

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XXXVIII, Number 2, Issue 218, March 2019



The Warmth of Spring Brings Joy to All

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A Bookworm's Adventure

By Sherry Mayo



Henry sat quietly just beyond sight of the main road running through the small Maine town. He knew he should be at school. He knew his mom would worry and fret when his teacher called, but Henry was a long way from home and he did not want to be among the memories it held.

Two years ago this very day, his mom was trying to tell him something about his dad; about him not coming home. Henry knew his mom was upset, she had tears on her cheeks and a sadness in her voice he had never heard and it frightened him. The words were mere babble inside his head. There was a ghost memory of a wooden box and a flag; of soldiers and family; of voices saying, “so sad” and “poor child”.

However, on this day, Henry is a long way from the place he once knew as home. Today, Henry is free to dream and remember the adventures he shared with his dad. He and his Dad went hiking in the backcountry where they would fish along the banks of crisp, cool streams and hunt among a forest thick with trees and deep with moss underfoot. His dad taught him the ways of nature, how to “read” the trail by day and the stars at night.

Continued on page 14

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Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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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:

March, the days are longer, the sun shines a bit higher in the sky each day, the wind blows, and we realize that winter does not last forever. We see the tops of the first spring flowers beginning to poke up through the mulch in our gardens, especially here in the Northeastern part of the United States. What a crazy winter this was; cold, wet, dry, warm, even some snow and ice in parts of California that are not known for that type of weather. Last year I was late getting my peas in the garden. March 15 was the planting day this year, just the right weather conditions. I can almost taste the snap peas in the wok.

This issues continues with Ian Macdonald's miniature book journey. Gail Curry has provided us with another insight into American Presidents and miniature books. Freddie Ferret also returns from Ann Arbor and Nina Mazzo starts a new series about the 'Miniature Book Collector', with Volume 1 Number 1, January 1960. There are eight new miniature books reviewed; with selections from Booksby Press, Bo Press, Plum Park Press, Aredian Press, Cider Press, and Wild Onion Press. A very diverse group of miniatures; ranging from a children's book, to the deep sea, to history, and poetry covering fiction and fact, all for your enjoyment.

As the weather breaks away from the cold and there is no chance of snow, I will be visiting the FDR Library, in Hyde Park, New York, to restart the story about FDR's little books. Remember, I love your input and savor the challenge of providing you, the readership, with a journal that will be both unique as well as a valuable reference tool about miniature books and all book arts.

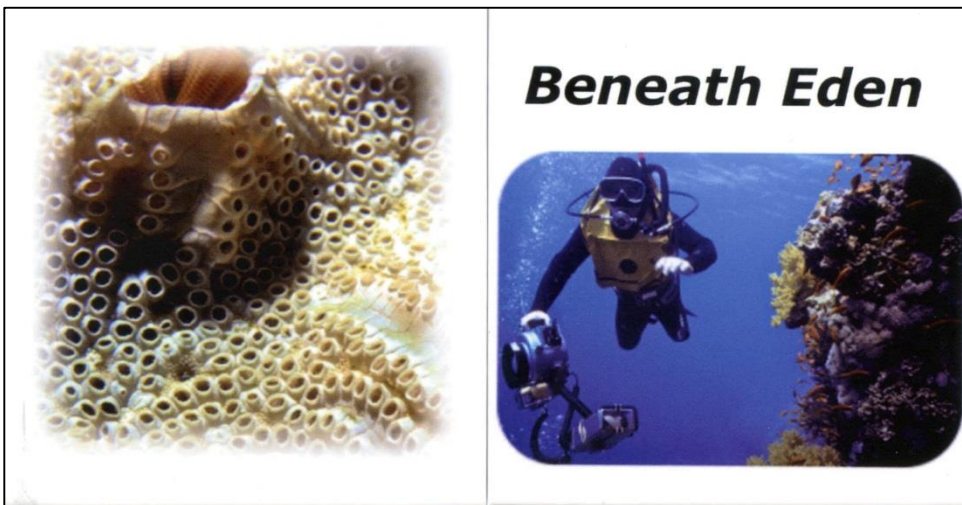
Reflecting back to the period known as the 'Renaissance of Miniature Books', the 1960s, how many people collect books from the Press of the Indiana Kid, James Lamar Weygand (JLW)? For me, he has always held a special place in the world of miniature books. He enjoyed doing the 'whole job' cover-to-cover. He wrote the book, made his own paper, printed the books, and bound them as well. If you are a fan of JLW or know some interesting facts or stories, please, share them. I am thinking about doing a series of articles about him and his press.

Additionally, as always, I ask that you consider joining the list of contributors to the 'MB' journal by sharing your new book creations, your adventures, your finds, and/or your passions for all of the book arts. Diversity is the spice of life! Let us gather around the table for a feast of thoughts and ideas to help satiate our hunger as we elope on our 'bookish' journey together.

Lastly, thank you for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your life and home and wishing you and your family a healthy and happy year! 📖



MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



Rear Cover

Front Cover

Beneath Eden, by Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman, 2018, Cider Press. This is the third book by this creative husband and wife team of miniature book publishers. The first book *Watercolor* was published in 2015, (*The Microbibliophile*, May 2015) and *Mandala*, published in May 2017.

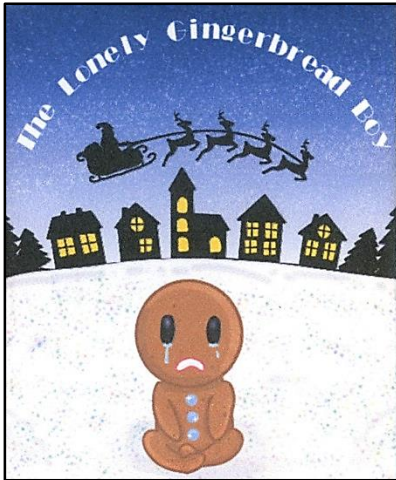
The publisher states that *Beneath Eden* is a collection of underwater photographs taken by Ken while on a trip to Israel in 1978. Specifically, Sharm el-Sheikh located at the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula where the Gulf of Aqaba/Gulf of Eilat merges into the Red Sea. At the time of the trip, the area was controlled by Israel and it has since been given back to Egypt.

The book contains nine outstanding underwater color pictures including those on the front and rear covers. The pictures show various salt-water fish as well as marine fauna. Each image is very colorful yet serene. The author describes Sharm el-Sheikh as a new site when he visited and it remains one of the best places in the world for scuba divers. It is now part of the Ras Mohammed National Park in Egypt.

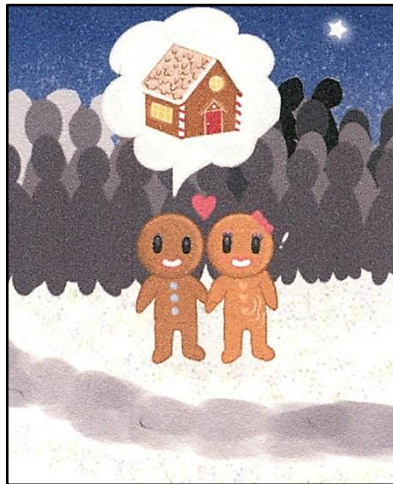
The book is an accordion format with the text and picture printed on both sides of each page, also included is a map of the area. The actual printed page is $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ " with the bound cover at $3\frac{1}{8}$ ". The typeface is Verdana and the paper is a bright white 80# Art Linen. The edition is printed with twenty copies and is bound in a crisp white leatherette

material that creates a very clean and professional presentation. The front and back covers are ‘magnetized’ and close with a gentle ‘snap’ thus keeping all of the folded pages aligned and in place. The book is priced at \$20. Contact Nina and Ken for availability and shipping details. 📖

Contact Information, Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648



Front Cover



Joey meets Anna

The Lonely Gingerbread Boy, by Wendell Sommerfeld, published by Booksby Press, 2018.

I think this is may be a first, a father and son team as author and publisher. Congratulations!

The author who was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, has been writing since 2010, but this is his first book. Andie Brown, a young British graphic artist who has loved drawing from her early childhood, created the illustrations.

The story is about Joey, a small gingerbread boy who lives at the North Pole and because of his size, he did not have many friends. He asked Santa if he could make him a friend. Santa replied with a laugh, “You cannot make friends out of wood; you have to make them with a kind heart”.

The story progresses and Joey meets a young gingerbread girl named Anna, who is also sad. They agree to be friends. Later that night, they heard Santa getting ready to deliver the Christmas toys. He saw the two and noticed they were smiling. Then he asked if they would like to come along and help deliver the toys. Thrilled, they climbed aboard with their bright smiles gleaming. Till this very day, if you look closely at Santa’s sleigh, you will see Santa, Joey, and Anna all riding along and smiling. “The End”.

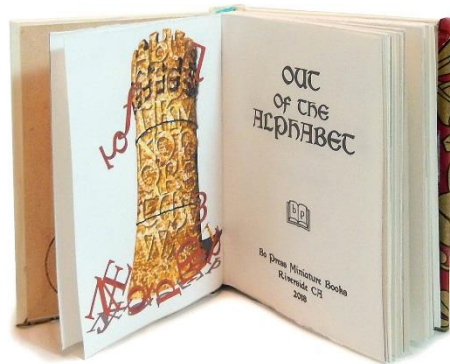
Just a short story that is not too complicated so it is perfect for the young reader. As noted on the dust jacket’s rear side, in a quote from Ellen in Long Island, “This sweet story winds around your heart, like cinnamon spaghetti with a side of syrup”

The book is hardbound and presented with a full color dust jacket. It contains 23 numbered pages and measures 2⁵/₈" x 2¹/₄". The title is gold stamped into the bright red book cloth binding. The front and rear endpapers are printed with images of Christmas trees and gingerbread boys and girls. The illustrations follow the storyline with one on each verso page, 10 in total, with the text on the recto pages. The book is printed on an 80# Strathmore drawing paper utilizing a 6-point Bookman Old Style font. The edition is limited to 200 copies and is priced at \$25. Contact the publisher for availability and shipping charges 📖

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



Rear and Front cover



Frontispiece and Title Page

Images courtesy of BoPress.com

Out of the Alphabet, by Pat Sweet, published by Pat Sweet, BoPress, 2018.

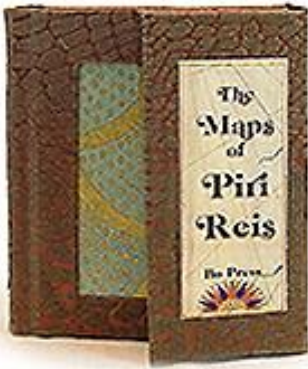
The book is available as a regular miniature at 2⁵/₈" x 2" and a micro miniature sized at 7/₈" x 5/₈". The two alphabet books, each with 56 pages (unnumbered) and I must say is bound in a stunning cream-colored paper material overlaid with a beautiful red floral designed paper. The skill of the publisher/book maker regarding material and color selections is at its best with these two tomes.

The author explains that our alphabet used to be a lot bigger and it included letters like “ampersand” (and), “eng” (the sound at the end of words like 'sing'), and the famous long “s”, which still puzzles many readers of old books when it appears in the text and looks like an “f” but is sounded like 's'. Pat chose eleven of these once well-known

characters and using illustrations and a bit of ‘medieval tracery’, she explains the various forms and historical uses of each of the eleven for the reader.

As mentioned the book comes in two sizes, as noted, both open editions and both offered for sale at \$42. The text is printed in a combination of Kelmscott and Thryomenes fonts on a Monarch superfine paper. The ‘title card’ is applied to the front cover and spine. The construction and printing are impeccable. 📖

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



The Maps of Piri Reis, by Pat Sweet, published by Pat Sweet, BoPress, 2018. Ahmed Muhiddin Piri [born about 1465, died 1553], was an Ottoman admiral, navigator, geographer, and cartographer. An interesting side note is that he began his ‘professional life’ as a privateer, no doubt the source of his great knowledge of the sea and Mediterranean geography. He is primarily known today for his maps and charts collected in his ‘Kitab-i Bahriye’ (Book of Navigation or Book of the Sea), a book that contains detailed information on navigation, as

well as very accurate charts for their time. Besides the extremely accurate maps, ‘The Book of the Sea’ contained a wealth of detailed information about major ports, bays, gulfs, islands, and coastal cities of the Mediterranean Sea. Piri’s maps are filled with detail and color, showing palm trees and jewel-like cities, ships and rivers.

