It was an oblong edition, a rather uncommon format. Louis Bondy gave Guus the advice not to publish in the oblong format as collectors did not favor this different format in their collections and pointed out to him that leather covers are what the market prefers. He fully agreed the first miniature book of the Catharijne Press was of outstanding quality, but indicated as well that its price was rather high. However, Guus defended his point of view that it should be profitable and argued that his costs were all but ‘miniature’. So Bondy took his point and ordered a few copies. Dawson, Bromer, Lorson, and of course, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek ( Royal Library in The Hague), and the Meermanno Westreenianum Museum ( a unique Dutch book museum in The Hague that now houses the famous Bibliotheca Thurkowiana Minor, the 1515 miniature books library Guus and Luce Thurkow had conceived and created) soon followed suit.

As word spread around, the collectors joined the dealers in buying copies and Guus soon had to disappoint some collectors as his stock ran out rapidly. He realised that his production could only be limited. He once said that the production of 175 copies of one of the titles had taken three

months and the preparing of just one page of letterpress took a whole evening. I am not amazed that he invariably concluded his colophon with the words: ‘Laus Deo’ as if to thank God for the celestial putti who gave him and Luce a little helping hand in their arduous task.

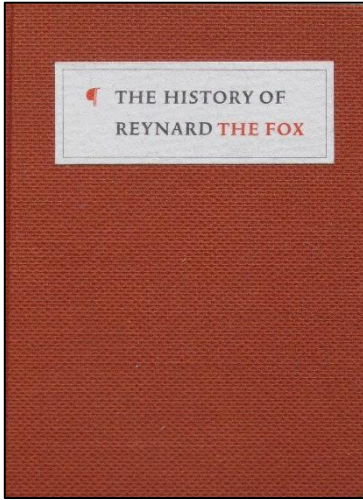
It is undeniable that the Catharijne Press books are highly rated both from the point of view of layout and quality of the binding and from the contents. Guus soon realized that apart from the regular edition a special one would be a tempting idea for collectors. So, from the third book on, the *Song of Songs*, he published special editions of between 12 and 20 high quality gems. True they were more expensive, but nevertheless sold very quickly. He added an extra illustration or applied a gold layer on the initials. He further had some special copies bound in leather or added a cassette. Parchment instead of paper was another extra. In the case of the miniature book, *Dutch Windmills*, he joined an original glass negative of one of the photographs of the windmills. In some cases, he even provided original drawings or linocuts. He also honoured requests for having copies printed with the collector’s name printed directly in their particular copy. In two publications he added a extra part: *Gulliver’s Travels* got a separate map and *The Young Stork’s Baedeker* received a lexicon with tens of synonymes of the word stork ( “ooievaar” in Dutch) in various languages.

The subjects chosen by Guus and Luce vary widely: bible (3), poetry (2), literature (4), book preservation (1), folklore (1), windmills (1), children’s book (1), biography (1), art and crafts (2 ), travel (1), bird-migration (1), and history (1).

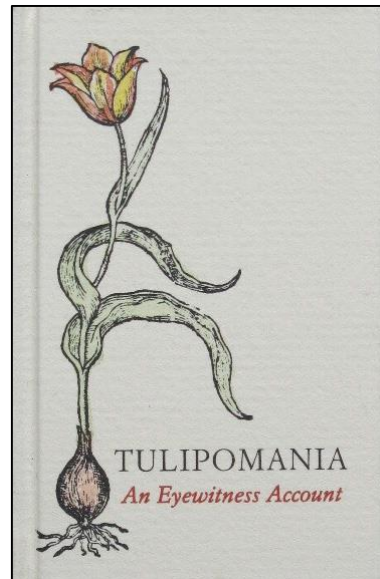
The titles, by category summarized are as follows:

CATAGORY	TITLE	PUBLICATION YEAR
Bible	<i>Song of Songs</i>	1985
	<i>Évangile selon Saint Matthieu</i>	1989
	<i>In Praise of the Virtuous Woman</i>	1994
Poetry	<i>Two Poems</i>	1984
	<i>Rubáiyát</i>	1994
Literature	<i>House of Judgment</i>	1996
	<i>Gullivers’ Travels</i>	1996
	<i>Don Quijote</i>	2001
	<i>The History of Reynard the Fox</i>	1991
Book Preservation	<i>The Enemies of Books</i>	1985
Folklore	<i>Rip van Winkle</i>	1987
Windmills	<i>Dutch Windmills</i>	1993
Children’s Book	<i>The Twelve Months</i>	1990
Biography	<i>Anne Frank</i>	1995
Arts and Crafts	<i>Florilegium</i>	1988
	<i>William Morris Wallpapers</i>	1996
Travel	<i>Insulis Inventis</i>	1992
	<i>The Young Stork’s Baedeker</i>	1998
History	<i>Tulipomania</i>	2000

The majority of the miniature books have an interesting subject and sometimes provocative plates. The best example certainly would be *The History of Reynard the Fox*. Pam Rueter’s plate of the naked vicar in front of a wild cat (castration is imminent) in this miniature book is very direct



*Front cover (L) and image plate by Pam Rueter (R)*



*Front cover of Don Quixote (L - 2001) and Tulipomania (R - 2000)*

and mind-boggling. Guus' dedication of this book to his own cat is ample proof of his well developed sense of humour. The recommendations from father stork to his son in view of the latter's first trek to Africa in *The Young Stork's Baedeker* is worthy to be read as well.

Guus and Luce concluded their production after their book, *Don Quijote*. The latter's famous words in front of the windmills he was confronted with "Ellos son gigantes" were graciously borrowed by Guus for his Bibliotheca Thurkowiana Minor.

The Catharijne Press was taken over by Trijnie Duut en Gerjan Heij who rebaptized the press 'The Catharijne Press Miniature Books'. They made two beautiful miniature books: in 2003 *Vincent in Arles: Four Letters to Theo* and in 2004 *Tolkien's Golem*. However, an expensive dollar and family circumstances soon called a halt to his fruitful continuation of the Catharijne Press.

The Catharijne Press is still a Mecca for collectors. The November 2015 catalogue of a well-known Dutch book antiquariat saw more than half of the offered Catharijne Press miniature books gone in three days!

Ars longa, vita brevis or rather: life is short, okay, but may the Catharijne Press last long, not to say forever! 📖

*Editor's Note: As part of the MBS 2015 Conclave, the events included a special tour of the Meermannoo Westreenianum Museum, in The Hague, which is the home of the famous Bibliotheca Thurkowiana Minor, a miniature books library that Guus and Luce Thurkow had conceived and created. The full collection of the Catharijne Press publications is also displayed at the museum. My special thanks to Georges for authoring this article for The Microbibliophile readers. Georges' favorite title is Don Quijote who is quoted by Guus Thurkow when talking about the windmills he has to fight: 'they are gigantic - ellos son gigantes'*

## **A MONTH IN THE LIFE OF A BIBLIOPHILE: Todd Sommerfeld**

*Editor's Note: Todd is a subscriber and member of the MBS and the proprietor of Booksby Press and he certainly has a passion for miniature books.*

This past October was a very busy month for me as a book collector so I thought I would give you a glimpse of my activities.

The month started well. On the fourth I shared some books by an old publisher on my Booksby Press Facebook page when, lo and behold, she is on Facebook and read my post! 'She' is Rebecca Bingham, creator of some of the most beautiful miniature books of the 80s and 90s. I was able to speak with her on the phone and hope to write about her and her books in the future. On the fifth, I was called to the main library downtown because they found a long lost book I had been looking for over a year. You can read more about that adventure in the November 2015 issue of *The Microbibliophile*. As a quick aside, October is always busy in Cleveland because we have Octavofest, a month long celebration of the book that encompasses dozens of activities all over Cleveland. In conjunction with Octavofest; the Guild of Bookworkers held their national convention in Cleveland, for which I volunteered to work on the 17th. It was with some surprise then that I received a voicemail on the 16th from a local book dealer proclaiming that Gabrielle Fox was in town and wanted to meet me, and that she would be at the opening reception of the Guild's exhibition 'Vessels' and I should get there right away. What a thrill! It is one thing to

seek out someone of excellence but something quite different to be sought by them. Of course, I made time and went to meet one of the preeminent miniature bookbinders. Like practically everyone in the miniature book world, she was lovely and I enjoyed meeting and talking with her. Oh, and I got to enjoy the reception and exhibition as well.



*Cristina Amato, during presentation*

Late to bed, early to rise to make my way the next morning to the downtown hotel for the convention where I volunteered to take the last shift at the registration table. The job was simple really, just inquirers about the fact that the remainder of the convention moved up one floor to accommodate a wedding in the ballroom. The side benefits included the opportunity to peruse the vendor tables where I, as an amateur bookbinder, was overcome by the variety and quality of the available products. I also assisted Christina Amato as she made her presentation, ‘The Devil’s in the Details’, the details being the modifications to accepted techniques to overcome the rigors of miniature book production. There was no way I was going to miss hearing someone’s voice other than my own talk about miniature books, and I

learned several techniques that will make my books better.

As thoroughly enjoyable, as the two previous days were the weekend held one more event, the most tiring one. Sunday was the Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society’s Cleveland Antiquarian Book Show. As a member of the board of NOBS, I bore a certain responsibility and was the first one there and the last to leave. I was there to fill any gaps where they appeared. I carried boxes of books, worked the admission table, sat at the booth and offered general information. Not every book fair you go to is great for miniature books like at the MBS conclaves, but I did find a few things to enhance my library. After the remaining books were sent home with their dealers, I had just enough time to run over to the twice-yearly basement sale of the man who was the regional representative for Andrews McMeel, the publisher who produced the Tiny Tomes books in the 90s. He has racks of miniature and near miniature books and I always like to pick up a few.





*Use the QR code to scan their inventory*



*Shelving stacks, Zupal Books*

The month closed out on Halloween with a guided tour of what was arguably once the largest rare and antiquarian bookstore in the world, John T. Zupal, Books. Michael Zupal, son of the founder, was a gracious host who took us through five buildings encompassing nearly 200,000 square feet and a million plus volumes. I used to browse the store as a teen but it has been closed to the public since 2001 when they shifted to an online business model. Throughout the tour, Michael regaled us with memories of the book trade. Two things he said stuck with me: that he remembered that I worked for another bookseller in the mid-80's and he remembered selling miniature books to some grand dame back in the day. That was, of course, Ruth Adomeit. Sadly, he could not think of a single miniature book on hand out of the million that he had.

