

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XXXV Number 4, Issue 202 July, 2016

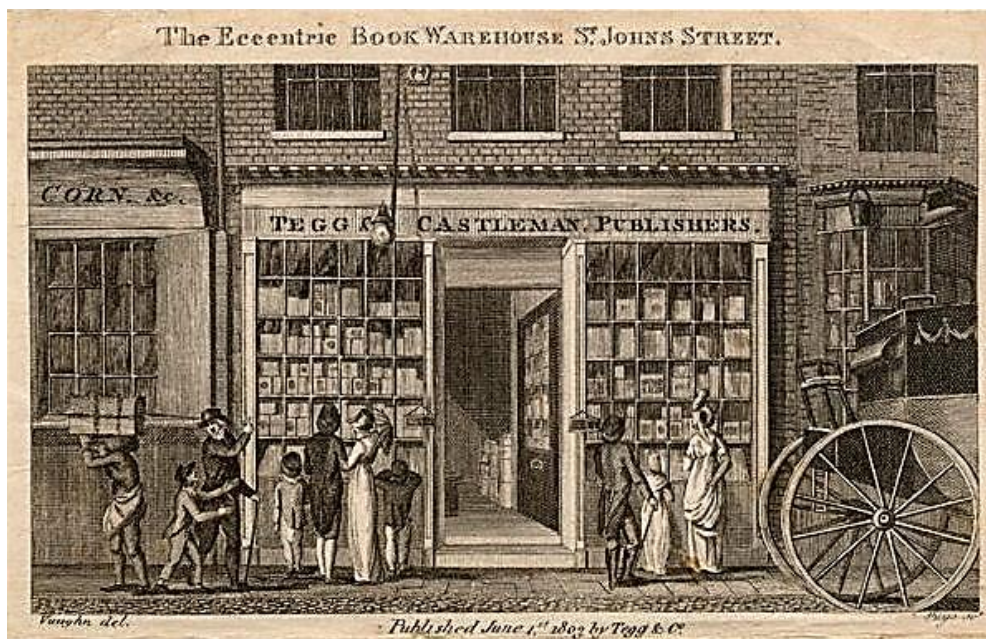


Summer Reading At It's Best

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"Grandpa, can we go inside the shop?"



It is one of those days that make you just glad to be alive, a beautiful weather day, a Saturday afternoon, walking through the streets with your family. Looking in all of the windows with the children, listening to the cacophony of street noises and the excitement of the children as they look at every detail.

Grandpa has promised to take Alexander to the bookshop after the last day of school to see if they can find a book of electrical experiments. The students this year learned about some of the things that were done by Dr. Franklin in America. The string and key on the kite story fascinated the children and Alexander wants to learn more about this thing called electricity. Grandpa, who went to sea as a young boy, has a thousand stories. He has told Alexander about many of the adventures he experienced but also wants to help his grandson learn more about the world through his reading.

Mr. Tegg and Mr. Castleman began their business partnership in 1801 in London and set up shop at 122 St. Johns Street, West Smithfield, a section of London. The official name of the shop was 'The Eccentric Book Warehouse'. They specialized in selling reprints and overstock books but also published some original works as well. One of the items that Tegg did publish was *Tegg's Mariners' Marvelous Magazine*, or *Wonders of the Oceans*, containing the most remarkable adventures and relations of mariners, shipwrecks..., and curious natural disasters, in various parts of the world. This item drew Grandpa to John St. He knew that Alexander would read it from cover to cover along with the book about electricity and the experiments they could try at home.

Booksellers and publishers, book buyers and grandpas, life is certainly universal. Sell a few, buy a few, cross the bridge, dream on, and continue your journey. Priceless! Good luck my friends. 📖

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Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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Book Reviews and Criticism:

The Soul of the Air , by Pat Sweet, published by Bo Press Miniature Books	05
Wooden Sailing Ships , by Sir George C. V. Holmes, published by Plum Park Press	07
Midsummer Night's Dream , by William Shakespeare, published by Plum Park Press	08
History's Great Popes , by Francis J. Weber, published by El Camino Real Press	09

Special Features:

Enveloped In Mystery, by Darleen Cordova	11
A Book Is Born, by Todd Sommerfeld	14
A Book Lover's Fable, by Joan Knoertzer	16
Antiquarian Delights, <i>The Book of Common Prayer</i>	17
A Little Bit Of Wonderland, by Pat Pisner	18
Famous Miniature Book People, Ian and Helen Macdonald, Part 3, 'In Conclusion', by Stephen Byrne	21
'All Is Vanity' and 'The Smile', Poems by Lord Byron, published by Gordon Murray	23
The Poet of Them All, William Shakespeare and Miniature Designer Bindings	24
Time Machine, LXIVMOS, Number 5, by Nina Mazzo	26
A Visit With Dr. R., The Conclusion	28
Bookseller Extraordinaire, Louis Bondy, by Gail Curry	30
Some Interesting Book Stuff and Information Sharing	36
We Have Ink In Our Hearts, Antony Kroll and Richard Hoffman	38
Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies Tour Review, by Joan Knoertzer	39
More Sherlockiana, by Robert F. Orr Hanson	41

Departments:

MBS Exhibit	25
Get the Ink Ready, Start the Presses	27
Terms and Definitions, 'Quarter-Bound vs Half-Bound'	30
Publications Received	37
Catalogues Received	44
Upcoming Events	45
The September/October 2016 Frontispiece	47
Classified	49

The Microbibliophile

P. O. Box 5453, North Branch, NJ 08876 U.S.A.

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

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Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

Wow, where does the time go? Seems like yesterday when the last piles of snow were still laying with some of the fall leaves and we were planting the peas. Today the peas are ready to pick, the cucumbers are setting their blossoms, and there are small tomatoes on the plants. In addition to my bibliomania, I also have been a bonsai tender for a number of years. They do require some special winter care and it is always a good feeling to see the trees 'pop' back to life in the spring. Let me also say that all of the bonsai trees came through the crazy winter weather. Coincidentally, Jon Mayo also enjoyed tending bonsai trees.

The current issue contains reviews of four new miniature books including Msgr. Weber latest book. The subjects cover wooden sailing ships, the Popes, a Shakespeare play, and some science regarding the winds.

This issue once again contains a diverse range of information about the world of miniature books. The 'Dr. R.' publications have been unraveled, some interesting information about designer bindings, how about books delivered with little envelopes, a book fable, something old and something new, and much more. I hope that it is enough to keep you busy and your chair warm. Louis Bondy, bookseller, a thumb bible, Gleniffer Press, Qtr. Bound, Wonderland, designer bindings, Sherlockiana, FABS, an old post card message, and more than you can read with only one glass of ice tea.

During the month of August (5th – 8th), the Miniature Book Society will host their Grand Conclave XXXIV in McKinney, Texas. I do hope that everyone is planning on attending, as the Conclave is always a great event in the miniature book world. People and books what more can you ask for. There is always a bag of keepsakes waiting for you when you register. For me, the keepsakes are the glue that helps tie the people and event all together as the years pass. That way I can have a visit back with each member all over again, as time rolls on. Frequently I mention the need to spread the word about miniature books. Maybe it could be through the MBS Traveling Exhibit, sharing a copy of *The Microbibliophile*, or just talking about miniature books to people that want to learn more about our marvelous tomes. Hope to see you at the Conclave, in McKinney. Visit the MBS website for the specifics, www.mbs.org.

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 and some good wishes. 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, especially with a miniature book. I am always looking for articles and information at every turn. Being able to shine some light between the boards and share information is always a good thing. Thank you for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your life. 📖



FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

“National honor is the national property of the highest value.”

James Monroe, 1758 - 1831



U.S. postage image 1904

MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



Frontispiece, Sir Francis Beaufort

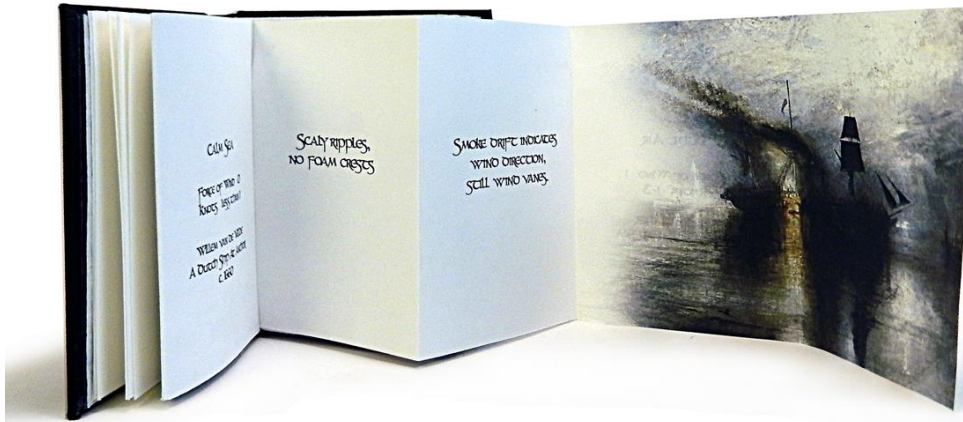
The Soul of the Air, by Pat Sweet, published by the Bo Press, 2016. Everyone knows about the wind, sometimes it is a gentle breeze, which you can hardly feel on your face, and sometimes it blows so hard you can hardly manage to stand up straight.

The Beaufort Scale was devised in 1805 by Irish-born Sir Francis Beaufort, a Royal Navy officer. The scale that carries Beaufort's name had a long and complex evolution from the previous work of others up until when Beaufort was 'Hydrographer of the Navy'. It was adopted officially in the 1830s and first used during the voyage of HMS Beagle. In the early 19th century. Previously, naval officers made regular weather observations, but there was no standard scale and so they could be very subjective – one man's 'stiff breeze' might be another's 'soft breeze'. Beaufort succeeded in standardizing the scale. He had no notion of poetry when he devised his scale for the effect of wind on sailing ships, but his descriptions have a beauty and clarity that are in fact poetic:

*“Surfaces smooth and mirror-like.
Calm,
Smoke rises vertically.
Scaly ripples, no foam crests.
Smoke drift indicates wind direction,
Still wind vanes.”*

The initial scale of thirteen classes (zero through twelve) did not reference wind speed numbers but related qualitative wind conditions to effects on the sails of a frigate, then the main ship of the Royal Navy, from 'just sufficient to give steerage' to 'that which no canvas sails could withstand'.

Returning to the miniature, Pat has paired the poetic descriptions of Beaufort with both land and seascape paintings that illustrate the various wind levels as defined. The book is divided into the 13 wind levels with each section defined by a tri-folded page with the opening page containing the wind description as well as the painting identification credit of the following seascape. The inner pages then illustrate the wind conditions with its own unique seascape painting. Each section has a bold tab affixed to the lead page to indicate the identification numbers of the 'wind classes'.



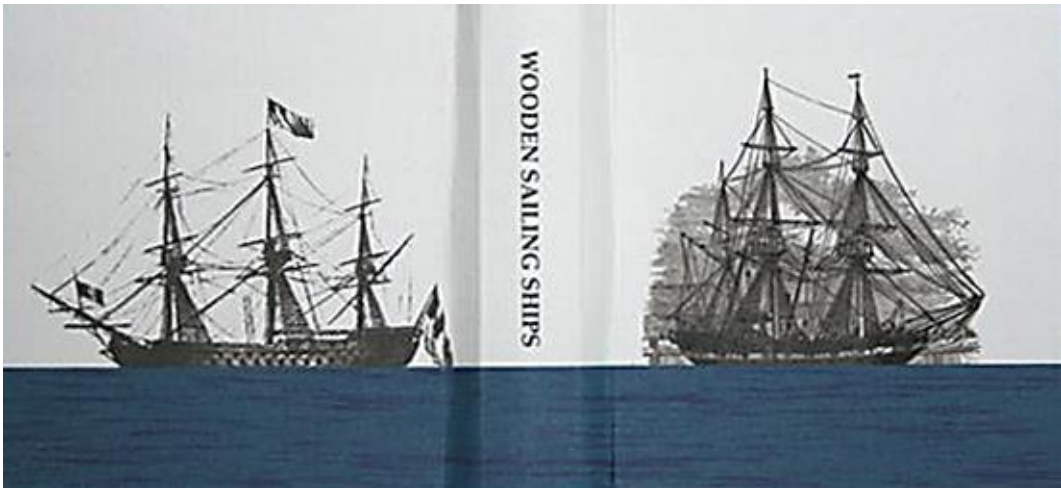
The Soul of the Air is 2³/₄" x 2³/₈" with a total of 46 pages including the 12 foldouts. It is printed on Monarch Superfine paper utilizing both Unzialish and Tempus Sans fonts. The cover is bound in a black watered satin finished book cloth; there are title labels applied to both the front cover as well as the spine. The endpapers are a blue and silver Japanese paper with a design that complements the title of the book.

Wonderful workmanship, in particular with the use of the multiple folding page sections to distinguish each 'wind class'. There are 50 copies in the edition; the book price is \$65 plus shipping. When you flip back through the paintings, you can dream of the feel of the wind and the smell of the sea. Have you ever walked along the beach when the tide is coming in, with a stiff breeze blowing off the waves? Just one of those things that remain in your mind. 📖

Contact information: Pat Sweet, 231 East Blaine Street, Riverside, CA 92507-3230
E-mail: bopress@charter.net or www.bopressminiaturebooks.com

Wooden Sailing Ships, by Sir George C. V. Holmes, [1848-1926], originally published in 1906 by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, as Part 1 of *Ancient and Modern Ships*. Sir George Holmes was the Secretary of the Institution of Naval Architects. *Wooden Sailing Ships* covers the history of sailing ships from their origins in ancient time through the late nineteenth century. Tony Firman of Plum Park Press published this 2016 miniature edition.