The Maps of Piri Reis is the most current publication of maps books by Pat. I love them all; they open the doors to subjects and places that most of us may have never known or will ever visit. Congratulations to Pat for selecting these ‘pearls of information’. Pat has chosen her selection of favorite maps to include in the tome from the hundreds that are part of the ‘Kitab-i Bahriye’.

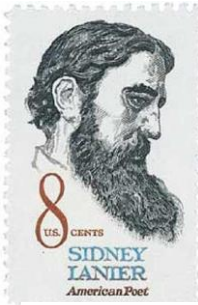
The book is bound in an Islamic binding of brown and coppered lizard print paper with inset windows showing a turquoise paper that is reflective of sea waves. This turquoise paper is also used for the overleaf of the cover that folds over the front cover to form a ‘map case’ effect. The overlap carries a ‘title banner’ as does the spine. The bound book measures 2⁷/₈" x 2" and contains 106 pages, and 58 illustrations/maps. The maps are printed on Monarch Superfine paper.

The book is an open edition. The construction and printing are meticulous and in addition to a copy for your own library, it would make a great gift for a world traveler. Priced at \$85, each copy is signed by the publisher. 📖

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

The Marshes of Glynn, by Sidney Lanier, [1842 – 1881], published 2018 by Aredian Press, Dallas, TX, Patrice Miller, publisher.

The text of the book contains a long poem



USPS stamp

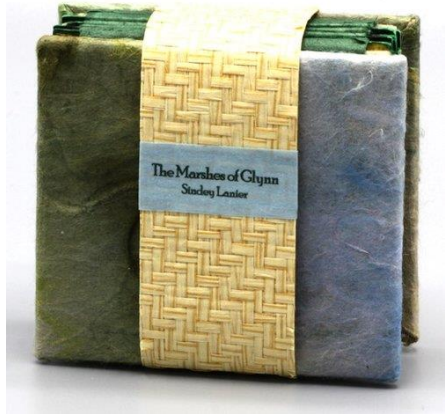
about the Golden Isles off the coast of Georgia, a place where Lanier visited the home of a family member. In addition to the text of the poem, the book also includes a tipped-in postage stamp honoring Lanier and a brief biography.

The book is perfect-bound in a quasi-matchbook style; the biography, the stamp, and the

poem each within its own corners and a central accordion tunnel featuring vintage postcard images of the marshes. The text is printed in various colors on pale blue ribbed vellum. All

papers are Kozo with imbedded string. The outer cover is also Kozo paper, but hand painted by the binder, so each is unique. The tunnel is an outstanding visual feature; it just moves you across the text into the visual interpretations that the poet incorporated into his work. For me, the tunnel images allow me to become part of the words expressed by the poet, transporting you across time into the marsh; it is this element of the book that brings it all together. The 'Marshes' is a 2019 MBS Outstanding Book Award winner.

The backstory for the inspiration that drove the author is that the project began with an environmental project reviewing aerial photos of Georgia. Patrice explains her thoughts, "For me, the sensations of these places – the sights, sounds, smells, and even the musty air on the skin, evoke a sense of mystery. The complex geography of the Golden Isles as seen from the air reinforced that sense of wonder. I began reading about the history of the region, and in particular, Glynn County. That's when I first discovered the writing of Sidney Lanier." "Reading Lanier's *Marshes of Glynn* for the first time was



Front cover with decorative wrapper

revelatory. More than a hundred years before, Lanier had captured the awe of his mesmerizing place in words, powerful and majestic. In a quiet, embracing way, the music of his words, rhythmic and languid, mirrored the breezes and the tides.” “So the desire to share the experience of the Golden Isles, and bring new readers to Lanier, is what motivated my interest in creating an Aredian Press edition of the poem. The sculpted board under the paper covers depict the rivulets of water snaking through marshland. The tans, greens, yellows, and blues of the book, down to the text ink, model the palette of nature found there. The unique cover paintings reflect the ever shifting land and light.”

The Marshes of Glynn contains 31 pages, and it is 2⁷/₈" x 3", the edition contains 10 copies, and is priced at \$425. Contact Patrice for availability and shipping details. 📖

Contact information: Patrice Miller, 1412 San Saba Drive, Dallas, TX 75218-3551
E-mail: p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net or www.aredian.co

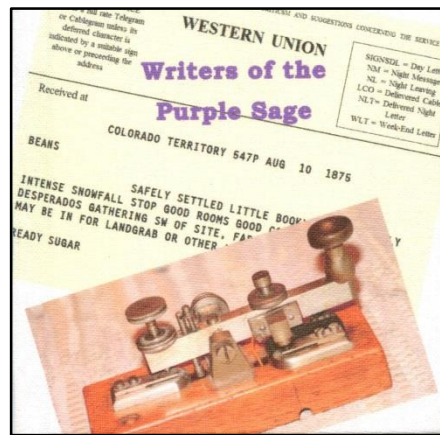
Writers of the Purple Sage, Wild Onion Press, written and published by Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 2018. Here is a ‘western adventure’ set in the late 19th century in the somewhat rough lands known as Colorado.

The story opens with an introduction to the first of many people who are members of a ‘writer’s colony’ in the Wild West. Some are from ‘back East’, some are experts in certain fields of study, and some are ‘cowboys who have developed a love of the pen’. Many of the writers communicated with their home editors via daily telegraph dispatches, the Internet of the day. Eventually, as the colony grows, female writers are introduced to the reader.

The complexity of the story is enhanced by common themes of the Old West: water rights, land grabs, and lost relationships. However, enough of the story from me, I will leave you to explore the adventure with your own copy.

Just a few words from your editor... “*the purple sage plant thrives in the western regions of the United States with dry sandy soil conditions*”, certainly sounds like Colorado to me. I will hazard a guess that there may be a relationship between the book title and the ‘bunk house’ where the writers live.

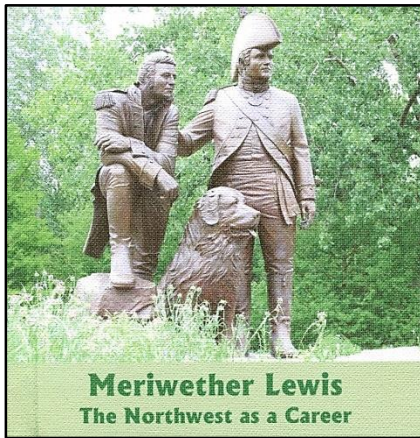
Writers of the Purple Sage, is bound in white book cloth with the title and image of a telegraph key and message imprinted directly on the cover material. The spine also



Front cover image

carries the title printed on the cloth. The book is well produced and easy to operate. The text, which is printed in a Bookman size 9/11 pt. font, is quite readable. The eleven-chapter headings are printed in a pale purple ink to match the color of the endpapers. The 'Purple Sage' measures 3" x 3" and contains 194 numbered pages. The book is an open edition with each copy signed by the publisher/author, contact Pat for availability and shipping details. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, P.O. Box 77883, Fort Worth, TX 76177
E-mail: bailgardener@gmail.com or www.TheWildOnionPress.com



Front cover illustration

Meriwether Lewis, The Northwest as a Career, Wild Onion Press, edited and published by Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 2018. The tome is a selection of entries from the original work published in Philadelphia in 1814. That book carried the title, *History of the Expedition under the command of Captains Lewis and Clark, to the Sources of the Missouri, Thence Across the Rocky Mountains and Down Under the River Columbia to the Pacific Ocean: Performed During the Years 1804-5-6, By Order of the Government of the United States*. This new miniature is a companion volume to Pat's previous book, *William Clark: Master of Exploration*, that was reviewed in the November 2018 edition of *The Microbibliophile*.

Lewis and Clark were two very different men, but together they made a complimentary team that reached the Pacific and then returned to St. Louis. All the while carrying out their mission to map, measure, report, and establish trade throughout the region. It was an arduous journey and they endured the pains of hunger and sickness while facing a great many unknowns.

Pat explains that her pair of tomes do not replicate the original journals but rather attempt to “draw out the character of each man and the ways they responded to the journey in categories that show the many differences between them, undoubtable, one of the reasons for their ultimate success”.

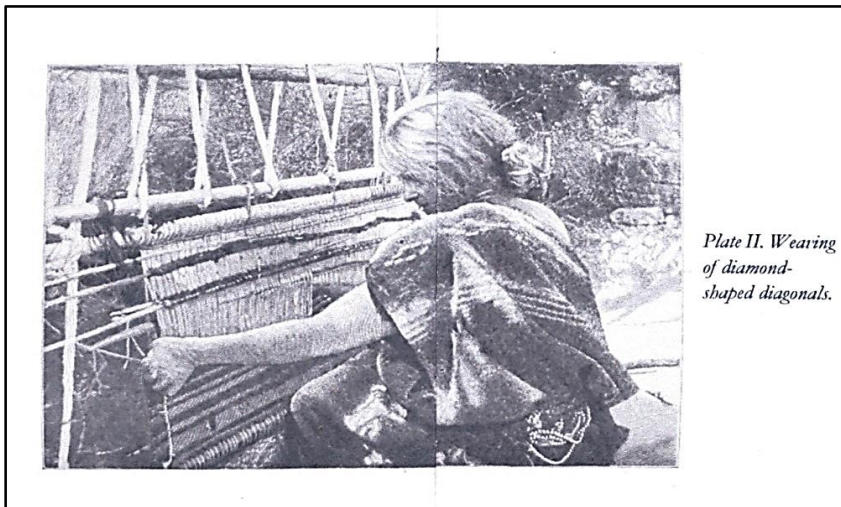
The journal entries are interesting vignettes into the day-to-day life on this epic journey. An Editor's Note explains that the 'misspellings' included are not unintentional mistakes but represent the actual writings of Lewis and Clark. There are also additional editorial notations to explain some of the various word forms used for the purpose of clarity and understanding for the reader.

Pat's closing line sums up her thoughts about this work: " If this little volume succeeds in its effort to present Lewis as a man who believed too well, tried too hard, and paid the price, then whatever the cause of his death, he is a man much to be remembered and celebrated none the less."

The book consists of 268 pages and is 3" x 3". It is typeset utilizing a Garamond font on glossy Suzano Report paper. The title and a full-color illustration of the statue of Lewis and Clark, with Clark's Newfoundland dog, 'Seaman', are printed directly on the cover material. (The statue is located in St. Charles, MO and was commissioned for the 200th anniversary of the expedition. It stands at the "kick-off" point) The title also appears on the spine. The front and rear endpapers have an illustration of an early territorial map of the United States. The construction and finishing are impeccable. This book is an open edition and is signed by the publisher. 'Lewis' is priced at \$45, including shipping directly from the publisher, www.TheWildOnionPress.com.

I certainly enjoyed reading the journal entries for this great historical adventure. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, P.O. Box 77883, Fort Worth, TX 76177
E-mail: bailgardener@gmail.com or www.TheWildOnionPress.com



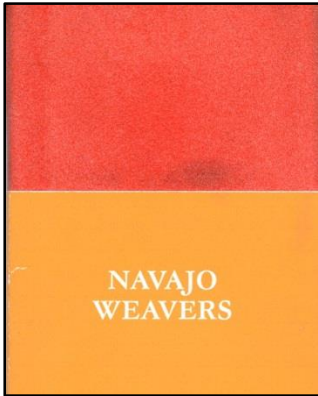
Navajo Weavers, by Washington Mathews, Plate II, Plum Park Press

Navajo Weavers, by Washington Mathews, published January 2019 by Tony Firman, Plum Park Press. The book, originally written in 1884 and published by the United States

Government Printing Office, as part of the Third Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1881-1882.

Mathews was an ethnographer and linguist who specialized in Native American cultures and languages. The Plum Park edition includes the original text and illustrations. The cover of the miniature edition is presented with a half dust jacket with the title printed on it.

The Navajo people have traditionally lived in the 'four-corners' area of the United States. The Navajo weavings are, to this day, considered the best known and most easily recognized weavings. The Mathews publication traces its beginning and highlights the unique nature of this art form. A Navajo weaving of cloth or a textile, such as a rug, is considered the artistic expression of each individual weaver.



Front cover and Dj

The book is printed with 100 pages of text, which explains and incorporates the various designs and techniques that have been utilized by the artisans. There are also included 12 pages of fine quality photographic plates, which are printed on a 'gloss stock paper' to provide the reader with the best high-resolution images.

