

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

The Bibliophile's Journal about Miniature Books & Book Arts, Branchburg, NJ

Volume XLII Number 2 Issue 242 March - April 2023



*Flipping the Pages on
Winter & Spring, Next Chapter Summer*

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courtesy of bing.com

Jules Verne

Jules Gabriel Verne (1828 – 1905) was a French novelist, poet, and playwright. He created some of the most memorable science fiction books that are still widely read today. He is often referred to as ‘the Father of Science Fiction’. Titles such as *Around the World in Eighty Days*, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, and *From the Earth to the Moon* are the most popular. Verne’s works are the ‘second’ most translated titles in the world today.

Bradbury’s *20th Century U.S. Miniature Books* lists only one miniature written by Verne, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, 1979, published by Pennyweight Press (Barbara Rahab). Most recently, an additional miniature, *From The Earth To The Moon* has been published by Plum Park Press (Tony Firman).

Verne is credited with helping inspire the steampunk genre, a literary and social movement that glamorizes science fiction based on 19th-century technology. Lastly, Ray Bradbury summarized Verne's influence on literature and science, the world over, by saying: "We are all, in one way or another, the children of Jules Verne."

Your turn. 📖

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Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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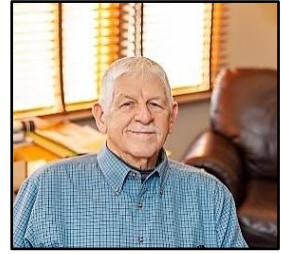
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THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE

53 Dreahook Road, Branchburg, NJ, U.S.A.
Sherry Mayo, Publisher, James M. Brogan, Editor
James M. Brogan © 2023

Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

“I ’M late! I’m late! For a very important date! No time to say hello, goodbye! I’m late! I’m Late.” So said the white rabbit. Needless to say, this issue of *The Microbibliophile* is late as well, my apologies to all. Sometime the gears of life just do not seem to mesh with the discipline and fine tuning that is needed. Rain or shine we will publish a full set of six issues for the year.



Now the rush begins with the spring clean-up, holidays, cookouts, being able to leave the house windows open at night, and away we go, ‘pool time’.

Plum Park Press has published three new books that we have reviewed for you. One is a ‘travel log’ of sorts, number two is a tale from the *Arabian Nights*, and the third is a thriller written by Jules Verne. Next on the review list is a book of poetry from Booksby Press. Almost everyone loves wine and Gail Unzelman has written a little gem about wine, published by Cider Press. Special shape books and books about ‘moms’ are always favorites. Two from Rebecca Press round out our review list for this issue.

The next books on the ‘Bradbury 100’ that are included in this issue should certainly be of interest to you, they are all gems of the miniature book world, and one has a fore-edge painting.

Much has been written over the years about association copies. Recently, some books from the collection of Arthur Goldsmith found their way to *The Microbibliophile*. One is written by and inscribed by Ward Richie. Another miniature is written by Martha Goldsmith; a simple hand-written and folded book proclaiming a wedding anniversary message. The third is an inscribed copy of the first book published by Elmira Smith Wilkey of the Bronte Press. Each of these books touch a lot of memories and reinforce the message of just how ‘large’ the world of miniature books is.

Remember my message from the last issue - there is a special card that you may draw while playing that age old game of Monopoly, Community Chest ‘You have received a dividend from the bank.’ While ‘Rich Uncle Pennybags’ does not live beyond the Monopoly board, ‘you have received a dividend’. All digital subscriptions for the 2023 year will be FREE.

I would still like some ideas from you, the readers. What would you like to read about in 2023? What special features should be pursued for your enjoyment and to satisfy your questions and interests? I will continue with the Bradbury series, the regular book reviews, and the new feature about publishers as was introduced with the last issue. I am ‘all eyes and ears’ as the expression goes. I would love to have some more subscribers write articles; they are the best.

In closing, my message is simple, your support and interest are what keeps the ink flowing. *The Microbibliophile* is a publication of all things “miniature bookish” something new, something old, but always, I hope, something of interest for you. Thank you again for providing a place, in your home, for the journal. It is my joy and a privilege to produce it for you. 📖

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

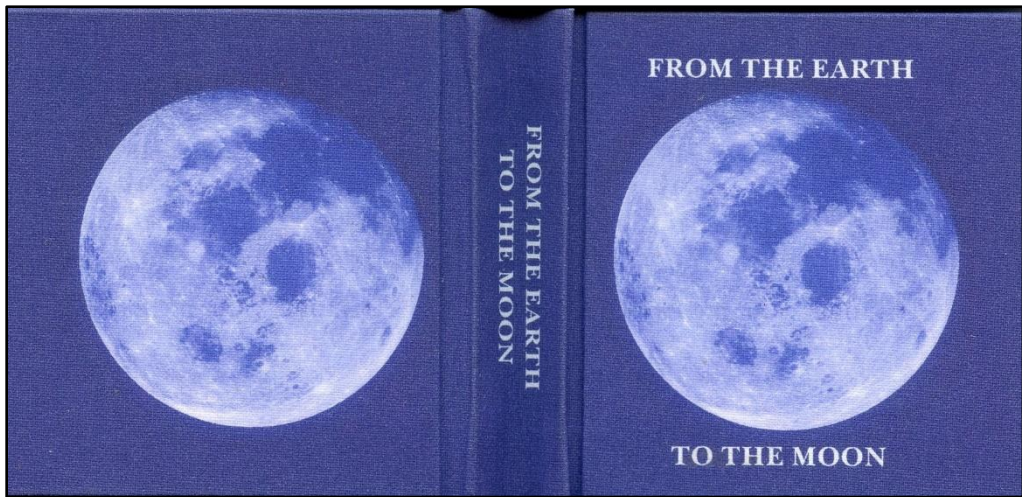
George Herbert Walker Bush, 1924 - 2018
41st President of the United States, 1989 - 1993.

“The American Dream means giving it your all, trying your hardest, accomplishing something. And then I’d add to that, giving something back. No definition of a successful life can do anything but include serving others.”

(USPS Commemorative Forever stamp, issued College Station, TX 2019)



MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS:



FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON, by Jules Verne, a French novelist, sometimes called the ‘Father of Science Fiction. The first edition, written in French with the title ‘De la Terre à la Lune, trajet direct en 97 heures 20 minutes,’ was a very accurate estimate of the time required for the trip. The Apollo 11 NASA mission took the astronauts 102 hours and 45 minutes to transverse the distance from the earth to the moon. How did Jules Verne ever get to the calculations he did, was luck, or was he also a mathematician or who knows? Maybe the answer lies in the footsteps left at ‘Tranquility Base’. It also should be noted that during the return to earth of the actual Apollo 11

mission the astronauts did mention Verne's book: the mission's commander, astronaut Neil Armstrong, said,

"A hundred years ago, Jules Verne wrote a book about a voyage to the Moon. His spaceship, Columbia, took off from Florida and landed in the Pacific Ocean after completing a trip to the Moon. It seems appropriate to us to share with you some of the reflections of the crew as modern-day Columbia completes its rendezvous with the planet Earth and the same Pacific Ocean tomorrow."

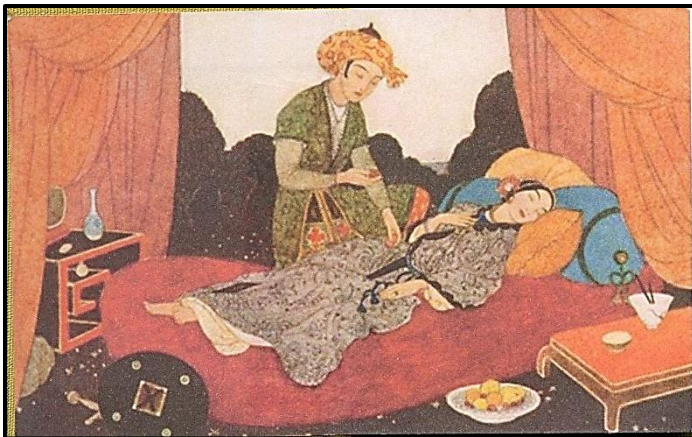
Verne begins *From The Earth To The Moon* by introducing the reader to the Baltimore Gun Club, a post-American Civil War society of weapons enthusiasts, and their attempts to build an enormous 'Columbiad' space gun and launch three people (the Gun Club's president, his Philadelphian armor-making rival, and a French poet) in a projectile with the goal of a Moon landing, remember this was written in 1865. A feverish project begins with calculations of sizes and escape velocities, funding for the project, and as is usual the 'back and forth bickering'.

The calculations and detail provided by Verne are almost unbelievable. One of the final chapters is titled 'FIRE!'. The opening paragraph documents the precision addressed by Verne:

"The first of December had arrived! The fatal day! If the projectile were not discharged that very night at 10h. 48m. 40s. PM., more than eighteen years must roll by before the moon would again present herself under the same conditions of zenith and perigee." Was this really written in 1865? While reading the book, I thought I was listening to [1969] the legendary journalist, Jules Bergman.