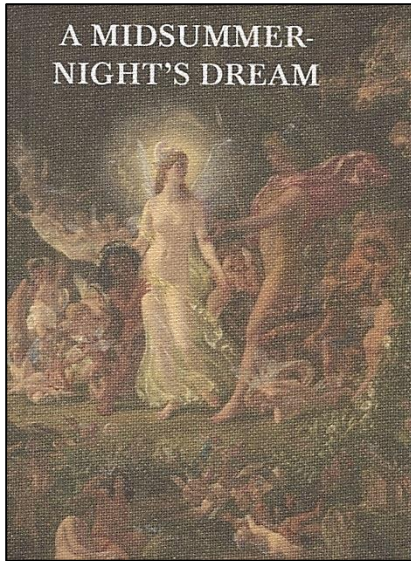
The first four chapters discuss in great detail, the origin and history of sailing ships both from their construction as well as sailing operations. As someone who loves a great sea story Chapter Five was my favorite since it covers the period from the late sixteenth century forward to the late nineteenth century. As with the first four chapters, there is a wealth of illustrations to support the text details in the chapter. It is interesting to read and subsequently understand the design decisions employed to alter deck elevations to allow ships to fire more cannons while underway and keep the ship from being flooded. I always thought that these great naval ships had a long sailing life, however, it turns out that early on they did not. Due to the design of the internal ribs and support beams the ships would develop a 'sag' or 'hump back' as they rode over the waves. Again, the design changes are explained along with the lineage of changes as the improvements moved from the Dutch to French to the English ships.



rear cover (l) and front cover (r)

Wooden Sailing Ships consists of 220 pages with the complete text including the 74 detailed illustrations, some of them occupying a full two-page spread. The text, printed in black, is set in Garamond 6/7.5 font utilizing a two-column format, which increased readability. The chapter headings are printed in blue ink. The endpapers carry different ship illustrations silhouetted on a 'blue sea', in the foreground. The front and rear covers carry additional illustrations of sailing ships and the spine carries the title. The 'blue sea' on the covers is aligned with the same on the endpapers. The book is done in an edition of 20 copies and the size of the book is 3" x 3", the price is \$50 plus shipping. Excellent topic and workmanship. The text, cover printing, the trimming, and the binding, all perfect. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 507, Hazlet, TX 76052
E-mail: TonyFirman@earthlink.net or www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com



A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare, published as a miniature by Plum Park Press in 2016, this anniversary year for all that is Shakespeare. The play written in the 1590s, consists of four interconnecting plots, connected by a celebration of the wedding of Duke Theseus of Athens and the Amazon queen, Hippolyta. The play is set simultaneously in the woodland and in the realm of Fairyland, under the light of the moon. It has remained a favorite play since originally performed so many years ago. This Plum Park edition is presented with the complete text of the play and complements another Plum Park Shakespearean publication, *The Tempest*.

The play involves all of the key components that the audiences always find of great interest: love and its difficulties, intrigue, magic potions, disagreements, jealousy, and fairies who somehow help to explain the unexplainable. The mechanics of the play show that Shakespeare was certainly interested in just how dreams work in our minds. Events can occur without a logical explanation and time can lose its normal flow of minutes and hours. These complications are handled by the author through the use of 'fairies' and their intervention into the events of the play.

Dramatis Personæ

THESEUS, Duke of Athens.
EGEUS, Father to Hermia.
LYSANDER, DEMETRIUS, in love with Hermia.
PHILOSTRATE, Master of the Revels to Theseus.
QUINCE, a Carpenter.
SNUG, a Joiner.
BOTTOM, a Weaver.
FLUTE, a Bellows-mender.
SNOUT, a Tinker.
STARVELING, a Tailor.

HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus.
HERMIA, Daughter to Egeus, in love with Lysander.
HELENA, in love with Demetrius.

OBERON, King of the Fairies.
TITANIA, Queen of the Fairies.
PUCK or Robin Goodfellow.
PEASE-BLOSSOM, COBWEB, MOTH, MUSTARD-SEED, Fairies.

The cloth cover is printed with Joseph Noel Patton's 1849 painting of "The Quarrel of Oberon and Titania". The title is printed on the cover as well as the spine. The frontispiece is a tipped in image of the author. The endpapers carry another of Patton's paintings across the two pages, "The Reconciliation of Oberon and Titania".



The Reconciliation of Oberon and Titania

The painting provides so much detail, for me it is a 'play within a painting'. Titania has awakened from her enchantment and her tryst and recognizes Oberon as her lord. Meanwhile, the fairies lie next to the lovers who have yet to awaken from their dreams...detail, detail, detail. A great selection for the endpapers.

The book consists of 160 pages printed on IP Accent Opaque 59 g/m² paper utilizing the Baskerville 6/7 font, \$40 plus shipping. A great piece for your collection and a complement to *The Tempest* edition by Plum Park. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 507, Hazlet, TX 76052
E-mail: TonyFirman@earthlink.net or www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com

History's Great Popes, by Msgr. Francis J. Weber and published by El Camino Real Press, 2016. Can you believe it, this is the 134th miniature publication either written or published by Msgr. Weber. Weber's books are always done with a simple clean design that is especially appealing to me. The subjects are as diverse as you can imagine, his last book was about the 'Inverted Jenny' a misprinted stamp and now we are looking at a book about the greatest popes. Just amazing.

The text of the book explains that during the Easter Season of 1986 the tiny nation of Belize issued a series of postage stamps as a colorful commemorative series bearing the photographic images and coats of arms of eight 20th century Roman Catholic pontiffs. The entire plate of stamps is shown including the stamp in the middle of the sheet, which included an 'Easter Greeting from Belize'.



Each individual stamp is 1 1/2" x 2" so they are well suited to be 'tipped in' to the miniature book. The book, bound in a white polished fabric, is 2 1/4" x 2 7/8" with the title stamped on the cover in gold. The book itself is only 14 numbered pages, which contains background information on the Papal hierarchy, as well as some additional information dating from the ruling periods of each of the popes and a bit of California history from Msgr. Weber.

There are 180 books in the edition, 20 copies stamped with each of the eight separate popes as tipped in items. There are an additional 20 copies, which are stamped with the 'Easter Greeting stamp' tipped in. The books were printed by Patrick Reagh and bound by Maryana Blau. The press imprint is Msgr. Weber's El Camino Real Press. The books are priced at \$30 plus postage. Well done to the printer, the binder, and especially the publisher. Msgr. Weber's books are available through Karen Nyman Miniature books. 📖

Contact information: 702 Rosecrans Street, San Diego, CA 92106-3013; telephone 619-226-4441
E-mail: karenyman2@cox.net or www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com

‘ENVELOPED’ IN MYSTERY,

By Darleen Cordova:

My fascination with books written, edited, or published by Francis J. Weber began with my first Weber acquisition in October 1972: *A California Miniography*, a standard size reference book. A year later, I purchased my FIRST Weber miniature book, *Christmas in Pastoral California*. The search was on and I am pleased to say, I have copies of all the Weber miniature books published to date. What I do not have, however, are all the small, fitted envelopes that SOME of the tiny treasures came in. The big question now is, “How many envelopes am I missing?”

A few of the Weber minis that I have are in small envelopes, usually printed with the book’s title, year of publication, and sometimes with the name of the publisher. I never really thought much about it since most purchases came inside some type of protective envelope. In August 2014, Karen Nyman inquired as to my interest in some small envelopes that she had for Weber books. She did not want the envelopes and before tossing them wondered if I would like them. I immediately said “Yes” and when they arrived, placed them with the appropriate books. Recently, I was “shelving” the latest Weber miniature when I saw I still had one duplicate envelope. About that time, Jim Brogan contacted me regarding the order of publication since I had prepared *Weber’s 101 and Counting* in 2013. He also has a complete set of Weber miniatures so I asked Jim if he had any books in the small envelopes. He had four, including one duplicate envelope which I did not have. Since he was lacking my duplicate, we traded envelopes, which brought my collection to eight books enclosed in the envelopes--BUT I wanted them all!

I began researching all 134 titles, although I was sure it was only the ‘early’ books that had the envelopes. I reviewed the bibliographies by Robert Hanson in *Little Books by Big People or Many Smalls Make a Big*, and *Little is Beautiful or Make Mine a Small One*, as well as Bradbury’s *Twentieth Century United States Miniature Books*. I checked the colophons on over 100 titles and Francis Braun printed most of the books I had with envelopes.

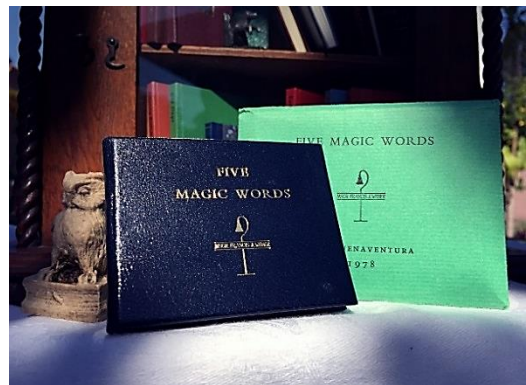
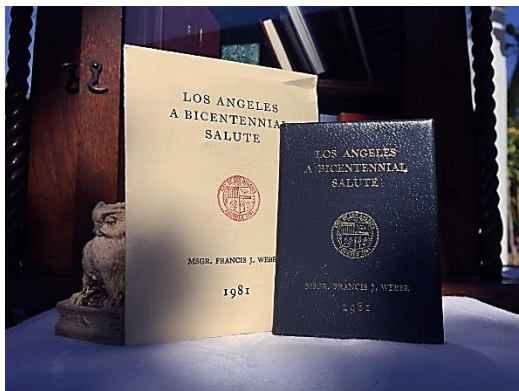
Next, I called Msgr. Weber but he could not provide additional information. He indicated the envelopes were not considered important by him or collectors he knew, but were mainly for convenience. Since Msgr. Weber did not keep track of them nor could he say how many came with a storage envelope. He did tell me that he thought Braun's press was the ‘Libra Press’ and those books were printed in Hong Kong. I could not find any references to Francis Braun or Libra Press. Now what? It was becoming an obsession. I started searching online websites for “Weber miniature book, with envelope”: ABE, ABBA, AddALL, Alibris, Antiqbook, Arroyo Seco Books, Brattle’s, Bromer’s, Douglas Stewart Fine Books, First Folio, Hurley, Karen Nyman Miniature Books, Lorson’s, and Oak Knoll, as well as library websites. I found a few more references to ‘printed envelope’, ‘matching envelope’, ‘storage envelope’, or ‘fitted envelope’. Now I am up to 12 titles that mention some type of envelope. Are there others out there? *Do you know?*

You may wonder ‘why’ my obsession with envelopes. Well, most miniature books do not come with a dust jacket, so when I cataloged my books, I listed ‘original envelope’ on the line marked ‘dust jacket’. I think they are part of the book; besides, I like having them as they were issued. Those titles missing a ‘known’ envelope are marked ‘lacks envelope’. Msgr. Weber did not think there were many issued with envelopes. In fact, none of the books I purchased directly from him came in envelopes.

Most of the envelopes are the same size; a few are slightly smaller, and most have a vertical, rather than a horizontal, format. Also, most are in a heavier weight of ‘manila colored’ paper but three of my eight envelopes are in colors.

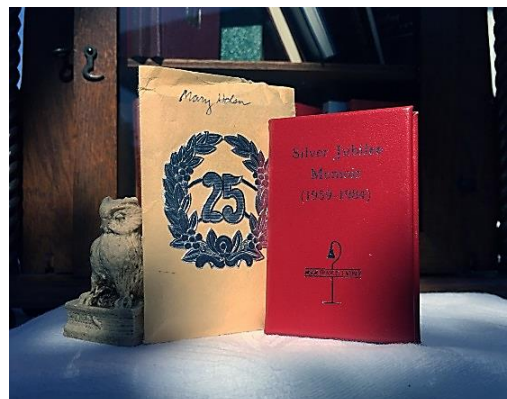
I hope that some of you microbibliophiles can help me solve the mystery of the lost envelopes. Until that time, here is what I have found. (The numbers on the left of the titles indicate the *Weber's 100* prepared by Dawson's, and my own *101 and Counting*.)