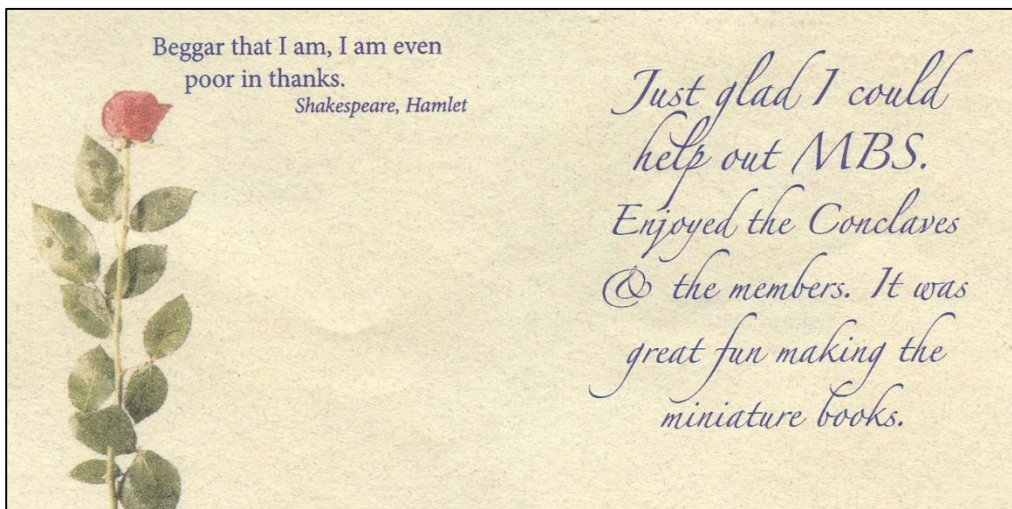
While every month is not so jam packed, this October was a big reminder what a great place Cleveland is for a book lover and makes me think that it would be a great location for a future MBS Conclave.

As always; comments, questions, and criticisms thank you, [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) 📖

*Editor's Note: Link for the NOBS is [www.nobs.nobsweb.org/](http://www.nobs.nobsweb.org/) and if you are in Cleveland and the date is right, you may want to visit Zupal Books, [www.zupalbooks.com](http://www.zupalbooks.com)*

## SAY HELLO TO MURIEL UNDERWOOD

*Editor's Note: Muriel Underwood lives in Chicago, IL and has been a MBS member and book publisher for more than a few years, her press name is Miscellaneous Graphics. Over the years, The Microbibliophile has had the honor and privilege to review several of Muriel's miniature books. I received the following note from Muriel as part of her holiday message. Muriel is 92 years young and still finds time to work on her computer. Drop her a note to say hello.*



Well Done! 📖

Contact information: Muriel Underwood, 5333 N. Sheridan Road, Apt. 4-I, Chicago, IL 60640-2558  
E-mail: [miscgraphics@att.net](mailto:miscgraphics@att.net)

## ANTIQUARIAN DELIGHTS:

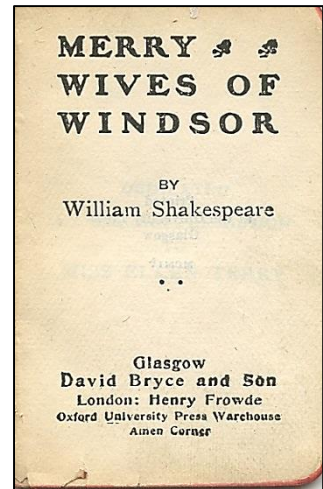
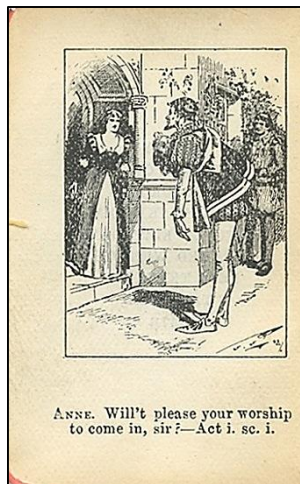
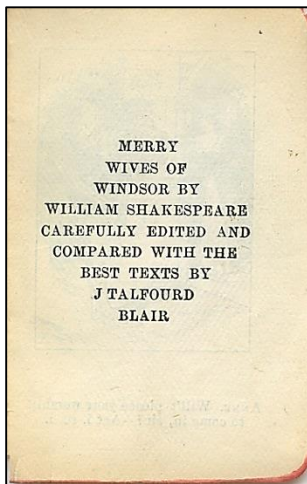
**Bryce and Shakespeare,**

**By Jim Brogan**

In the last issue of *The Microbibliophile* I spoke of my favorite Christmas book not only from the perspective of the book and subject but also from the fact that the book was a gift to me. Books that are part of the gifting process always hold a special place for me as they draw a connection between the 'giver and the receiver'. I received another gift during this holiday season, without publishing your personal 'want list' who would know just what book to buy a book collector. Maybe something to reflect a hobby like woodworking, or a collection other than books, such as model trains. While an undergraduate student I took more than a few specialized course in Elizabethan literature and especially courses dealing with the writing of the Bard, Mr. Shakespeare. Well that was a clue for the gift giver for sure. Maybe a book dealing with some aspect of Shakespeare?

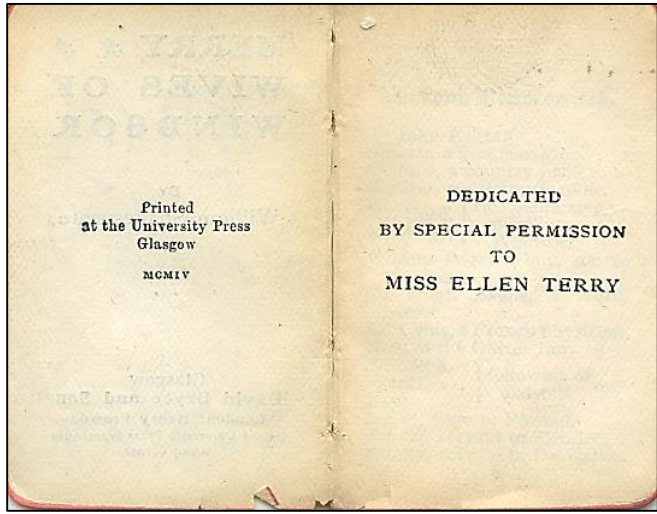
Once the gift-wrapping was removed and the small box opened, it revealed a set of small books, the various works of Shakespeare. I have never before seen these particular tomes but the very small books bound in an embossed green leather were certainly a gem of a collection. Before opening a book, I saw that each book is bound in leather with rounded corners, A.e.g, with the titles gold stamped on the spines. After opening the first book, I noticed that the endpapers were done in a very pale marbled paper. On the inside of the free-endpaper there was a number printed. I did not know upon my first examination that this number was a 'sequence number' within the published set. As I turned the page, I saw that the next verso page contained a very fine drawing of one of the main characters of the play, this frontispiece configuration and subject content was repeated with each book in the set.

Now we are presented with some more interesting information from the title page. In addition to the title and author information, I learned that David Bryce and Son, London published the books: Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press Warehouse, Amen Corner. Interesting information. The next page revealed that the books were printed at the University Press, Glasgow in MCMIV, 1904. Following this information was a dedication page, 'Dedicated by Special Permission to Miss Ellen Terry. All of this publication information is printed on a fine India paper in a bound size of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>7</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" with the page corners rounded.



Who was Ellen Terry? Now the investigative side of me began to think about what I was actually holding in my hands. My first thought was to look at my copy of *An Illustrated Bibliography of Miniature Books Published by David Bryce and Son*, compiled by Michael Garbett, printed by the Final Score, Sorbie, Scotland. Sure enough, there was some interesting information on page 41 of the bibliography, "The most impressive of the Ellen Terry publications is the forty volume edition of Shakespeare's Works. It was edited by J. Talfourd Blair and is illustrated."

The additional information provided described the publication date information as well as the reference to Amen Corner. The bibliography mentions a long list of possible binding options including various colors of leathers and or cloth, some printed with a Shakespeare coat of arms, and even an edition done with silver front covers. My edition must be part of the 'everyman's edition', just the green grained leather no marking on the cover and only the titles gold stamped on the spines. A quick search of a few stage research books revealed



that Ellen Terry (1848-1928) was the leading Shakespearian actress of the English stage for more than a few years. She must have been some actress to have a set of books dedicated to herself and her work.

A bit more research work looking through some original Louis Bondy catalogues yielded additional information about the 'Ellen Terry' editions published by Bryce. Bondy was a long time and well known bookseller with his shop in London. Page 'twenty-two' of the Bondy catalogue number 82, dated 1972 is reprinted for your reference. The tomes have certainly appreciated in value from the catalogue date. Rather than paraphrase the article I will provide you with the direct wording.

Well these tomes bound in the green leather had certainly started me on a journey. That is the thing with miniature books, one thing leads to another, and before you know it, you have a desk

**165 SHAKESPEARE (William)** The following plays in the finely printed "Ellen Terry" edition. *Published by David Bryce in Glasgow in 1904, All BOUND BY HAND in different coloured leathers, size 54 x 36 mm., 2 1/8 by 1 7/16 inches 1 illustration each*  
**As You Like It**, light brown, gilt edges, **King Henry V**, light brown, **King Henry VIII**, dark brown, gilt edges, **Macbeth**, dark green top edge gilt **Merchant of Venice**, light brown gilt edges,, **Midsummer Night's Dream**, dark green, top edge gilt, **Othello**, dark green, top edge gilt, **Timon of Athens**, dark green, gilt edges, **Titus Andronicus**, maroon, top edge gilt, **Two Gentlemen of Verona**, brown, gilt edges, **EACH VOLUME, £2.50**

full of information open, internet searches piled up and printed out, and a whole lot of learning accomplished on the way. I looked next into my old standby research document set, The Miniature Book News, edited by Julian I. Edison. Sure enough, as part of publication Number 3,

March 1966 there was an article ‘William Shakespeare’ highlighting several miniature book publications.

“Certainly one of the most often printed authors, even in miniature format, is the eternal bard.


Several editions of his works are of interest to microbibliophiles as well as Shakespearean collectors. The earliest of these editions is the renowned nine volume edition published in 1825 by William Pickering. Pickering is noted for being the first publisher to use cloth in the binding of books, and also for his tiny Diamond Classics Series, which included the Shakespeare edition.....

The smallest set of Shakespeare ever produced, and the most delightful, is the Ellen Terry edition. Dedicated to the famous Shakespearean actress of the era, it was published in Glasgow by David Bryce & Son in 1904 . Forty volumes, complete with glossary, sonnets, a bibliographical sketch, and a list of the plays, make up the set, each tome measuring 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>7</sup>/<sub>16</sub>". An engraved frontispiece of the play scene adorns each volume, which is printed in easily readable 6-pt. type on thin India paper.

Finding a complete set of the forty volumes is becoming difficult, but individual ones are frequently available. Most seem to have been bound in limp brown suede, with gilt edges, still fewer copies in limp smooth morocco (with dust jackets), and scarcest of all, in full grained green and purple moroccos. A revolving bookcase was made to encase some original sets.

At about the same time that the Ellen Terry Shakespeare appeared, a similar edition was published by the Allied Newspapers, Ltd, 200 Grays Inn Road, London. Format, size and engravings are identical to the 1904 Bryce (Ellen Terry) edition previously described, but this contains no date, and was printed by the Andersons Edinburgh, Ltd, also in Scotland.”....

The article written by Julian is very informative and you, as a microbibliophile, should take the time to read the complete article. You can retrieve a copy from the University of North Texas digital archive. They maintain a complete collection of *The Miniature Book News*, online at the address; <http://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc9460/m1/1/>. Another article in the ‘Miniature Book News’ Number 4, June 1966, page 7, contains an interesting reference to the Ellen Terry edition by none other than James Henderson, of the LXIVMOS fame. Seems that he was having trouble sleeping one night and his eyes became fixed on the Terry edition. The article goes on to describe animated characters dancing around his bedroom. I will not mention any more detail as you really have to read this part of the journey for yourself.