The book is unabridged and hard bound in a blue cloth with an image of the moon on the front and rear covers. The title is printed directly on the cloth binding of the front cover and spine. There are 289 numbered pages printed with the Baskerville font, 28 chapters in all. There are 20 copies in the edition. The book is bound to the size 3" x 3" and is priced at \$50. Excellent workmanship and printing make this a great book to handle and read. Contact Tony, Publisher, for availability and shipping charges. You will certainly enjoy the story. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787
E-mail: TonyFirmanbook@gmail.com
website: [https://Plum Park Press \(tonfirmanbookbinding.com\)](https://PlumParkPress(tonfirmanbookbinding.com))



Edmund Dulac illustration 'Camaralzaman Finds the Talisman' - miniature endpapers

PRINCESS BADOURA, A tale from the Arabian Nights, retold by Laurence Housman, originally published in 1913, by Hodder and Stoughton, this unabridged miniature publication by Plum Park Press, publisher Tony Firman. 'Princess Badoura' is one of a collection of many oriental stories that part of a large collection titled 'One Thousand and One Nights'. The stories are loosely interconnected and were developed over a timeframe of several centuries. The stories take place in many different countries of the Middle and Far East. The framework of the tales involves a King named Shahrayar, who is disillusioned with women and plans to marry and execute a new wife each day. His plan is foiled by Scheherazade, his resourceful wife, who tells him a series of stories over the course of a thousand and one nights, postponing and eventually averting her execution. From the opening paragraph we read

"If my Lord will suffer for me to live another day, there is one more tale that I could tell, but it is too long to be told now."

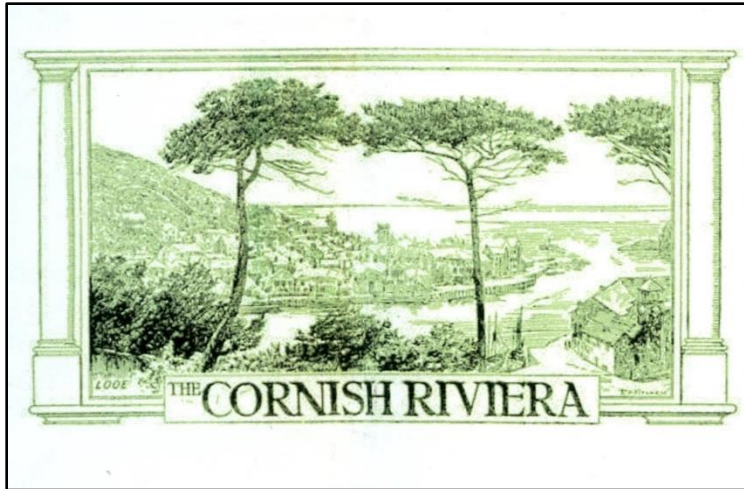
The story of the great love between Camaralzaman and the Princess unfolds with the many adventures and misfortunes that kept them apart. This is a classic love story that ends as you would expect.

The book is unabridged and hard bound in a gold silk cloth with a title label affixed to the spine. There are 171 numbered pages printed using the Calligraphic421 font. The miniature also includes each of the nine illustrations that were part of the 1913 edition. There are 20 copies in the edition. The book is bound to the size 3" x 2³/₈" and is priced at \$45. Excellent workmanship and printing make this a great book to handle and read. Contact Tony, Publisher, for availability and shipping charges. You will certainly enjoy the story. 📖

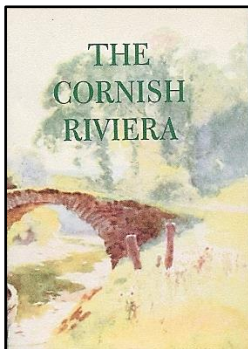
Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787

E-mail: TonyFirmanbook@gmail.com

website: [https://Plum Park Press \(tonyfirmanbookbinding.com\)](https://PlumParkPress(tonyfirmanbookbinding.com))



Two page spread of endpapers with illustration by E.W. Haslehurst



THE CORNISH RIVIERA, by Sidney Heath, published by Plum Park Press, April 2023. The original was published in 1915 by Blackie & Son Ltd., London with 12 watercolor illustrations painted by E.W. Haslehurst.

From the Plum Park ‘advance brochure’ and the opening page of the book the author states,

“The majority of our English counties possess some special feature, which acts as a lodestone for tourists”, “Cornwall, on the contrary, is unique its history, legends, folklore, and traditions”.....

It is this descriptive narrative that is defined visually through the 12 watercolor illustrations within the miniature. The dustjacket illustration is titled ‘On the Lerryn River’ and the image wraps from the front of jacket across the spine to the rear cover.

The Cornish Riviera is the fourth book in the Plum Park series about watercolors; previous titles include ‘Constantinople’, ‘California’, and ‘Oxford’. All are of the same bound format and size, 3" x 2¹/₈". The binding of ‘Riviera’ is done in a pale green book cloth, 160 numbered pages, and a Bulmer typeface. There are 20 copies in the edition, each numbered and signed by the publisher.

Excellent workmanship and printing make this a great book to handle and read, priced at \$45. Contact Tony, Publisher, for availability and shipping charges. You will certainly enjoy the illustrations and the book narrative. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787
 E-mail: TonyFirmanbook@gmail.com
 website: [https://Plum Park Press \(tonyfirmanbookbinding.com\)](https://PlumParkPress(tonyfirmanbookbinding.com))

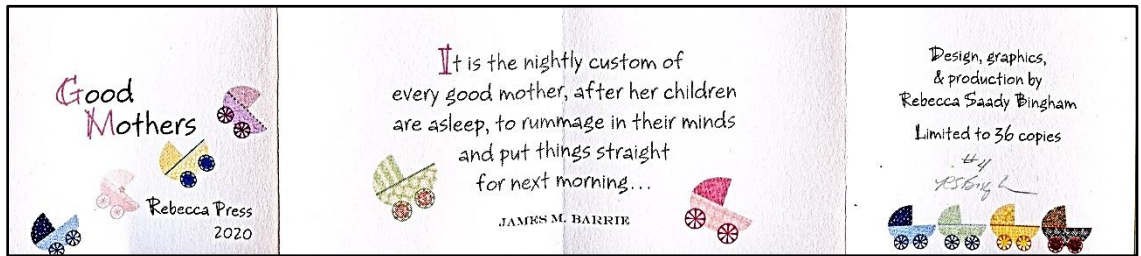


image of front cover

GOOD MOTHERS, by Rebecca Sandy Bingham, published by Rebecca Press 2020. What subject is more perfect than ‘mothers’ the champions of our lives, ‘all day, every day, forever’.

Good Mothers is a small accordion format book, only four pages. However, there is a lot of life packed into this small book. Starting with the Coles Phillips illustration on the front and rear covers, a mother busy getting things ready for her children. The front endpaper has a colored collage of a pram, the old fashion style, with a folding hood. The collage is made from handmade Jemma Lewis paper and handmade paste by Madeleine Durham.

The price for this unique and meaningful book is \$22. The edition is comprised of 36 copies. The review copy #4 was signed by the publisher. The bound size of *Good Mothers* is 2⁵/₈" x 2". Contact Rebecca for availability and shipping charges.



title page

text/quote by James M. Barrie, author of Peter Pan

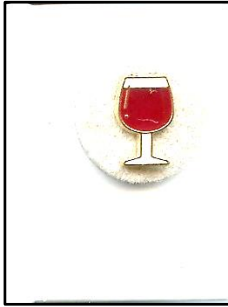
colophon

A perfect gift for sure. 📖

Contact information: Rebecca Bingham, 6805 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782-1439

E-mail: serous39202@mypacks.net

website: <https://Rebecca Press Miniature Books>



NATIONAL WINE WEEK, by Gail Unzelman, published by Cider Press, 2023. Typically, the subject content of Cider Press miniatures is closely related to the work of the 'husband and wife team of publishers Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman. *National Wine Week* is a departure from the previous path and was written by Gail Unzelman as a special edition of 18 copies.

The National Wine Week event was the brainchild of California Wine Advisory Board in 1939 as a bit of a marketing journey to promote 'Drink Wine Tonight'. Part of the campaign was the creation of thousands of miniature stamps, printed with the message 'Drink Wine With Dinner Tonight,' that could be affixed to restaurant dinner menus, stationary items, etc. The idea took off like a wildfire and a new stamp was issued each year

from 1939 through 1951, with the exception of a few years during WWII. The stamps were in themselves fine works of art and as would be expected became a 'collector's item'. The miniature contains fine print images of the 11 stamps along with a descriptive text explaining the artwork as well as other marketing activities.



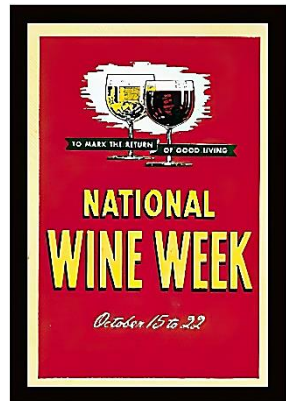
1939

3x1½



1940

2½x1½



1¾x2½

1945

The Cider Press book is 1¾"x 1⅜" and is bound in a white faux leather, with a 'wine glass pin' affixed to the front cover and a title label on the spine. There are 22 text pages printed with the stamp images and text in the calabri font on a silk photo paper. An excellent topic with outstanding workmanship.