- #12 *California, A Bibliography of its Miniature Books*
1976, Junipero Serra Press, printer not indicated
Lacks envelope
- #13 *Happy Birthday, Uncle Sam!*
1976, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Lacks envelope
- #14 *Meanest Mother in the Whole World, The*
1977, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Light blue envelope matches endpapers, 3⁷/₈" x 3"
- #17 *Five Magic Words*
1978, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Light green envelope, horizontal, 2⁷/₈" x 3¹³/₁₆"
- #20 *Solemn Consecration at San Buenaventura Mission*
1978, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Darker Manila envelope, 3⁷/₈" x 3"
- #21 *Mickey's Golden Jubilee*
1979, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Lacks 'matching' envelope
- #22 *Eulogy for a Cardinal*
1979, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Red? Dark Rose? 'leather look' (heavier-weight) paper envelope, 3⁷/₈" x 2⁷/₈"
- #23 *California, the Golden State*
1979, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Darker Manila envelope matches endpapers, 3⁷/₈" x 2⁷/₈"
- #24 *Visit to Santa Catalina, A*
1979, Hilleary and Petko, Printed and bound by Roger Hilleary
Off-White envelope, text printed in red, 3⁵/₈" x 2¹/₄"
- #29 *Los Angeles, A Bicentennial Salute*
1981, Junipero Serra Press, Designed by Francis Braun
Manila envelope, 3⁷/₈" x 3"
- #38 *Silver Jubilee Memoir, 1959-1984*
1984, Junipero Serra Press, Printed by Francis Braun
Manila envelope, (not printed, silver foil "25" within a silver foil medallion), 3¹/₄" x 2¹/₄"
- #78 *Farmer's Market*
1991, Junipero Serra Press, Letterpress by Roger Pennels
Lacks envelope



By the way, book #135, *The Feast of the Nativity*, will be out before Christmas 2016 and Msgr. Weber says it will be enclosed in a printed envelope.
The mystery continues... 📖

Note: Should you have additional information about these 'lost' envelopes, please contact me at c.cordova@sbcglobal.net or (714) 808-9648.



A BOOK IS BORN, By Todd Sommerfeld:

Some books, such as my first miniature book, *Booksby Bibliography*, come into being to fill a need. I was to speak to a bibliophilic group and wanted a miniature book as a keepsake for them, but could not afford to buy 30 copies of any book so I decided to make my own, thus my first book was born. Some books are created to tell a story. My third book, *Book People* falls into this category. I had purchased a group of books out of an old collection and they came with a few letters to the collector from a certain publisher, which made me think of my own correspondences, all online. I felt that I was leaving no paper trail for future collectors to follow so I compiled a few email conversations into a miniature book to tell a story of relationship building.

...And then there is Toad. *Toad Loves to Read* is my seventh and most recent book, and the one I really want to discuss today. That is because I did not need Toad, or want to tell a story, but this book seems to have a will and life of its own.

It all started one evening in late August 2015 when I arrived home after dark and there was a toad sitting on my door welcome mat. Now I have seen plenty of toads while camping, but not once in 45 years had I seen one in my suburban neighborhood. I noted the unusualness of it and thought "I'll never see that again..." but I did. The very next night, and the night after that. By the fourth night I was enchanted and decided to share a photo of my punctual amphibian on Facebook. After a couple of weeks of nightly updates I felt that was enough because after you have a picture of him looking left and one looking right, you've pretty much seen it all. I mentioned on Facebook that there would be no more toad pictures, and people were not happy with me. I did not need a revolt on my hands, but needed a gimmick to keep the pictures interesting. In that vein, I decided to pose my miniature books around him and caption them. 'Toad likes the pop-up frog book', 'Toad doesn't like the cat book', were some.

As the evenings rolled on and the photos piled up, the toad became more and more personified until he went from 'the toad' to 'Toad'. In my mind, he had developed a distinct personality. I knew what types of books he liked and I even met his girlfriend, (there were two toads one night). Because of this, a short, childlike story began to develop. It was at this point that I knew Toad needed to be a miniature book story. November brought an abrupt end to the warm evenings and the disappearance of Toad. Knowing I would not be seeing him for a long while, I took one last photo, of books by themselves and a good-bye note. It was time to get to work.

A book about Toad should look and feel like Toad so I made a trip to the local papermaking studio. When I asked for toad-skin paper I was notified, with a horrified look, "we do not sell toad skin!" Once the misunderstanding was cleared up, I was taken to the papers, and the first one I was shown was a nice beige kozo with brown and dark brown flecks. Brown and bumpy just like Toad! The first paper I looked at was the last paper I looked at, it was perfect. Next, I needed paper to print the pictures on and was told to try an art supplies store. Art supply stores do not have reams of paper, but they do have a lot of drawing pads. I found one with a heavy white paper that the pictures print bright and clear on. Beginners luck again. In trying to work out the book structure, I grabbed some olive green card stock leftover from my last keepsake, and what do you know, the green and brown made such an earthy ensemble together that Toad himself would be proud. Perfect again! Except for that photo with the good-bye note, it was too small to read. The story needed that note to be complete so I added a pocket inside the back cover with a facsimile of the note.

By late March 2016, I had a finished book pictures, text, and materials harmoniously working together in a near perfect ensemble. I was pleased. Copies were given and sold, and one was even entered into a competition. It was in mid-April though that the unimaginable happened. Toad returned! I had to take a picture for my Facebook friends. The book closest on hand was *Toad Loves to Read*. So now, I had a picture of Toad reading the book created about himself. I knew I had to incorporate it somehow, maybe in a second edition. The correct solution came quickly in the form of a dust jacket. Now Toad is perfect.

I have worked very hard to make my books the best they could be, with varying degrees of success. The most magical of the Booksby Press books, however, took no effort. It designed itself and quite literally, a book was born.

Aftermath

Toad Loves to Read proved to be so popular that by June, the edition of 25 was sold out and a second, larger edition of 100 is now in production.

Bibliography of Booksby Press publications:

1. *Booksby Bibliography*, 2014, 150 copies
2. *What's in a Name?*, 2014, 200 copies
3. *Book People*/includes 2nd printing of *What's in a Name*, 2014, 150 copies
4. *A Dumb Question?*, 2015, 150 copies
5. *Wise Man/Wise Guy*, 2015, 75 copies
6. *What's in a Name*, in six languages (6 vol. Boxed set), 2015, 102 copies
7. *Sabio/Listillo* (Spanish edition of *Wise Man/Wise Guy*), 2015, 10 copies
8. *Toad Loves To Read*, 2016, 25 copies, 2nd edition, 2016, 100 copies
9. *My Favorite Barney Story*, 2016, 150 copies
10. *My Life in Tap*, 2016, 15 copies
11. *Lakeview Sampler*, 2016, open edition


The journey continues... 

Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, 6475 Ridge Road #1, Parma, OH 44129
E-mail: contratodd@gmail.com or www.booksbypress.com

**A BOOK LOVER'S FABLE,
Odd Chaps Olde Booke Club:
By Joan Knoertzer**

Come with me 'across the pond' into the shadows of Parliament.

The sun is setting and it is almost time for the meeting of the chipmunks 'Odd Chaps Olde Booke Club'. They each carry their miniature copy of the assigned 'Booke of the Fortnight'. Each has been assigned a chapter in their chap booke to summarize. This may seem odd but they are members of the 'Odd Chaps Olde Booke Club'. They are also a group of very, very busy barristers, merchants and businessmen, who love to read, but cannot peruse one whole book at one sitting. In fact, the chipmunks rarely sit at all except once a fortnight, from 7 to 8pm. The Chair of the group is assigned to read the whole booke, so in case one of the Odd Chaps is not present; he can quickly tell the story. A short 15-minute social time begins with a small glass of port and plenty of nibbles which the chips store in their cheeks. At last, Big Ben rings out the 7:15 Westminster Chime. They all sit, munching, drinking and ready to give their summaries. The Chair Chipmunk announces the title and author, and chapter one begins his synopsis. Then chapter two, three, but four is missing...no problem, the Chair covers four...then five, six, seven, whoops. Seven's cheeks are full and he cannot talk...And the Chair has gone to the loo. So they skip seven, then eight and nine continue. When ten starts to squeak, he begins sneezing. It seems he is allergic to the nibbles. They are flying everywhere. But where is the Chair? Oh, he has stopped to fill his glass with more port. So they skip ten, and eleven begins. Twelve has his mouthful, and after three glasses of port, he is hungry and has decided to eat his book. So, Chapter Thirteen finally screeches "The End," just as the Chair returns, and Big Ben Chimes the 8 o'clock hour. There is a big gulp as all the 'Odd Chaps Olde Booke Club' chipmunks eat up their miniature books, clamber for the door, pick up the book for the next fortnight and scurry into the night with the Chair Chipmunk of the 'Odd Chaps Olde Booke Club' squealing, "This meeting is adjourned."

Epilogue: It is hard to get through even a miniature booke when you have a few "chapsters" missing. 

*Contact information: Joan Knoertzer, P O Box 3387, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3387
E-mail: librarybandb@gmail.com*

ANTIQUARIAN DELIGHTS,

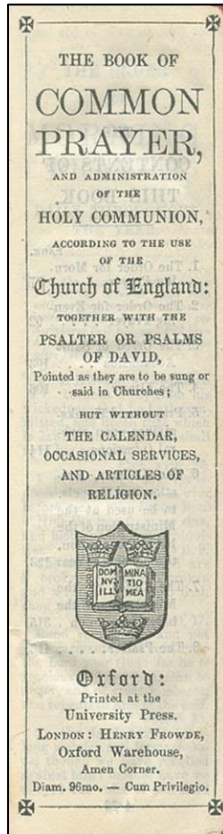
The Book of Common Prayer, published by: Henry Frowd, London, ca 1890:

By Jim Brogan

According to the *History of Miniature Books*, by Doris V. Welsh, 1987, the tradition for the ‘small printing’ of religious books goes back to the 14th century and the manuscript *Horae*. It is often said that the Bible is the most frequently reprinted book. This is true in the world of miniature books as well. Toward the end of the 19th century, the Oxford University Press published a ‘finger’ edition of the Bible taking advantage of the very thin ‘india’ paper that they developed. The size of this ‘finger edition’ is 1¹/₈" x 3⁵/₈", this elongated shape led to the term ‘finger bible’.



Cover



Title Page

The title as printed on the title page is *THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER and Administration of The Holy Communion, According to the Use of the Church of England: Together with The Psalter or Psalms of David, Pointed as they are to be sung or said in Churches; but without the Calendar, Occasional Services, and Articles of Religion.*

The book was published by The University Press (Oxford) & Henry Frowde (London) [nd, circa 1890's]. Also known as ‘THE FINGER PRAYER BOOK’, as printed on the half-title page. It is bound in original full black leather with gilt title ‘COMMON PRAYER’ on the front cover along with the image of a Christian cross. The gilt title is also carried on the spine. The book is decorated with an attractive dentelle gilt along inside cover edges, all edges gilt, with both front and rear original black endpapers. There are 599 numbered pages, yet the book is less than 3¹/₈" thick due to the use of the ‘india’ paper.

An interesting note concerning the inscription contained on the front free endpaper; “*Et Vera Incessu Patuit Dea*, Edith M. Holmes, from AVP, March /91”. The quote is from Virgil, the translation meaning ‘The goddess indubitable was revealed in her step’. I am thinking that AVP ‘liked to or wished to’ sit next to Edith.

As I mentioned previously, *The History of Miniature Books*, by Doris V. Welsh and *Three Centuries of Thumb Bibles*, 1980 by Ruth E. Adomeit are excellent reference books on the subject of miniature bibles. Certainly, an interesting genre of the miniature book world. 📖

A LITTLE BIT OF WONDERLAND:

By Pat Pistner

Coinciding with the 150th anniversary [1865 – 2015] of the publication of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, I acquired a copy of this title bound by the renowned Swiss binder Roland Meuter. He studied under the famous bookbinder, Hugo Peller. You may remember the beautiful binding Peller created for Mel Kavin and his *You Can Judge A Book By Its Cover*. Interestingly enough, Meuter married Peller's daughter and now resides in Lucerne.

The fanciful hand-painted green covers depict Alice's tea party in a charming manner, with the author's name and title gilt-tooled on the spine. As a bonus, the tea party is further illustrated in a fore-edge painting. All of the edges are gilt with the top and bottom edges gauffered, there are red leather endcaps. The binder's name is stamped on the rear pastedown. The tome was published in 2005 by the Miniaturbuchverlag, in Leipzig, Germany. The book was illustrated by Sir John Tenniel, the text is printed in red and black inks.