Included within the 100 pages of text are 18 different illustrations that serve to highlight the text and the overall story that Mathews has written. 'Navajo Weavers' is printed on Navigator Platinum 120 g/m² paper and the photo plates are printed on Futura Gloss 118 g/m² paper. The typeface font is Garamond with a combination of 8/12 pt. Visually the text is easy to read and the book operates perfectly. The size of the book is 3" x 2 3/8" and the edition is limited to 20 copies; each numbered and signed by the publisher. The price is \$40, check with Tony for availability and shipping. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 77883, Fort Worth, TX 76177
E-mail: TonyFirman@earthlink.net or www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com

MORE BOOKS FOR THE READERS !



THE BOOKWORM'S ADVENTURE,

The Frontispiece, continued

By Sherry Mayo:

They had built a lean-to at the base of a huge rock face that gave plenty of shelter from summer thunderstorms or winter's gale. Henry remembered he was only about four years old then and he would drag small pine boughs over to "help" build the fort, as his dad called it; probably to make the task more interesting to little Henry.

The fire's heat, set within a ring of grey stones and rich brown earth, provided both warmth and a way to cook whatever was caught that day for dinner. His mom referred to those days as "her boys' bonding time", but Henry called it the happiest times of his life.

A noise in the distance jolted Henry out of his daydream and he listened more carefully now to determine the source. The skills his dad taught him about the woods and nature were helping Henry stay beyond the grasp of the searchers scouring the area around the small town.

Henry knew many tricks and he had climbed high into a tall tree where he hid in the canopy of leaves with the birds and squirrels while a group of adults went thumping by underneath. Every once in a while someone would holler out his name. Henry giggle silently at the sight and whispered, "Hey Dad, isn't this a great game of hide and seek".

Many days before this one, just as his dad had taught him, Henry made a plan of what he'd need to survive out on his own. However, he also knew he could only pack smaller items because he would be on his own and needed to travel light for both speed and necessity. He chose very carefully what he would need based on the lessons learned while out with his Dad.

First, he took the multi-bladed knife, it even had a small saw blade, then he picked out some hooks, lures, and a reel of fishing line. He could make a pole from a supple tree branch. To these he added, a small folding "Army" shovel, a box of matches, a 50 foot length of paracord (a very strong, narrow nylon rope that has many uses for survival), and a first-aid kit.

Over several days, Henry had taken portions of non-perishable food items and "Army" grub bags from his Dad's military footlocker. He knew his mom would never notice because she didn't look at his dad's stuff any longer; not since Peter had come into her life. Peter told Henry that he loved his mom and wanted to be his "new" dad. A flare of angry pain rose into Henry's chest remembering those words.

Henry then placed his stash in a knapsack he found in the footlocker that had his Dad's name stenciled in black ink. He included some clothing items, especially socks because he knew keeping his feet dry was important. Henry knew the perfect place to put the

knapsack until it was needed. There was a storage shed behind the old Porter place just two blocks away. The house had been vacant for as long as Henry could remember. He went past it on his way to school but none of the other kids would go down that street. They thought the old rambling Victorian was haunted and the idea of ghosts wandering through its halls scared them. Not Henry!

Henry relished the thought of ghosts and spirits from beyond coming back to visit the living. He had been waiting for his Dad to come visit him so he could give him a big bear hug and they could talk like they used to do. He had so many questions and so much had happened that he wanted to share. He had been waiting two years for his Dad to visit him, but he never came, not even in his dreams.


So, Henry thought if he went to their favorite spot set deep in the forest, to the lean-to that held such special memories, that maybe his Dad would come and hold him again. They could lie on their backs and speak of the many things that were weighing heavy on Henry's mind while watching the stars trace a path of light across the ebony sky.

Up in the canopy of the tree, listening to the birds and the chatter of the squirrels, Henry felt at peace for the first time since, since when? He knew the words, but could not bring them to his lips. They were the words of his mom when she said his Dad was not coming home and he yelled at her that she was lying. Her words reverberate like thunder in his memory – “he’s dead, he won’t be coming home, not ever!” Tears began to well in the corners of his eyes, but he willed them back down into his weary soul and waited for night to fall gracefully over the quietening town. It was safer to travel at night.

Suddenly Henry awoke with a start. Tiredness must have overtaken him and he had dozed off. He thought he heard rustling among the leaves near the base of the tree. Then a beam of light came piercing through the dusky light. He sucked in a breath and bid his body stay still as stone while the light swung from side to side in a searching pattern along the ground below. Then a voice, one he knew belonged to Peter, hollered out his name with a plea for him to come home, his mother was worried. Henry didn’t answer the call. He remained as silent as the stone he was emulating.

Still the voice persisted, telling him he that he needed to pick up his stuff and come inside. However, there was a difference to the voice, the sound, it felt much closer than it should from his perch high among the leaves. Henry tried to squint against the darkness and wondered if he was truly awake or still dreaming. Then, with a horrifying jolt, there was a hand gripping his shoulder.

Startled by that hand suddenly on his shoulder, too, Joey jumped up from the bag upon which he was perched and lost his grip on the storybook he had been reading. When the initial fright settled, Joey saw before him the waiting school bus. Laughter was bouncing out of the windows while the driver admonished Joey for once again holding everyone up because he had lost his head in a book again!

With a heavy sigh, Joey reluctantly, packed “Henry” and his other books into the bag with his Dad’s name stamped on its side and stepped into the waiting bus. 

THE MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTOR,

Volume 1, Number 1, June 1960

By Nina Mazzo:

Editor's Note: The Miniature Book Collector was an early publication that was edited by Ruth Adomeit in partnership with Achilles J. St. Onge as publisher and printed by Frank Teagle of Lilliputter Press. It came before the internet and after the LXIVmos, and served the miniature book world as a source of information on a tremendous amount of subjects. Many of the 20th century's more prominent collectors and publishers contributed their work to the 'MBC'. Nina will present reviews from many interesting articles as visions of 'looking through the looking glass'. Possibly one of Nina's 'stories' will spark a memory or ignite a journey of your own to investigate this little gem from the past.

“Dear Reader: Nothing in the world could make me happier than seeing this dream of so many years come true at last, the dream of a live publication about miniature books...”

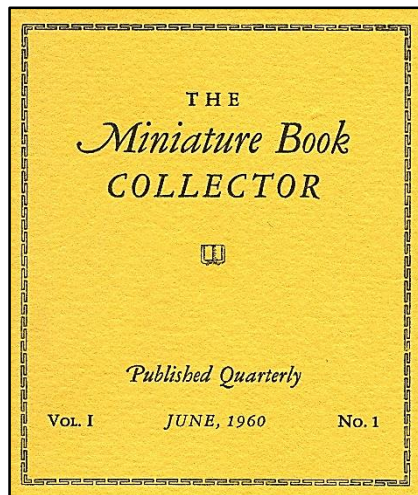
Ruth Adomeit, Editor.

The date is June 1960 and ‘The Miniature Book Collector’ takes flight and will be published by Achille J. St. Onge with a subscription rate of a 1\$ per year. Ruth notes that she would like to carry on the mission from the Newsletter of the LXIVmos under the editorship of James D. Henderson. Therefore she will “collect and disperse information of interest ...miniature books being produced today etc.”

Let's take a closer look at this first publication.

Dutch Craftsmen – one of the smallest books in the world printed from movable type in Holland in 1647 is only 1/2" by 5/16" in size and titled *Bleom Hofje*.

Lilliput and Brobdingnag - the Limited Editions Club issued a two-volume set of Gulliver's Travels in 1950. The two matching volumes are cased in one box – but as Ruth notes; why is this worth commenting on – well one, it is a miniature, and one is an elephant folio. The miniature book *A Voyage to Brobdingnag* is 18 1/2" x 13 1/2" and the elephant folio *A Voyage to Lilliput* is 3 1/2" x 2 1/2". The editor of the MBC explains that she did not reverse the size dimensions, as you must remember that “in the country of Lilliput where a man would only be 6" tall, a book of 3 1/2" would be truly gigantic.” Isn't that clever?



Ruth also writes about the variety of miniature books in different languages and asks readers to share what languages sit on their shelves – so let’s ask our readers the same question. ‘How many different languages are represented in the books on your shelves?’

Adomeit also shares her experiences regarding the various definitions of the ‘size’ of a miniature book. The story relates her visit to the Library of Congress and how the librarians utilize the ‘rule of thumb’ to determine which books remain in the ‘miniature collection and which books are deemed ‘too large’. This is an interesting little tale about how things were back in the days, prior to 1960.

Finally, Achille J. St. Onge offered the following books for sale:

Carl Sandburg’s Lincoln Birthday Address to the U.S. Congress - \$3.50


Wild Apples, by Henry David Thoreau - \$4.00

Coronation Service of Elizabeth II - \$3.50

From a Writer’s Notebook, by Van Wyck Books - \$3.50

Formats & Foibles, by Walter Hart Blumenthal - \$4.00

Silver Jubilee Sermon of Francis Cardinal Spellman - \$3.00

Okay – who is fortunate enough to own any of the above? 

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 92651

E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

AN AMERICAN REFLECTION, SPEECHES OF OUR PRESIDENTS, By Gail Curry:

As I begin writing these words, it is February 18, Presidents' Day. Our 45 President, Donald J. Trump, was giving a speech on the evils of socialism, vowing "America will never be a socialist country". I have been reading the words of many of our Presidents as recorded in miniature books. Most of these are Inaugural Addresses with a Farewell Address and a few speech collections. In all I have found fourteen miniature books dedicated to the wisdom and oratorical skills of nine U.S. Presidents. It is interesting to note that the last Inaugural Address published in a miniature format was that of Richard Nixon, published by Achille J. St. Onge in 1969, fifty years ago.

In the November 2018 issue of *The Microbibliophile*, I wrote an article on Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as it appears in miniature books. Let me state again that miniature books often capture words to be immortalized for generations to come. The fundamental statements about our freedom and the great sacrifices that have been made to embrace and sustain it are often found in the immortal words of our Presidents. In addition, particularly in the 20th century, emphasis is placed on the will of the people to survive in liberty as a united people, as united states.

In that November article, considerable emphasis was placed on the Kingsport Press with the provenance of its Lincoln shrouded in mystery. Now I will again examine the 1929 *Kingsport Addresses of Lincoln* for the Second Inaugural Address in addition to the two other Kingsport miniature books, one on Calvin Coolidge and the other on George Washington. We will also examine miniature publications of Achille J. St. Onge, Black Cat Press and the Press of Ward Schori.

Kingsport Press

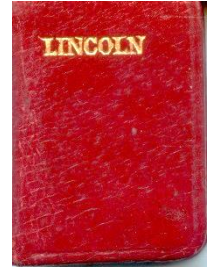
The Kingsport Press began commercial operations in Kingsport, TN on Jan. 15, 1923. A series of mergers resulted in it now being part of Quad/Graphics in Sussex, Wisconsin. It was a very large printing company, known for its high volume of quality books. In 1928, the Training Division of the Kingsport Press Vocational School, acting on the suggestion of a student, Oscar Lawson, created its first miniature book, 'Gettysburg Address'. Very few details are known about this book, (See article in November 2018, *The Microbibliophile*.) *Addresses of Abraham Lincoln* was created in 1929 (see below). *Extracts From The Autobiography of Calvin Coolidge* was printed in 1930, followed by

Washington: *Washington His Farewell Address* in 1932. These books are known for their superior workmanship.

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nations wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan - to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations. - Abraham Lincoln pp. 31-33

1. ADDRESSES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, Second Inaugural Address.

Kingsport, TN: Kingsport Press Training Division, 1929. This special edition of 525 copies printed and bound by the students of the Training Division of the Kingsport Press for the members of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, 7/8" x 5/8", gilt red leather, 139 pp. [+2], all edges gilt. This was the first of the three miniature books printed by Kingsport Press (Bradbury 1834). It should be noted that Lincoln remarked that while at the time of delivering his first inaugural address, devoted to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were within the city seeking to dissolve the Union. For additional bibliographic information, see *The Microbibliophile*, Issue 216, November 2018, pp. 30-32



They [historical studies] gave me a vision of the world when it was young; and showed me how it grew. It seems to me that it is almost impossible for those who have not traveled that road to reach a very clear conception of what the world now means. - Calvin Coolidge

2. EXTRACTS FROM THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF CALVIN

COOLIDGE. Kingsport, TN: Kingsport Press, 1930, no limitation stated. 7/8" x 5/8", elaborate gilt decorated blue leather, 129 pp., all edges gilt. Printed and bound by the students of the Training Division of the Kingsport Press. This was the second of the three books they printed. (Bradbury 758) Note: Calvin Coolidge was known to be a careful wordsmith, creating plain speech with great impact. There were no words on freedom per se. For Coolidge, America was all about industriousness, an important element to remaining a free people.