Something special for a wine connoisseur friend or yourself. 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com



GENTLE WONDERINGS, written by Victoria Rose, published 2023, by Booksby Press, Todd Sommerfeld, Publisher.

Victoria Rose has written and illustrated several books that Booksby has published over the last few years including *Seven Secret Stories*, *The House of Mabel Wood*, and *How To Hatch A Phoenix*. All are well done and point to the ‘easier side’ of life without the complications that sometimes exist to make life a rough journey. The bound size of *Gentle Wonderings* is 2⁵/₈" x 2", 36 pages, printed with a 6 pt. Lucida Calligraphy. The covers are bound in a tie-died purple and violet paper with a large title label affixed to the cover and a spine label as well. The book is well made and clearly printed so it is easy to read and should last through several seasons of bedtime story telling, picture sharing, and those great questions from the audience.

Gentle Wonderings contains 12 short poems. A favorite for me is:

Season to season changes

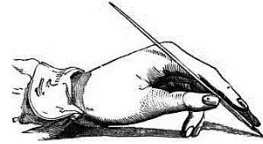
*Before our eyes
But we did not see
When did the flowers of spring
Become the summer meadow?
When did the last leaf
Fall before winter?
When did I become
A woman grown?
I missed the exact moment,
I only know that now
I know where I am,
Here, in this heart,
In these words,
Lasting forever
Between the changing seasons
Of Life*

A wonderful storybook that will certainly become a special read for oneself or the grandchildren, be it a sunny day, a rainy day, or just another day with the grandchildren. It is an open edition, \$15, plus shipping, contact Todd for availability. 📖

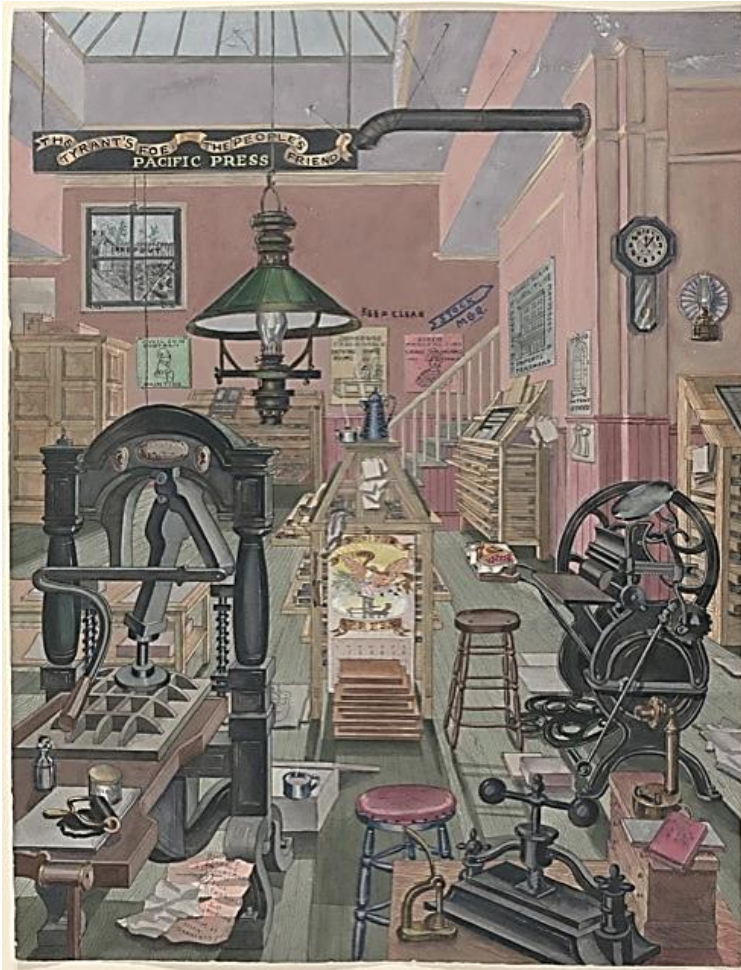
Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, 6475 Ridge Road #1, Parma, Ohio, 44129
e-mail: contratodd@gmail.com, www.booksbypress.com

**PLEASE CONSIDER WRITING AN ARTICLE FOR
THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE:**

Please consider sharing your thoughts and ideas. Your input is always welcome at the Editor's squeaky desk. *The Microbibliophile* was conceived for the sharing of passion for all things related to miniature books and book arts. We can brainstorm together! Composing, proofreading, and nudging are always available. 📖



THE OLD DAYS:



SPECIAL EXHIBIT, Women's Studio Workshop:

Upcoming Exhibitions - Women's Studio Workshop : Women's Studio Workshop
(wsworkshop.org)

In the Palm of Your Hand: A Group Exhibition of Itty-Bitty Works of Art **Opening Reception July 22nd, 11-6until September 2nd.**

There are many familiar places where one can find tiny things: dollhouses, dioramas, model trains, cars, and airplanes. There are also endless manifestations of smaller-than-life worlds in toys, books, and cartoons. Artists Rebecca Bingham, Andrea Fábrega, Lydia Ricci, Pat Sweet, Donna Thomas, and Imin Yeh all play with scale within their work. Some utilize the 1:12 scale found most commonly in dollhouses, and others have no specific measurements in mind, only the playfulness of “small”. Kate Esme Ünver, author of *The Book Of Mini: Inside the Big World of Tiny Things*, coined the term “miniaissance” to highlight the recent miniature renaissance. She explains, “When we talk about minis, we mean something smaller than its life-sized counterpart. A chair the size of a fig. A fig the size of a Skittle. A Skittle the size of a grain of sand.”

In the Palm of Your Hand features six artists who push the boundaries of what can be done with imagination and exquisite attention to detail, resulting in irresistible itty-bitty pieces of art. The works in this exhibition take advantage of common materials and methods used at Women's Studio Workshop. For example, Bingham, Sweet, and Thomas demonstrate highly refined bookmaking techniques, and Fábrega accomplishes stunning detail with her wheel thrown pots—all on a micro level. Ricci and Yeh create fantastical examples of sculptures utilizing paper and scrap materials. Ricci's patched-together micro-replicas conjure memories, often animated in her short video works, which offer up their larger stories. Inside “Dreamcabin”, Yeh has built an elaborate world rooted in time management, motherhood, and collaboration.

The Opening reception will feature food by Common Table—a queer & flexible food space in Uptown Kingston run by Chef Emmet Moeller, the premiere of a mural by Kah Yangni—a Philadelphia-based artist making heartfelt art about justice, queerness, and joy, and *Babes in the Woods*—an open studio popup featuring work by Tatana Kellner (co-founder of Women's Studio Workshop), Judy Hoyt, and Tona Wilson.



Pat Sweet



Rebecca Bingham

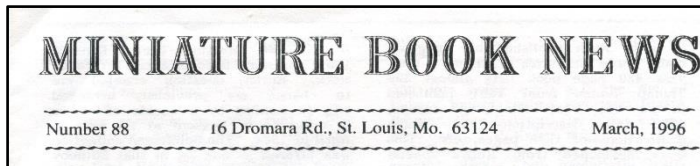


Donna Thomas

Pack a lunch and go! 📖

THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS,
Number 24, June 1971, Number 25, September 1971
By Nina Mazzo:

Editor's Note: 'The Miniature Book News' was an early publication [initial issue September 1965] that was edited and published by Julian I. Edison, beginning in 1965, consolidated into the MBS Newsletter and continued to be published through 2017. Time to revisit, learn, share, enjoy, and reflect, once again. Thank you, Nina, for your continuing contribution to 'The Microbibliophile'.



MBN #24:

Julian Edison, Editor of the *Miniature Book News* proudly announced this was his sixth year of publication and says he publishes “out of sheer enjoyment by your editor as an aid to scholarship, libraries, collectors, bibliophiles.” Sound familiar? I can hear Jim Brogan’s voice! Those of us who enjoy and appreciate miniature books are driven by curiosity to discover more interesting tidbits in our unique world. In Issue #24 Julian posts an article from Wilbur Macey Stone titled “*Books That Never Grew Up*” – what a fabulous title and the article is fascinating. He begins by admitting it was an error on his part to not appreciate miniature books - “I had no desire to collect those stunted pigmies of the book world.” He then discovers that miniature Bibles had been popular for over three hundred years in England and with that he was off and running. The following are a few interesting notes from this article. In 1836 a stationer in London named Schloss began a series of almanacs called *The English Bijou Almanac*. The first year’s issue was illustrated with portraits of celebrities, Byron, Raffaello and contained poems by Letitia Elizabeth Landon – a popular writer of sentimental verse. Mr. Stone has several letters in her handwriting and volumes of her poetry. She contributed verse to other issues of the Schloss almanacs. I think it would be fascinating to discover original notes and letters to accompany the book or works of poetry, etc.