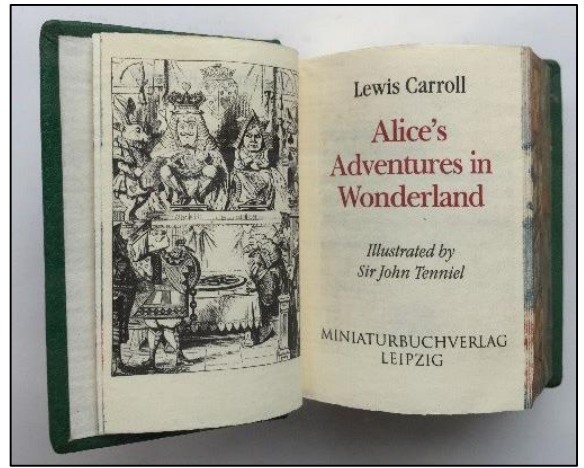
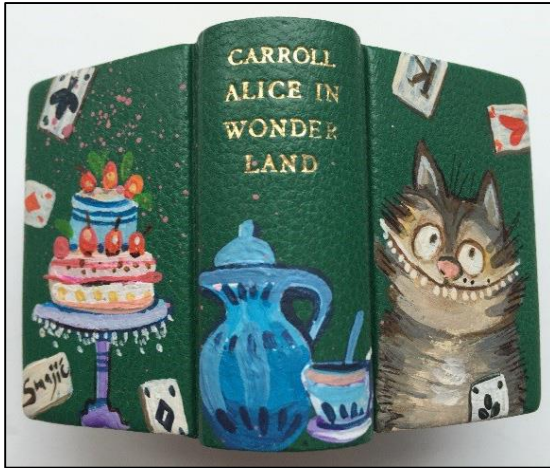


Through The Looking Glass

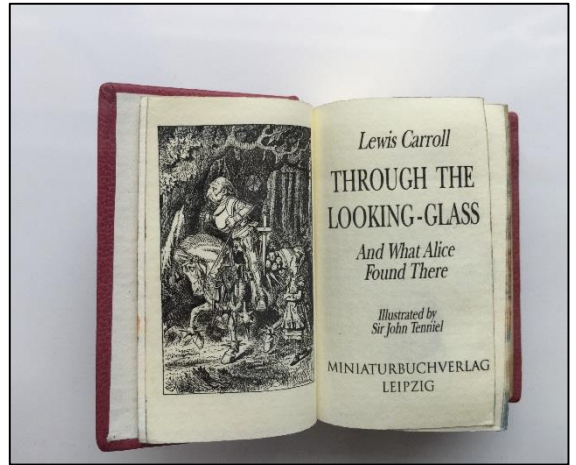
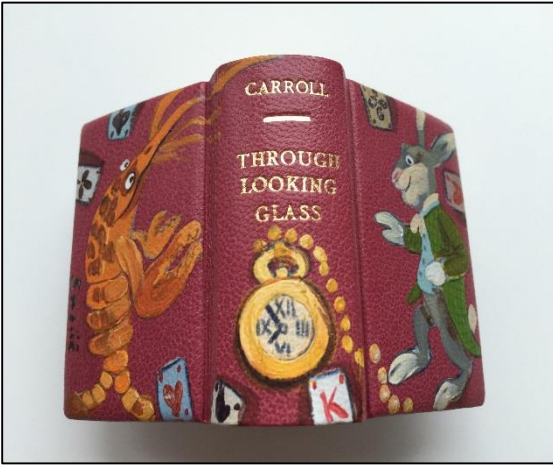
Alice's Adventures In Wonderland

However, it could not sit alone on my bookshelf when I found that Carroll's *Through The Looking Glass*, published by the Miniaturbuchverlag in 2013 was also available in a complementary designer binding by Meuter. Both tomes are bound with the same meticulous attention to detail and housed in matching clamshell cases. Lastly, each book contains a fore-edge painting.

Alice's Adventures In Wonderland, additional photos:



Through the Looking Glass, additional photos:



Enjoy. 📖

FAMOUS MINIATURE BOOK PEOPLE: A Conversation with Ian & Helen Macdonald, of the Gleniffer Press, Part 3, 'In Conclusion', Reported by Stephen Byrne

Editor's Note: Stephen Byrne lives in Sorbie, Scotland not far from the home of Ian and Helen Macdonald who agreed to talk with Stephen about their press and the joys of their miniature books. Beginning with our 2016 March/April issue, continuing with May/June, and now the conclusion of some very insightful conversations.

A conversation with Ian and Helen Macdonald, of the Gleniffer Press.

SB: How do you feel about the move away from letterpress printing towards digital?

IM: Well that had to happen, with the development of technology. If you think about it, letterpress has changed little for about five hundred years, until perhaps the middle of the 19th century. But it was cumbersome and it was slow, and expensive. The onset of lithography more or less ended large-scale letterpress, but with the developments of digital printing, letterpress is very much in the background, though it is still very useful. It has found a place now where it will survive, doing various things. If you look at books such as the Folio Society books, the quality is superb. So letterpress has its place, but sadly, it is not taught in many places in the UK now. But the digital age is upon us. There are now more titles printed than ever, despite the appearance of eReaders such as Kindle.

HM: Ian has always been innovative, and when new methods of printing came in, he was right there.

IM: The Child's Dream, as far as we know, was the first miniature book printed by computer, an ATARI computer was used to do that one. It was typed on that and printed by offset lithography from the disc that came out of that machine. As far as I can trace back there was no earlier miniature book done that way. And the Bible, which was done that way, was the first book to be published in the world in 2000. It was released at one minute past midnight on 1st January. Within all my work, the mention in the Guinness Book of Records was the best thing that happened to the Gleniffer Press, because at that time it was read by nine million people worldwide. There was no way we could afford advertising, and this put our name into the worldwide book world. I saw that there was a category for the world's smallest book, looked it up, and said, "I can do a smaller one." And that was it. That's what I set out to do. And this secondary publicity reached many people who were interested in miniature books, and as they contacted me I told them about the Miniature Book Society, and it started to grow. And of course, once the internet came along, the whole advertising thing became much easier.

SB: Do people still contact you for books?

IM: Not so much now because on our web site it tells them not to, but there is a link to the MBS site where there is a dealers contact page.

SB: So there is no likelihood of making any more miniature books?

IM: No, not under the name of the Gleniffer Press. I suppose I could still do it, but if I ever did, it would probably be under a different press name.

SB: My final question is ‘which is the book which gave you the most pleasure in the making of it?’

IM: I think probably, when I look at them all, *Victoria and Albert* was the one I like the best, because it was printed on laid paper, printed letterpress, and I wrote the text myself. It was done for a purpose, and bound in leather, with Cockerell endpapers, and the Queen actually commented on it, so all of that made it special to me. I had to get the edges for the royal copies gilded. The gilder did all the ten copies I wanted gilding in one block, and they ended up looking beautiful.

It has been a fascinating hobby. We have been to places and met people who we would never have dreamed of meeting. The MBS started off like a small family of like-minded people, and as it has grown, it has remained that way.

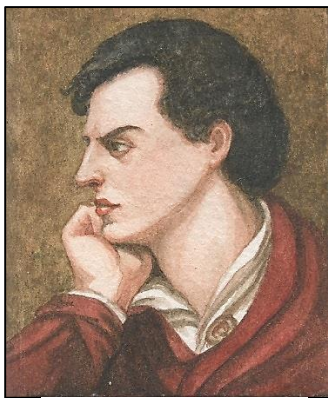
SB: Ian and Helen’s contribution to the world of miniature books has given inspiration to many aspiring collectors and makers, myself included. Although the Gleniffer Press no longer exists, information is available on www.glenifferpress.co.uk, and Ian is always happy to talk to miniature book enthusiasts. 📖

Contact information: Stephen Byrne, 14 Wigtown Road, Sorbie, Newton Stewart DG8 8EL, Scotland
E-mail: sb@finalscore.demon.co.uk



An Old Philadelphia book shop

**‘ALL IS VANITY’ AND ‘THE SMILE’,
Poems by Lord Byron,
Produced as a miniature, by Gordon Murray:**



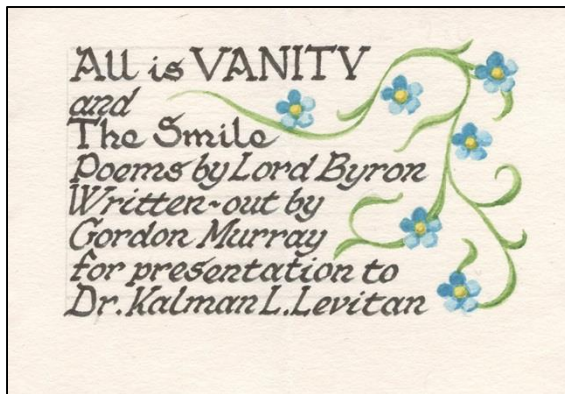
Cover painting

Each of us, as collectors have a few favorite things such as an artist, author, or publisher. I guess that I am not yet a true collector as I have more than a few favorites. One of which is Gordon Murray, the British publisher and artist who made his contributions to the world of miniature books in the 1980s and 1990s. His press name was Silver Thimble. Some of his books were done in editions of 500 copies and some, in particular later in his production timeline were ‘one-of-a-kind’ books. Even a few very special ‘one-of-a-kind’ books were done as presentation books for some people special to Gordon Murray.

‘*All Is Vanity and The Smile*’, *Poems by Lord Byron* is one of those special ‘one-of-a-kind’ books created for Dr. Kalman Levitan in 1992. One of the trademarks for Gordon Murray was the special covers that he designed, some were done as embroidered scenes, and others were actually done as miniature

watercolor paintings. ‘All Is Vanity’ was produced with a miniature watercolor across the full-size of the 2⁷/₁₆" x 2¹/₁₆" front cover. The colors utilized are muted browns, beiges, and a dusty red shirt all of which serve to highlight the almost angelic skin tones of the young Lord Byron. The cover painting is a rendition made from a portrait of Lord Byron originally done by Richard Westall. The text was produced in a hand drawn, black inked calligraphy, another mechanism, rather a well-developed skill, that was frequently employed by Murray. Lastly, the book is housed in a nicely constructed slipcase cover in black paper with a window designed to let the person holding the book/case view the painting.

I was not able to determine just why the book was created or I should say for what occasion. Perhaps it was a gift for his friend Kalman Levitan or ? Maybe a reader will be able to add some information to the history, which appears to be ‘unrecorded’ for the present. 📖

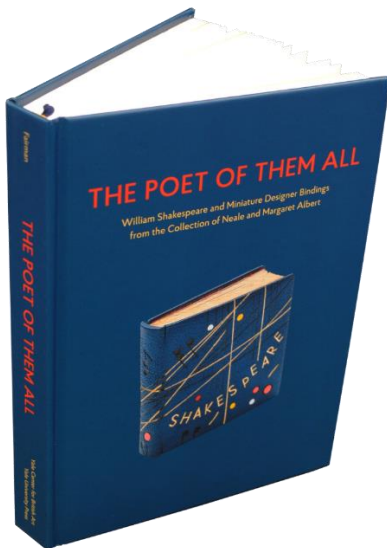


Title page, crossing two sheets

‘THE POET OF THEM ALL’, William Shakespeare and Miniature Designer Bindings, From the Collection of Neale and Margaret Albert:


On Wednesday June 15, 2016, I had the privilege of visiting the Yale Center for British Art, in New Haven, CT. What made this visit extra special was that the Center was hosting the exhibit of miniature designer bindings created and assembled into one of the more outstanding collections that I have ever seen. The almost 100 miniatures were assembled over several years by Neale to celebrate the works of Shakespeare from a fresh perspective not just the words but through the interpretations of many world-class binders. The staff of the Center brought the presentation of the actual exhibit together in their newly renovated facility. The works, the bindings, and the presentation of the exhibit will leave you at a loss of words to provide an adequate description. Certainly something to be seen with one’s own eyes, leaving your mind to formulate the lasting image and reflection.

The title of the exhibit, ‘The Poet of Them All’, is taken from a line of the song ‘Brush Up Your Shakespeare,’ a play written by Cole Porter and produced on Broadway in 1948. The centerpiece of the exhibition is a set of 39 miniatures, which contain the music and lyrics to the song. The 39 miniatures were created by Neale utilizing his press name, Piccolo Press. The 39 books were sent to different binders for their own unique interpretations and binding. The second component of the exhibit is made up of an older set of miniatures published by the Knickerbocker Leather and Novelty Company. The third set of miniatures was published by William Pickering. The outstanding cornerstone of the exhibit is that Neale sent all of these books to the workshops of the binders, across the globe, with only one comment “Make this the finest binding you have ever done”. The results are outstanding, so many styles, materials, and interpretations. The exhibit is completed with a final set of unique designer-bound works as well as several small bookcases and models related to the world of Shakespeare.



Accompanying the exhibit, the Yale Center for British Art created a hardbound book, which defines the collection components as well as the stories of the binders and their workshops for each miniature book. The book *The Poet of Them All* is included in our cover picture. Understanding that not everyone will be able to journey to New Haven, however, this book is the starship that will allow you to visit and revisit the exhibit over time. The Director’s Forward, by Amy Meyers as well as the Introduction of the book by Elisabeth R. Fairman provide you with a great amount of insight to the exhibit and the tremendous amount of work accomplished to bring all of the various and diverse pieces together. Also included is an essay ‘The Art of Contemporary Designer Bookbinding’ by James Reid-Cunningham. I found this essay extremely insightful to the understanding of the world of designer bookbinding. I quote from the closing line of the essay, “There is a disconnection between cerebral theories of

aesthetics and the vibrant enthralling bindings in ‘The Poet of the All’. In the designer bookbindings commissioned by Neale Albert, discussion of theory and analysis should perhaps yield to a simple embrace of beauty and pleasure.” The details provided in the exhibit guide book, by the binders regarding how they do their work are details that you are not provided with as a component of most exhibits. Certainly, ‘icing on the cake’, a job well done.

The book contains 240 pages and 365 color illustrations printed on white glossy paper, in a 7¹/₄" x 9¹/₂" format which is pleasing to read as well as to study the pictures. Available at the Yale University Press, <http://yalebooks.com/book/9780300219128/poet-them-all>. The actual exhibit runs through August 21, 2016. 