The name of American, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism...You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The Independence and Liberty you possess, are the work of joint councils, and joint efforts, of common dangers, sufferings and successes. - George Washington p. 32.

3. WASHINGTON: His Farewell Address. Kingsport, TN: Kingsport Press, 1932, no limitation stated, 7/8" x 5/8", gilt decorated royal blue leather, 142 pp., all edges gilt. Printed and bound by the students of the Training Division of the Kingsport Press. Bradbury 3063 Note: Washington's Farewell Address was delivered on Sept. 17, 1796. It is said that Alexander Hamilton wrote a large part of it, based on Washington's ideas. James Madison had drafted an earlier version in 1792. It is interesting to note that when the Senate reconvened on Monday (Feb. 25, 2019), 'Washington's Farewell Address' was read on the Senate floor by Sen. Deb Fischer of Nebraska, an annual tradition going back to 1896.



Achille J. St. Onge

Achille J. St. Onge of Worcester, MA published 46 miniature books between 1935 and 1977. They were of exceptional quality, and included six U.S. Presidential Inaugural Addresses, as well as other writings by U.S. Presidents.

Let us then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind, let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty, and even life itself, are but dreary things. - Thomas Jefferson

4. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON, MARCH 4, 1801. Worcester: Achille J. St. Onge, 1943, 200 copies, 3 3/16" x 2 1/8", black cloth with gilt decoration on the front cover, 31 pp. printed from Garamond Type by the Stobbs Press in Worcester. Bound by Wetherbee, (Bradbury 1602).

Note: This work was published to commemorate the 200 anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson. St. Onge destroyed all but 30 copies because he was not satisfied with the quality of the work, making it the rarest of all the St. Onge miniatures.

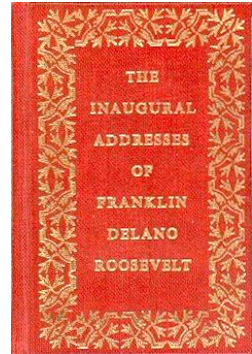


Sometimes we fail to hear or heed these voices of freedom, because to us the privilege of our freedom is such an old, old story. Franklin D. Roosevelt p.74, Third Inaugural Address, Jan. 20, 1941

5. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESSES OF FRANKLIN D.

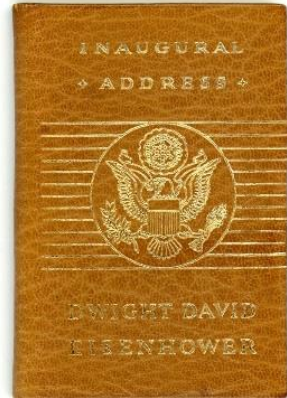
ROOSEVELT. Worcester: Achille J. St. Onge, 1945, 2,000 copies printed from Times New Roman type by the Merrymount Press in Boston, 3 1/8" x 2 1/8", elaborate gilt decorated wine colored cloth, 88 pp. [+ colophon]. Contains all four Inaugural Addresses of FDR from March 4, 1933 - Jan. 20, 1945. Winner of The American Institute of Graphic Arts 50 best books of the year for 1945.

Note: It is interesting to note that FDR was a miniature book collector, the only U.S. President and perhaps the most famous American to have that distinction. In September, 1964, John Roosevelt, FDR's son, turned over several thousand books to the Hammer Galleries in New York. Of these, 162 miniature books (under 4") were listed in a separate section, along with two miniature bookcases. Many were signed/inscribed by the President, some by Eleanor Roosevelt (often with just initials). According to *Miniature Book News* #4, June 1966, Editor Julian Edison was able to obtain several of these books along with one of the bookcases. Described as follows, "Mahogany Miniature Bookcase, with 2 glass doors, 3 removable shelves, made expressly for F.D.R.'s miniature book collection. Back inscribed 'Val Kill 1943. To President Roosevelt from Nancy and Marion (Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman).'" p.4. It measures 36 by 22 by 6 inches overall. Julian Edison further lists 23 of the 162 items, most about 3" in height. In the delightful and very informative miniature book, *FDR's Little Books* by Msgr. Francis J. Weber and published by Opuscula Press in 1991, Msgr. Weber arranged to examine 60 books at ValKill (residence of Eleanor Roosevelt until her death in 1962) that were of respectable quality, and were not part of the books auctioned by Hammer. Msgr. Weber also discusses 47 miniature books located at the Roosevelt Cottage on Campobello Island, New Brunswick. This cottage was once owned by the Hammer family, who inventoried those books in 1966. These were probably acquired by FDR prior to 1921 "in the bookstalls and antique parlors of New England". p.26



We feel this moral strength because we know that we are not helpless prisoners of history. We are free men. We shall remain free, never to be proven guilty of one capital offense against freedom, a lack of staunch faith. - Dwight D. Eisenhower pp. 17,18

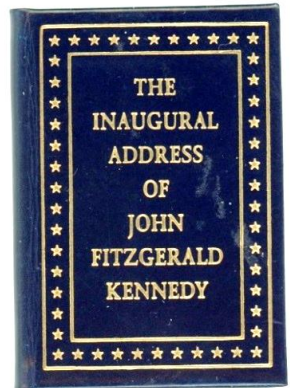
6. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER. Delivered at the Capitol, Washington DC, January 20, 1953. Worcester: Achille J. St. Onge, 1954, 1,000 copies printed from Bembo type by the Chiswick Press in London, bound by Sangorski & Sutcliffe, London, 2 3/4" x 1 15/16", light brown Niger morocco with the U.S. arms and title stamped in gilt on front cover and with gilt lines that continue on back cover, all edges gilt, brown & white decorated endpapers, 33 pp. [+ colophon]. Frontispiece photo by George Tames. (Bradbury 1015).

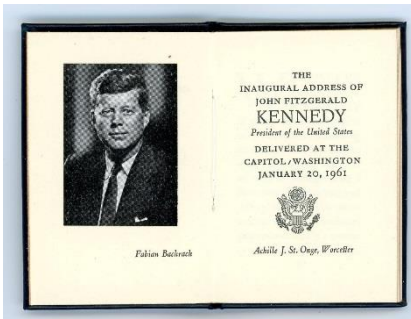


Note: President Eisenhower placed his hand on two Bibles while reciting the oath of office. One was the Bible used by George Washington in 1789 (opened to 11 Chronicles 7:14), and the other his own West Point Bible (opened to Psalm 33:12). He began his address by asking permission of the audience to utter his own private prayer while their heads were bowed. This brief prayer ended with the words, *"May cooperation be permitted and be the mutual aim of those who, under the concepts of our Constitution, hold to differing political faiths; so that all may work for the good of our beloved country and Thy glory. Amen.*

"we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty". - John F. Kennedy pp.10, 11

7. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, President of the United States; Delivered at the Capitol/Washington January 20, 1961. Worcester, MA: Achille J. St. Onge, 1961, no limitation stated, gilt JFK wreath with 1917-1963 within on back cover. Printed by Joh. Enshede en Zonen, Harlem, Holland and bound by Proost and Brandt in Amsterdam, Holland, 2 5/8" x 1 7/8", elaborate gilt black leather, 30 pp. [+2, colophon], all edges gilt. Tipped in black & white photo frontis by Fabian Bachrach, (Bradbury 1643).

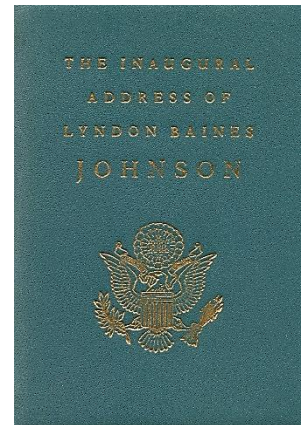




Note: The first edition of this address was limited to 2,000 copies and did not have the gold seal on the back cover. Widely viewed as one of the most enduring inaugural addresses, the speech was meticulously crafted. Ted Sorensen, Kennedy speechwriter, helped write this speech. Kennedy had Sorensen study Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as well as the Inaugural Addresses of other Presidents. It has been reported that the first draft was destroyed at the request of Jackie Kennedy.

Think of our world as it looks from that rocket that is heading toward Mars. It is like a child's globe, hanging in space, the continent stuck to its side like colored maps. We are all fellow passengers on a dot of earth. And each of us, in the span of time, has really only a moment among our companions. - Lyndon Baines Johnson, pp. 21,22

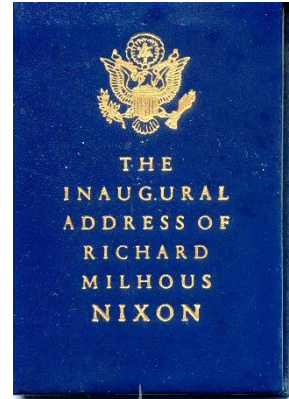
8. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON, President of the United States; Delivered at the Capitol/Washington January 20, 1965, Worcester, MA: Achille J. St. Onge, 1965, 2,500 copies printed by Joh. Enshede en Zonen, Harlem, Holland, and bound by Proost en Brandt N.V., Amsterdam, Holland, b&w photo frontis tipped in opposite page with printed oath, 2 11/16", x 1 7/8", gilt stamped turquoise leather, 36 pp. [+2, colophon], edges gilt, (Bradbury 1614).



Note: LBJ worked on his address at his Texas ranch. He was inspired to add the following words as he was giving his address while facing the crowd of silent, attentive people. "It is the excitement of becoming - always becoming, trying, probing, failing, resting and trying again - but always trying and always gaining."

No man can be fully free while his neighbor is not. To go forward at all is to go forward together. - Richard M. Nixon, p.30

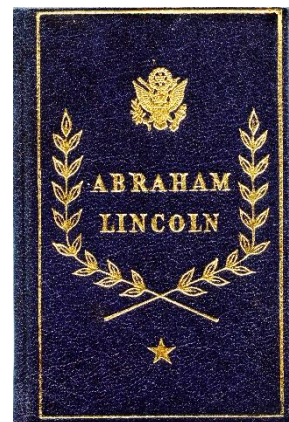
9. THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF RICHARD MILHOUS NIXON, President of the United States; Delivered at the Capitol/Washington January 20, 1969, Worcester, MA: Achille J. St. Onge, 1969, 1,500 copies printed by Joh. Enshede en Zonen, Harlem, Holland and bound by Proost en Brandt N.V., Amsterdam, Holland, b&w photo frontis, 2 5/8" x 1 13/16", gilt leather, 45 pp., all edges gilt. (Bradbury 2252).



Note: Raymond Price helped craft this speech. This is the last of the Presidential Inaugural Addresses published by St. Onge, and the last by any miniature book publisher. Please correct the record if this is wrong. It has been fifty years, perhaps reflecting a change in the interests of the collector base, or the introduction of the Internet where these speeches may be found (but not kept for posterity).

Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive; and the other would accept war rather than let it perish. And the war came. - Abraham Lincoln pp. 41,42

10. ABRAHAM LINCOLN President of the United States 1861-1865: Selections from **His Writings**. Preface by Carl E. Wahlstrom. Worcester: Achille J. St. Onge, 1950, 1500 copies printed at the Chiswick Press in London and bound by Sangorski & Sutcliffe, London. 3-1/16" x 2", elaborate gilt decorated black leather, 76pp., blue endpapers, all edges gilt. Frontis portrait of Lincoln by Alexander Hesler, (Bradbury 1849).



Note: For more information on this book, please see *The Microbibliophile* Issue 216, November 2018. In addition to the Gettysburg Address, this book also contains the Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865.

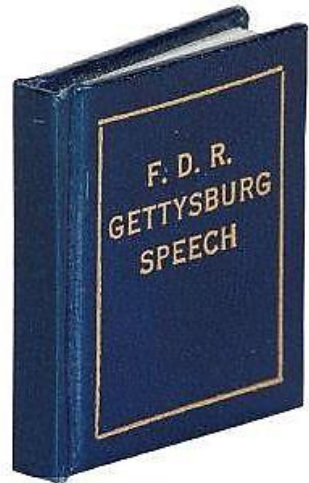
Black Cat Press

Black Cat Press, owned and operated by Norman W. Forgue in Chicago and Skokie, Illinois, has an excellent reputation among collectors of minibooks. They are well presented - attractive, legible and near perfection. Forgue began publishing miniature books as a hobby after he retired from commercial printing. His hobby for many years had been making and collecting small things as outlined in his miniature book, *The Miniature World of Norman Forgue* (1983).