In addition to almanacs, he mentions his collection of miniature Bibles. David Bryce in Glasgow issued many complete Bibles less than two inches tall in the late 19th century. In the United States in the early part of the 19th century many miniature Bibles were available. *The Verbum of John Taylor* was not illustrated but many contained Bible scenes to attract children. Benjamin Harris the originator of the *New England Primer* about 1690 was also publisher of *The Holy Bible in Verse*. On the title page is written “For the benefit of weak Memories. The Whole containing above one thousand Lines, with cuts.” In 1926 Dr Charles Nichols of the American Antiquarian Society published a monograph on this primer, locating records of eleven different editions ranging from 1699 to 1754. Amazing!

MBN #25:

Did you know the Brontë sisters (Charlotte and Emily) wrote miniature works? Julian notes that the Brontës' had written a voluminous amount of juvenile material in their teens. Much of the material was in the manuscript and the format so tiny that a magnifying glass is needed to read it. Who knew? He adds that much of the work was scattered after they died in 1838 and those writings were not thought to be significant. A set of nine of these miniature works are in Harvard University's Houghton Library. I was curious to discover if there are any available and so off I went to the Internet and in The New York Times dated March 30, 2022 I found the following: "A miniature book made by the 13 year old Charlotte Brontë, to go on sale next month for \$1.2 million, contains what may be her last unknown poems. The books were initially created to entertain their toy soldiers." Wow!

Editor's Note: The May-June 2022 issue of The Microbibliophile featured an article about the 'Tiny Books by the Brontë Children' Microbib_2022_05_v9.pdf (squarespace.com)

This issue also continues Wilbur Stone's "*Books That Never Grew Up*" from Issue #24. Mr. Stone mentions that the Latin and Greek classics were favorites for the makers of early miniature books. He has around half a dozen examples of Cicero with one as early as 1606 from the Plantin press. He adds that miniature books with a provenance are always treasured by the collector. *A Satyricon of Petronius of 1614* from the Plantin Press has the stamp of the Bishop Heber Library (Bibliotheca Heberiana) on a flyleaf. Small books in sets for children have always been popular. Mr. Stone notes that John Marshall had a store in London and in the late 18th century published a set of sixteen little books called *The Infant's Library*.

Each contained only sixteen pages, was two and one quarter inches tall and an engraved title page with full page engravings of familiar objects. Mr. Stone owns a complete set and although it lacked the original

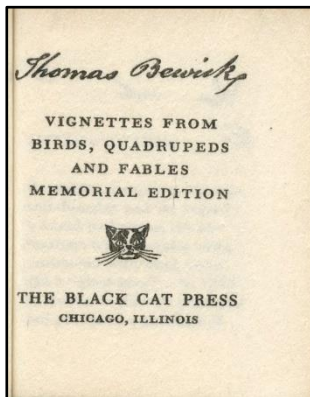
wooden box he made his own to hold this treasure. He also owns a complete set of *The Cabinet of Lilliput* by John Harris in 1802. He says, "Perhaps the most beautiful volume on my shelves from the Pickering Press is a large paper copy of



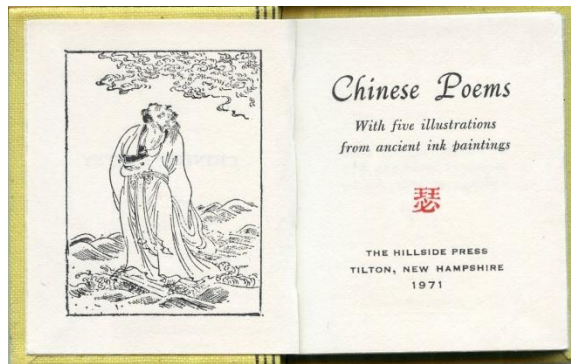
the *Horace* of 1824 bound in full red crushed levant morocco by Lortec, a celebrated French binder, and having the edges of the leaves marbled under the gold.” I am a fan of the works by Izaak Walton and Mr. Stone discusses a volume from Pickering titled *Angler* issued in 1825 that contains illustrations of fish with an engraved frontispiece. Mr. Stone’s copy “an ideal little pocket piece for a lover of old Izaak.”

As I continued reading Mr. Stone’s recollections on his collection, he also shared some information about miniature book enthusiast James D. Henderson and the LXIVMOS organization. “Henderson’s interest was aroused in a rather amusing manner. He had a dream in which he was smothered by an avalanche of miniature books. When he awoke, he determined to beat the nightmare by collecting miniature books. Henderson got in touch with me as I had always had a desire to organize a club of collectors. I wrote and had printed Volume 1, Number 1 of the News-Letter of the LXIVMOS dated November 1, 1927.”

Before we leave Issue #25, editor Julian Edison announces some new publications: *Chinese Poems* with illustrations from ancient ink paintings from Hillside Press; *Vignettes from Birds and Quadrupeds* from Black Cat Press and *An Open Letter* by C.N. Earl a mini political text published by Peggy Christian.



title page



frontispiece and title page

Once again, I have learned two or more new and interesting facts/ tidbits to add to my knowledge in our wonderful world of miniature books. Stay curious!

Well, this wraps up a look at two more issues of the *Miniature Book News*. Did you learn at least two new things?

“MICROBLIOPHILES, ONWARD!”

Always a joy. 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED, **Interesting Book Stuff:**

The Florida Bibliophile Society continues to publish an outstanding color/ digital monthly newsletter. Always very professionally presented and full of interesting book information. [Florida Bibliophile Society](#) - The May 2023 Newsletter has a very interesting summary of interesting podcasts that should pique your interests.

Jim Reed's Books, of Birmingham, Alabama provides a weekly newsletter that is a treasure chest of book related information. They also have a good selection of miniature books available for purchase.

[Jim Reed Books - Birmingham, Alabama](#)

Electronic catalogues from 'Between the Covers' are always interesting and fun to read, especially in the winter between the TV weather reports and the never-ending deliveries of vegetable seed catalogues. The current catalogue is titled 'African-American'.

[Catalogs \(betweenthecovers.com\)](#)

ABEBOOKS, an internet book seller, hosts a lot more than lists of books on their website. One item of particular interest is the information about rare books.

[Rare Books \(abebooks.com\)](#)

As much of an internet media thing as can be is 'Wikipedia.com'. However, the listing for 'miniature book' does provide an interesting list of reference materials and additional reading selections. I was very surprised as to the amount of informative details provided.


[Miniature book - Wikipedia](#)

The Antiquarian Booksellers Association, ABAA, has an interesting website that provides an interesting selection of materials. Always great stuff here and frequently updated.

[Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America](#) | [Antiquarian & Rare Books](#) | [ABAA](#)

Fine Books and Collections, magazine Spring 2023 issue, there are always a lot of interesting articles for bibliophiles, 'Caveat Emptor: or some thoughts on ethics and online book buying' is a good read, followed by 'Newberry's First Children's Book', almost a miniature.

[Rare Books, Book Collection, Manuscripts and Old Maps](#) | [Fine Books & Collections](#) ([finebooksmagazine.com](#))

Great 'Road Trip'... from your favorite reading chair... 

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 46

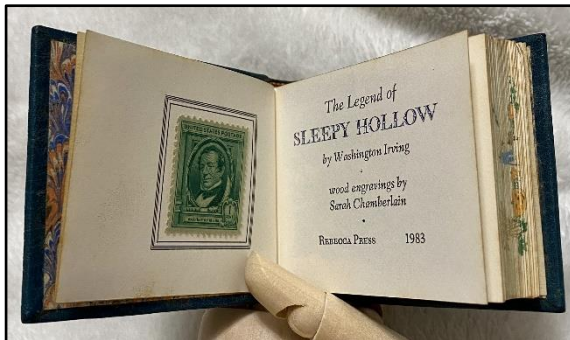
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow:



marbled endpapers, front cover (deluxe binding) and slipcase

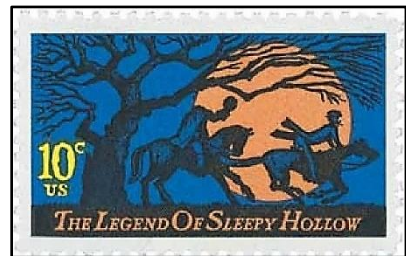
Editor's Note: The Legend of Sleepy Hollow was originally written by Washington Irving in 1819 and is one of 34 essays/ short stories that are part of 'The Sketch Book'. The miniature version of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, published by the Rebecca Press, 1983, is the Bradbury Number 46.

It is the privilege of The Microbibliophile to present the following 'back book' words written by Rebecca Sandy Bingham, publisher, Rebecca Press (RP).



Washington Irving's classic Halloween tale of Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman is presented in its entirety with this miniature volume. Illustrated with wood engravings by Sarah Chamberlain, the story is letterpress printed, with pictures printed from the blocks. Endpapers were specially marbled by Chris Weimann in a miniature peacock pattern. The Sleepy Hollow U.S. postage stamp, which served as inspiration for the design of this book, is tipped in as one of

the illustrations. Deluxe copies were bound in deep blue leather with orange leather inlay and black pictorial stamping; edges were speckled in black. These copies included, as the frontispiece, an engraved postage stamp portrait of Irving. Special (extremely limited) artist proof copies had foredge paintings by illustrator Sarah Chamberlain, with gilt edges to camouflage the foredge painting. This is listed as #46 in the Bradbury 100. As the designer/ publisher of the book, I am not in a position to provide any kind of critical review. So, this is just my story of how the book came to be.