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. The current itinerary is as listed:

July 2016

Erik Jonsson Central Library
Dallas, TX

<http://dallaslibrary2.org/central/index.php>


August 3rd – 8th

MBS Conclave
Sheraton McKinney
1900 Gateway Boulevard
McKinney, TX

October and November 2016

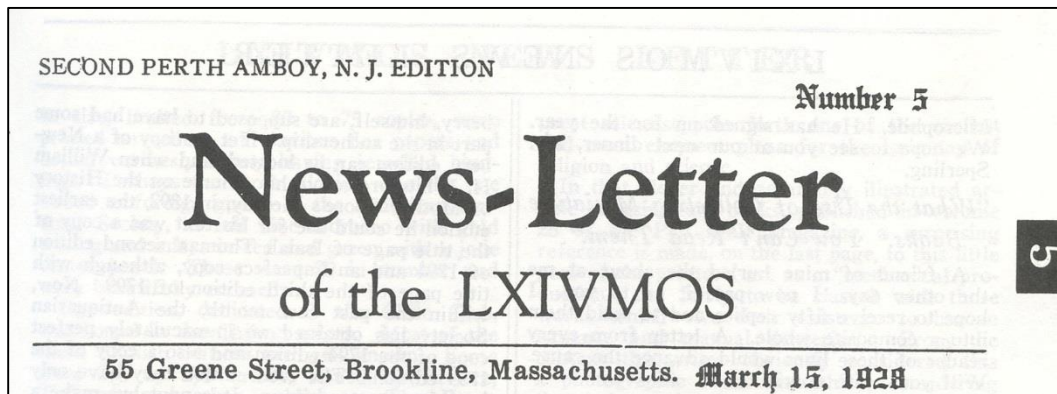
English Department, Troy University
Troy, AL

<http://www.troy.edu/>

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, ‘**OUTREACH** is our middle name’. Check the MBS website www.mbs.org for additional information. ‘Hit the EASY BUTTON’. 

**THE TIME MACHINE:
News-Letter of the LXIVMOS Number 5,
By Nina Mazzo**

NEWSLETTER OF THE LXIVMOS #5, Originally published, March 15, 1928



Issue Number 5 holds several interesting and a couple amusing tidbits worth sharing. There was a sale of miniature books in 1928 including ‘Meig’s Rubaiyat housed in a beautiful silver ring for \$420.’ James Henderson describes the scene as follows:

“Over a hundred prospective buyers were in the room when the first wee book was carried across the stage by the dusky uniformed attendant and placed on the pedestal...his majesty the auctioneer sat upon his throne...” I would love to time travel to this date and place and perhaps acquire my own wee book. (Note – Miniature Book News #81 June 1994 – Ruth Adomeit writes: “Meigs was asked why 57 copies were issued and he said that if 57 was good enough for Heinz it was good enough for him”. James D. Henderson noted that a copy sold at Swann Auction House in 1999 for \$2640.)

A man who works in the British Museum and cleans rare books said “Despite the new-fangled methods, I’ve never used anything but soap and water. Afterwards I rub ‘em with furniture polish”. Question for the reader – do you even attempt to clean your books?

Robert K. Shaw, Librarian, Worcester Free Public Library wrote about a book titled *Galileo a Cristina di Lorena*. He notes – “In 1615 the relation of the sun to the earth was no mere academic proposition, and in this letter to his friend and patron, the great scientist puts forth one of the earliest and most eloquent pleas for the harmony of religion and science”. (Note: Christie’s sold this edition in 2012 for \$3535).

On an amusing note – a letter to the editor from the Saturday Review of Literature takes Mr. Henderson to task for not paying more attention to the editing of The LXIVMOS and says some are ‘gross faults’. Mr. Henderson’s response had me chuckling out loud for he comments:

“Just between us, we are not really editors. We are really only plebian realtors...and we speak New York.”

Well, I think James Henderson would enjoy meeting James M. Brogan and they could compare ‘editin’ n’ everything’! 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 92651
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

Editor’s Note: The message from the ‘Scrivener’ is the same today as it was in 1928, 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’. 📖

GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

Next issue, Volume XXXV, Number 5 Issue 203, (expected publish date; September 1, 2016):

- ‘An Antiquarian Delight’, TBD, something special and something very rare...
- A review of *The Anatomy of an Auction, Rare Books at Ruxley Lodge, 1919*
- A review of the secrets included in *Books and Bidders* by A.S.W. Rosenbach
- The return of the ‘book lovers crossword puzzle’, by Karen Nyman
- *The Secret Adversary, Volume I & II*, by Agatha Christie, published by Plum Park Press
- *The Development of Embroidery In America*, published by Plum Park Press
- Time Machine Number 6, by Nina Mazzo
- ‘Conclave Recap’, by Joan Knoertzer
- Visiting Queen Mary’s Doll House, by The Scrivener
- *Sailing To Istanbul*, published by Bo Press
- ‘A Book Out of the Box’, *Faberge*, by Joseph L. Curran, Kurbel Books, 1988
- A Conversation with Michael Garbett, Bookseller
- More Information About William Macey Stone, by Melinda Brown
- ‘Long Lost Paper’ from the Lilliputter Press, Frank H. Teagle
- How about something from you? ‘Always room at the inn.’

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. 📖

A VISIT WITH DR. R., A SHORT TALE ABOUT FOUR BOOKS, Or ‘Three Books and a Keepsake’: By Jim Brogan

In the last issue of *The Microbibliophile* I talked about three publications, all titled *A Visit With Dr. R.* They were created by Ernest Dawson, Robert Massmann, and Wallace Nethery respectively. There was a question regarding the fact that each had a reference to ‘120’ copies. Also, I had acquired a copy of a publication, same title with a colophon reference to ‘30 copies’.

As we know, information sometimes gets ‘lost’ over time and then generated questions for a contemporary reader. At the conclusion of my previous issue article, the following information was presented:

In summary, we had the following:

Publisher	Binding	Publication Year	Copies mentioned in the colophon	Reference
Muir Dawson	Green paper binding	1948	30 copies	Version 1
REM, Massmann	Brown glossy paper	1968	120	Version 2
Dawson’s / Nethery	Marbled paper	1988	120	Version 3

The outstanding questions were:

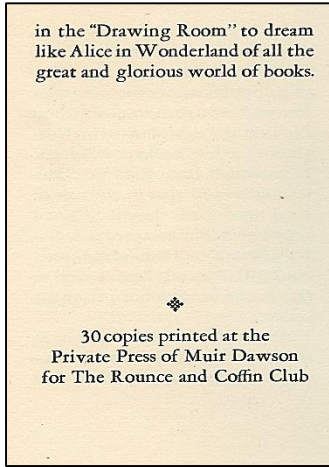
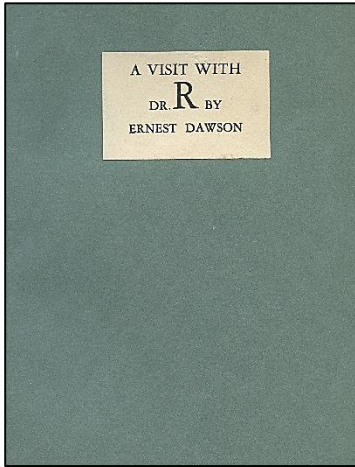
- Is version 1, (green version) the original or is this some type of keepsake or variant?
- If version 1 is a ‘keepsake’ what can or do we know about the ‘original’ printed with 120 copies?
- Is the number of copies mentioned in the colophon of version 1 a misprint?
- Did Massmann get the correct number from Dawson’s prior to his publication and then just not mention the variation between the 30 vs. 120 copies?
- Did Nethery follow suit based on what was published in the REM colophon?

The Internet is a great tool for searching through ‘boxes and boxes’ of library listing and even soliciting the help of additional bibliophiles. With the help of John Howell, a bookseller in Los Angeles, we are now able to answer our questions.

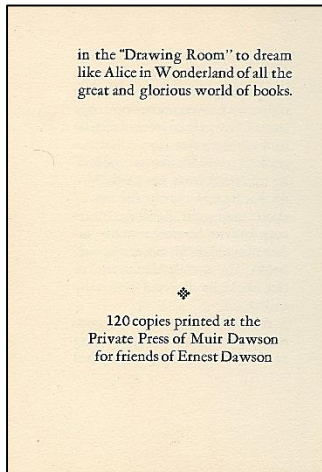
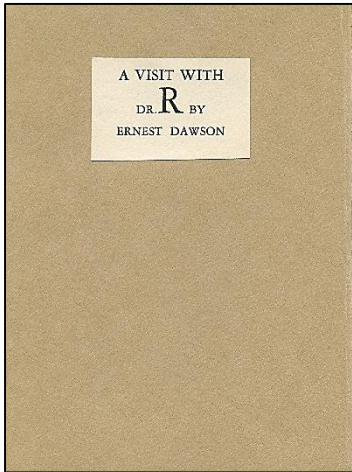
The answered questions are:

- Is version 1, (green version) the original or is this some type of keepsake or variant? **KEEPSAKE**
- If version 1 is a ‘keepsake’ what can or do we know about the ‘original’ printed with 120 copies?
Picture of the original follows with ‘120’ colophon noted
- Is the number of copies mentioned in the colophon of version 1 a misprint?
Correct number of copies for the keepsake
- Did Massmann get the correct number from Dawson’s prior to his publication and then just not mention the variation between the 30 vs. 120 copies?
Massmann obviously had the ‘original publication noting ‘120’ copies, as usual, Bob was correct
- Did Nethery follow suit based on what was published in the REM colophon? **Yes**

The photos of the cover and the colophon page of the 'keepsake w/green paper cover' follow:



The photos of the cover and the colophon page of the 'original [Version 4], w/beige paper cover' follow:

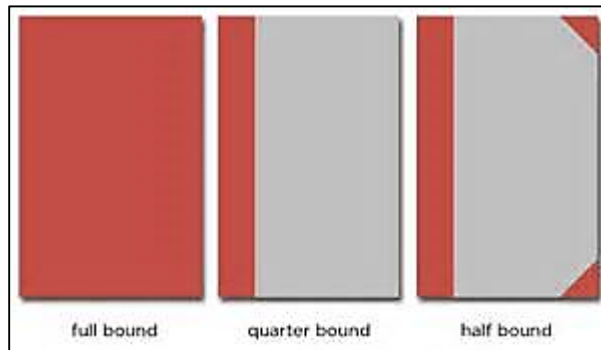


Accurate information is priceless. Hope you enjoyed the travel log! 📖

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, Quarter-bound vs Half-Bound:

Quarter-bound is a term that defines the style and materials that are utilized when ‘binding’ the covers of a book. A book that is bound with either a leather spine and cloth sides or a cloth spine and paper sides with no leather corners is considered to be ‘quarter-bound’.

Half-bound, defines a book that is bound with the spine and ‘corners’ of the sides covered in a leather or possibly vellum. The rest of the sides would normally be covered with a cloth or paper. The abbreviation for the style is normally written as ‘hf. bd.’ 📖



A BOOKSELLER EXTRAORDINAIRE, Louis W. Bondy, (1910 – 1993),

Editor’s Note: This outstanding article about Louis Bondy, was original published in the May 2014 issue of ‘The Microbibliophile’, written by Gail Curry as part of the series ‘Famous Miniature Book People’. Since our current theme is about booksellers, I thought it was particularly appropriate since Bondy was not only a bookseller but probably one of the most knowledgeable and successful miniature booksellers in the world. The page numbers noted in the article refer to the individual publications noted.

“Miniature books: just two words, but they open up an entire world.”
from *MINIATURE BOOKS: Their History from the Beginnings to the Present Day* p.1

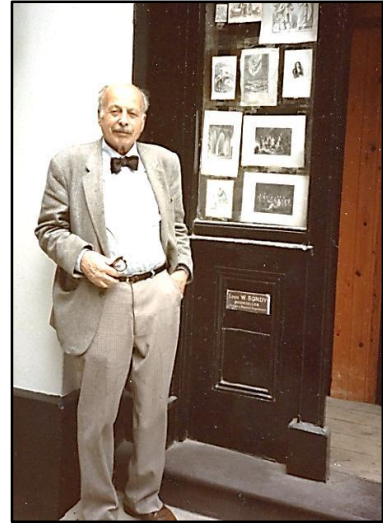
According to Msgr. Francis J. Weber, Louis W. Bondy was an interesting man, a kind of Damon Runyon character. His knowledge of miniature books was superb. He has been called a “walking encyclopedia of miniature books”. Above all, Louis Bondy was an authentic bookman who just loved books. Money was secondary to him. Weber further states that Bondy, together with his good friend, Ruth Adomeit, brought miniature books into the common forum.

BIOGRAPHY... Louis Wolfgang Bondy was born in a suburb of Berlin in 1910 into a cultured Jewish family. His father was a distinguished journalist and editor of a literary magazine. Bondy attended the Berlin Technical University to study architecture, but never

completed his studies. Instead, he followed his father's profession and became a journalist, working as a correspondent for several prominent European newspapers. While at the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* in Paris in 1932, he filed stories on art galleries, the theatre and opera. However, when Hitler came to power in 1933, Bondy was exiled to Spain, becoming a photojournalist in Madrid, only to become entangled in the Spanish Civil War. He fled to London in 1936, where he joined the Jewish Central Information Office. He was its Acting Director during the war years, working with the Political Intelligence Department of the British Foreign Office. After the war, Bondy left journalism to open an antiquarian bookstore in London in 1946 at 16 Little Russell Street, a block south of the British Library. There he remained for more than 40 years, developing a reputation as the world's leading authority on miniature books.

BOOK SHOP... Msgr. Francis J. Weber visited the shop on at least three separate occasions, and provides a good description. While miniature books were Bondy's specialty, his bookshop contained a wide variety of more than 25,000 books, all crowded into one relatively small room. The front door was adorned with a variety of prints and a brass name plaque identifying the location as that of **Louis W. BONDY, Bookseller**. Upon entering, the air is heavy laden with cigar smoke. Mr. Bondy can be seen reading something in a dark corner. Electricity was "dear", so the lights were dim. Books were everywhere, and Louis Bondy knew them all. The miniature books were in an unlocked case located in a prominent position near a desk by the window. Each visit was memorable.