Here in the presence of the spirits of those who fell on this ground we give renewed assurance that the passions of war are shouldering in the tombs of time; and the purposes of peace are flowing in the hearts of a united people. - Franklin D. Roosevelt

11. F.D.R. GETTYSBURG SPEECH Delivered May 30, 1934 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Chicago: Black Cat Press [1967]. 200 copies printed by Charles Young at the Norman Press and bound by Bela Blau. 1 1/4" x 1", gilt leather, unpaginated, (Bradbury 2586).

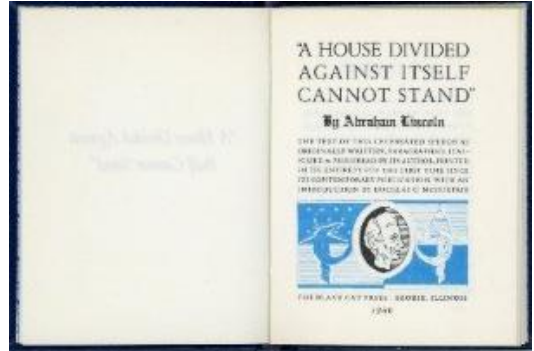
Note: It was at this occasion that the Eternal Peace Light Memorial was lit in honor of those fallen soldiers more than 70 years before at the Battle of Gettysburg.



A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. - Abraham Lincoln, p.28

12. A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND. Skokie, IL: Black Cat Press, 1980, 249 copies bound by Bela Blau, title page decoration by Calvin Brazelton. 2 11/16" x 2 1/8", gilt navy leather, 51 pp. [+2, colophon], (Bradbury 1835).

Note: This speech was delivered by Lincoln on June 16, 1858, as a candidate for the United States Senate. It helped propel his standing in the newly formed Republican Party.



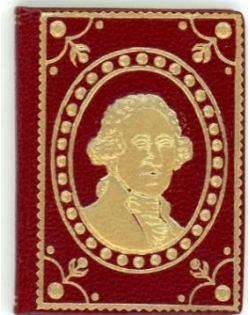
Press of Ward Schori

Ward Schori was another professional printer turned miniature book publisher. He designed, printed, edited, and published his miniature books. He commissioned others to do the bindings, many exquisite. He published more than 70 miniature book gems. After his death in 1994, his wife Margaret and son, John completed three books in various stages of design. Schori was awarded the Norman W. Forgue (a friend) Award from the Miniature Book Society in 1990.

But these considerations, however powerfully they address themselves to your sensibility, are greatly outweighed by those which apply more immediately to your interest. Here every portion of our Country finds the most commanding motive for carefully guarding and preserving the Union as a whole. - George Washington, pp.7,8

13. WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, Evanston, Illinois: The Schori Press, 1976. A beautiful gilt maroon leather binding 2 7/16" x 1 3/4", 25 pp. [+ colophon], all edges gilt, (Bradbury 3064).

Note: On the colophon page, it is noted that Washington in his conduct of the Revolutionary War exhibited qualities of leadership, fortitude, and sound judgment, which caused him to be unanimously

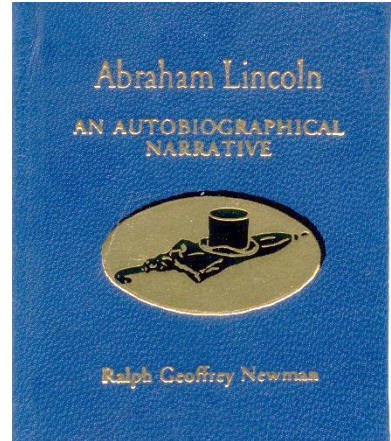


chosen to be the first President. Henry Lee, soldier and statesman, described Washington thus, “first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow countrymen.”

I do not believe any compromise, embracing the maintenance of the Union, is now possible. - Abraham Lincoln p.134

14. ABRAHAM LINCOLN: An Autobiographical Narrative. Written & Edited by Ralph Geoffrey Newman. Illustrated by Lloyd Ostendorf, 3 volumes, this Volume 3 - President. Evanston, IL: The Press of Ward Schori, 1992 (copyright 1970 by Newman). For further bibliographic details, see *The Microbibliophile*, Issue 216, November 2018. Of interest to us at this time is the Second Inaugural Address, (Bradbury 2244).

Note: A note preceding this address states: “Though the Union fortunes had improved, the people of the North were weary of war. In July, 1863, protests against the draft in New York City resulted in riots with several hundred deaths.” p.133



These are just some of the speeches of U.S. Presidents, as recorded in miniature books. Reading them has been an interesting journey; as has comparing them to the times we live in today. The journeys seem to follow similar paths. 📖

Editor's Note: Congratulations to Gail for another excellent and most informative article.

*Contact information: Gail Curry, 1041 Bomar Court, Mars, PA 16046
E-mail: curry.gail@att.net*

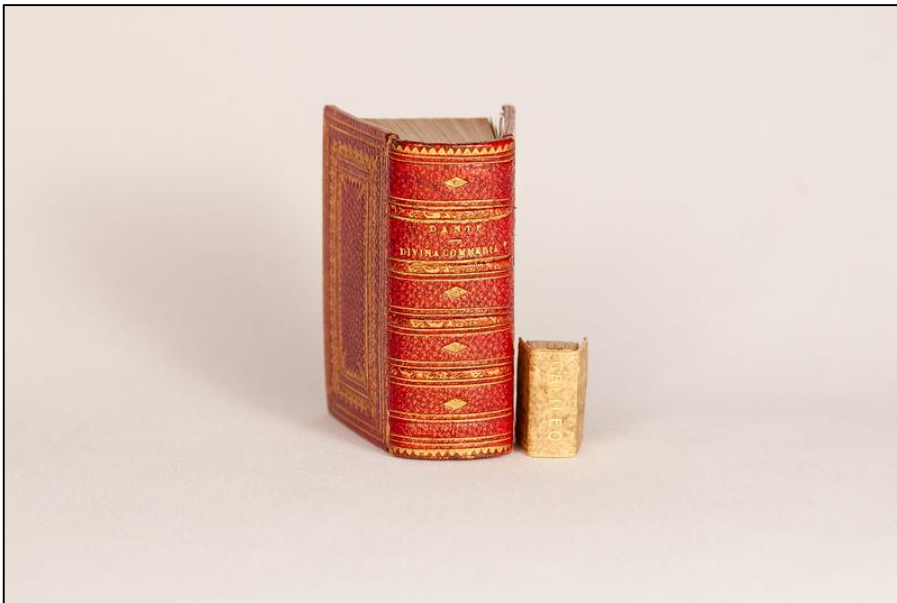
THE FLY'S EYE TYPE, *Galileo and The Divina Commedia:*

The question 'What is the smallest book in the world?' Can be answered in more than a few ways. First we have to ask a few more questions; with moveable pages, moveable type vs photographically reduced images, printed with ink or electronically engraved with lasers, smallest 'bound', smallest 'type'; as you can see there are any number of parameters that can be used. For the purpose of my discussion in this brief article, I am going to stick with books that were created with a moveable type. That quickly funnels this writing towards the many 'smallest book' candidates and points at two books that were both created with a '2 pt' moveable type, better known as 'fly-eye'. I am guessing that term came about from the microscopic size of the type and the fact that it looks like the 'eye of a fly' and not any typographically technical source.

The type, cut by Antonio Farina in 1834 but never used by him, was cast in 1850 for an edition of 'Dante's *The Divina Commedia*, and is thought to be the smallest moveable type ever employed. According to Bondy, "the most widely-discussed and the most sensational of all microscopic type-faces used in miniature books is undoubtedly the 'fly's eye type,' occhio di mosca, used by the brothers Salmin in Padua, Italy for their 'Dante' of 1878 and again 'Galileo' of 1896." (*Miniature Books*, Sheppard Press, 1981) According to the Colophon leaf at the end of the Dante volume, the type was cast in 1850 by order of Giacomme Gnocchi of Milan who later, in 1867, asked the brothers Salmin of Padua to use it in a production of Dante's *The Divina Commedia*.

James Henderson frequently asked the question 'why do we collect miniature books?' Part of the answer may lie in a posting of information from the Huntington Library blog about miniature books and specifically the books created with the fly's eye type: "Imagine cradling in the palm of your hand a tiny book, measuring 11/16" x 1/2" of an inch. The entire volume is about the size of a penny and fits into a matching slipcase. As you gingerly open the tiny book, your eyes strain to read the italicized type, and you struggle to keep your fingers from blocking the print. Your hands feel massive in relation to the book, like clumsy instruments that are barely capable of the simple task of turning pages. I found my answer in an unexpected place: in an 1896 book, measuring 11/16" x 1/2" of an inch, which contains a letter by Galileo to Madama Cristina di Lorena, [*A Letter from Galileo to Madame Christina di Lorena* (Padua, 1896)]. The volume is printed using an extremely rare 2 point "fly's eye" type. This type is famously almost impossible to use; the typesetters who first employed it permanently damaged their eyesight in the process. It is also, as you can imagine, very difficult to read. And yet the object possesses an aura of captivating wonder. In a book half the size of a postage stamp, Galileo describes the nature of the heavens. This, I am convinced, is the true power and

purpose of miniature books: to compress knowledge, seemingly by magic, into an enchanting miniature form. The owner of a miniature book dwarfs the volume and imaginatively possesses the knowledge it contains. A miniature book, in fact, suggests an infinity of minute space, a world of information that was intended to be carried in a pocket or kept in a locket around the neck. Both in the 19th century and today, the reason for owning miniature books is rarely to read them. Instead, people cherish the experience of pure enchantment that comes when you gaze down at a fairy volume nestled in the palm of your hand.” <http://huntingtonblogs.org/2017>



There are two miniature treasures that were printed from the fly’s eye type cut by Antonio Farina in 1834 and cast in 1850. The first book to be printed by the brothers Salmin of Padua is Dante’s *The Divina Commedia*, the second is *A Letter from Galileo to Madame Christina di Lorena*. Truly, two most impressive books in the world of miniature books.

The larger of the books, in the above picture is *The Divina Commedia*, the first edition was published bearing the imprint ‘Milano, G. Gnocchi, Padova Tip. Salmin, 1878 on the


title page and was issued in printed wrappers. According to Bondy's description, the book contains 499 pages followed by a colophon and measures 2 1/8" x 1 3/8". Ulrico Hoepli, a well-known Milan publisher, bought the leaves sometime during 1878. He then replaced the title page with his own, printed in black and red, with the imprint 'Milano, Ulrico Hoepli, 1878.

One of the legends surrounding the printing of this miniature is that it took one month to print 30 pages. The book in the picture is the 'second edition' with the black and red title page. It is bound in full red morocco, with distinctive cover decorative gilt tooling and corners brushed. The spine has raised bands, gilt titles, and additional tooling. Internally, it has decorative board edges and turn-ins, red marbled endpapers, all edges gilt, half title, with the frontispiece portrait is tissue guarded. The colophon notes that 1,000 copies of this book were printed; the size of the book is 2 3/16" x 1 11/16", slightly different in size from the first edition.

The book in the picture has a red leather binding but other version exist in green leather as well. It has been reported that after the printing of *The Divina Commedia* that the type was destroyed, however we know that cannot be the case because the 'Galileo' miniature was printing from the type as well, according to Dr. Ageno, the Librarian from The University of Padua, in his letter to Robert K. Shaw in 1927.

The second tiny book treasure is the 1896 printing of *A Letter from Galileo to Madame Christina di Lorena* (the letter was originally published in 1615) that measures just under one inch. This diminutive work exhibits fine artisanship and attention to detail from every perspective; it measures 11/16" x 1/2", features 2-pt type, decorative endpapers, hand-sewn gatherings, and a gold embossed cover. Miniature book expert Ruth Adomeit once remarked that this edition was the "greatest marvel of book making in the history of miniature books" (*Four Thousand Years of Tiny Treasures*, Grolier Club, 2006, A. Bromer and J. Edison.) According to Bromer and Edison's book on miniature books, the 1896 edition created quite a sensation when released and is now considered "the most famous miniature book in the world" Edison notes that "The *Galileo* is still today, at 206 pages, the smallest complete book printed entirely from movable type".