USPS postage stamp 1974

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow was the third publication from Rebecca Press (RP), published the same year that the Miniature Book Society was formed. It was the first RP book to be printed with letterpress and the most ambitious effort to date. For one thing, it was the first to have illustrations specially commissioned. Sarah Chamberlain drew and engraved the boxwood blocks. I'd never even seen an engraved wood block before, and when I received these, I was brought close to tears by how beautiful and intricate they were.



Chamberlain *For-edge painting 'scarecrow in the pumpkin patch'*

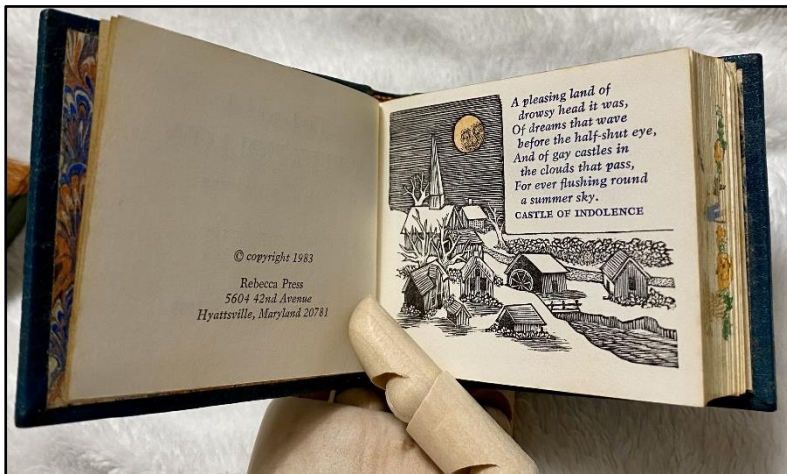
The book was published to mark the 200th anniversary of Washington Irving's birth, although that was fortuitous rather than by design. The catalyst for the book was a design of a different sort: the 1974 Legend of Sleepy Hollow USPS postage stamp. I loved it the minute I saw it, and the book's color scheme and cover design(s) were inspired by it. In the case of the regular edition, the design was simplified to just the apricot-colored moon, used as a printed label on the deep blue book cloth. For the deluxe binding (my first attempt at designing a full-leather deluxe edition), the translation was more literal, with an inlaid apricot leather moon on the deep blue leather binding, overlaid by a black-stamped silhouette of the drawing on the stamp.

I didn't have any experience of (or knowledge about) letterpress printing, so there was a lot to learn. In retrospect, it might have been easier to start with a shorter text, but by the time I figured that out, the water was pretty much at eye level anyway. A major challenge, for me, was choosing a typeface that would be legible in a small size. My personal philosophy about miniature books is that they are books, first. For me, that makes readability without the need for heroic tools a priority. Given the length of the story, it was quite a lot of text, so it was necessary to find a "sweet spot" between legibility and unwieldy length. As it turned out, I was very happy to have the book run to as many signatures as it did, because that made it fat enough to accommodate a fore-edge painting. I didn't learn about fore-edge paintings until I was in the middle of producing the book, so I couldn't have planned for that. But once I learned about fore-edge paintings, I was obsessed by the idea of doing one. Sarah had never done one, but she figured out how to make it work. Her solution was to wrap the sewn text block around a broom handle, which fanned the fore-edge the right amount for painting. She held it in place with a couple of rubber bands. Fiddly work, indeed.

One cherished memory from producing this book has to do with typefaces. In a catalog from Stephenson-Blake Foundry in Sheffield, England, I had seen the Frye's Ornamented font, and I HAD to have these ornamental caps for the book. However, metal type is very heavy and would

have been prohibitively expensive to ship, even if Stephenson-Blake had been willing. However, in another fortuitous circumstance, I had planned a trip to England, so Stephenson-Blake [NOTE: Stephenson-Black was the last active type foundry in Britain, running from 1818 to the 1990s.] agreed to cast a font for me and deliver it to my hotel in London (the trip, alas, was too short to allow me to travel to Sheffield to pick it up there). At this point, I give full props to my long-suffering husband. Not only did he good-naturedly deal with side trips to paper mills, book shops (Bondy!), and leather suppliers, but he also had to drag home really heavy blocks of metal, unwieldy rolls of leather and too many books.

Another very special memory was my chance to meet Chris Weimann, whose marbling I had admired for a long time. For this book, he made the most exquisite, miniature peacock-marbled papers in the blue-orange color scheme. I was able to save a small piece and it's among my cherished possessions (along with a large, Ebru flower that has hung on my wall since he gifted it to me 40 years ago).



Opening page with Sarah Chamberlain woodcut engraving

Editor's Note: an outstanding back story for an outstanding book. Certainly, one of the 'best of the best'. My review copy is one of the deluxe copies with the fore-edge painting, noted as 'artist's proof'. There were 35 deluxe copies and 150 regular copies published. The bound size of the book is 2³/₈" x 3", with 120 letterpress printed pages, printing by Jane Pomeroy at the Burncoat Press. Endpapers for the deluxe edition were marbled by Christopher Weimann.

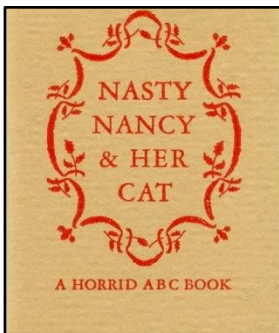
'Sleepy Hollow', is an excellent example of the art of making fine miniature books. There are no details not addressed by the publisher in creating the book. A book like this does not become available often, but certainly give it your best as there is nothing worse than 'buyers regret'. 📖

Contact information: Rebecca Bingham, 6805 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782-1439

E-mail: serous39202@mypacks.net

website: <https://Rebecca Press Miniature Books>

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 48,
Nasty Nancy and Her Cat:

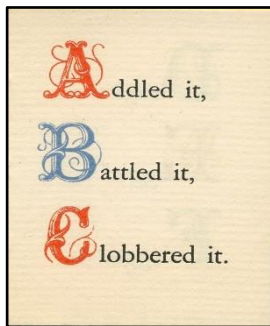


front cover

Nasty Nancy and Her Cat is an ‘abecedarian book’.

Webster defines the term abecedarian as a noun. Abecedarian is a noun meaning "one learning the rudiments of something"; it specifically referred to someone who was learning the alphabet. The adjective designation/ usage began appearing in English texts a few years after the noun was introduced in the early 1400's. The history of *abecedarian* is as simple as ABC—literally. The term's Late Latin ancestor, *abecedarius* (which meant "alphabetical"), was created as a combination of the letters A, B, C, and D, plus the adjective suffix -arius; you can hear the echo of that origin in the pronunciation of the English term (think "abecedarian").

Geoffery Glaister, *Encyclopedia of the Book*, adds: abecedarium is a book containing the alphabet, spelling rules, tables or elementary grammar. These primers were used in Europe before the invention of printing. Those for learning Latin usually contained abstracts from the writings of *Aelius Donatus*, q. v. So, with that bit of a history lesson let us move to ‘Nasty Nancy’.



first printed page

Nasty Nancy and Her Cat has a bit of a subtitle; ‘*A Horrid ABC Book*’. The text is somewhat unusual in that it defines how Nancy treated her cat, as you can see from the first page illustration it was not the best of times, for whatever reason we do not know. The story goes on from A - Z and we are reminded that life has a way of moving from ‘not so good’ to ‘very good’. Kitty now lives with a boy named Egbert, who is as sweet and gentle as Nancy was ‘not so sweet’. “So, you see, our sad ABC story ends cheerfully after all!”

‘Nasty Nancy’ was written and illustrated by Fridolf Johnson in 1962 and published by the Mermaid Press, New York, New York. The book is hardbound with a cream-colored paper dustjacket with red printing of the title in a decorative frame. It is finely made with great attention to the binding details as well as the color letterpress printing of the text.

There are 16 pages in total and the size of the bound book is 2³/₈" x 1⁷/₈". A blue paper card slipcase completes the presentation.