ANECDOTES ...Along the way, Louis Bondy, who was known by all as a gentle, gracious man of old European ways, had many interesting experiences specifically related to his tiny tomes. These were recounted in Bondy's own words in a delightful article published by Julian Edison in the *Miniature Book News* #12, June 1968. The seeds of his passion were sewn in his childhood, as with so many collectors. As a lad of 12, his father took him along to an elderly bookseller in his hometown of Nikolassee, near Berlin. There he spotted a tiny book in a metal case with a magnifier. It turned out to be the smallest miniature encyclopedia in existence, *Sanders' Konversations-Lexicon*, published in Berlin in 1896 and measuring only 32 x 33 mm. In his words, "I pestered my poor father until he bought it for me and I was launched on a life-long hobby." p. 2 This book formed the nucleus of the small library of miniature books that Bondy would take with him when he left Germany as a refugee from Nazi persecution. They traveled with him to France, Spain and eventually to England in 1936, where, unfortunately, they met their demise. As Bondy described it, "the collection was decimated when a disgruntled girlfriend who wanted to do me the greatest possible harm, flushed three of my nicest tiny books down the toilet. What neither the Nazis nor the Spanish Civil War...had achieved was now a fact. I had lost some of my dearest possessions." p. 2 Louis Bondy, in the same article, also describes the relationship between his miniature books and his wife [Hannah]. Apart from the miniature books in the store, he began to build his own collection in his home. He had them neatly housed



*'The front door of the book shop'
photo courtesy of Robert F. Hanson*

in small bookcases. They were even filmed for a 1952 Pathé newsreel which may be viewed on line at www.britishpathe.com/video/miniature-books. Unfortunately, his wife did not appreciate them at all, considering them useless dust collectors. However, she changed her mind when Bondy was able to sell some of them to an American colleague for \$6,000. In Bondy's words, "she has completely changed her attitude and does not only appreciate their beauty and ingenious technical and aesthetic perfection, but has helped me enormously in finding these ever rarer treasures..." p. 2 Sadly, Msgr. Weber recalls the time he visited the London bookshop, and Louis Bondy looked so glum. Upon inquiry, he was told that his wife had died, and the funeral was that afternoon. The Monsignor attended.

CIVIC WORK ...Bondy was elected to the London County Council in 1958 and the Greater London Council in 1964, one of about 100 people who, in his words, "ran the great metropolis". He was also the chairman of the Historic Buildings Board. These jobs, combined with his passion for education, serving as governor of many schools and chair of several organizations including the Inner London Education Authority, consumed much of his time. According to Msgr. Weber, probably the primary purpose was to build connections (some Royal), and these served him well. All of this left little time for his own miniature book collection. As a result, he decided to make the books available to collectors through special displays in his bookshop and in numerous catalogues.

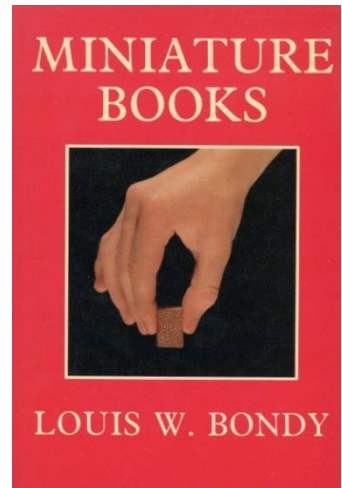
WRITINGS ... Fortunately, Louis Bondy left an interesting and varied written legacy. These writings, briefly annotated, include:

Books:

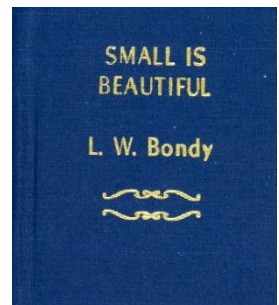
1946 *RACKETEERS OF HATRED: Julius Streicher and the Jew-Baiters' International* by Louis W. Bondy. London: Newman Wolsey, 1946, 8vo, blue cloth, 268pp. Index, 16pp. of b&w illustrations, d-w. Louis Bondy, the journalist, lays out Hitler's divide and conquer strategy of race baiting. Original sources are cited extensively. "This book is a tale of malice, hatred, and persecution. The facts it contains are but a small selection from the available material." p. 247

1961 *CATALOGUE OF THE LIBRARY OF MINIATURE BOOKS* collected by Percy Edwin Spielmann...together with some Descriptive Summaries. London: Edward Arnold, 1961, limited to 500 copies, 8vo, cloth, 289pp., 4 black & white plates. Lists 541 items. Includes sections on bookplates, curiosities and music in miniature books plus five indices: Subject, Authors, Publishers and Printers, Illustrators, and Places of Publication other than London. It was the most comprehensive bibliography to date. Spielmann acknowledges the "assistance of major importance from Mr. Louis Bondy... His knowledge and experience have been invaluable as well as his critical examination of the proofs of the volume." This work has generally been accepted as Bondy's own work.

1981 **MINIATURE BOOKS: THEIR HISTORY from the beginnings to the present day** by Louis Bondy. London: Sheppard Press, first published September 1981. 8vo, red cloth, gilt spine title, author and SP (Press), 221pp. More than 60 illustrations, mostly black and white. Bibliography, General Index and Index of Publishers and Printers. It was issued in a German translation under the title of *Miniturbucher von den Anfängen bis heute* by Presser in 1988. This book marked the publication of the most comprehensive and definitive resource 'to date' on miniature books. It was an excellent introduction to the collecting of miniature books incorporating their history, subject matter, and changes in taste and technical production. From the Conclusion: "Above all, these minute tomes are, for those of us who have learned to love and cherish them, tangible manifestations of the infinite variety of human skills, sharpened and refined by the exigencies of their format." p. 201



1987 **SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL** by Louis W. Bondy, edited with an excellent Preface by Msgr. Francis J. Weber. Miniature book published in 1987 by the Miniature Book Society, printed and bound by Tabula Rasa Press of Morro Bay, in an edition of 400 copies. 2 9/16" x 2 1/4 ", gilt blue cloth, 40 pp., colophon, marbled end-papers. Contains the speech delivered by Louis Bondy at the Grand Conclave III in Burbank over the Labor Day weekend in 1985. Bondy gave an interesting account of the varied aspects of miniature books, interspersed with first hand personal experiences. "We are by our very interest and knowledge rendering an important *rescue service* to these small volumes ...which otherwise would frequently not have survived and ended their days ingloriously in forgotten corners." pp. 32-33



Periodicals:

1964 **THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL BOOK LEAGUE**, May, June 1964, No. 353, Article. *Miniature Books* by Louis W. Bondy, pp. 80-84.

"A true miniature book must be conceived as a whole on a tiny scale, printed in small type, bound in a binding tooled with delicacy in proportion to its size. All its features must be reduced in such a way as to produce a balanced and aesthetically pleasing entity." p. 80

"... many miniature volumes have been produced - or sometimes simply manufactured on a kind of publishers' conveyor-belt - since 1895 by photo-lithography; these much less artistic products are simply reductions of larger volumes and include [those] produced by Bryce in Glasgow, with the aid of the Glasgow University Press, most of them preserved in metal cases with inset magnifying glasses ... also small editions of the Lord's Prayer in seven different languages. These purely mechanical products are much more likely to

hamper and even destroy the hobby of collecting miniature books than to help it.” p. 82. That view later changed.

1980 **ANTIQUARIAN BOOK MONTHLY REVIEW**, Oxford, January, 1980. **Miniature Books, Their History and Significance**. This carefully researched article is one of Bondy’s best, and was selected for inclusion in the official catalogue of the Brussels [International]

Exhibition of small size book bindings at the Bibliotheca Wittockiana. It opened on Feb. 8, 1991. In Bondy’s words, “Thus our gospel of St. Minimus will be helped in its progress through the civilized world.” In this article, Bondy claims to have owned the only known copy of *Kalendarium Gregorianum*, printed by Christopher Plantin in 1585. The original article was reprinted on page 29 of May 2014 issue of *The Microbibliophile*.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten note in cursive. The text reads "My best wishes" on the first line and "Louis" on the second line.

Message and signature written on a copy of Catalog 152

1989 - **MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**. Louis Bondy wrote a very informative column, “International News” for several issues beginning in October 1989, and also in January, April and October 1990, and January and April 1991. He was also an MBS Member-at-Large during this time. His reports from England and the Continent were always an interesting read. For example: “If your bookcases are dustless, then they are also airless, and being airless is the worst thing for books.” October 1989, p. 12 “This planned [Brussels] exhibition (see above) is certainly proof of the fact that the book world is becoming increasingly conscious of the interest in and attraction of the small format. Small is beautiful.” Apr. 1990, p. 7 “[Most MBS members have seen] the paperbound miniature volumes issued by the Nazis ... as receipt for (enforced) donations to the “Winter Help” action. They are propaganda items glorifying a hideous regime... they had to be carried in buttonholes to tell the Nazi collectors that their possessors had paid their dues to the political machine.” Oct. 1990, p. 8

Catalogues:

Beginning in 1947- Bondy issued 156 Catalogues, with six between 1967 and 1980 devoted exclusively to miniature books: #69, 82, 84, 86, 89, and 91. These catalogues, known for their scholarly content, are highly collectable.

Beginning in 1982, Bondy issued supplemental miniature book “lists” mostly on a quarterly basis with the last #156 issued shortly before his death in 1993. Many a fine book passed through his hands, which were elegantly documented in these lists. Personal greetings appeared on many.

From List #98/1983, Bondy states, “We offer our special greetings and best wishes to the recent “Grand Conclave” of miniature book publishers which we were sorry not to be able to attend. It will mark the beginning of a new miniature book era.” Indeed it did.

Speaking to his earlier thoughts on the Bryce books (see *Journal* above), Bondy states at the top of his List #108/1985, “Of particular interest are a number of now rare miniature volumes published by David Bryce & Son in Glasgow who was one of the great

innovators in the field. We were lucky ... to purchase these items from the granddaughter of that eminent miniature book publisher.”

And finally, from the last page of List #156: “Yet another Miniature Book List, issued near our 83rd birthday. We hope it appeals to our friends and clients. It will be one of our last.” 📖



‘A Man in His World’

photo taken by the late Grace Broecker in 1993
photo courtesy of Robert F. Hanson

The author wishes to express many thanks to:

Msgr. Weber for his valuable input,
Robert Hanson for providing photos and helpful written resources, and
Julian Edison, Editor, ‘Miniature Book News’, for his informative articles especially in Issue #12

Contact information: [UPDATED] Gail Curry, 1041 Bomar Court, Mars, PA, 16046, telephone 913-269-4964,
E-mail:curry.gail@att.net

SOME INTERESTING BOOK STUFF, INFORMATION SHARING:

The Creativity Caravan, <http://thecreativitycaravan.com/>

The Creativity Caravan, The Tiny Book Show, will be attending the MBS Conclave, in McKinney, Texas this August 5th – 7th. Please visit their site to learn more about their experiences and concepts.

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

The newsletter is electronically distributed by the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America is a great source of bibliophile related information and ongoing events. The current issue has an interesting installment titled 'The Savvy Bookseller, Tips and Tricks Before You Shoot' [photos], by Kaitlan Manning. In the 'On Collecting Books' section has an interesting article about Charles Dickens titled the 'Final Chapter'. Great articles on a diverse subject list but all related to books, and all worth reading.

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

The Florida Bibliophile Society's monthly 2016 newsletter is a well-done publication filled with great information and activities within the book world. They take a brief 'summer break' but their monthly meeting get going again in September, looking forward to the newsletter and the various diverse activities.

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 keeping the readers informed about information of interest to the bibliophile. Take a look and you will be surprised at what you can learn about this vibrant book club. The most current Newsletter was just published and it is full of outstanding articles. 'A Good Year To Collect The Queen', 'Arthur Szyk and His Art', 'The Curse That Never Was', 'Collecting Bookends', and much more, a joy to read.

Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society, <http://www.nobs.nobsweb.org>

NOBS is another organization that is jammed pack with events and activities for their members. Upcoming events include a special book sale at the Eleanor Squire Library, July 15th – 17th, and the Cleveland Antiquarian Book and Paper Show, September 25, 2016. Check the website for more details

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

Here is a good place to start if you want to learn more about auctions.

LBS/Archival Products, <http://www.archival.com>

James Reid-Cunningham pointed me to this address, a new source for me; <http://www.archival.com/newsletters/apnewsvol20no2.pdf> Newsletter Volume 20, No. 2, 2016 has a lead article about ‘Special Considerations for the Care of Miniature Books and their bindings’, by Jeanne Goodman. The article first identifies just what a miniature book is then goes on to discuss various storage considerations as well as conservation options to prevent or rectify various problems. There are more than a few illustrations as well as references to additional resources for the collector and conservationist. I thought it was well worth the reading time and as I said, it was a ‘new site’ for me.