In closing, I want to extend a thank you to Julian Edison for his original article. Also a thank you to Michael Garbett, a bookseller residing in England as well as a special mention for Louis Bondy (1910 – 1993) another bookseller. Lastly, I thank my wife Elaine who gifted the books to me and who made all of those cups of tea to keep me reading the plays thru many long nights many years ago as an undergraduate student. The journeys that we take with miniature books takes any turns and sometimes takes many years but they all intersect with life in an enjoyable way. 

*Editor’s Note: I have to once again stress the importance of bookseller’s catalogues as an entry point to advanced reference information about miniature books. The booksellers provide a great amount of information in their catalogues and it is all helpful and interesting, maybe not the first time you read it but over time, the light beams will shine through.*

## BOOKS THAT ARE OUT OF THE BOX:

### The Last Will and Testament, REM

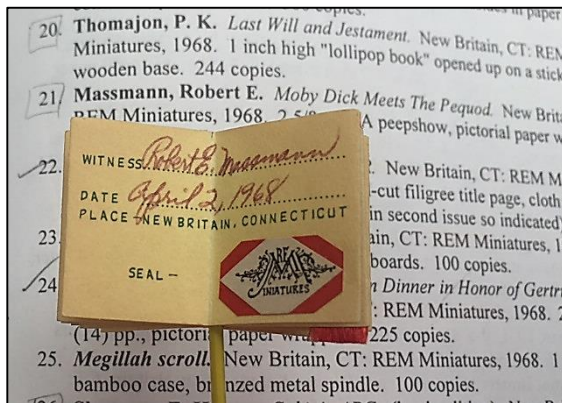
By Jim Brogan

Once again, I am going to share with you another of the creations of Robert E. Massmann. There is no doubt in my mind that the man who lived in New Britain, CT and once said, “Nobody should retire if they don’t have something to keep themselves busy and interested” was unique. In 1968 to have a little something to give his friends on his 44<sup>th</sup> birthday Massmann created a tome known as the ‘lollipop book’. The actual title is *The Last Will and Testament*. He made 44 copies that he numbered for friends and another 200 copies for the ‘fanciers of bibliosweets’.

The book was actually written by P. K. Thomajon and the text pages are 1" tall and <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" wide. The very interesting part of the construction and book format is that the text pages are mounted on a small round stick, about 3" long. The pages are set to be displayed in sort of a ‘pin-wheel fashion’ to resemble a piece of candy. There is a small red bindery ribbon placed to mark the title page of the book followed by a brief introduction ‘To be devoured but not eaten!’

The book’s subject is a ‘spoof on the ‘last will and testament’ of one P. K. Thomajon. Thomajon was in fact the one time Director of Comedy Research for the Harold Lloyd Corporation, yes the same Lloyd as who was connected with the silent films of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. I am not sure if there was a friendship connection between Massmann and Thomajon or if, it was that the words just fit what Massmann wanted to say through the book. The jostament starts out with ‘Approaching the eve of departure from this unsquared sphere....’ And continues;

To My Friends....  
To My Enemies...  
To Lovers...  
To My Students...  
To My Teachers...  
To My Profession...  
To My Clients...  
To MY Discreditors...  
To My Biographers...  
To the Four Winds...  
To The Heavens...  
To God...



The text concludes with a page holding Massmann’s signature as witness to the document, dated April 2, 1968, New Britain, Connecticut. A miniature Massmann bookplate replaces the normal seal of approval. The colophon page contains the information about Massmann’s birthday and the number of copies contained in the edition.

In 1968 I was about 50 miles south of New Britain, in New Haven and did not know much more than a little bit about miniature books. However, I can imagine that the birthday was a festive event for sure. I was wondering if any of the readership of *The Microbibliophile* has a copy of this book inscribed to them by Bob Massmann. It would be an interesting point of association. Another five star creation for the Methuselah from New Britain. 📖

# News-Letter

## of the LXIVMOS

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55 Greene Street, Brookline, Massachusetts. December 10th, 1927


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### *Thank You:*

**Y**OUR Scrivener is much gratified with the responses to the first issue of the News-Letter. Congratulatory letters have been received from collectors, librarians, and periodicals far and wide.

For the benefit of those who are receiving the News-Letter for the first time, may we say that THE LXIVMOS is a little club organized to crystalize the interest in miniature books on the part of collectors throughout the world. We desire the names of collectors and Institutions interested wherever they may be. If your local paper should publish items pertaining to "wee books" we would appreciate receiving clippings to the end that our scrap book may be complete and that we in turn may broadcast this information to all. If you have duplicates that you care to sell, we will gladly publish this information. Write to us freely. Duplicates of issue No. 1 may be had for 10 cents. Postage paid.

JAMES D. HENDERSON, *Scrivener*

The message is the same today as it was in 1927, if and when you see some news or information pertaining to 'wee-books' *The Microbibliophile* would appreciate the same so that we can share it with the 'readership'. 

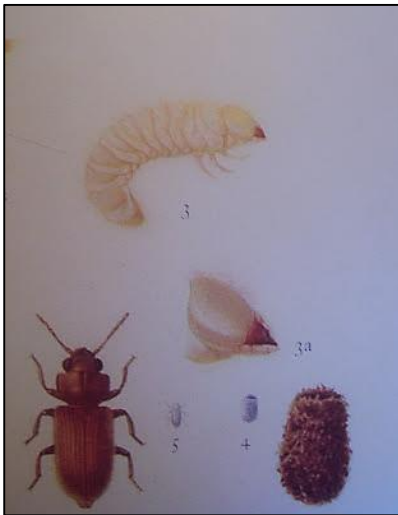
## WALTER 'WALLY' HARRIS:

### Antiquarian Bookman,

### Reprinted from the BLOG post by Jerry Morris

*Editor's Note: Jerry Morris is a book collector that resides in Florida. He contributed a series of articles about Don Brady, Clearview Press previous and maintains a very active BLOG about book collecting. The following information is reprinted from his BLOG <http://biblioresearching.blogspot.com/2013/12/about-bibliomites-bibliomites-and.html>. It is certainly within the theme of 'booksellers' that The Microbibliophile is following for 2016. I hope you find this as interesting as I did and that it leads you on a journey within the world of book collecting and miniature books.*

### About Bibliomites, Bibliomites, and Walter "Wally" Harris



These illustrations, my friends, are not illustrations of bibliomites. They are illustrations of an *Anobium hirtum* – a bookworm, and a French one at that. Sir William Osler commissioned the artist Horace Knight to draw illustrations of the specimen of a bookworm he had found burrowed in a book he bought from a French bookseller. Knight's illustrations first appeared in the *Bodleian Quarterly Record* in February 1917. They were later reprinted in *The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler* by the Classics of Medicine Library in 1985.

I have no drawings of bibliomites to display for you. But I can assure you that bibliomites were not creep-crawly things. In fact, they were normal human beings who worked in the bookstores in England. I should note, however, that the specimen I researched had a head much too large for the rest of his body. I believe this to be an individual trait, and not one associated with all

bibliomites; but more on my specimen later.

The bibliomites first gathered together at the bookshop of Francis Edwards in December 1950 and formed a society that had a rather official-sounding name: The Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Employees.

Don't let the name fool you. This society was more of a social club than a union. When they weren't working, these bibliomites got together to have fun! They danced!

#### Antiquarian Book Monthly Review - Volume 4 - Page 368

[books.google.com/books?id=CiFVAAAAYAAJ](https://books.google.com/books?id=CiFVAAAAYAAJ)

1977 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)

THE BIBLIOMITES (1950- by ROBIN MYERS The Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Employees, subtitled the Bibliomites, was brought into being by forty assistants gathered at a meeting at Francis Edwards on 4th December, 1950. It \* hoped ...



And they dined and they danced!  
From the *Publishers Circular and Booksellers' Record, 1951*

They drank pints of beer. They competed in darts tournaments. And one bibliomite, Frank Doel, of 84 Charing Cross Road fame, umpired the

annual cricket matches against the "Guvnors."

There is an excellent article by Dudley Massey and Martin Hamlin on both the ABA and the ILAB websites covering part of the 'History of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association'. And the bibliomites are mentioned several times in this article, from their first meeting in 1950, to their last Halloween dance and subsequent demise in 1974.

Google displays many snippet views about the bibliomites from various issues of *Antiquarian Book Monthly Review (ABMR)*. A 1999 ABMR article provides details about the creation of a magazine of sorts for the bibliomites in 1953.

[The Bookseller - Issues 2367-2383 - Page 1104](#)  
books.google.com/books?id=gPxOAAAIAAJ  
1951 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)  
Antiquarian Booksellers' Dance THE **Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Employees** is holding a social and dance at the Caxton Hall on Tuesday, May 15th, from 7-11.30 p.m. All members of the book trade are welcome and tickets can be ...

Page 1368

**BIBLIOMITES GUEST NIGHT**

Sir,—Our Society is holding a Hallowe'en Guest Dinner, followed by dancing and games, at Fleming's Restaurant, 307 Oxford Street, London, W.1, on Wednesday, October 31, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (price 12s. 6d.) can be obtained from me at the address below, and if any of our friends in the new book trade would like to come along,

[Antiquarian Book Monthly - Volume 26 - Page 39](#)  
books.google.com/books?id=kiZVAAAAYAAJ  
1999 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)  
In 1953 the **Society** started a monthly *Bibliomites* grandly called "**Transactions and Proceedings**", in reality a ten to fifteen page mimeographed pamphlet. ... The Bibliomite emblem was a little man carrying a pile of **books** that was spilling over both sides. There was some ... One of the difficulties is that there has never been the army of **employees** to recruit that the other sections of the book trade have.

The British Library has a run of the first series of *Bibliomites*: Nos 1-13.

Guest My workspace Personal settings

**BRITISH LIBRARY**

**EXPLORE THE BRITISH LIBRARY**  
Search, view and order from our catalogues & collections

bl.uk Explore Home Feedback Tags Basket Request Other Items My Reading Room Requests

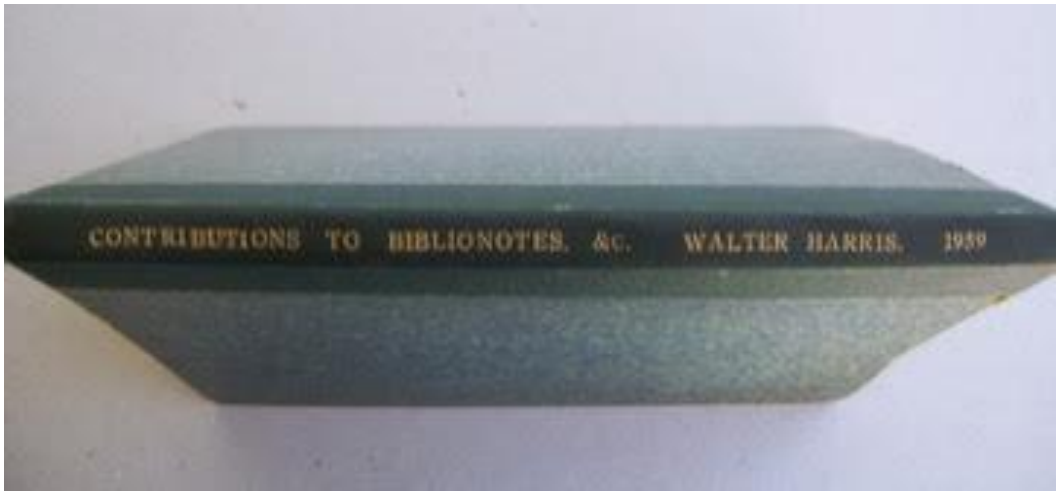
Main catalogue **Our website**  
transactions and proceedings society antiquarian Everything in this catalogue Search Advanced search

[Back to results list](#)

**Bibliomites. The transactions and proceedings of the Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Employees. no. 1-13. April 1953-Spring 1958.**  
Society of Antiquarian Booksellers' Assistants (ENGLAND)  
London, 1953-58.