As mentioned, the book is well made and is an interesting example of an abecedarian. A quick search of the online marketplaces indicated that several copies are available. 📖

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 82,
Mission Cattle Brands:



front cover



San Diego Mission brand 1769

The California missions began in the late 18th century as an effort to convert Native Americans to Catholicism and expand European territory. There were 21 missions in all, lasting from 1769 until about 1833. Franciscan priest Father Junipero Serra founded the first mission in 1769. This was known as Mission San Diego de Alcalá and was in present-day San Diego. Farming was an important part of the ability of the missions to sustain themselves, as such, cattle raising was also part of the overall operations. Each mission had a distinct 'cattle brand' that was utilized to identify the herds. The names of the missions according to the dates they were founded are:

1. (1769) *Mission San Diego de Alcalá*
2. (1770) *Mission San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo*
3. (1771) *Mission San Antonio de Padua*
4. (1771) *Mission San Gabriel*
5. (1772) *Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa*
6. (1776) *Mission San Francisco de Asís (Mission Dolores)*
7. (1776) *Mission San Juan Capistrano*
8. (1777) *Mission Santa Clara de Asís*
9. (1782) *Mission San Buenaventura*
10. (1786) *Mission Santa Barbara*
11. (1787) *Mission La Purísima Concepción*
12. (1791) *Mission Santa Cruz*
13. (1791) *Mission Nuestra Señora de la Soledad*
14. (1797) *Mission San José*
15. (1797) *Mission San Juan Bautista*
16. (1797) *Mission San Miguel Arcángel*
17. (1797) *Mission San Fernando Rey de España*
18. (1798) *Mission San Luis Rey de Francia*
19. (1804) *Mission Santa Inés*
20. (1817) *Mission San Rafael Arcángel*
21. (1823) *Mission San Francisco Solano*

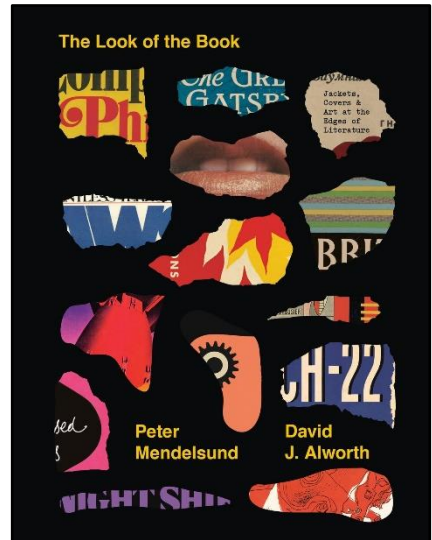
Mission Cattle Brands was authored by Frank and Phyllis Thomas at their press, The Ten Finger Press, Los Angeles, CA, in 1967. The miniature is letterpress printed (62 pages) on vellum with paper over boards front and rear covers. The brand image of the Santa Barbara Mission is printed on the front cover. A title label is affixed to the spine. The bound size of the book $2\frac{3}{16}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ ". The brand images are printed from linocuts by Frank Thomas. Each brand image is printed in color and identified by text. The text font is American Uncial. The edition contained 100 copies. An interesting book about an interesting period, in the early life and development of California. 📖

JUDGING A BOOK BY ITS COVER,

By Nina Mazzo:

Recently, I received a most unusual and beautifully illustrated book titled *The Look of the Book* by Peter Mendelsund and David J. Alworth. They pose the question – “Why do some book covers instantly grab your attention, while others never get a second chance?” So let’s take a minute to look a bit closer at what the book cover is – what it does – the future of the book cover and does it matter?

I will admit to being guilty on occasion using the book cover as a first impression of the content. The authors note the physical book is being transformed by digital as now the book cover must accomplish the task of being effective within a tiny Amazon image. When we examine a book cover, we are trying to tie a connection to the author’s vision as well as the context of the historical times of publication. “Book covers have an obvious mandate, which is to sell a commodity, except in the case of literature the commodity is also art.” This quote is truly applicable within our miniature book world. As I write this article, I look over at my shelves filled with beautiful miniature books designed by book artists. As a design, the cover must both convey something relevant and interesting with the book pages but also indicate the author, title, publisher etc...



Does the book cover matter? Book covers images usually refer to their genre or ideas that might or might not connect to the text. Publishers want covers that increase sales. Readers often use books in other ways aside from simply reading – decorating shelves while displaying their taste in literature or personal interests.

What is the future of book covers? The author notes that often a reader will rely on the work of the cover artist to inform the decision to purchase. Literary agent Chris Parris-Lamb stated, “The more a book is asking a reader to take a chance on it, the more important the cover is.”

Currently I am collecting British Crime Classics and I purposely seek out the original book covers as I believe they correlate to the historical text as well as the genre.

The authors conclude with asking the question - "Where is the author in all this?" Book design is usually a separate profession and the people within the publishing houses generally make the decision for the cover for the author.

So, I will end with a question for our miniature book folks - **what are your thoughts and for those who compose miniature books, do you ask others to assist with your book covers?**

Editor's Note: There is an interesting miniature book titled, 'You Can Judge A Book By It's Cover, A Brief Survey of Materials', published in 1994, Katercraft Bookbinders, written by Bernard C. Middleton. This book specifically discusses the various materials that can be utilized when making a book. The covers are bound in full black morocco with abstract inlays in blue and red morocco by Tini Miura. The edges are decorated with iridescent green and blue dots on covers and gilt top-edge. Bright blue marbled endpapers by Einen Miura. The clamshell case is covered in black silk with black-and-red morocco spine. The bound size of the book is 3" x 2 1/2".

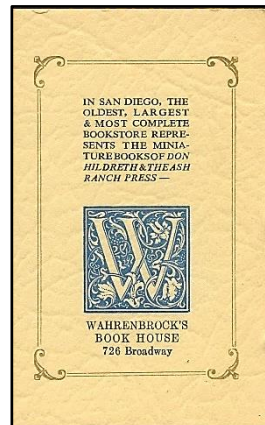
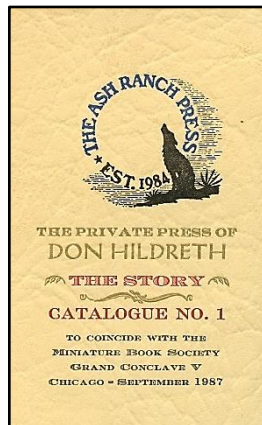


Always a joy. 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648

E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

A BIT OF 1987 EPHEMERA, Ash Ranch Press:



GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

Soon we will need to think about what special things we want to do for the beginning of Spring and vacation time. School plays, weekend camping, vegetable gardening, bike riding, or maybe hiking...Between all those things, we need to make sure we have time for the world of miniature books. Maybe it is to read a book related to a particular hobby or a place you have wanted to visit that appeals to you or perhaps something entirely new for you. I am always amazed that it is more than a coincidence that when I read a miniature book, I can learn something new about something that I thought I knew all about. Something old may really be something new in the world of miniature books. We will continue the journey in the next issue with the following:

- Nina Mazzo, more news, and her insights from the *Miniature Book News...*
- *Typesetting*, by A. A. Stewart, published by Plum Park Press...
- For sure... something new and exciting from Bo Press, you never know...
- A new book or two from Booksby Press...
- Another 'Bradbury 100', or two...or three...maybe *Thomas Berwick* #11 and *Marbling in Miniature* #93

Lastly, I need your help with any additional books on the Bradbury list. So far, the following books (numbers) have been reviewed with this series in The Microbibliophile, from the Bradbury 100 list:

14, 20, 24, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 51, 55, 56, 58, 60, 61, 62, 64, 68, 73, 76, 80, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 95, 96, 97, 99, and 100.

If you have a copy of one of the books, not yet reviewed, and would like to write a short 'review/ article' please contact me. If you have the book and need help with the article or might loan it to me for my review, we can work through the details.

Please keep us posted on what is happening in your press or your piece of the world of miniature books. What you are reading, your discoveries, your 'wishes', and what you have on your favorite list? Anticipation and searching are the joy of collecting. If you visit a book fair or a bookshop or find an interesting article about books, please consider sharing your story in a future issue. Thank You! 📖

THE 7 BOOK BLOGS of JERRY MORRIS:

Jerry Morris was a book collector's collector who for more than 40 years was a passionate collector of books of all types. However, Jerry's greatest love was researching and writing about books. He created a rather large written collection of details that he shared with everyone via an internet blog between 1997 - 2021. After his passing, the Florida Bibliophile Society, of which he was a member, published this collection of various blog entries from his writings.

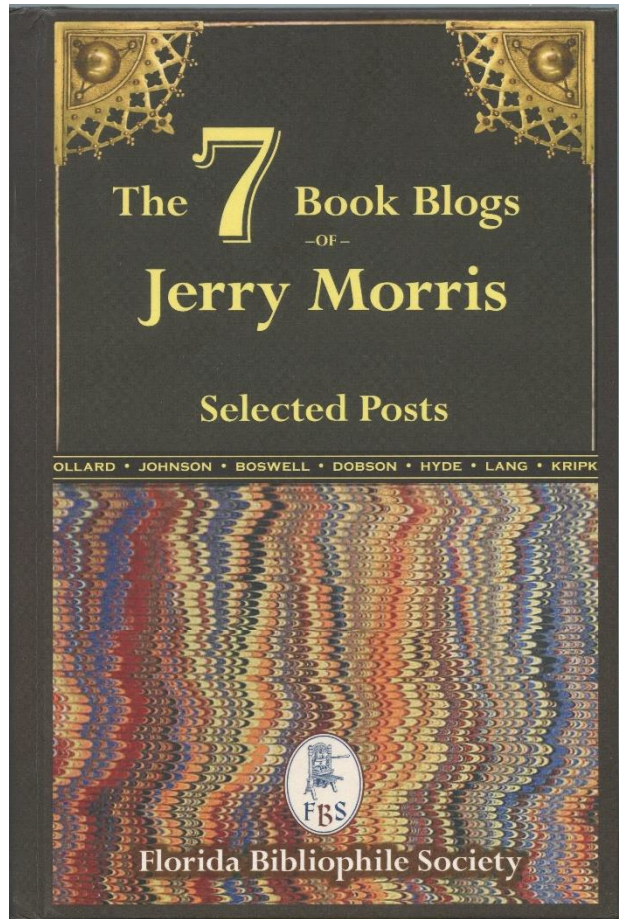
There are 29 entries including one more interesting than another for sure. It is a difficult thing to say 'this is my favorite' but I do have a favorite, 'Twenty Years of Collecting and Writing about Early Editions of William Strunk's Little Book', *The Elements of Style*. This was posted to the blog 'My Sentimental Library' on June 30, 2012. I am not sure of why I think of it as my favorite but the little book has always been on my bookshelf since I was a high school student, and when I was an undergraduate I almost had it memorized for my English professor...