Within the LXIVmos, Number 5, Robert K. Shaw, the Librarian of the Worcester, MA, Free Public Library wrote; "Rarely may it be expected that the bibliographical rarity and intense human interest will be combined in one book, yet in the previous little 'Galileo a Cristina di Lorena' is this eminently the case. 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.

Certainly, a long article for two small books. I hope you have enjoyed this brief bit of bibliographical research. Sometimes the seeds of investigation are very small yet they blossom into beautiful gardens of interest and color. 

THE CHAFING DISH,

By Nina Mazzo:

The invitation read “ old fashioned cocktail party – bring appetizer or main dish.” Well that sounds like fun, I thought, and began to make a list of possible foodstuffs for cocktails.

I remembered a miniature book titled *The Chafing Dish* sitting in my bookcase. The book was published in 1905 by Livermore and Knight, Providence, 1905, 2" x 2 1/4", 298 pp. The introduction provided the following assurance: “The aim has been to embody in these recipes only such ingredients as will be found in the average well-regulated home; in fact many of the recipes are simplicity itself, so far as their demands on the larder are concerned”. Oh, my I wondered if I have a well-regulated home – well there is always wine in the larder so guess I do (chuckles).

The table of contents was simply delightful to read – allow me to share a few – A Scotch Rarebit; Boston Rarebit; Golden Buck; Smelts; Terrapin; Fig Cups; Prune Toasts; Mutton Minced; Salme of Grouse; English Snipe; Woodcock etc. This miniature book provided me with a trip down culinary history lane and a reminder that many of our books are a valued addition to our shelves.

Oh and if you are wondering what I cooked – it was a delicious creamed salmon on small toasts. Yum!



So, a well-regulated house it is. 📖

Editor's Note: I am sure that if you need a special recipe for a special occasion and cannot get your hands on a copy of the 'essential volume for a 'well-regulated house' that Nina will be most helpful in making a suggestion for you!

Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 92651

E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

**FAMILY FUN AT FREDDY FERRET'S USED BOOK STORE,
FREDDY FERRET'S FAMILY TREE,
By Joan Knoertzer:**

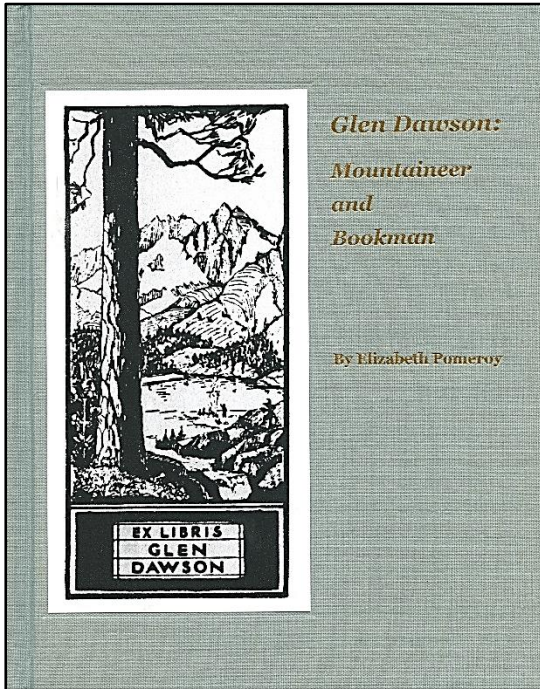
Editor's Note: Joan is an avid book collector from Michigan as well as a University of Michigan sports fan. I am not quite sure where the stories about Freddy Ferret originate and I am not sure if they are true accounts or fictional. Still, they are always fun to read, would you not agree?

So many ferret's don't know,
From whence their families flow.
Freddie was sure
One day he would hear
Of a relative from Scotland's Glasgow!
"Maybe we're all from Fairfax,
Or all of us once played the sax
Or feasted on crabs,
Or drove New York cabs!
Perhaps we should search for the facts!"
He fretted and fumed for his roots.
Could he be connected to newts?
"Let's look in our books
In each of our nooks,
And see if we've been in kahoots!"
Up stairs his kin ran with glee,
To search for their family tree.
They foraged their shelves,
"Let's find out ourselves,
If these books will find the key!
They flew all over the store.
Pages turned fast more and more.
Was it Fairfield or Flint
To whom they were kint?
Their minds sped as they read each score.
Flora and Fauna were on five.
Did Fiona and Frank dumpster dive?
Yes, they rifled through pages
Of "Ferret's Through the Ages"
And even found "Ferret's Alive!"

“We’re Polecats!” Fuddy screamed out.
“It’s Polecats that we’re all about!”
He read in “Cat’s Wholesome”
Found great-grand mum mum.
And now that we know, let’s shout!”
“But who can great-grand dad dad be?
A question from Floyd and Flossie.
They had read “Polecat Pairs”
Right through the years
And “Furry Faces in History”.
“From Polecats to ferrets for sure.
Our lineage is now truly pure.
We ferreted out burrows
Of rats, now we’re heroes,
Says “Famous French Ferrets in Fur”.
So Freddy learned that fine day.
How ferrets were born titled to play
To work and live free,
In his family tree!
“We’re ferrets that’s all I can say!”
They had ferreted rats in their burrows,
And now we’re all known as heroes.
Learned about great-grand mum mum,
Great-grand dad dad, beat the drum.
“We’ll celebrate for many tomorrows!”
Freddie Ferret’s Used Book Store solved,
Books had told them how they evolved,
So they ran to their nooks,
Put back all the books,
And partied for hours - yes revolved!
So what can we learn from this story,
That brought the ferrets new glory!
You too can be bold,
Your past to unfold
In books, and you’ll never be sorry!

Well done Joan, another great story about books and Freddy. 📖

A NEW BOOK ABOUT A MOUNTAIN OF A MAN, Glen Dawson: Mountaineer and Bookman:



Cover image, courtesy of Sagest, Pasadena, CA

Elizabeth Pomeroy has written and recently published an outstanding book about Glen Dawson, **Glen Dawson: Mountaineer and Bookman**, published [2019] by Sagest, of Pasadena, CA. www.sagest.com, \$50.00 plus shipping.

The publication is absolutely first rate and of the best quality one would expect. This is a large format book, 8 1/4" x 10 1/4", 177 pp., bound in pale green book cloth with a large printed image of a Dawson bookplate inset into the front cover. The rear cover displays a picture of a young Dawson clinging to the side of a high mountain with a just a simple hemp rope around his waist and a pair of simple tennis shoes to secure his footing.

The book is richly illustrated with many outstanding pictures of Dawson that begin with his childhood and include his mountain climbing adventures to Europe with his father. It covers the

unique facets of his mountain climbing career, including many firsts.

Of course the book also gives the history of Dawson's involvement and interest in the book world that led to the well-known Dawson's Book Shop. (One fact that I never knew before I poured through the book was that as early as 1931, Ernest Dawson, Glen's father, would send his bookshop staff to the Huntington Library for two-weeks of intensive study of books within their specialty area.

Elizabeth covers the bookshop's development and business operation in a very thorough process by working through the firm's catalogues, regular publications, and, of course, the miniatures. As you may well know, "the range of Dawson miniatures included biographies and memoirs, art books, California, poetry, travel notes, bibliographies and other books about books, nuggets of history, and famous histories". (Quote from book)

The book also documents his life beyond the bookshop most of us know by sharing facts and stories of family life. Additionally, it mentions the many organizations that

Dawson was a member of including the Sierra Club and the Miniature Book Society. (As a side note: Dawson was involved with the beginnings of the Sierra Club and at his death, at the age of 103, Dawson was the Club's longest serving member. Also, Ansel Adams was one of his climbing buddies and photographed Dawson at Yosemite) The book completes the reader's journey with seven appendixes about this rich life.

I could write so much more about this outstanding tribute to the 'mountaineer and bookman' who was Glen Dawson but I will close with this quote taken from the back cover. It is a climber's tribute to Glen Dawson, "What a legacy! To accomplish half as much would fill a life for most people". 📖

A FEW WORDS FROM A MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTOR, James D. Henderson:

'Lilliputian Newspapers' was published in 1936. James D. Henderson is one whose name is familiar to collectors of miniature books. He was also one of the people who was responsible for bringing forth the *LXIVmos*.

The opening chapter of *Lilliputian Newspapers* is titled; '*Raison D' Être*'. The opening text begins with "It would be interesting to know the motivating cause responsible for men's hobbies. Just why does a prominent and successful engineer devote his spare time to collecting dolls? Why does a Supreme Court Judge collect razors? What interest does an industrial executive find in dusty old bottles? Why do people in all walks of life specialize in some branch of book collecting, which might appear to be entirely foreign to their ordinary pursuits of life? What inspired the beginning and where do items come from that form these collections?" These are interesting questions even today and as Henderson went on to say, "each collector could tell an interesting story both as the cause and the result."

Here again is your opportunity to take part in the discussion. I would ask each reader to ponder the previous paragraph and think about themselves as collectors. What is it about your collection that inspires you and continues to hold your interest? What flames your passion about collecting?.

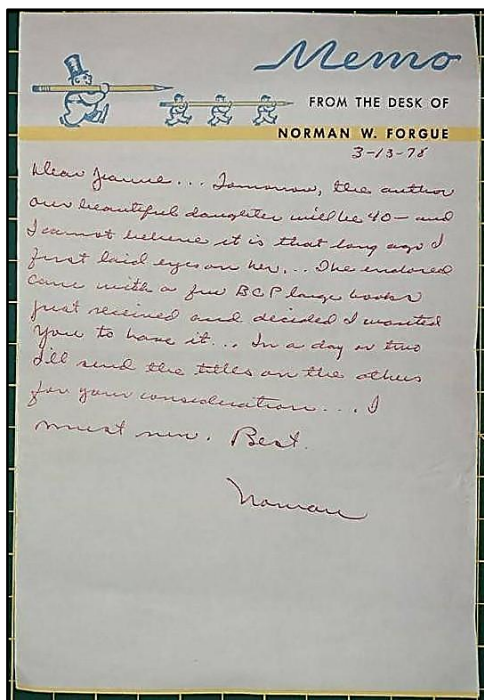
I would like to use your stories as the impetus for a new series of articles to be published in *The Microbibliophile*. Most of the time, our life experiences may not be totally unique but they are certainly personal and unique to us. When we share our experiences, our ideas, our successes, and even our failures, we can all learn and grow.

With Spring before us and new life beginning to sprout, please consider adding to the "growth" of the Microbib by sharing your experiences and reflections. 📖

THE JOYS OF BOOK COLLECTING, SOMETHING INTERESTING ABOUT BLACK CAT PRESS, By Todd Sommerfeld:

I have been very fortunate as a collector to have many special books just come to me that I would not have been able to find if I were looking for them. I will share two such books with you now. While neither are miniature, they are both related to our mini world because they are the creations of Norman Forgue, the proprietor of the Black Cat Press (BCP).

The first, printed in 1940 and titled *Before I Forget*, comes with an interesting provenance. *Before I Forget* contains the ruminating of Forgue's two-year-old daughter, Stepheny.(spelling) She outlines the joys of toddlerhood; learning to walk and talk, being fawned over by family and strangers alike, and giving mommy a run for her money. While the book was printed in 1940, it came to me with a 1978 inscription by Norman Forgue to miniature book collector and Miniature Book Society (MBS) charter member, Jeanne Aber, describing it as the rarest of BCP books. It also came with a letter explaining a little about the book, which is reproduced within the picture for your enjoyment.