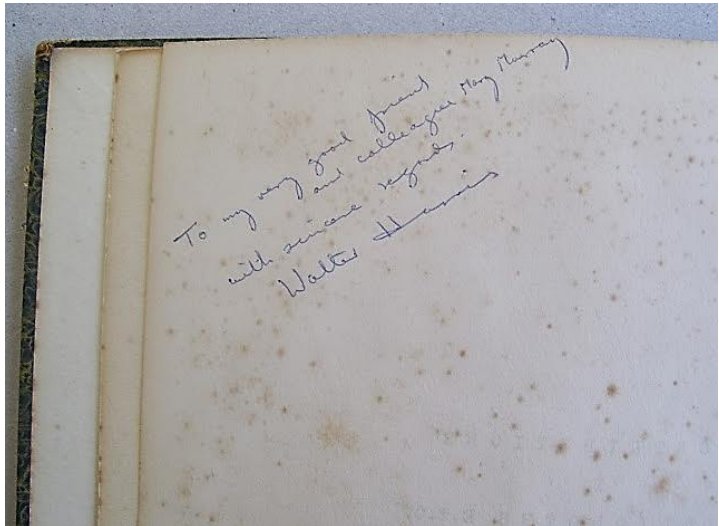
Details **I want this** Notes & Tags

And in my own library, I have a book by a Walter Harris titled, *Contributions to Biblionotes &C.*



Walter Harris inscribed this book:

*'To my good friend  
and colleague Mary Murray  
with sincere regards  
Walter Harris'*



I acquired *Contributions to Biblionotes &C* from Questor Rare Books in August 2002, a few years before its owner, John Walwyn-Jones, closed up shop and went to work for Bonham's. When I bought the book, I thought *Biblionotes* was one of them there British periodicals about

books. I had no idea who Walter Harris was, much less Mary Murray. And if you mentioned bibliomites, I would have thought you were talking about a species of bookish creepy-crawly things.

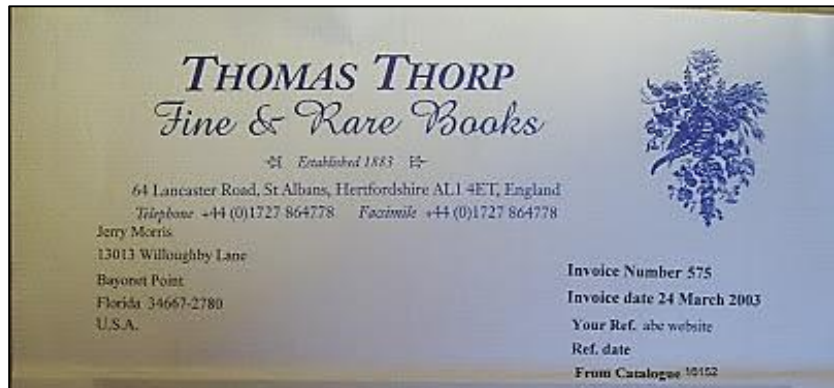
I was going nowhere in my research for months. But fortunately, in March 2003, my London friend, Sandy Malcolm, who hails from Edinburgh, read an article by Anthony Rota in a recent issue of the *Scottish Book Collector*. In the article, Mr. Rota discussed the seating arrangement at an auction:

... then Thomas Thorp, perhaps Tom himself, with his distinctive bottle-bottom spectacles, or perhaps his first assistant, Wally Harris, his huge dome of a head crammed with book-lore;...."

I contacted Thomas Thorp Fine & Rare Books in March 2003, and was so pleased with Jim Thorp's response that I immediately ordered a book from him.

Walter "Wally" Harris had already retired before Jim Thorp joined the firm in 1962. But he met him a few times and confirmed to me that Wally Harris did indeed have an enlarged cranium. Wally Harris was the editor of *Bibliionotes* and, as such, was the major contributor to the publication. When Wally Harris retired around 1959-60, Mary Murray replaced him as shop manager at Thorp's.

Jim Thorp believed the *Bookdealer* reprinted some of Wally Harris's pieces, and provided the contact information of its editor, Barry Shaw. I contacted Barry Shaw in



2003, but he could not recall if he published any of Wally Harris's pieces in the *Bookdealer*. The *Bookdealer*, however, published Sheila Markham's series of interviews of antiquarian booksellers, one of which in particular – her interview of Richard Hatchwell, published in the December 2007 issue of the *Bookdealer* – provided a wealth of useful information about Walter Harris. In the interview, Richard Hatchwell recalled his early days at Thorp's:

*When I joined Thorp's, the firm was about to move from Berkeley Street to larger premises in Abermarle Street, entailing much humping of boxes. A pair of young shoulders would obviously be useful — the other staff at Thorp's were Walter Harris the manager and Ernest the packer, both in their sixties. Walter, whom I always called 'Mr. Harris', was a bookseller of the old school and had been with Thorp's under Tom's father when the business was in Bond Street. He was a specialist in nineteenth century literature and could recite all the points of Dickens in original parts without looking at a reference book. . . .*


Walter "Wally" Harris died at the age of 88 on Feb. 20, 1982. In his obituary published in the *ABMR* shortly after his death, he was described "as one of the three most knowledgeable bookmen who ever lived".

[Antiquarian Book Monthly Review](#)  
books.google.com/books?id=siJVAAAAYAAJ  
1982 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)  
When he retired in 1961 **he was one of the most highly respected bookshop managers**. He was the editor of the Bibliomites journal "Biblionotes" and, such is the fate of editors, wrote nearly all of it himself, giving, typically generously, much ...

[Antiquarian Book Monthly Review - Volume 9 - Page 154](#)  
books.google.com/books?id=rNJMAQAIAAJ  
1982 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)  
**Walter Harris** of Thorps I am sad to have to inform you of the death of Wally Harris in Canterbury on February 20th, at the ...

To the best of my knowledge, only one of Walter Harris's twelve "Contributions to Biblionotes" has been reprinted elsewhere. In the 1960s, the old *Manchester Review* reprinted his piece on "Great Totham Press." There is another article by Walter Harris in the same journal, but that is not one of the pieces printed in *Biblionotes*.

[Antiquarian Book Monthly Review - Volume 9 - Page 154](#)  
books.google.com/books?id=TGljAQAIAAJ  
1982 - Snippet view - [More editions](#)  
In this month's A.B.M.R. he was **described as one of the three most knowledgeable bookmen who ever lived**, and he was also one of the kindest of truly gentle men. He started work at the age of 13, when the hours of working in bookshops ...

If Walter Harris was truly one of the three most knowledgeable bookmen who ever lived, then I believe I should share his knowledge with other bookmen. Each Christmas I will post one of his "Contributions to Biblionotes" on 'My Sentimental Library' blog. The title of the blog posts is "Twelve Blogs for Christmas: Contributions to Biblionotes." Here is a link to this year's post on Chapbooks. <http://blog.mysentimentallibrary.com/2013/12/twelve-blogs-for-christmas.html>. 

## **SOME INTERESTING BOOK STUFF INFORMATION SHARING,**

**ABAA, Newsletter,** <http://www.abaa.org/blog> (sign-up for the newsletter)

The newsletter that is electronically distributed by the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America is a great source of bibliophile related information and related events. There was an item which I think would be of interest to many, a new book about collecting books, *Rare books Uncovered*, by Rebecca Rego Barry. The posting was dated December 23, 2015. According to the post; "the book is dedicated to stories of the favorite finds, the books discovered in unlikely places that collectors remember, even years later." There are two interesting connections with this, number 1, Jerry Morris, a frequent contributor to *The Microbibliophile* was one of the collectors interviewed by Barry for stories about 'favorite finds', there was also a special 'pre-release' book signing event hosted by Jerry with the Florida Bibliophile Society. Number 2, The FBS Newsletter has an interesting article about the finding of a rare 1611 Bible in plain sight. 📖

**FBS, Newsletter,** <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org/>

The Florida Bibliophile Society's, January 2016 Newsletter is another treasure chest of great book material and news. One article explains how a first edition of the King James Bible, printed and bound in 1611, was 'found' in a plain box as part of the rare book collection at Drew University, in Madison, NJ. Apparently, a history professor was doing some shelf research for examples of 17<sup>th</sup> century books for his class when he came across the box. The book was authenticated and it will become part of a special exhibition, at the university, that will run through February 2016. 📖

**Book Club of Detroit Newsletter,** <http://www.bookclubofdetroit.org/newsletter/>

The newsletter is printed three times a year and edited by Paula Jarvis who does an outstanding job in keeping the readers informed about information of interest to the bibliophile. The current issue highlights a wonderful overview about 'how to start a book collection'. Additionally, there is another article titled 'Time Traveling with Antique Baedekers'. I did not know what a 'Beadeker' was until I bought a traveling inkwell from a bookseller, Michael Garbett this past summer at the MBS Conclave. The name 'Beadeker' was on the ink well, so as usual some research opened up a completely new world to me about the famous travel guides from the German publisher, Karl Beadeker. If this has your interest, the article provided a link to help you 'dig in': [www.bdkr.com/collect.php](http://www.bdkr.com/collect.php). 📖

**Sotheby's** <http://www.sothebys.com/en/auctions>

Sotheby's is one of those great institutions that just touches on some outstanding items of interest from the bibliophile's world. Pat Pistner, a subscriber and MBS member sent me a link that she had <http://www.sothebys.com/en/auctions/ecatalogue/2015/valmadonna-trust-library-part-i-n09443/lot.10.html>. The link posted information about a book that was recently sold at auction, *Grace After Meals (Seder Birkat Ha-Mazon)*. Certainly in the realm of a miniature book,

3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", printed in Vienna in 1737, the scribe and artist is ZE'ev Wolf Herlingen. This is a magnificent example of the 18<sup>th</sup> century renaissance of illuminated Hebrew manuscript production. Herlingen was the scribe to the Imperial Library in Vienna. The catalogue description for this book is very descriptive.



Being a miniature book collector can be a full time job. One thing leads to another and the days pass into weeks as we travel the globe through the various publications and the electronic links. Have fun. 📖

## **THE CATHARIJNE PRESS: A Collector's Bibliography**

Georges Tonman provide us with his outstanding article about The Catharijne Press (this issue page 12) and the two people who made it all happen, Guus and Luce Thürkôw. Caroline Brandt has a complete collection of the Catharijne Press miniatures and has visited Guus and Luce in their home town of Utrecht, in 1988. Caroline has provided me with the following bibliography of the miniatures in her collection from the Catharijne Press as well as a few of her personal photos to share her visit. Caroline's collection is maintained at the University of Virginia, Small Library, Charlottesville, VA.