There are three 'reference aids included with the publication:

- A complete list of the book blog posts in chronological order
- An Index of Names
- An Index of Titles

The publication is a beautifully produced hardbound volume, 300 pages, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". The book is bound in a 'laminated' paper which makes a great cover for a research book that will get a lot of use over time. Well Done to Charles Brown, Editor, and all who contributed to the publication effort.

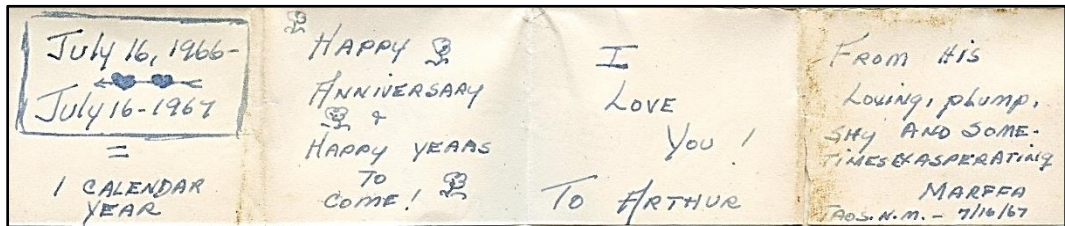
Certainly, a bibliophile's bible. 📖



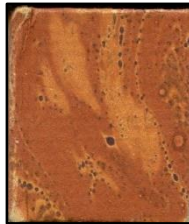
SPECIAL BOOKS IN THE COLLECTION of ARTHUR GOLDSMITH:

We have often read, sometimes thought, and sometimes written about the destiny of our miniature book collections. From the collection of Arthur Goldsmith I will share with you three gems that crossed, for me, the bridges of time.

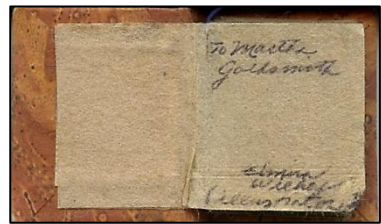
A simple format miniature book, handmade with folded paper approx. 1 1/2" x 1 1/2". Arthur and his wife both were born in 1927. Happy Anniversary!



The Bronte Press has produced many of the most beautiful and unique handmade and hand illustrated miniature books over the years. Folded delicately in a small box was a copy of the *Bronte Alphabet*, the first publication of the Bronte Press, 1 1/6" x 13/16", bound in paper boards, letterpress printed, only 30 pages long. However, inscribed by Elmira Smith Wilkey to Martha

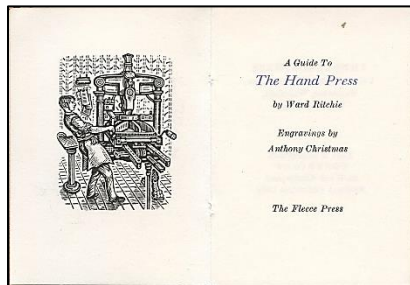


front cover

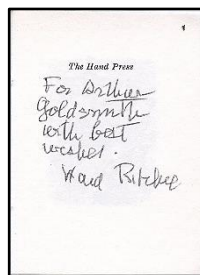


inscription page

The third book of interest is a copy of *A Guide To The Hand Press*, by Ward Riche, published by the Fleece Press in 1989, letterpress printed, 2 7/8" x 2 1/8", 33 pages, 200 copies in the edition.



title page with illustration



inscription signature

Happy Anniversary 📖

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS,

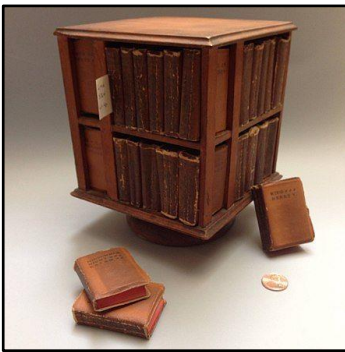
‘Opacity’:

Opacity is a term that is used to define printing papers and the degree to which light will pass through the paper. An important consideration in thin papers, as ‘show through’ may occur if the sheet is not sufficiently opaque.

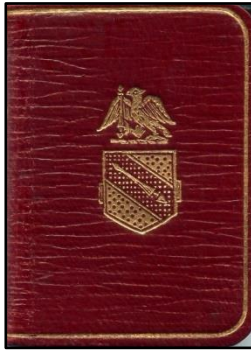
The technical definition as explained by Geoffrey Glaister, *The Encyclopedia of the Book*, is as follows; When the fibers of paper are closely packed, with little air space, light can pass through the sheet more easily than through a sheet made from free-beaten stock which has a greater level of internal air space. Mineral loading also improves opacity. Esparto papers have good printing opacity.

The opacity of paper can be roughly measured by comparing different sheets, or by using a number of sheets to blacken out a light of standard intensity, but for accurate measurements such instruments as the Hilgar-Pata opacimeter or the Eel opacimeter can be used.

There are occasions when books are produced which need to show a certain amount of light and image through the paper or have a very thin paper that will not show light or printing through it.



revolving case for set



individual book

In a miniature book as the ‘Shakespeare’ set by David Bryce where each book may have several hundred pages with printing on both sides of the paper page, but the whole book may be only 1/4" thick, there is not a situation where the printing on one side is visible from the reverse side because the paper has a high level of opacity.

There are other situations where the book designer may want to take advantage of a less level of opacity to create a special effect with paper. Such is the case with a publication by REM, titled *Magic Nursey Rhymes*. The text with illustrations is printed in red on double leaves alternated with folded single leaves. Each set of double leaves has also a single leaf folding either up or down; the single leaves fold out. When each ‘folding leaf’ is unfolded and ‘held to a light’ an illustration appears to the viewer through the level of opacity of the paper.



REM Magic Nursey Rhymes

Something old/ something new to add to your dictionary. 📖

GREAT BOOKSTORE, Leakey's Bookshop, Inverness, Scotland:

About Us - Leakey's Bookshop (leakeysbookshop.com)




Leakey's opened its doors in 1979. I am not sure if the fire in the woodstove was roaring then but when I visited this iconic shop in 2018 it was a cool rainy day and the warmth from the stove was only matched by the proprietors and staff.

Most of our books are only available to browse in person. This will probably always be the case; there are too many books and too few staff to even consider trying to list and track them all! That said, since 2010 they have been building a collection of rare and antiquarian books on the AbeBooks marketplace and currently have over 8000 listed. Browse this collection here: www.abebooks.co.uk/leakeys-bookshop, otherwise see you in the shop!

If you have been to Inverness on a cold rainy day, even in August, you know about the joy of a woodstove. just outstanding...📖

SPECIAL WANT AD LIST:

The editor is in search of the following Borrower's Press publications. If you have extra copies or would like to sell or trade what you have, please contact the editor, at hello@themicrobibliophile.com). We can pay in cash, livestock, or gemstones. 

Bible, Old Testament, 1975

Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens, 1975

Love Sonnets, William Shakespeare, 1976

Little Red Riding Hood, 1976

Wildflowers, Jane Bernier, 1977

Romeo and Juliet, William Shakespeare, 1978


Hansel and Gretel, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, 1978

Women's Fashions of the Victorian Era, Jane Bernier, 1983

Butterflies of the Americas, Jane Bernier, 1984

Embroidery, Jane Bernier, 1985

Observations of Cats, Harrison Weir, 1986

Diary, (no date) 



MINIATURE BOOK WORLD FLASHBACK,
The Microbibliophile, November 1980,
43 Years Ago:

The Microbibliophile
A bi-monthly review of literature concerning miniature books

Volume III, Number 5 November, 1979

Editor's Note: The following article is a reprint from the November 1990 issue of 'The Microbibliophile'. Over the years from the beginning of 'The Microbibliophile' there have been a wealth of articles written that I think will be of interest to our current readers, be they a novice or a more experienced and 'seasoned' collector. From time to time, I will select a 'flashback' to share with you. I hope that you will enjoy the experience. The current article is titled 'Msgr. Francis J. Weber: Microbibliophile'

Bob Hanson always asked for comments from the readers and subscribers, waiting to hear from you.