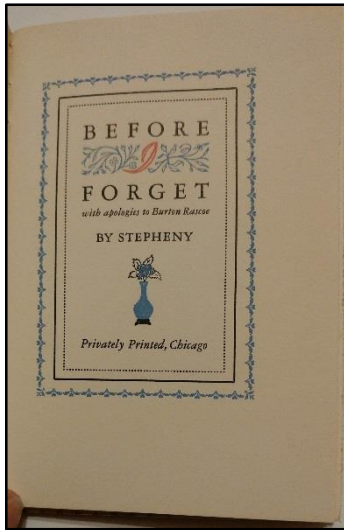
The text reads;

3-13-78

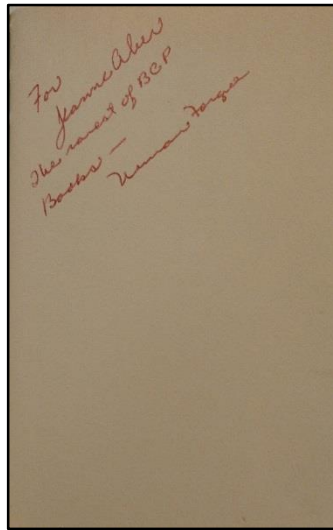
Dear Jeanne,

Tomorrow, the author, our beautiful daughter will be 40 and I cannot believe it is that long ago I first laid eyes on her. The enclosed comes with a few BCP large books just received and decided I wanted you to have it. In a day or two I will send the titles of the others for your considerations... I must run.

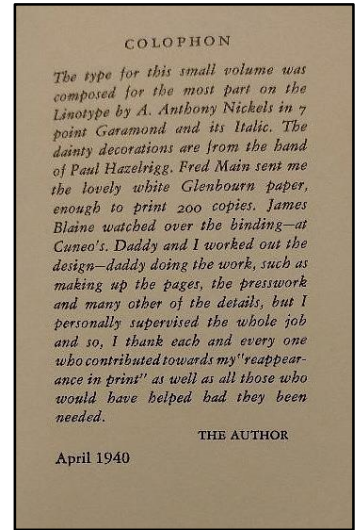
Best Norman



Title page



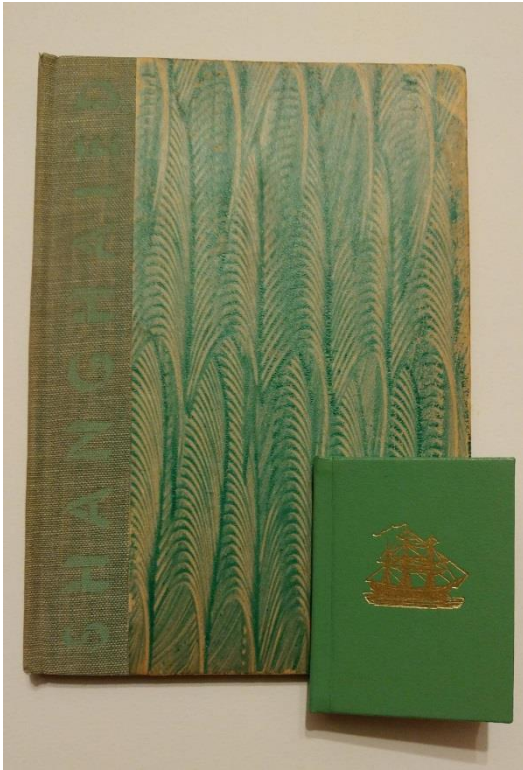
Endpaper inscription



Colophon

The bound size of *Before I Forget* is $4 \frac{3}{4}'' \times 3 \frac{3}{8}''$ while the justification measures $3'' \times 2''$, technically, a miniature.

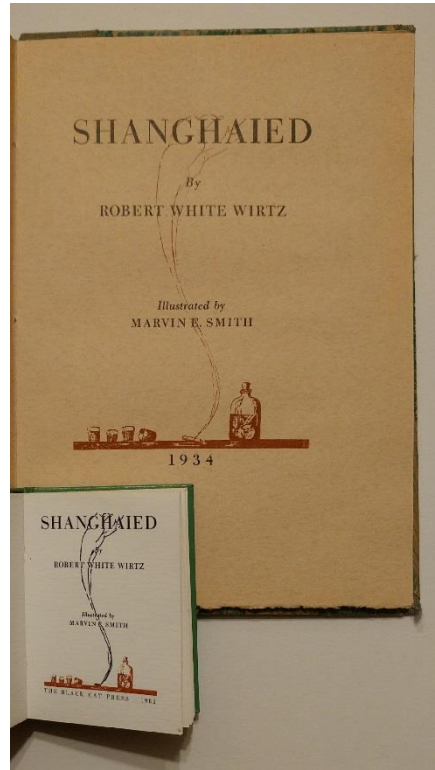
The second item for consideration is a 12mo titled *Shanghaied* by Robert White Wirtz. Published in 1934, it is the third offering in the 'Unknown Series' and one of the earliest BCP publications. The series ran eleven volumes and was Norman's attempt to give young, unpublished authors some exposure. *Shanghaied* is distinctive, however, because it was reprinted as a miniature book in 1981. The miniature is a facsimile reduction of the 1934 book, including the charming illustrations by Marvin C. Smith. It also has an added introduction by Forgue that briefly describes the earliest years of the BCP.



Front covers

Size of original 6 1/2" x 4 5/8"

Size of facsimile 2 1/2" x 1 15/16"



Title pages

How about you, dear reader? Do you have a miniature book or miniature book related item with a special story that would add flavor to our collecting lives? If so, I would love to hear it. Maybe we could make an article out of it.

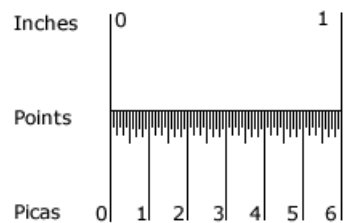
As always, questions, comments, and criticisms welcome at contratodd@gmail.com

Happy Collecting! 📖

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, ‘TYPE MEASUREMENT’:

The terminology used for the various type styles and sizes originated in the early 16th century and evolved over time with input from type-foundries and printers. The earliest printers had to express the various sizes of the type in a printed work by the depth of an arbitrary unit, 20 lines. Hence the term ‘74R’ would mean that the book’s type was Roman type and 20 lines would equal 74 millimeters. Over time this practice was refined and become more accurate. The first ‘real standardization’ was introduced by Fournier in Paris in 1737 and another by Didot at the close of the 18th century.

A ‘point’ is approximately one-seventy-second on an inch. Points are very small units used to measure both the type size and the size of the space between lines of type. Typography’s point measurement system was derived from hand setting type back in the fifteenth century. Picas are larger units used to measure lines of type. In the printing world, fonts are given by point size, such as a 12 pt type, while lines are laid out in Pica, such as a .5 Pica line.



Not to scale

The measurements for Points and Picas are as shown in the illustration.

The sizes probably harken to the days of hand set fonts when type was made out of metal. Back then, the common sizes ranged from 5 to 72 points. Those sizes were chosen because anything less than 5 was too small to make out of metal and 72 was too heavy to carry. Earlier terms of identification included words that may have been considered as romantically mysterious and included the names of type founders, such as Minion, Ruby, or Brevier.

As always, you may expand your study of this term by reading more on the subject in the book, *Encyclopedia of the Book*, by Geoffrey Ashall Glaister. 📖

IN SEARCH OF LILLIPUT:

By Ian Macdonald

Editor’s Note: With the November 2018 and January 2019 issues of ‘The Microbibliophile’ we featured a ‘reprint’ series of the ‘final report’ paper that was written by Ian Macdonald to satisfy the requirements for his Churchill Fellowship. As I previously mentioned and hopefully you will agree the paper is an informative look into the world of miniature books, fun to read, and certainly paints a picture of a journey that each of us would have ‘signed on for’ if we had the opportunity.

A Pilgrimage?

One of the facets of travelling in the United States when a European, is that distances are very difficult to predict and transport is not as easy on land. In the U.K. we take our rail network for granted and the ease with which you can move from city to city by public transport. In the States, travel is either by Air, Bus or Auto. The bus system is comprehensive but very slow. Major distances are best covered by air but getting to and from airports can be a nightmare for the unsuspecting.

I was very fortunate in having Bob and Eloise Massmann as my hosts as they fully appreciated my travel problems and drove me in their car all the way from New Britain to La Guardia Airport in New York on the Saturday morning (17th). I had no idea how far this was going to be and I shall be ever grateful for their generosity on this stage of my journey. The weather was still magnificent as we drove past the Bronx to the airport. Again it was a temporary farewell to good and loyal friends as I flew onwards to Cleveland, Ohio.

At Cleveland (Hopkins) Airport, Lotar and Luanna Stahlecker had come to meet me.

We chatted and got to know each other as we drove to their home in Kent some miles from the Airport. The Stahlecker residence is quite a dream house! Lotar and Luanna had the home specially built for them and it is constructed in Redwood. Situated in a quiet suburb amongst trees the greater part of the house is on the first floor and due to the design using plate glass one gets the feeling of sitting out of doors whilst inside! A most exciting piece of architecture.!

I was given a beautiful private suite of my own which one could not have bettered in a local 5 star hotel

The Stahleckers were very much used to having International guests as they have both been very active in this manner through their lives at the University. They also have travelled in many parts of the globe. After a delightful dinner at their favourite restaurant, I was treated to a visit to the 'Blossom Center'. This is the summer home of their famous 'CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA'. The music centre is similar to the Hollywood Bowl. What a real pleasure! I had never listened to a full orchestra playing in the open like this.

The final part of the concert was Symphony No.2 in D. Major, Op.3 by Brahms, my personal favourite composer. The concert conducted by the well known German conductor, Christoph von Dohnanyi will be long remembered on that warm summer evening

We talked till the small hours about Lotar's miniature book collection and I offered what advice I could on how some of the areas of his good accumulation might be strengthened.

Kent is peaceful

Sunday morning was gorgeous! The birds sang and the BLACK squirrels ran from tree to tree. I thought of home

Today my son Stephen was 16 years old ... If only the family could have come with me. We had breakfast on the roof garden. Lotar and Luanna chatted. It had been planned (at my request) that we spend the day going to Milan, a small town some miles away, to visit the birthplace of Thomas Alva Edison. Since a small boy I had dreamed of doing this and hoped to publish a miniature book on the great man soon. Before long we were driving across the Ohio countryside en route to Milan. We had with us, Aruna Kasturi, a charming young student from India whom the Stahleckers had 'adopted' as one of their foreign students. This young lady was very brilliant and also wanted to see the Edison home.

We arrived around lunch-time and had a lovely tour of the house by a young lady who had a terrific 'Ohio' accent. The little house by the River Huron was just as I had expected. Almost as perfect as when Edison had lived in it. The town of Milan is much as it was in those early industrial days of the U.S. but much quieter. Industry has left and now the town is a peaceful country place. We dined at 'Grundy's' laughing at the purchases we had made in the local flea market

I had bought a few old local postcards with late 19th century U.S. stamps for my new hobby. (Bob Massmann had started something!).

Our drive back to Kent was on a different route and we passed Medina, famous for producing beeswax. The fields for miles around are covered with gorgeous flowers of all the colours of the rainbow

Lotar the I spent the evening hours studying his miniatures and also arranging that I should probably move to Ruth Adomeit's house in the city of Cleveland to finish my stay in the area.

Monday 19th was another important day in many ways ... It was our wedding anniversary (19 years). I hoped that Helen would have received the flowers that had been arranged

The Morning was given to packing and talking before lunch at the 'Pufferbelly' restaurant in town. This old restaurant had been built in a former rail-road station hence the name

In the afternoon we drove to Cleveland to Ruth Adomeit's home.

Ruth is probably without doubt the most knowledgeable collector of miniature books in the world. Her vast collection runs into many many thousands of volumes. The collection is the best private one anywhere. Both Lotar and myself were quite overwhelmed at the treasures we saw.

After a spruce up, we were to be guests at the 'ROWFANT CLUB'.

A visit to the 'ROWFANT CLUB' had been arranged for me by kind invitation of Mr. Arthur Feldman, a well known fine art dealer in town.

The 'ROWFANT CLUB' is an association of MEN interested in books. Only some 205 persons may be members at any one time. The Club is very well known and it was a great honour to be invited. By special permission, and the fact that our visit was to be private, the ladies (Ruth & Luanna) were allowed to attend. (The land of women's liberation?).

We were met at the Club by Mr. Feldman and a small party of 'Fellows'.

After a tour of the grand club house and library we were treated to a buffet and drinks by our hosts. I was permitted to give a short talk to the gathering and display some of my Scottish miniature books.

I took the opportunity to talk a little about my Fellowship and the subject of miniature books. It was also a fine moment to thank my host families in public for their kindness in having me in their homes.