Gravers and Files, fontscm, <https://vimeo.com/165201643>

Dr. Arno Gschwendtner supplied the above address. The link points to a 45 minute video about the lost art of ‘type punch cutting’, one of the preliminary steps in the creation of ‘type’ that can be utilized for printing. The film is a journey into a time capsule of the work of P. H. Radisch at the firm of Joh. Enschedé in the Zonen Type Foundry in Holland. The video/film is historical, informative, and spellbinding. There are not many pieces of history filmed like this. Do not miss this, <https://vimeo.com/165201643>

Collecting is an ever-changing educational experience. Being a miniature book collector can be a full time job. One thing leads to another as we travel the globe through the various publications and the electronic links. Pack your socks, get a map, and HAVE FUN. 📖

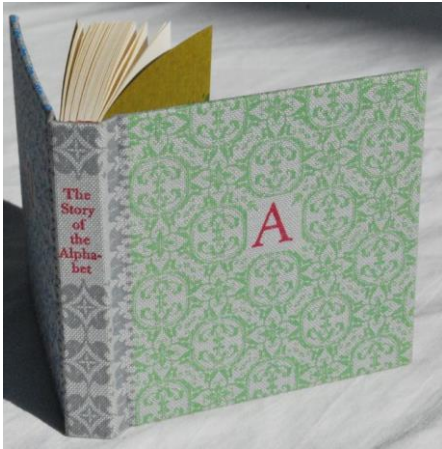
PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED, The Miniature Book Society Newsletter:

The MBS Newsletter No. 102, July 2016 is the first issue to be completed by the new editor, Rick Hill, who recently took over the reins of the publication from the Barbara Williamson. Many thanks to Barbara for a job well done.

Rick has brought a fresh look to the publication, changing the format to a two-column layout utilizing glossy white paper, which is easy to read and allows for the use of more pictures and illustrations. Included is a lengthy article on Neale Albert’s exhibit ‘Brush Up Your Shakespeare’ which was presented at the Grolier Club in New York. Also included are additional articles about a miniature book printed on jade, an ultra-small bible, ‘400 years of Cervantes’, and much more. Julian Edison is the editor of the *Miniature Book News* which is a component of the newsletter. If you are a member you have already received your copy, if not, please do think about joining the MBS, www.mbs.org. An outstanding value for the lover of tomes.

WE HAVE INK IN OUR HEARTS, Anthony Kroll and Richard Hoffman:

Sometime we hear a name and it ‘rings a bell’ but the recognition is not loud and clear. Two such bibliophiles are Richard Hoffman and Antony Kroll. They both did the majority of their work during the 1980s.



Glen Dawson called Hoffman [1912-1989] one of the pioneer printers of Southern California. He was a printer teacher for over forty years and created eight letterpress miniature books some in collaboration with Msgr. Francis J. Weber and on occasion with Bela Blau. Dawson said, “Richard had a great capacity to teach and inspire others in printing and paper making.” Hoffman never operated a printing press with an imprint that took in job work, employed a paid staff, printing equipment, or a mortgage, or rent on a building. Instead, he informally took on work requested by others. Those who wanted the work done paid for the materials. Hoffman developed the graphic designs. Then he recruited his students to do the composition, presswork, and binding. The benefit to

the students was in the exposure to the practical production experience. In 1988, Hoffman printed a miniature edition of a book by Otto Ege, *The Story of the Alphabet, Embellished Typographically, with printer’s flowers arranged by Richard J. Hoffman*, 82 pages letterpress, and cloth bound. Each opening contains Ege’s text on the verso page, and on the recto page, Hoffman used metal ornaments and flowers to decorate each letter of the alphabet. Their beauty and variety are exceptional.

Anthony Kroll was an engraver by trade and he did publish three miniature books under his press name of Hagus Alley. He also collaborated with many others in the illustration of miniature books. One of his three miniatures is a book titled *Santa Cruz Island and the Chapel of the Holly Cross*. It was originally designed as a keepsake for a friend Dr. Carey Stanton, with a small press run of only ten copies produced with a small brass ficha [an actual component of the sheep raising activities on the island] inset into the cover. I will leave the question of the brass ficha and Santa Cruz Island history to your own investigations as this in itself is an interesting story. Msgr. Weber has been the Chaplain for Santa Cruz Island since 1968. This miniature has become one of the most sought after and difficult to locate publications associated with Msgr. Francis Weber.



Sometimes the smallest tidbits of information provide us with great inspiration, the journey continues. 📖

**FELLOWSHIP OF AMERICAN BIBLIOPHILIC SOCIETIES,
San Francisco Tour and Symposium:
Reviewed by Joan Knoertzer**

Editor's Note: Each year the FABS organization organizes a special tour to a unique and special part of the world of books. The 2016 tour was held in the San Francisco area, the tour was so rich, in both the venues visited and book treasures experienced it cannot adequately be reviewed in one issue of 'The Microbibliophile'. Hence, we will begin the recap with this issue and continue to bring you information over the next several issues via the experience of Joan Knoertzer who attend the event.

The full event began on Wednesday, June 15 and concluded on Sunday, June 19, 2016. The Book Club of California (BCC) was the sponsor. A brief overview of the activities follows:

Thursday;

Bancroft Library
C.V. Starr East Asian Library
San Francisco Center For the Book
California Historical Society
Brick Row Book Shop
John Windle Booksellers

Friday;

Commonwealth Club of California
San Francisco Public Library, Book Arts and Special Collections Center
Asian Art Museum, C. Laan Chun Library Collection

Saturday;

Symposium 'Delights and Dilemmas of Booksellers, Librarians, and Private Collectors at BCC
Arian Press
The Society of California Pioneers

Sunday;

Visits to Bay Area 'private collections'

Tour organizer, Anne W. Smith, also Past President of the BCC, and Jennifer Sime, BCC Executive Director, greeted attendees at the Registration. Past President John Crichton gave a short history of the club, founded in 1912, and dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of the book and the book arts, focusing on the literature/history of California and the West. Their brochure explains their ability to publish limited edition books, maintain a special collections library that is full of over 12,000 fine press books and ephemera from the area as well as reference materials, all-available for member's research. Their exhibition and programs present topics on fine printing, design, topography, calligraphy, papermaking, illustration, bookbinding, collecting, and scholarship related to the history of the book. This is done in a series of rooms filled with books, comfortable chairs, a fireplace, refreshments, research tables, and plenty of volunteers who help with your research or discussions



During this introduction to the series of articles about the tour, I will focus on the Bancroft Library. The Bancroft Library is the primary special collections library at University of California Berkeley (UCB). David Faulds, Curator of Rare Books and Literary Manuscripts, and Peter Hanff greeted us. The library supports major research and instructional activities playing a leading role in the development of the UCB's research collections. It's heavily used rare books collection, manuscripts and

unique West Coast materials are known worldwide. There were many exciting specimens for us to peruse from more than 600,000 volumes, 60,000 manuscripts, 8 million photographs/pictures, 3 million digital files, 43,000 microfilms, and 23,000 maps. The collection of Hubert Howe Bancroft, (founder), is subdivided into the collections of Western Americans and Latin Americans. The research centers collections are: The Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, The Mark Twain Papers, and The Oral History Center.

As we entered the display room, a large library table held our attention as David explained his treasures. There was a picture of a fifteen-year-old Samuel Clemens, cocky smile, hat on head, holding a printer's stick with SAM etched into the wood. There were papyri, which had been used as stuffing to mummify crocodiles (animals worshipped by the Ancient Egyptians). Phoebe A. Hearst had sponsored excavations in Tebtunis, Egypt beginning in 1899 to dig up burial plots not only of humans, but crocodiles. According to their literature "they found 31,000 thousand fragments of writing on reed paper called papyrus...written in Greek and Egyptian demotic...which provide examples of rare literary texts and an unparalleled window into the daily lives of Egyptians living more than two millennia ago, the residue of an unusually record-conscious culture."

The source of the next papyri was again Egypt, a temple complex, and was by Sophocles, a play from 2 B.C., called "Innocus" - a satyr play with Hermes and a chorus of satyrs. Phoebe Hearst again commissioned the dig. Another part of this play is at the Papyrus Collection in Oxford. Yale and the University of Michigan also have 10,000 plus papyri fragments. Putting these fragments together has been an ongoing study since these digs began in the 1880's.

There were also a series of revenue returns from 2 B.C. Verso and recto lines showed their organization of everything they traded or sold. In one tomb, writings on bark were buried then found. Dictus was a priest, and in charge of production. His notes on bark were found proving trade with Troy. In 1900 there emerged a Greek printing of the death of Achilles, as well as the main part of the collection: amulets, medical texts and dated contracts.

Their Latin American collection has grown from an original 15,000 books to 50,000 books. This includes fine posters and artist's books. The Vincenze elephant folio of one antiphonal of a set of 12 and dates from the 1480's, it was discovered in Latin America in 1878 and came to the Bancroft in the 1890's. Phoebe Hearst donated this and other items from around the world. Francisco de Costello was the main scribe. He did his illuminations on animal skin, in gold and other fine inks, putting interesting faces on some of the letters.

A 'Book of Hours', produced in England, but written in Latin, showed the printer's stamp of Blaine Caxton, the first English printer, (Caxton Club members from Chicago were particularly impressed to see this). Lincoln DeWard added his logo in the 1890's. Silk was used to protect the wrappers. Next, we saw a leaf from a book from the 1390's, "Everyone Should Read the Bible", a leaf of 38 lines with illuminated letters by Wychen, and translated into English. The Morocco leather binding, with gold imprint of flowerettes and a black border, a six string spine decorated in gold (only 25-30 are known) had a provenance signed Q.E., London, Canterbury, Helmine Pole (in Norfolk), owned by the Tomminette family.

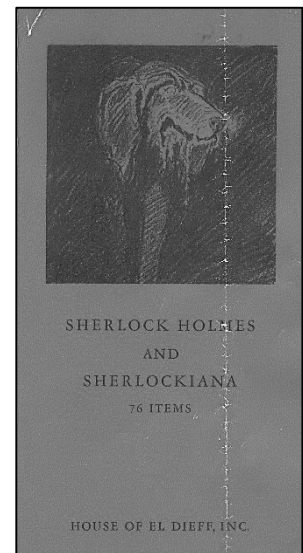
Then we moved to the area containing the Mark Twain papers. There it was, a letter showing a befuddled Samuel Clemens. This what-to-do-with-your-life letter is very significant. In September 1865, San Francisco, Twain wrote as a journalist at 30 years of age, to his brother and sister-in-law. He had not published yet. Frustrated, he writes he... "dreamed of being a pilot and a minister...and never became a minister because he never got religion." He realizes his goal is in writing literature but he has been rejected. He gave himself one month before he would give up, and on October 19th, one month later, in 1871, his life changes. He publishes his first article, a chapter of *Innocents Abroad* (his first book) which was a compilation from various newspapers he had read and edited and used to write the book. So his early attempt to put his life on pause worked. From then on, he was a work in progress, and today we are still finding writings and ephemera by Twain.

I hope you have enjoyed my recap, certainly a library visit to remember for a lifetime, I am glad to have had the opportunity to share my experiences with you. My next installment will be about the C. V. Starr East Asian Library.

MORE SHERLOCKIANA: By Robert F. Orr Hanson

Editor's Note: Bob Hanson our 'Editor Emeritus' of 'The Microbibliophile' is like the 'Energiizer Bunny'. The old typewriter just keeps cranking out the stories and articles for 'The Microbibliophile', the publication he started with a few sheets of typing paper in 1977. Bob is truly a man deeply embedded in the world of miniature books.

One of the most popular topics in the book collecting world centers around the adventures of Sherlock Holmes, the great consulting detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The following is a short and selective review of a bookseller's catalogue entitled "Sherlock Holmes and Sherlockiana". It was published by The House of El Dieff, Inc. (Lew David Feldman) which was located in New York City. The slim, 8½" x 4", 16 page, soft cover, professionally printed booklet contains 76 annotated entries. While the catalogue is undated, I received my copy, more than a few years ago, in 1977. Interestingly, the red and black front cover depicts a drawing of 'The Slaving Hound' from *The Hounds of the Baskervilles*, an unpublished, framed, crayon drawing, in two colors and measuring 18" x 14½" for \$1,000.



If all the items were sold the total sales figure would have been \$225,770. One of the entries was listed at \$50,000, though many of the items were offered in the low 100s.

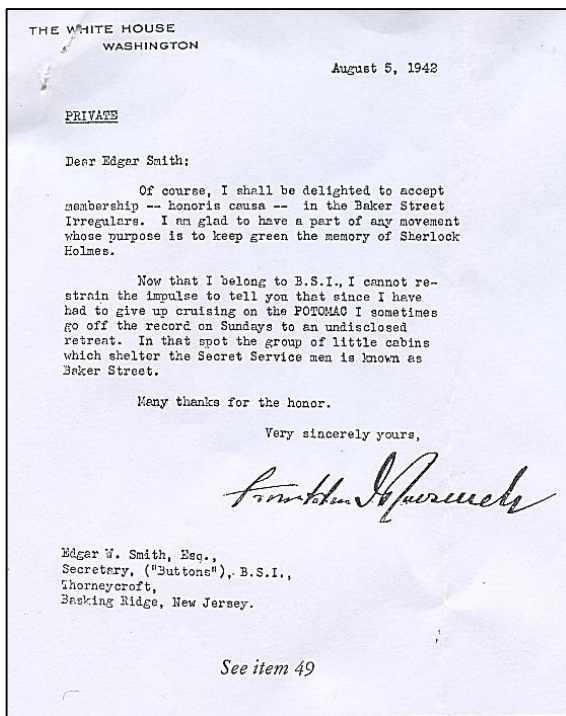
My purpose in reviewing this catalogue is to expose collectors of miniature books to some unfamiliar works by Sir Arthur. Indeed, some of his Sherlockiana has appeared in the form of tiny tomes. Allow me to point to the definitive resource work, in that genre, titled *The Miniature Sherlock Holmes* by Gail Curry. For more information, call Gail at (913) 269-4964.