1. *Two Poems* by Edgar Allan Poe, Illustrated & signed by Johan de Zoete. Utrecht, August 1984, Number 55 of 100 copies. 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" by 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" bound by Luce Thurkow in leather boards. Includes 'To Helen' and 'Annabel Lee', designed by Luce with typography by Guus Thürkôw.

2. *The Enemies of Books – Collectors*, by William Blades. Utrecht, February 1985, Number 96 of 250 copies. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 1<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards.

3A. *The Song of Songs. Old Testament*, Utrecht, 1985, Number 42 of 155 deluxe copies, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", bound by Luce Thürkôw in vellum boards. Four signed and numbered copper engraved illustrations by Bertil Schmulland initials designed by him and hand gilded by Luce Thürkôw.

3B. Also #42 of 55 standard copies, bound by Luce Thürkôw in vellum boards, unsigned, with Schmull's signed frontis and initials hand colored by Luce.

4A. *The House of Judgment*, by Oscar Wilde, Utrecht, August 1986, Number 2 of 15 deluxe copies, 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" bound by Guus Thürkôw in vellum boards with silk ties. Printed on vellum in four colors from calligraphy by J.H. Moesman, Dutch artist. MBS Distinguished Book Award 1986.

4B. Standard edition of 150, 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2", bound by Luce Thürkôw in cloth boards. Printed in four colors on 18th century handmade paper.

5A. *Rip VanWinkle*, by Washington Irving. Utrecht, March 1987, Number 11 of XV deluxe copies. 2<sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", two volumes, bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards with matching slipcase. Lithographed covers and four tipped in plates by Henk van der Haar.

5B. Second volume for extra suite of plates. There is also a standard edition of 150 copies.

6. *Florilegium, A Collection of flower initials designed by Maurice Dufrene*. Utrecht, 1988, Number II of XV deluxe copies. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", bound by Guus Thürkôw in flexible suede leather with paper board slipcase. Printed by Hand Harzheim. Plates hand colored in gold and pastels by Luce Thürkôw.
7. *Evangile De Notre Seigneur Jesus-Christ Selon St. Matthieu D'Apres Laversion Revue Par F.J. Ostervald* by St. Matthew. Zuilichem, March 1988, Number II of XV deluxe copies. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 1<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", bound by Luce Thürkôw in leather boards with paper boards and leather slipcase. Printed with French text by Joh. Enschede en Zonen. There is also a standard edition of 200 numbered copies.
- 8A. *The Twelve Months*, by B.H. Zuilichem, March 1990, Number II of XV deluxe copies 1 7/8" x 2 1/2" bound by Guus Thürkôw in leather boards with hand marbled board slipcase trimmed in leather. Printed by Koninklijke Van de Garde B.V, Zaltbommel. Twelve illustrations of activities common to each month, hand colored by Luce Thürkôw.
- 8B. Standard copy, #21/150 in paper boards.
9. *The History of Reynard The Fox*, (The tormenting Tibert). Introduction and edited by E. Verzandvoort, English except for 1479 Dutch section by G. Leeu of Gouda. Zuilichem 1991, Number II of XV deluxe copies, 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2", bound by Luce Thürkôw in cloth boards with clamshell case of decorated boards. Printed by Joh. Enschede en Zonen, Joh.Haarlem with typography by Bram de Does. Wood engraved frontis by Pam Rueter, signed and numbered, with an extra copy of plate mounted in binding. 1991 MBS Distinguished Book Award.
10. *De Insulis Inuentis, (i. e. Inventis) Epistola de insulis nuper inventis*, by Christopher Columbus. Zuilichem 1991, Copy C3, 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 1<sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", bound by Guus Thürkôw in leather boards reproducing 15th C original, cloth board and leather clamshell case with facsimile of original handwritten letter claiming to have found the westward sea-route to China. Latintext printed from zinc blocks on vellum by Arie with four reproductions of original woodcuts and one calligraphed initial by Luce Thürkôw. There are also 175 standard copies and a special edition of 15 copies printed on old Dutch handmade paper.
11. *Dutch Windmills*, Zuilichem, 1993. 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 1<sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", Number XVI of XXIV deluxe copies bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards with cloth board box. Printed by Jan de Jong with typography & design by Peter Matthias Noordzij. 15 sepia photographs of windmills printed from old glass plates found at a flea market and one original glass plate, no, 16, in book insert. Inscribed "For Caroline 17. 03. 93 P.G. Thürkôw ". There are also 175 standard copies.
- 12A. *In Praise of the Virtuous Woman*, Proverbs 31:10-31. Zuilixhwm, 1994, 2<sup>7</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", Number C3, one of only three copies with original 5/7" linocut signed by artist. Bound by Luce Thürkôw in cloth boards. Printed by Jan De Jong of Amsterdam with frontis linocut by Auk De Boer and Hebrew text characters heighlited with gold. There are also 15 special numbered copies with Hebrew characters heightened with gold and 175 numbered standard copies.
- 12B. Standard edition of 175, this copy marked PC.
13. *Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*, translated by Edward Fitzgerald. Introduction by Jos Biegstraaten, translation by Giel Massy. Zuilichem, November 1994, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 1<sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>, #1 of 1 "specially printed for Caroline Y. McGehee" (colophon), bound by Thürkôw in vellum boards with hand colored peacock taken from 1910 Sangorski and Sutcliffe binding, leather board slipcase. Printed by Jan de Jong from type set by Jessica Zeelenberg. Line illustrated by Ronald Balfour from 1920 edition. There are also 175 numbered copies bound the same.

14. *Anne Frank (1929-1945)*, A Biography by Henri A. R. Kok, translated by Leonie van Lieshout. Zuilichem, 1995, 2<sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", #XV of XV deluxe, in leather boards in clamshell case of morocco and hand marbled paper. I do not know who did the binding. Printed by Joh. Enschede, Amsterdam B.V. Tipped in photo portraits frontis.

15A. *Gulliver's Travels, A Voyage to Lilliput*, by Jonathan Swift; translated by Giel Massy. Chapter 1 from 1735 text incorporating revisions by Swift of 1st edition. Zuilichem, 1995, 2<sup>9</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", number XV of XV deluxe copies. Two volumes bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards and paper slipcase. Printed by Jan de Jong. Frontis portrait and line illustrations by Anne Zuidhoek made for this book.

15B. Extra set of two illustrations in identical binding and included in slipcase. There is also a standard edition of 175 numbered copies.

16. *William Morris Wallpapers*. Introduction by Guus Thürkôw, translated by Leonie van Lieshout. Zuilichem, 1997, 2<sup>9</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", number XV of XV deluxe copies bound by Luce Thürkôw in decorative paper boards with clamshell case with flap to hold extra suite of larger format plates in paper wrapper. Printed by Jan de Jong with typography by Jessica Zeelenberg. Frontis portrait of Morris from wood engraving and 11 tipped in plates of 1:12 scale 1864-1897 wallpaper designs.

17A. *Young Stork's Baedeker*. Travel Guide by Piet de Bakker, pelargologist (expert on storks), translated by Leonie van Lieshout. Zuilichem, 1998, 2<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", Number XV of XV deluxe copies bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards with matching slipcase for the two volumes. Printed by Jan de Jong. Frontis illustrations by C. Nozeman & Creutz, and two folding maps by cartographer and typographer Jessica Zeelenberg. Written as travel guide by father stork for his young stork on his first trip to Africa.

There are also 175 standard numbered copies without the Lexicon.

17B. *Young Stork's Baedeker*. Lexicon. Size and binding same as Travel Guide. Not included in standard edition.

18. *Tulpomania, An Eyewitness Account* by Leonie van Lieshout. 'S-Hertogenbosch 2000. 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", Number VI of XX deluxe copies bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards with cloth board slipcase. Printed by Koninklijke van de Garde b.v. with typography by Jacques Brussel. Text in two columns. With two tipped in mezzotints by MarianneStam, numbered and signed.

There are also 150 standard copies with one mezzotint.

19. *The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote de la Mancha. Chapter VIII* by Miguel de Cervantes, 1948 translation by Samuel Putnam, Philadelphia. 'S-Hertogenbosch 2001, 2<sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", Number VI of XX deluxe copies bound by Luce Thürkôw in paper boards with cloth board slipcase. Printed by Koninklijke van de Garde b.v. with typography and design by Jan Bosh. Illustrated by Belgian artist Ferard Gaudaen with tipped in 1927 wood engraved FR, repeated in print in text.

There are also 150 standard copies.

### **Experimental edition of 25, not part of regular Catharijne Press publications.**

*Philobiblon*, by Richard de Bury. Zuilichem 1992.

2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", bound by Guus Thürkôw in a paper wrapper. Laser printed by Jessica Zeelenberg with hand colored initials by Gus Thürkôw and two illustrations from old woodcuts. Press catalog states "This undoubtedly is the first miniature book entirely laser printed and consequently an incunable of this printing technique...."



## The Catharijne Press Miniature Books' by Trijnie Duut en Gerjan Heij

*Vincent in Arles. Four Letters to Theo*, by Vincent Van Gogh. Introduction by Trijnie Duut. Velp 2003, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 1<sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub>", Copy VI of XX deluxe copies bound by Trijnie Duut in cloth boards with cloth board slipcase inset with 5 euro Vincent coin issued 2003 by Royal Dutch Mint in honor of his 150th birthday. Five color illustrations by Van Gogh.

There are also 200 numbered standard copies.

A. *Tolkien's Golem*, by Rene van Rossenberg. Leiden. Velp 2004.

3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", Copy A of C (one of three) extra special editions, bound by Nina Judin in horn covers laced with flax cords, in cloth board slipcase with *The Binding of Tolkien's Golem* Inscribed by binder. Printed by Jande Jong with typography and design by Chan Chi Lan-Ying. With portrait of Gollumby (Meredith Martini) Gonzai.

There are also 200 standard copies bound by Trijnie Duut and a special edition of 20 by Karli Frigge in hand marbled cloth with hand colored opening initials, signed by the author.


B. *The Binding of Tolkien's Golem* handwritten in pencil by binder Nina Judin and inscribed by her. "9 March 2005"

2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>12</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", in self-wraper housed beneath the lower case cover of Tolkien's Golem



*Guus and Luce Thürkôw*

*Photo images 1988, courtesy of Caroline Brandt*

Miniature Books, Priceless. 



XI  
LXIVMOS

Memoirs of a  
Bibliomidget

ANNE C. BROMER

Twenty-six years after their last publication, Anne Bromer has written a memoir of the eleven printed miniature books she produced with her husband and partner David from 1977 to 1989. She relates brief stories of pleasure, coincidence, and difficulty for each book, followed by a detailed bibliographic description.

Jointly published by Heavenly Monkey, in Vancouver, Canada, and Bromer Booksellers of Boston, Massachusetts, the book will be available for pre-order in Autumn 2015.

Set in 8-point Centaur and Arrighi types, the miniature book comprises 72 pages and measures 2 3/4 by 2 1/4 inches. Bound by Sarah Creighton; decorations by Francesca Lohmann.

The regular edition of 85 copies is bound in vine-patterned paper over boards. Seventy copies are available from Bromer Booksellers priced at \$150.

The deluxe edition of 35 copies includes sample leaves from four Bromer miniatures. Original calligraphy on title & colophon by Lohmann. Bound in leather with vine pattern stamped in gilt. Issued in folding box. Eighteen copies are available from Bromer Booksellers priced at \$950.