Msgr. Francis J. Weber: Microbibliophile

I remember a visit, about 15 years ago, that my wife, Helen, and I made to the small city of Ventura, situated along the coast of California and just south of Santa Barbara.

Fresh from the east, we were pounding the pavements looking for employment as school teachers. One memorable interview I had was with the principal of an elementary school in the city of Ventura. While I do not remember the full question and answer game we played, I still recall one penetrating query he put to me.

"Who was Junipero Serra?" he searchfully asked.

Unfortunately, I had not studied California history in the least. My interviewer was absolutely appalled at my disclosure of ignorance concerning this California pioneer. At that point, I vowed to myself never to forget this early religious leader, and to learn more about his work. Attesting to this vow, let me tell you that he was the "noted Presidente and the Founder of California Missions". From 1769 to 1823 there were 21 such missions established by Father Junipero Serra, O.F.M., from San Diego to north of San Francisco.

Imagine my delight, when, a few years ago, I happened upon the Junipero Serra Press, and the team of Weber and Braun!

Monsignor Francis J. Weber is a man of many hats. He is a Roman Catholic priest, born 1933 in Indianapolis, Indiana, and who is Pastor of Mission San Buenaventura, founded in 1782.

Furthermore, he is the Archivist of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In pursuit of those

duties he travels eighty miles, one day a week, to his office in Los Angeles.

His third hat, that of a bibliophile, more than adequately fits this energetic man of God. Not only is he completing a manuscript on the subject of California missions, to be published in full-size, but he has found time to write 26 miniature books, many of which were designed typeset, printed and bound by his colleague, Francis Braun, who is, in fact, the Junipero Serra Press. Father Weber has advised me that Mr Braun prefers to bask in obscurity--more's the pity, for Francis Braun, to my mind, is a book arts craftsman par excellence!

In reply to my questionnaire, Father Weber indicated that his favorite miniature book, was MAYOR OF INDIANAPOLIS, FATHER JOSEPH F. WEBER published by Achille J. St. Onge in 1975. (By the by, Joseph F. Weber was the great uncle of Francis J. Weber).

According to a St. Onge brochure, this was a "biographical sketch of the Reverend Joseph F. Weber, the first Roman Catholic priest in the nation's ecclesiastical annals to have held, even nominally, the position of civil mayor. Preface by Richard G. Lugar, the great Mayor of Indianapolis. The size is 2 1/4 x 2 3/4 inches, 28 pages, printed by Joh. Enschede from Lutetia type on all rag paper. Frontispiece portrait. Bound in black calf, decorative endpapers, stamped in gold, with all edges gilt. The edition is limited to 300 copies. Price \$8.50".

You may be interested in knowing that Doris Frohnsdorff, in her Catalogue 27-August, 1980-offered a copy at \$45.

Father Weber's personal collection of miniature approaches 600 in number with his most prized volumes being "those etched, printed, and

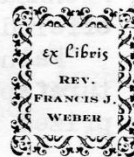
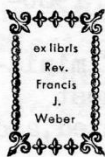
then bound by Bernhardt Wall (1872-1956) at his studios in Sierra Madre, in 1947. THE CALIFORNIA MISSIONS is a pictorial portrayal in twenty-four plates of the historic foundations along El Camino Real, while WALLIANA NOTES is a compilation of twelve leaves advertising the artist's standard-sized books".

Parenthetically, Father Weber also owns a chained miniature Bible similar to the one I presented in the cover photograph of The Micro-B, Volume Iv, No. 2.

The first book written by Francis J. Weber was titled WHAT HAPPENED TO JUNIPERO SERRA. It measured 1 3/8 x 2 inches, was bound in green leather, contained 27 pages and had a Mexican stamp. The stamp was pictured as Junipero Serra, but actually it bore the portrait of Father Francisco Palou. Bela Blau printed this little gem in 1969, and the price, from Dawson's Book Shop, was listed at \$15...in the Fall, 1970.

And, the first book published, in 1976, by the Junipero Serra Press, and written by Rev. Weber, was INTERFAITH IN ACTION. The subject of this minim was the sinking of the military transport, Dorchester, on February 3, 1943--and the heroism of the four chaplains aboard. The book's dimensions were 2 7/8 x 2 1/8 inches, it contained 16 pages, was bound in full black leather and had a postage stamp frontispiece.

At present, Father is at work on a "little book for the Los Angeles bicentennial which will be celebrated in 1981".



Hope the good Msgr. is doing well. 📖

BEAUTIFUL LIBRARIES, State of Iowa Law Library, Des Moines, Iowa



Image courtesy of www.bing.com


Libraries have long been esteemed institutions housing our stories, ideas, and intellectual progress. While the age of e-books has changed the reading landscape forever, there's no denying the charm, fascination and draw of a real library. Just the sight of the shelves and the smell of old books provides a specific feeling that just can't be described.

The Iowa State Law Library was built (1871-1886) within the capital building and was designed by the architects Alfred Piquenard and John Cochranile. The law library is an iconic and unique space, featuring: Victorian style architecture, with intricate details from floor to ceiling, Spiral staircases on each end of the library that wind from the bottom level to the top tier, and Approximately 100,000 books fill the shelves.

Two special areas of the library are:

A.J. Small Room: The A. J. Small Room in the northeast corner of the Law Library houses a special collection dedicated to Arthur James Small, State Law Librarian from 1896 to 1937. It was during Small's tenure when the legal foundational materials such as: English, Roman, and American colonial legal materials were added to the Law Library's collection.

Iowa Collection: Located in the Law Library, the Iowa Collection contains non-fiction books about Iowa and Iowans. From vibrant cities to serene small towns and unique scenery, discover the history, heritage, people, pastimes, and nature of the Hawkeye state.

If you can believe your eyes! 

PROPOSED FRONTISPIECE, **Volume XLII, Nbr. 3 Issue 243 May – June 2023**

WOW, ANOTHER NEW YEAR... Summer, Fall, and Winter...

Once again, as we do with each issue, we are offering you the opportunity to write a book tale for the next issue of *The Microbibliophile*. Either fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner self to spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/ book memory or even a dream about tomorrow. Storytelling can be very rewarding, even magical!

What interesting books have you read or what places have you perhaps visited? Maybe it was a 'favorite place' or an 'I always wanted to visit there'. Maybe you found a missing piece for your collection or something else to share about your adventures.


Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration will ignite your imagination or touch your spirit to share. Whether a fanciful yarn, a serious conversation about books, the wish to embark on a true-life adventure; your contribution will bring you a feeling of accomplishment to you.

A memory image or a quick look at the calendar can bring things all back into focus; *"I heard the first sounds of the morning birds chirping outside my window dancing on the sill. I jumped out of bed because I wanted to be on the beach before the morning sunrise. It was a bit of a vacation goal this week to greet the dawn and the waves in the solitude of the cool morning..."*

(YOUR TURN).

How about a bit of history from a famous author or a tale about some world events such as the most famous world series, highest balloon flight, favorite miniature holiday book, or a special family tradition...all great subjects to share your thoughts about.

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue will be July 1, 2023, electronic or paper. Either way, the choice is yours.

Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com or send via snail mail to our world headquarters campus at the confluence of the North & South Branches of the Raritan River, address on rear cover. 

CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

Buy, Sell, or Trade:

As a feature for subscribers, *The Microbibliophile* offers 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.

Kathy Roberts is looking for any Shannon Mitchell miniatures. Shannon was an illuminator and calligrapher publishing as Shannon's Miniature Manuscripts in Vancouver, Washington in the 1980's and 1990's

Contact information: E-mail: kvr@comcast.net

Pat Pistner is looking for 28 Raheb books (Mudlark Miniatures and Littlest Library) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published.

Contact information: E-mail: Pistner@me.com

Arno Gschwendtner is looking for the extra paper stack of the REM Press title: *Miscellaneous Thoughts and Reflections - Dard Hunters mill.*

He is also searching for very special minibooks in fine bindings and for French (hand colored) miniature books, e.g. *Paul et Virginie*, will pay a good price.

Contact information: E-mail: arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch

Todd Sommerfeld is looking for two Pairault et Cie titles, *Ali Baba*, and *La Fontaine* to complete his La Gracieuse.

Contact information: E-mail: contratodd@gmail.com or 216-965-7490.

Caroline Brandt is looking for the following miniatures:

Westminster Abbey, III, published by Boreman

Young Sportsman's Instructor, London, ca. 1700

The Famous History of Valentine and Orson, by Snagg, London, 1801

L'Orange Geslagt, by H. Spoormaker, 1749

The Smoker's Text Book, by J. Hamer, 1863

Smallest complete Hebrew Bible, (M. M. Scholtz publication)

Short Account of the First Rise and Progress of Printing, by T. Parker, 1763

Contact information: telephone 804-200-1260

Jim Brogan is looking to acquire:

The 70th Academy Awards, by Gloria Stuart

Published by William Lewis Washburn: Bradbury Nbrs. 4. 5. 6. 7. 9. 10. 11. 12. 20. & 22.


To sell: *The Inaugural Address of Thomas Jefferson*, published by A. J. St. Onge, \$1500

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