Because of space limitations, I will cover only a few of the 76 published and unpublished items in the booklet. In the former category, items 1-10 consist of the first story about Sherlock Holmes, *A Study in Scarlet*, which appeared in *Beeton's Christmas Annual* for 1887 and published in London by Ward, Lock and Co. This 'very rare first appearance' was offered at \$2,500 and was housed in a cloth folding case. The remaining entries of *A Study in Scarlet* were later editions ranging from 1888 to 1896, in various bound sizes, bound in cloth and/or wrappers and priced from \$25 to \$1500.

Number 29 is titled *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* with the Preface by Christopher Morley. It is in two volumes with 'morocco-cloth' spine and both are contained in a 'publisher's box'. It is number 2 of 147 numbered copies and autographed by Arthur Conan Doyle. The set was published by Doubleday in 1953 and priced at \$400. The Molly Maguires were the subject of the Holmesian novel, *The Valley of Fear*. This entry offers thirty-one books and pamphlets about them and ranges from 1876 to 1969. The price was \$1,000.

Number 38 is a book titled *221B Studies in Sherlock Holmes* by Various Hands and edited by Vincent Starrett. Bound in cloth with a dust wrapper, the first edition was published by Macmillan in 1940. The volume is autographed by 30 Sherlockians and laid in is a signed letter from Vincent Starrett to the collector Edgar W. Smith which discusses various Sherlockian publication projects. Offering price is \$250.

Number 49, a politically interesting entry, contains several letters, dated from 1943 to 1945, and all addressed to Edgar W. Smith, the Sherlockian owning some of these items. There were Presidential letters from Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman thanking collector Smith for offering the politicians membership in the Baker Street Irregulars. The other letters to Smith, marked 'Private', were from Roosevelt's Private Secretary—all letters were signed. The last item was a copy number 1 of 150 titled *A Baker Street Folio*, 1945 and in original leather. The collection was priced at \$5,000.



The last part of this catalogue offers twenty entries of Conan Doyle's unpublished materials owned by the estate of Adrian Conan Doyle and his heir Anna Conan Doyle. They are in the form of autograph manuscripts and original illustrations for selected Holmesian stories. Following are abbreviated descriptions of only two autograph manuscripts. The beginning entry is 'The First Leaf of Notes for A Study in Scarlet', 1896, one page containing 'the earliest notes and jottings on the characters of Holmes and Dr. Watson', priced at \$10,000. The highest priced item listed is an unproduced and unpublished play titled, *Angels of Darkness: A Drama in Three Acts*, 187 pages in five cloth or board notebooks-signed in each notebook 1889-1890. These were offered at \$50,000. There were 11 other autograph manuscripts (of various Sherlockian stories) which ran from \$500 to \$25,000.

The last 8 items were original illustrations by Sidney Paget which were included in 'The Strand Magazine', various monthly issues from 1893. Prices extended from \$250 to \$4,000.

In conclusion, this review is but a miniscule look at only a few of the items in this important piece of Sherlock Holmesiana. I do hope you enjoyed reading my words

There you have it!



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

Editor's Note: Please read the inset for #49 carefully, the Baker Street cabins were part of 'Shangra La', the original name for the Presidential Retreat, Camp David. It is always interesting to dig into the details and learn how much you do not know. FDR had a keen interest in code names for things, hence 'Shangrai-la' and of course 'Sacred Cow', which was the first 'Air Force One'. Not exactly, miniature book trivia but I thought it interesting information about a U S President and a microbibliophile. For more tidbits, take a few minutes and look at: https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/presidents/site26.htm

Old Farmhouse Books -- offering miniature books and ephemera to the discerning collector. Inquiries are always welcome and current and past catalog lists are available upon request to:



oldfarmhouse@gmail.com or
oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net. The newest list contains miniature books themed on the alphabet representing various authors, presses, and publishers. In the works is a listing of miniatures less than 1"x1". All lists are set-up in Excel format.

Thank you for your interest, Sherry

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CATALOGUES RECEIVED:

Karen Nyman Miniature Books, Catalog Number 62, Very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 100 items and many pictures, an electronic format catalogue.
Contact info: 702 Rosecrans Street, San Diego, CA 92106-3013; telephone 619-226-4441;
website: www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com, E-mail: karennyman2@cox.net

Between the Covers Rare Books, 'Vernacular Photography Albums', Catalogue 206, 8½" x 11", is done on a fine white paper with color covers and includes 64 pages. The catalogue contains nothing about miniature books but everything else in the world through photography.
Contact info: 112 Nicholson Road, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, telephone 856-456-8008;
website: www.betweenthecovers.com, E-mail: mail@betweenthecovers.com

Oak Knoll Press, Catalogue Number 310, profusely illustrated color catalogue of 144 pages, 6" x 9". The subject listing includes bookbinding, book selling, history of printing, books-about-books, bibliography and reference works, and much more. One particular listing defines *The Books of Queen Mary's Doll House*, two volumes, everything you would ever want to know about this miniature library. A separate Spring 2016 Catalogue, 8½" x 11", 38 pages of more interesting items. How about a three-volume set of *Alice In A World Of Wonderlands*, everything you would ever want to know about Alice books.
Contact info: 310 Delaware Street, New Castle, DE 19720, telephone 800-996-2556;
website: www.oakknoll.com, E-mail: oakknoll@oakknoll.com

Wm. Reese Company, Catalogue 329, Literature, illustrated catalogue of 422 items, some miniatures. Many offerings as deluxe, inscription, and/or association copies, 6" x 9".
Contact info: 409 Temple Street, New Haven, CT, 06511, telephone 203-789-8081;
website: www.williamreesecompany.com, E-mail: coreese@reeseeco.com

Michael Garbett, Antiquarian and Fine Books, Catalogue 37, May 2016, 5½" x 8½", 62 items, all miniatures and related items with color photographs. Miniature bibles, almanacs, children's books and many more. A fine set of offerings, even a book with a fore-edge painting.
Contact info: 1 Over Court Mews, Over Lane, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4DG, England, telephone 44-01454-617376; website: www.mgbooks.co.uk, E-mail: garbett469@btinternet.com

Bromer Booksellers, E-Catalogue, Alphabets, 41 items, 12 miniatures as well as additional juvenile and private press offerings, each illustrated with excellent descriptions. From the catalogue introduction, "From a purely linguistic perspective, the alphabet offers its user as much or as little as expression warrants".
Contact info: 607 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, telephone 617-247-2818;
website: www.bromer.com, E-mail: books@bromer.com

Catalogues and the booksellers are wonderful friends and great resources. Catalogues are like a bag of penny candy for me, just dig in and do not stop till you finish the last piece. Keep them in a basket next to your reading chair; summer or winter; it is always fun to revisit a catalogue. 📖

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MBS Conclave, McKinney TX, August 5th – 8th, 2016

Additional information: <http://www.mbs.org>

Bloomsbury Book Fair, London, England, August 14th, 2016

Additional information: <http://www.bloomsburybookfair.com>

Yale University, Center for British Art, New Haven, CT, June 16th – August 21st 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>

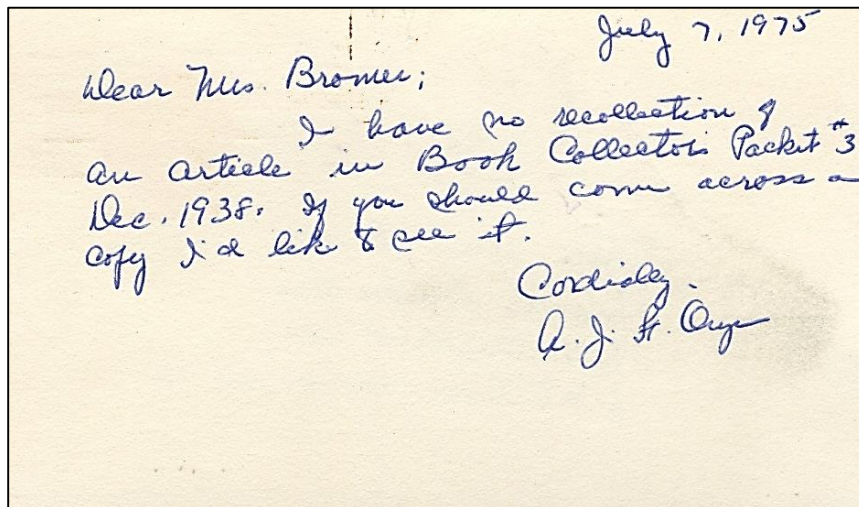
Rochester Antiquarian Book Fair, Rochester, NY, September 10th, 2016

Additional information: <http://www.rochesterbooksellers.com/>

International Miniature Bookbinding Competition, In the Netherlands, 2016, the competition will be hosted by the Sticking Handboekbinden and exhibited by the Meermann Museum in The Hague. More information to follow as it becomes available via Tine Krijnen, who is a subscriber located in the Netherlands, E-Mail: miniaturboekbinden.tinekrijnen@quicknet.nl, you can also check the organization’s website www.stichting-handboekbinden.eu.

No reason to stay home, pack a lunch, get your hat, get on your bicycle, and meet some new friends! 📖

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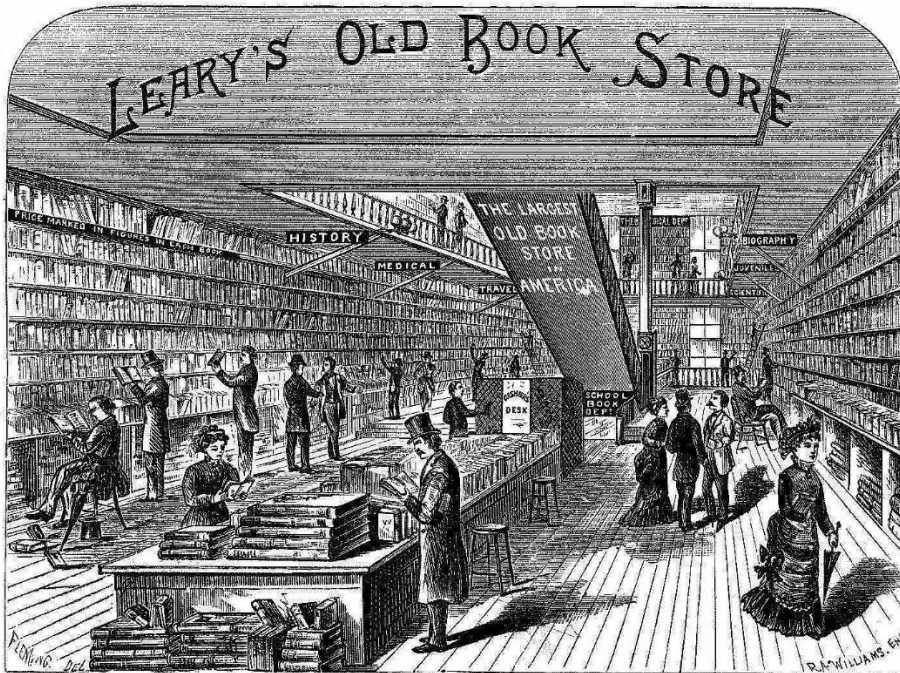


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THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE September 2016 FRONTISPIECE:
‘Write the Story for the September Issue’:

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

‘19th Century Bookseller, Philadelphia’



EDWIN S. STUART, No. 9 South 9th St., Phila.

During the 19th century, bookstores really became a retailing sensation. As publishers turned out hundreds and thousands of volumes, they ‘created’ a reading public. One such store that began business in Philadelphia about 1856 was Leary’s. They remained in business until 1969 serving their customers with a unique business plan, ‘to make you feel perfectly at ease in examining the immense stock, the employees were instructed not to offer assistance without being asked first’. What do you see in the illustration? I see a day at the bookstore, ‘wooden furniture, somewhat dusty, cluttered, and staffed by salient salespeople’. I also see the floor to ceiling shelves stacked full and the sections of the store clearly marked with the signs. Looks like they also had a ‘school book’ section down the stairs. If you close your eyes, you can almost smell the books and hear that old wooden floor creaking. Tell me your story.

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

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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 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

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

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

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: karennyman2@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


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

Arno Gschwendtner is looking for a French miniature book (MB) ca. 1830: Bernardin: Paul et Virginie (printed from Didot) - he wants to write an article about this book – please send pictures (and an offer) of your edition. He is also looking for 'Special Editions' of the Catharijne Press as well as Editions du Capricorne from Anick Butre (France). In addition, for interesting MBs older than 200 years and especially for special bindings.
Contact information: E-mail: arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch or +41/78/8542422

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^{15/16}" x 6'
Contact information: E-mail: jbrogan1@verizon.net



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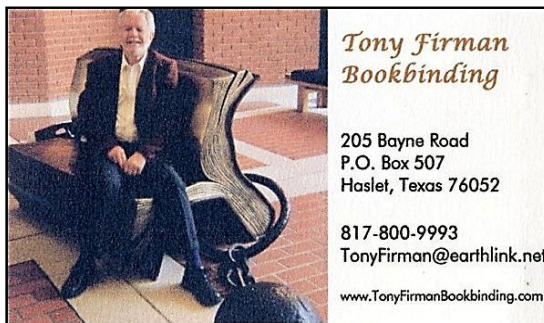


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the tour director. We are
going to the BBQ...I
mean the Conclave.*

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get in Seat 21A and 21B.
Kerry, Seat 2A, has a
mirror!*



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