*BROMER*  
BOOKSELLERS



607 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116  
617-247-2818 books@bromer.com  
www.bromer.com

## **MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY: Traveling Exhibit, Location Information**

The Miniature Book Society has an outstanding traveling miniature book exhibit that is available for display at your local library, school, or organization. If you would like to learn about hosting the exhibit, please contact Todd Sommerfeld, E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com). The current itinerary is as listed:

### **December 2015 and January 2016**

Morrison Public Library

Morrison, TN 37357

[www.morrisoncity.org](http://www.morrisoncity.org)

### **February and March 2016**

Bertha Voyer Memorial Library

Honey Grove, TX


[www.honeygrovelibrary.org](http://www.honeygrovelibrary.org)

### **April and May 2016**

Olin Library, Wesleyan University

Middletown, CT

[www.wesleyan.edu/libr/](http://www.wesleyan.edu/libr/)


The purpose of the exhibit is to provide people with access to the world of miniature books. You can never tell when a new connoisseur will become interested in miniature books and what may spark that interest. The exhibit is such a visual torch that it may light the pathway for someone. Stop at your library, call your alma mater, speak with the librarian, or the person who is in charge of library exhibits. Check the MBS website [www.mbs.org](http://www.mbs.org) for additional information. ‘Hit the EASY button’. 

## **THE BOOKLOVER’S CALENDAR, 2016 Available For Sale Now**

**Looking for Information from You? Something Old, Something New:**

Since 2014 *The Microbibliophile* has published the new ‘The Book Lover’s Calendar’, a miniature 3" x 3" calendar, containing bookish quotes, ‘food for thought’ for all of the miniature bibliophiles in the world. The original idea for the miniature ‘Book Lover’s Calendar’ was conceived and initiated by Frank J. Anderson, who was the proprietor of the Kitemaug Press. I am still missing a the 1989 and 2005 calendars as originally printed, I would be appreciative of even a photo copy.

There is a printed note in the 2002 calendar saying that the calendars are in their ‘sixteenth year’. Was the first calendar done in 1987? I would be interested in hearing from anyone who may know. In addition, the last issue I have is 2008, was this last issue that Frank published? So, if you have some answers to my questions or if you would like to swap, sell, or donate a 1989 and a 2005 calendar please give me a call or message.

***The 2016 Book Lover’s Calendar is for sale to our subscribers and other miniature book bibliophiles, with a price of \$5.00, postpaid. They are ready to be shipped now. Request your copy via E-mail.*** 

## IN THE BEGINNING:

By Robert F. Orr Hanson

During the month of January 1977, I created a four-page newsletter named *The Microbibliophile* whose sub-title read: 'A bi-monthly review of the literature concerning miniature books'. The first page stated the introduction, the newsletters' purpose, and future contents--miniature book values, book reviews, and reader suggestions. The following presents excerpts from that 'sample issue', namely, pages two, three, and four. I thought after 38 years of its existence you might like to read my first words about our collectible--miniature books. I do hope you enjoy reading about 'the beginning'.

### Miniature Book Values

The auction season, at Plandome Book Auctions located in Glen Head, New York, opened on September 16, 1976 with Sale No. 117. Among the approximately 500 lots were 58 lots of miniature books. The session was well attended and the bidding lively despite the heavy mail bids encountered. You may wish to compare your holdings with the few values that follow. Additional numbers will be included in the next issue of *The Microbibliophile*.

- Item:** Set of five Christmas Stories by Dickens. Matching volumes, each 2" x 1 1/2", blue leather, c 1895. The Oxford India, almost mint. \$120.
- Item:** *The Inaugural Addresses of Franklin Delano Roosevelt*. 3" x 2", A. J. St. Onge, 1945, printed by Merrymount Press, cloth, a.e.g., limited to 2,000 copies, almost mint. \$40.
- Item:** *Elegy in a Country Graveyard*, Thomas Grey, 1 7/8" x 1 3/8", a.e.g. full leather, printed at University Press, Glasgow, 1904, fine. \$55.
- Item:** London Almanac for the Year 1794. 2 1/4" x 1 1/4", multi-color leather, 10 engraved leaves, very good. \$60.
- Item:** *Galileo a Madama Christina Di Lorena*. ("the smallest book in the world printed from movable type"), 11/16" x 7/16", Padova, 1896, 200 pp., 5/16" thick, printed wrappers, fine \$300.
- Item:** *Letters of Thomas Jefferson*. 2 1/4" x 1 3/4", red leather, no. 134 of 250 copies, The Hillside Press, 1975, almost mint. \$35.
- Item:** *Win, Place and Show or, The Fund Raising Jack*. 1 3/4" x 3/4", printed wrappers, 1967. Design, typography, and binding by R. E. Massmann, gift edition, fine \$10.

### Miniature Newspapers and Magazines

The world of miniature pages in print also extends to newspapers and magazines. Recently I obtained a few newspapers; one of which is a front-page reproduction of The New York Times for March 8, 1949. It measures 8" x 5 3/4". A point of interest, however, aside from the news, is that the verso of the page is printed in regular size type.

On June 4, 1946 the Boston News Bureau published a 12 page edition measuring 7" x 5" and selling for seven cents. The previous day AT & T closed at 200 1/4.

Another fascinating miniature production is the March 29, 1947 edition of 'The Illustrated London News'. This 16 page mini-publication measures 4" x 5 3/4" and is printed on coated stock. It includes a full-page portrait of Winston Churchill, photos of the royal family (King George, Queen Elizabeth, and their two daughters) and other pictures from the science and art worlds.

Julian Edison, editor of 'Miniature Book News', stated that the "miniature book format has often been employed as publicity or advertising aids". He described two well-known magazines that reproduced copy in miniature form. 'Life Magazine' reproduced its first issue of November 23, 1936, which measured 3 1/8" x 2 3/8" and contained 23 pages. Unfortunately, as you know, this splendid periodical is no longer being published...in any size. On the other hand, the 'Reader's Digest' is still alive and well. It, too, has produced replicas, which measure 1 7/8" x 1 1/2" and contain 24 pages of articles and advertisements.

In 1928 Wilbur Macey Stone wrote in the seventh issue of the 'Newsletter of the LXIVMOS' that forty years prior "various newspapers in this country and in England have issued as advertisements, miniature editions of their large sheets". He added that none of the newspapers in his collection were printed from movable type, but rather from plates photographically reduced.

Two examples of American Newspapers Mr. Stone mentioned are; 'The Philadelphia Public Ledger' for November 17, 1913, three inches tall and a complete edition of 24 pages. The other miniature was 'The Boston Transcript' issued on February 9, 1874, which was "not only the oldest but a quarter of an inch, the tallest of the lot".

## **A New Miniature Book**

*For All We Know. A Bookseller's Notes on His Stock in Trade.* Frank Irwin. Tilton, NH. The Hillside Press (November 20, 1976), \$10. Here is one more fine miniature book (2 1/4" x 1 3/4") to add to your bibliography of The Hillside Press (1970).

This one is bound in light blue calf, gold stamped on the spine and gilt decorated on the front cover. Furthermore, the edition is limited to 300 numbered copies set by hand in 6 point Bulmer Roman type.

Why not treat yourself to this 60 page, illustrated work whose contents touch on some special books, thoughtful ideas, interesting literary individuals, and the mysticism of Zen? I loudly applaud this little volume and urge you to send for it quickly lest the supply be exhausted

## **The New England Primer**

While this first schoolbook printed in the colonies, ca. 1691, is not considered a miniature book (and 1822 edition measured 3" x 4 1/4" tall), its purpose was to instruct children in reading and learning the bible.

During the period 1691-1866 there were, conservatively, about three million copies sold, but today copies are quite scarce. Most of the early Primers that have been located are reposing in large public libraries, private historical institutions or in academic libraries. However, one edition, a true miniature book, did surface a few months ago at auction.

It was listed as follows: *The New England Primer ABC.* 2 1/4" x 2 1/4", bound in boards with paper label. Printed by the Georgian Press, Westport, No. 36 of 108 copies. New York: The Tryptych, 1930. A fine copy, almost mint. This tiny tome was estimated to sell at \$25 to \$40. It actually fetched \$55.

## More Book Values

The May 16, 1976 edition of The New York Times carried an advertisement from the Fifth Avenue store of B. Altman and Co., which offered the following miniature books for sale.

"Miniature Book. *The Perfect Ceremonies of Craft Masonry*. Full blue calf, 2" x 3 1/2", gilt edges. London, 1892. \$15."

"Miniature Book. *Abraham Lincoln. Carl Sandburg's Address Before the U.S. Congress, Feb 12, 1959*.

1 of 2000 copies printed in Holland. Lincoln 1-cent stamp tipped in. Full gilt decorated Morocco, 2" x 2 1/2", St. Onge, Worcester, 1959, \$25."

## Newsletter of the LXIVMOS

Probably the most informative as well as the most captivating reference on miniature books is the collection of 21 issues, some of which were printed in various historical cities in Europe, of 'The Newsletter of the LXIVMOS', edited by James D. Henderson.

Mr. Henderson, who called himself "The Scrivener", formed a club composed of miniature book enthusiasts the world over, and issued its monthly communication to its members. I thought you would enjoy reading several personal letters written by Mr. Henderson (about the club) to a prospective member. The letters are hand-written in ink, on printed LXIVMOS stationery and signed by "The Scrivener". Before presenting them, however, I feel that permission must be requested of his son, Robert L. Henderson. Does anyone know where he can be reached? If so, please send me his address.

**There you have it!**



Contact information: Robert F. Orr Hanson, 12200 Academy Rd. NE #1222,  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

## SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS:

*The Microbibliophile* is printed bi-monthly. Subscriptions for 2016 are due before January of 2016. Volume XXXV, can you believe it? What did a cup of coffee and a doughnut cost in 1977 when Volume I was mailed to the subscribers by Bob Hanson. If you have not renewed for 2016, please do so now, with the enclosed renewal form: cash, check, or PayPal.

**The Microbibliophile**  
**PO Box 5453**  
**North Branch, NJ 08876**

See the rear cover for the current rates and additional payment information.

## CATALOGUES RECEIVED:

**Karen Nyman Miniature Books**, Catalog Number 59, 100 miniature items with color illustrations, organized by publisher within size, less than 1" tall and then up to 3", another great catalogue, including a special selection of antiquarians including a copy of *La Divina Commedia*  
Contact info: 702 Rosecrans Street, San Diego, CA 92106-3013; telephone 619-226-4441;  
website: [www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com](http://www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com), E-mail: [karennyman2@cox.net](mailto:karennyman2@cox.net)

**Between the Covers Rare Books**, African Americana 202, the 8½" x 11" catalogue is done on a fine white paper with color covers as well as 63 page. Also catalogue 303, another large format glossy publication, 72 pages dedicated to photography. Family albums, war journals, travel logs, you name it it is here if it is photography.

Contact info: 112 Nicholson Road, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, telephone 856-456-8008;  
website: [www.betweenthecovers.com](http://www.betweenthecovers.com), E-mail: [mail@betweenthecovers.com](mailto:mail@betweenthecovers.com)

- **Oak Knoll Books**, Catalogue 'Fall 2015' 38 pages of great books about books and the book world. The glossy catalogue is filled with descriptions of books, each with a color picture, 8½" x 11". Of particular interest to the miniature book bibliophile may be a special book titled *The Cinderella of the Arts, A Short History of Sangorski and Sucliffe*, the great London bookbinders.
- Catalogue 309, a 6" x 9" color glossy, 144 page, 300 items featured. More 'Books about Books' including a copy of the REM 'Dard Hunter Mill' book.

Contact info: 310 Delaware Street, New Castle, DE 19720, telephone 800-456-8008;  
website: [www.betweenthecovers.com](http://www.betweenthecovers.com), E-mail: [mail@betweenthecovers.com](mailto:mail@betweenthecovers.com)

Catalogues and the booksellers are wonderful friends and great resources. Some of the catalogues received actually become resource/research documents over time. I have a hardcopy 5 volume set reprinting all of the catalogues issued by Dawson's Book Shop, talk about a research document, how I wish it was available as a digital file. Each is a joy to read and view. Keep them in a basket next to your reading chair; it is always fun to revisit a catalogue. 📖

## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, Letterpress

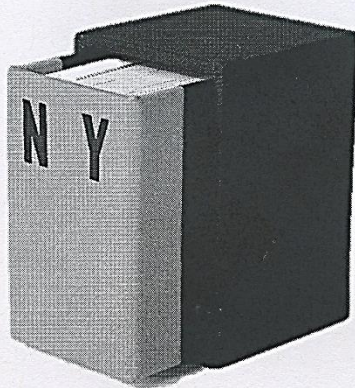
1. The text of a book, including the line illustrations, but not any plates.
2. Printing done from raised types or blocks as distinct from intaglio or lithographic plates. A feature of letterpress printing is its crispness due to the pressure of the type tending to concentrate the ink on the edges of the 'letters'.

(definition from *encyclopedia of the Book*, Geoffrey Ashall Glaister) 📖

# NEW YORK REFLECTIONS


## New Miniature Book By Leslie Gerry, 2015

A visual journey of 26 outstanding color reflections



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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**California International Antiquarian Book Fair**, Pasadena Convention Center, February 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Additional information: <http://www.cabookfair.com>

**San Francisco Antiquarian Book Fair**, San Mateo County Event Center, February 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Additional information: <http://www.sfbookandpaperfair.com>

**Deckel Edge Literary Festival**, Columbia, South Carolina, February 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
Additional information: <http://deckleedgesc.org/>


**Florida Antiquarian Book Fair**, St. Petersburg, FL, March 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Additional information: <http://floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html>

**New York Antiquarian Book Fair**, Park Ave. Armory, NYC, April 7<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Grolier Club**, East 60<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City, March 23<sup>rd</sup> - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

‘Brush Up On Your Shakespeare: Miniature Designer Bindings from the Collection of Neale and Margaret Albert’, Additional information: <http://www.grolierclub.org>

**Yale University, Center for British Art**, Chapel Street, New Haven, CT, June 16<sup>th</sup> – tbd, 2016  
‘The Poet of Them All: William Shakespeare and Miniature Designer Bindings from the Collection of Neale and Margaret Albert’, Additional information: <http://www.britishart.yale.edu>

No reason to stay home, get your hat and get on the bicycle and meet some new friends! 


## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

*Fine Books and Collections Magazine*, Winter 2016, Resource Guide Edition, a large format, full color, glossy magazine devoted to fine books, collections, and printing. The current issue contains two very informative articles about the literature of the Bard. One article covers the ‘First Folio Tour’ that is being hosted by Folger Library. Another covers a large exhibition at the Ranson Center at the University of Texas.

Contact information: Rebecca Rego Barry, Editor, 4905 Pine Cone Drive #2, Durham, NC, 27707, E-mail: [Rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com](mailto:Rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com), [www.finebooksmagazine](http://www.finebooksmagazine)

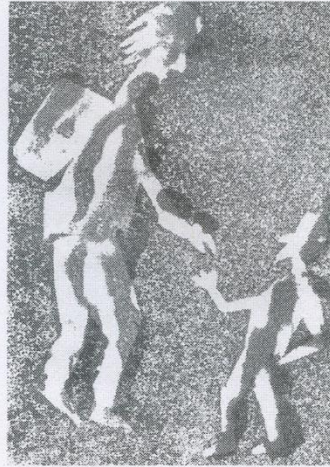
*Miniature Book Society Newsletter*, November 2015, Barbara Williamson, Editor. This issue includes a recap of the Conclave activities as well as the Miniature Book Competition, including cover photos of the three winning books. The ‘Miniature Book News’ section, edited by Julian Edison talks about Jim Harner’s Shakespeare collection, various indexes for miniature book information available, and the Tokyo Miniature Book Saloon. Lastly, Part Two of Paul Ritscher’s article on letterpress printing rounds out the issue. [www.mbs.org](http://www.mbs.org)

*Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies*, Newsletter Fall 2015, Volume XIX, Number 2. Provides a recap to the annual ‘FABS Study Tour’ held in Philadelphia during June of 2015. Also included are the ‘news recaps from many of the 31 member clubs. [www.fabsocieties.org](http://www.fabsocieties.org)

Mix it up a bit with new subjects...diversity is the spice of life...add some ‘hot sauce’ to the chicken soup and keep your mind sharp. Also, check out the information provided in the ‘Information Sharing section, page 29 of this issue. Be careful, you may like it. 

# THE CURIOUS TALE OF THOMAS DAUMEN

By Terry Crockford



A story about a German clockmaker who 'invented' the cuckoo clock with the help of a diminutive friend whom he met on a journey through the forest. Reviewed in the January 2016 issue of *The Microbibliophile*.

Hand printed Bible paper, 92 pages, 2 1/4" x 3", available in a cloth binding \$45, plus shipping. Published by Owen Legg, [www.woodcraftpress.co.uk](http://www.woodcraftpress.co.uk)

North American Sales;

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## PROJECT STATUS REPORT:

By Jim Brogan

At the early part of 2015, I mentioned two projects that I am working on that are of interest to the miniature book world.

The first is a long-term project to build a 'worldwide' online/user searchable database of miniature books. The vision is to include all miniature books, implemented in phases by countries and types of books. As you can imagine this is no small endeavor, I am working with Cherry Williams of the Lilly Library. If you could close your eyes and see a 'Bradbury 20th Century' book, along with the Welsh bibliography, and the Speilman and Bondy books, presented in any

combination of titles, dates, languages, or countries, you would have my vision. Progress is slow but I wanted to mention the status to you. Your thoughts and ideas are certainly welcome.

The second project is more closely related to the MBS Traveling Exhibit and the need to share the exhibit with more people and more younger people who may become miniature bibliophiles. Again working with Cherry Williams and some of the professional staff at the Lilly Library the product plan is to build a 'shoe box' of information that could be sent to a primary school educator who would use the materials to share the wonders of miniature books with the students. Maybe different 'shoeboxes' would be for different age groups and or maybe some would be more freeform allowing more experienced students the opportunity to create books for some competition venue. Nothing is firm just yet except for the thought that the ideas need to be germinated. Again, thoughts, ideas, and comments are always welcome. 📖

## Big Magazine for Small Collectors

*Fine Books & Collections* covers the entire book collecting world. So even if your area of interest is miniature books, you'll find much to enjoy in every issue. Stay connected to the big picture, even if your collecting interests are quite a bit smaller.

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# BOOKSELLER OR PUBLISHER or PRINTER AND PUBLISHER AND BOOKSELLER, By Jim Brogan

Bookselling is simply defined as the commercial trading of books. As early as 300 BCE, when the Alexandrian library was founded the process of procuring books was 'jump started'. At this early time, most if not all books were dictated to scribes. They then proceeded to write out another copy of a book as the author originally spoke it. These scribes were some of the earliest booksellers/publishers. This trade flourished through the time of the Roman Empire as well. The spread of religions created a demand for copies of gospels and other devotional books across the Western world. Equally important was the development of the bookselling trades of the Orient.

Modern bookselling, as we are familiar with the process today, originated with the invention of the printing press in the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century. During the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century the 'low countries' of Europe and Germany became the commercial hub of the book selling trade.

William Caxton was born about 1422 in England. He went to London at the age of 14 to



W. Caxton c. 1477

become an apprentice to a merchant, later moving to Bruges, the centre of the wool trade, where he became a successful and important member of the merchant community. From 1462 to 1470 he served as governor of the 'English Nation of Merchant Adventurers', which allowed him to represent his fellow merchants, as well as act as a diplomat for the king. In the early 1470's Caxton spent time in Cologne. During these business trips he became interested in the art of printing and the growing new industry. He moved to Cologne to learn the trade. He returned to Bruges in 1472 where he set up a press. Caxton's own translation of *The Recuyell of the Histories of Troye* was the first book printed in the English language.

In 1476 Caxton returned to London with his working knowledge and printing experiences to establish a press at Westminster, the first

printing press in England. The first book known to have been printed was an edition of Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*. Another early publication was *Dictes or Sayengis of the Philosophres*, 1477. Caxton was also very interested making sure that the translations of works originally written in languages other than English were reprinted correctly and accurately. This drive fueled the need for additional presswork and the publication of more book titles. Caxton's translation of the *Golden Legend*, 1483 and *The Book of the Knight in the Tower*, 1484 contain perhaps the earliest verses of the Bible to be printed in English. He produced the first translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* in English. Caxton produced chivalric romances, i.e. *Fierabras*), the most important of which was *Le Morte d'Arthur*, 1485.



William Caxton's  
printer device  
U.S. Library of Congress

These books appealed to the English upper classes in the late fifteenth century. Caxton is considered the first English ‘retailer’ or bookseller of printed books. He printed more than 100 titles and was very successful as a bookseller. He was a man who used his language and business skills to embark on a new business and was very professional at what he provided to his customers. He died about 1491.

His ‘business model’ as a printer/publisher/bookseller still exists today. Some booksellers are only the intermediary between the publisher and the buyer. Some booksellers deal in only new books, some others only old or ‘previously’ owned books. Others deal in both new as well as old books. The world of bookselling is very diverse as well as in some instances, very specialized.

Future articles will explore in more detail the world of booksellers and some of the prominent people who made this world so interesting. 📖

## **LOST LIBRARIES, LOST BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: By Jim Brogan**

Sometimes things are built and used and then fall into a state of disrepair. Perhaps its mission changed or perhaps the world just passes by in a blur. Such is the case with the Gould Memorial Library. Stanford White (1853 - 1906) designed the 116-year-old library. The Gould Memorial library was originally built to support the movement of New York University to a new location in the Bronx, envisioned to give the university an atmosphere of a small town college. The library was the centerpiece of the new campus evoking grandiosity and tradition.

As time marched into the 60s, it became apparent that the Gould did not exactly fulfill the needs of a modern academic institution. There were certainly all of the grand design features as included by with the original design but there was not enough space for student study areas, stacks, specialized collections and the equipment used in a modern library.

The university decided to investigate building a new library to support the needs of the students.



*Gould Library with its prominent rotunda c 1910*

As with many institutions, financial concerns became paramount and the university decided to merge with the Washington Square College and sell the campus in the Bronx. CUNY purchased the campus for the Bronx Community College. The mission of the Gould shifted from a library a conference and assembly functionality.

Unfortunately, maintenance was not considered a priority and the infrastructure of the building began to slip into disrepair. The New York Times ran a feature story on the Gould Library on November 18, 2015. The article explained briefly the history of the library and its need for a shot at a new life.

Work is underway to raise the estimated \$50 million dollars needed to repair the building and hopefully a new mission for the grand old gem. 📖

## THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE March 2016 FRONTISPIECE, 'Write the Story for the March/April Issue':

Here is your opportunity to become an accomplished and published 'master of the pen'. The image will be used as the frontispiece for the March 2016 issue of *The Microbibliophile*.

### 'The 17<sup>th</sup> Century Bookseller'



During the next year, my plan is to highlight the 'world of the bookseller' through various pictorial images. There are no particular rules regarding the length of the story for the illustration, the choice is yours. I picked this image as an example of a bookseller, no particular reason other than the image was interesting, and it certainly went back in time.

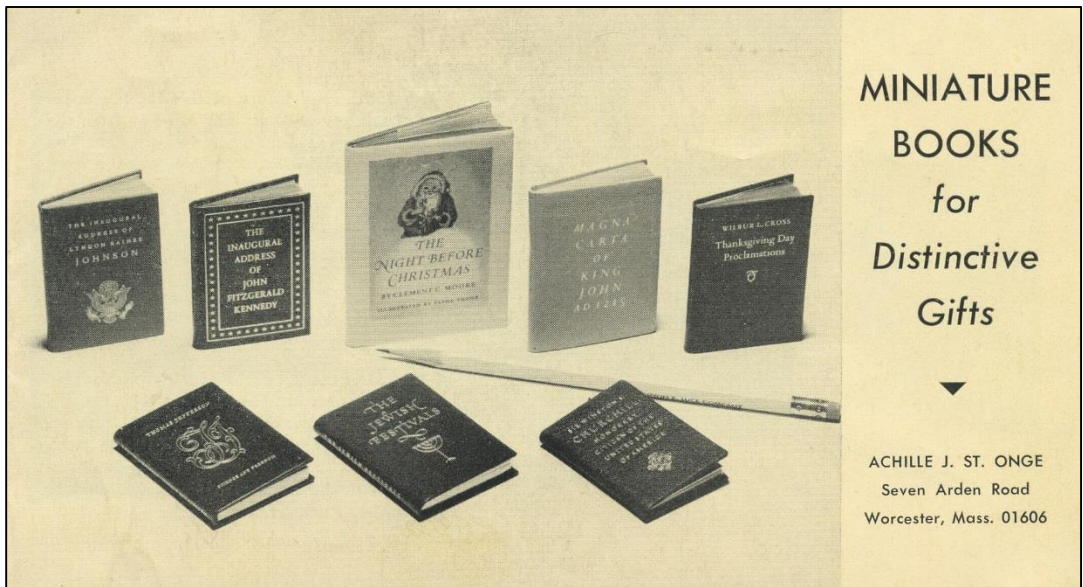
What do you see in the picture? Certainly a different time and place, the bookseller setting up his shop by the side of the road or next to a dock in a wayward port of call. Obviously, his hat distinguishes him as a sailor from the orient. Do you think he keeps his real valuable treasures in the small box beneath his table or maybe even the box he is sitting on? Perhaps he is in London and he is showing some of the items he may have bought in Genoa? Perhaps he is acting as an agent for a collector who may need to disguise the source of his books. Gather your thoughts and weave the tale to share with the readers. Fact or fiction, your choice, this could be a fun thing.

The deadline for submitting articles for the March 2016 issue will be February 15, 2016, electronic or paper submissions, either way, the choice is yours,  
Email: [editor@microbibliophile77.com](mailto:editor@microbibliophile77.com) or  
Snail-mail: *The Microbibliophile*, P. O. Box 5453 North Branch, NJ 08876. 📖

## **PUBLISHER AND BOOKSELLER, A. J. St. Onge:**

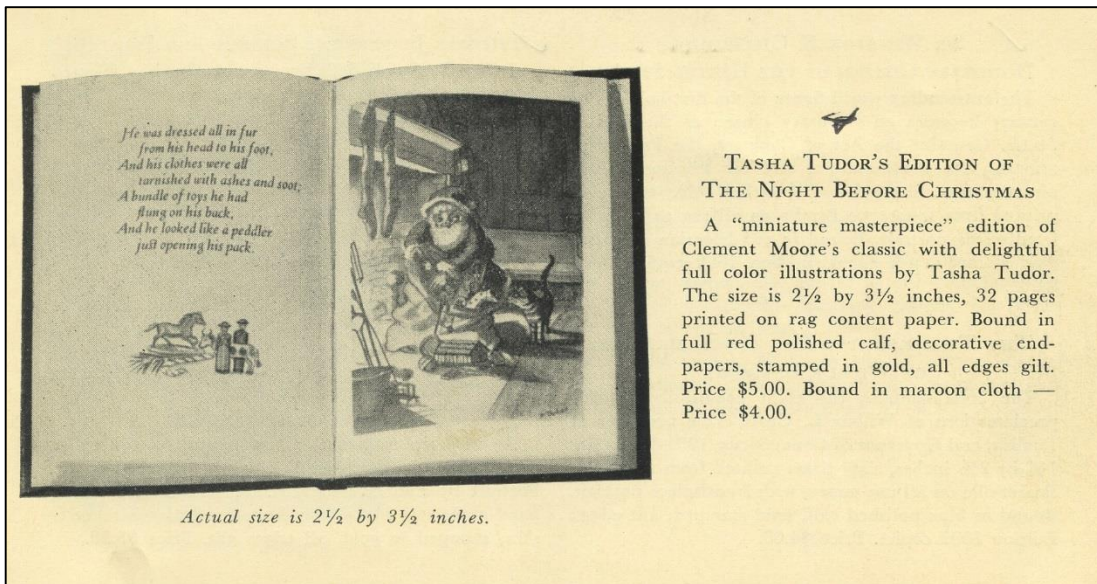
In many cases, publishers are also booksellers; this is particularly the business model that is followed with specialty books such as miniature books. Publishers sell their books directly into the retail channel and the hands of the collector/consumer. Publishers can also sell their books to independent booksellers who are not publishers but then act as the intermediary between the publisher and the collector/consumer.

A. J. St. Onge was a publisher and a bookseller. His customers were collectors as well as booksellers. The following advertising flyer is an example of his work that he had available at a particular time and was offering the same for sale directly to collectors/consumers. I use the word consumer to expand from the term collector as books are frequently bought by non-collectors as gifts etc. 📖



*Cover of a tri-folded double-sided brochure c ~1970*

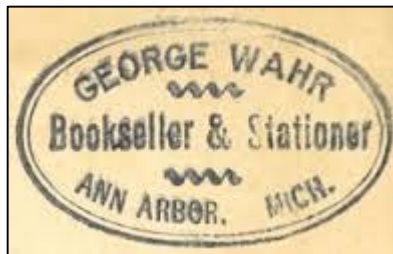




*Internal page of same tri-folded brochure,  
An interesting point, the two different versions of the binding materials utilized,  
\$5.00 (leather) and \$4.00 (cloth).*

Interesting information. 📖

## A FEW MORE BOOKSELLERS,



Are these booksellers still serving their customers? 📖

## CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

### Buy, Sell, or Trade:

As a feature for subscribers, *'The Microbibliophile'* will offer a classified listing service with each issue. Each message should be no more than 250 characters. Send your information to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue.



Darleen Cordova is looking for (Hazeltine) Piso Pocket Book Almanac for 1918 to complete her set and two books written by Francis J. Weber: the 1997 regular edition of *Dogs at the California Missions*, (REM Miniatures) and the 1969 vellum bound edition of *What Happened to Junipero Serra?* (Bela Blau).  
Contact information: E-mail: [c.cordova@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.cordova@sbcglobal.net) or call (714) 808-9648.

Melinda Brown is seeking, Takebayashi, Tetsu and Zensaku Toyohara. Volumes 3 and 4 of the four-volume set entitled *Kitō Shōno*. Osaka: Aoki Kozaburo, 1880.  
Contact information: E-mail: [Minibks1@verizon.net](mailto:Minibks1@verizon.net)

Neale Albert is looking for two miniature books by Asao Hoshino -- *Kwaidan* and *Ichiku No Suna*, and for the special editions of the Asao Hoshino books. "I am thinking of doing a Hoshino bibliography",  
Contact information: E-mail: [nma8156@yahoo.com](mailto:nma8156@yahoo.com)

Katherine Bakunas is looking for the printed (original paper) copies of the early MBS Newsletters, MAR.'85, JUN.'85, FEB.'86, MAR.'88 and #36, #45, #60, #63, #65, and #69, for a special indexing project,  
Contact information: E-mail: [kbbakunas@gmail.com](mailto:kbbakunas@gmail.com)


Karen Nyman is looking for two volumes she lacks from *The Cabinet of Lilliput*, by John Harris. Here are the missing titles: *Jacob the Fisherman*, etc., and *Julia and the Dog*, etc.  
Contact information: E-mail: [kareennyman2@cox.net](mailto:kareennyman2@cox.net) or call 619-226-4441.

Pat Pistner is looking for 28 Raheb books (*Mudlark Miniatures* and *Littlest Library*) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published through 2000  
Contact information: E-mail: [Pistner@me.com](mailto:Pistner@me.com)

Caroline Brandt would like to find a copy of *Robin Crusoe* and *The Happy Flower* published by Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. Contact information: 1500 Westbrook Court #1109, Richmond, VA 23227, or call 804-200-1260

Stephen Byrne is looking for a Gleniffer Press; *3 Point Gill Titling Catalogue*.  
Contact information: E-mail: [sb@finalscore.demon.co.uk](mailto:sb@finalscore.demon.co.uk)

Jim Brogan is looking for a volume from REM publications; *REM Miniatures, A Record and A Sampler, Part III*, a 'miniature scroll' with decorative wrapper and tie ribbon, 1<sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 6' and *Chapel of the Holy Cross*, by Msgr. Francis Weber, published by Hagus Alley, 1981  
Contact information: E-mail: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net)

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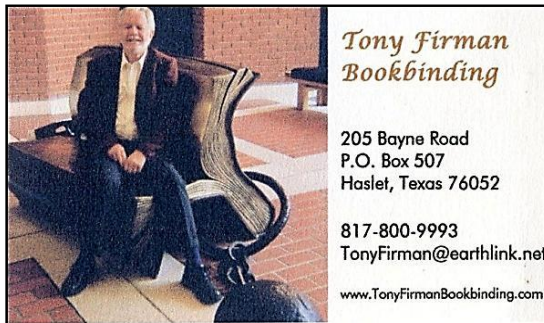


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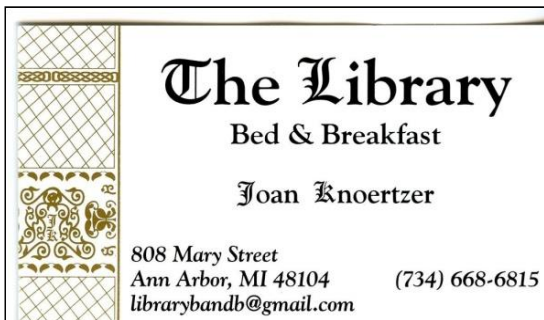


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**‘Who is having more fun, the kids or the dog?’**

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Email: [editor@microbibliophile77.com](mailto:editor@microbibliophile77.com) (**Deadline for March issue is February 15<sup>th</sup>**)

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