I left the 'ROWFANT CLUB LIBRARY' a copy of 'The Times' our latest miniature book which I feel will be well looked after

Again it was sad parting ... I was now living at Ruth's house and said farewell to Lotar and Luanna after such a short but sweet visit

Ruth and I talked till 1 a.m. on the events of the day

Ruth decided ... enough miniature books for now she was going to show me around ... Tuesday morning was given over to a drive around Cleveland and Shaker Heights then off to nearby Chagrin Falls. At this lovely town we found a bookshop that sold miniatures and talked with the manageress about exporting some from Gleniffer just the thing.

Ruth showed me the country of her childhood and, being local, was a great guide to all that we saw.

Back at the house we tried to take some photographs of her 'Bryce' books but found my camera no use for the task ... It was only after another trip to town that we bought a camera suitable for the job. The camera was purchased second hand and I only hoped that problems could not arise at customs? As it turned out, the films taken from this point on were ruined due to a shutter fault! I lost some 8 rolls of film on the journey onwards due to not having some of the films processed there and then! My fault but one common to travellers in a hurry

I spent many happy hours studying with Ruth and learned about the art of French bindings and other treasures that day. A wonderful dear lady and so helpful. We did not retire until 2 a.m. so much was our enthusiasm and lack of time.

On Wednesday 21st August, I was to have travelled by bus through the town of Mansfield, Ohio, to visit Hal McCuen, a correspondent and long time collector. Unfortunately, due to Hal's poor health and travel problems this had to be cancelled. I phoned Hal and made apologies hoping it might be possible to see him in Canada in September. Ruth had helped me secure a flight in a small aircraft from Cleveland to Dayton, my next stop.

At Dayton Airport, I was greeted by Kal Levitan, a retired U.S.A.F. Rabbi who is chairman of the MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY, founded in 1983. After meeting his wife Carol at their country club for dinner, Kal and I talked at length about the M.B.S. and the future of the new Society. The next day was spent seeing a little of the Ohio farmland and studying Kal's comprehensive miniature collection. With the aid of his computer Kal has built up quite a library of useful data on collections, articles and people now engaged in the subject. Kal is a very keen collector and being retired has given his services to the M.B.S. in a big way. The success of it's rapid expansion is due much to his hard work.

My visit was to be short and we were entertained that evening by their friends Ralph & Tootsie to a fine meal and convivial humour.....

Again to another airport parting and this time to Chicago O'Hare The flight on the 'UNITED AIRLINES' 727 was relaxing and before long I was in the terminal meeting my old friend Ward Schori, the printer who was to be my host and teacher for a week.

It was hot and after a little problem with a 'battery in the auto' we arrived safe and sound at the Schori home in Evanston.

We talked in the warm sunshine of the afternoon about their past trip to Scotland and the forthcoming Conclave of our own in Los Angeles. Ward had worked some years ago at the Northwestern University and we spent some time looking around on our way to Evanston. The Schori Press is still run in the town as a commercial operation and we had a brief visit. Ward is now 'retired' and runs his own private press which issues large limited edition books as well as miniatures.

That first busy day I learned many things, including the "popping" of corn at their son John's home. Already, I am one of 'the family'. Saturday was the first day of 'rain' and how! I saw my first real American thunderstorm that afternoon. We had gone to a barbecue being held by the local masonic lodge and got caught up in a violent downpour of hail and rain.

Later the same day, we drove over to Skokie and visited Mr. Norman Forgue of the 'Black Cat Press'. Norman was very ill and had suffered much with emphysema in recent years. He was pleased to see us and I to see him. The Black Cat Press has published some 98 miniature books as well as lots of very well designed full size books over the years. In the world of miniature books and tiny creations of all kinds, Norman Forgue was a known legend in his time and we chatted for a while but left early with the promise of a return visit before I left the area.

Sunday and off to church The Schori's are good Methodist folk and I took pleasure in attending their church and was made very welcome. As is the practice in this church, communion was given to all who wished by the 'Japanese' vicar.

After the service we visited the 'Baha'i Temple' which is a local spot of great beauty. This wonderful building in Wilmette was dedicated in 1953 and has seen some 5 million visitors. The Baha'i Faith is the newest of the world's religions with a belief in only

one God ... All religions share a common foundation Human kind is one a universal peace ... world government ... etc. .. High ideals in a modern world! The temple is open to everyone and is used as a place of worship by many people. I purchased some literature here to further my reading about this interesting body and place.

"The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens...."

A visit to a 'Printing Museum' in downtown Chicago was our treat for the afternoon.... The museum near the retired DEARBORN rail road site is run by enthusiastic amateur printers and opens to the public at week-ends.

Later back at the 'Schori Press' I tried my hand at his powered old Chandler & Price Press. We had fun running off a keepsake for the big event in California.

In the evening we visited a local printing friend of Ward's, Murray Cohen who had a fine crop of little hand presses on show. A visit was also made briefly to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Beck and their famed 'THE TURTLE PRESS' and saw how professionals run their studio.....

Before retiring, after a long day, I received a welcoming telephone call from Mr. Julian Edison of St.Louis who wished me well on my sojourn and invited me to his fair city. As my tour had been strictly planned, I thanked him kindly for his offer but, unfortunately had to decline.

By Monday I was settled and relaxed, It was very sunny and the weather promised another gorgeous day.

Ward had arranged a visit to Dr. Louis Marder who has a comprehensive Shakespeare collection. It includes almost everything ever issued to commemorate the bard and his writings including books, coins, glassware, pottery, spoons, boxes, statues, paintings etc, etc.

Dr. Marder then accompanied us both to another visit to Norman Fergue. We chatted much longer this time and looked at more of his miniature scenes and books.

(This would be the last time I'd have the pleasure of meeting Norman as I have now learned of his death on October 17th). It was my great privilege to have had the time to talk with such a famous printer who had met Stanley Morrison and other giants of the craft in the earlier part of the century.....

Tuesday morning saw me walking about for the first time downtown in Evanston on my own. Until now I had always had an escort. It was so different finding out all the little details of shopping. I spent a few happy hours just walking around the neighbourhood looking at the fine homes and watching the children playing in the parks. The 'Evanston Review' sent round a photographer to take pictures of Ward and I for the next edition of this local newspaper and we all had fun before starting the dinner party the Schori's had planned. The evening barbecue was super fun and I wore my kilt to be really Scottish.

Wednesday was DO LITTLE DAY. I had pleaded with Ward & Marty to just let me do nothing but pack and relax as we had all been so busy. The trip to Los Angeles was, after all, tomorrow. ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

The May 2019 issue of *The Microbibliophile* will continue Ian's journal, 'In Search of Lilliput' beginning with 'Way out West'.....
"Both the Schoris and I were leaving today for Los Angeles....." 📖



Editor's Note: My thanks to Ian Macdonald for giving his permission to share his experiences through his own written words.

Miniature Book Society, Traveling Miniature Book Exhibit:

Bring the exhibit to your local venues, look at the site www.mbs.org, and give Todd Somerfield a call, mark the dates, get ready, and go! 📖

Florida Antiquarian Book Fair
April 26-28, 2019
St. Petersburg's Historic Coliseum
535 Fourth Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
WWW.FloridaAntiquarianBookFair.com

GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

The next issue will be available sometime in early May. Where does time fly? It seems like we were just talking about New Year's Day, then Punxsutawney Phil, St. Patrick's Day, then planting the garden peas. I will never understand how people can say they are 'bored' and have nothing to do. My bucket list goes on for more than a few pages, I am even thinking about doing an index so I can find things on the list. Like the weather, and watching the grandfather clock pendulum swing, books and reading always provide us with something new and entertaining for sure. Here is a sampling of adventures coming in the next issue:

- The beginning article for a new series about Dawson's Book Shop
- The value of book clubs and the joy they share with everyone
- Nina Mazzo, more news and insight from the 'Miniature Book Collector'
- A short introduction into book club publications
- I am sure Plum Park Press will be moved into its new home and up and printing
- In addition and most importantly, a story or article from you!

Please keep us posted on what is happening on at your press, your reading, your discoveries, or with your collection. Anticipation and searching is the joy of collecting. We all love the details. 📖

PUBLICATIONS AND INTERESTING BOOK STUFF RECEIVED:

FBS Newsletter... Florida Bibliophile Society...an online newsletter (March 2019), highlighting the current and planned activities of the organization. Contents include a story about a bookstore by the name 'Whampus Used Books'. It is always amazing to visit these special book places even if only in a digital bus. There is more good reading with the 'Books In Brief' review section. Well done and most interesting, 22 pages. Website: <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org/>

ABAA NEWSLETTER... The newsletter is electronically distributed by the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America, all sorts of great information. There are many direct links to various book related articles including a great article about the 'Latest Rare Book Catalogues,' many are available as electronic media as well as printed formats. Nothing like reading book catalogues on a cold night and you do not have to walk to the postbox. Website <https://www.abaa.org>

Book Club of Detroit... Newsletter, 8½" x 11", *Printed and Bound*, Winter issue is available and the cover story is about miniature books, the Somesuch Press with books published by Stanley Marcus. Another fine article provides insight into the Book Club of Texas, which Marcus was instrumental in founding. The newsletter is always a very professionally done publication with an outstanding diversity of articles and information. Well done Paula.

Website: <http://www.bookclubofdetroit.org/newsletter/>

NOBS NEWSLETTER... '*Libros Loqui*', a new issue of the Newsletter should be in the works, 'stay tuned'. The book club also has an electronic 'eNews' feature. The NOBS has also published a long list of special 'book related' items that showcase with a wide diversity of the book world around the Cleveland area. (*The Microbibliophile* will begin a series of articles in the next issue that will highlight the list of publications and share reviews of some of them over time.)

Website: <http://nobs.nobsweb.org/>

Book Club of Texas... The DeGolyer Library is the institutional home of the Book Club of Texas. Founded originally by Stanley Marcus and other Texas bibliophiles in 1929, the Book Club of Texas was revived by Tom Taylor and others in 1989. It is open to anyone with an interest in book collecting, the book arts, and Texas history and literature.

Website: <https://www.smu.edu/libraries/degolyer/Publications/Book-Club>

Fine Books and Collections magazine... Spring 2019 issue, great source of information about the book world. Included in this issue is information about a new catalogue of 19th century children's book holdings published by the Cotsen Children's Library at Princeton University. This special library was part of the MBS Conclave activities that was held in Princeton in 2009. Visit this site for an adventure; <https://cotsen.princeton.edu/>

Rebecca Barry Editor, rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com, Website:

<https://www.finebooksmagazine.com>

Life in the world of books is always a joy to behold. 📖

For Sale: Large selection of Juniper Serra Press, miniature books published by Msgr. Francis Weber, many copies signed by Weber, many letterpress printed, as low as \$10 per volume, plus postage, contact the editor for an Excel list with titles and prices. Also being offered are a few Dawson publications, Please inquire for titles and prices. Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com

**ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY,
George Peabody Library,
John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland,
Bucket List Place To Visit:**



Image courtesy of <https://www.library.jhu.edu/library-hours/george-peabody-library/>

The library, formally the Library of the Peabody Institute of the City of Baltimore opened their doors in 1876, parts of the collection date to the founding of the Peabody Institute in 1857. The library contains more than 300,000 volumes, mainly from the 19th century, with strengths in religion, British art, architecture, languages, and literature. The picture is something to behold, standing in the room, in person, must be an experience of a lifetime; the stack room contains five tiers of ornamental cast-iron balconies, which extend 61 feet above the floor.

IF YOU CAN BELIEVE YOUR EYES! 📖

CATALOGUES RECEIVED:

Karen Nyman Miniature Books, Catalog Number 77, March 2019, very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 100 items with many pictures, a large and interesting selection of antiquarian, children's, and rare books in an electronic PDF format catalogue. The two major sections of the catalogue are books up to 1 1/4" tall and those over 1 1/4" tall.

Contact info: 7835 Rush Rose Drive, # 124, Carlsbad, CA 92009, telephone 760-944-3019
website: www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com, E-mail: karenyyman2@gmail.com

Bromer Booksellers, 'New Acquisitions, Catalogue 148', March 2019, 28 pages in a large format glossy catalogue, 83 items offered for sale, with several of the finest and more rare items that you could search the world for. Some large format, some miniature, and some moveable, all 'out of this world'.

Contact info: 607 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, telephone 616-247-2818
website: www.bromer.com, E-mail: books@bromer.com

Catalogues and booksellers are wonderful friends and great resources. Catalogues are like dessert after dinner at Grandma's, just sneak back to the kitchen for another bite, no one will ever know. 📖

Old Farmhouse Books -- offering miniature books and related ephemera to the seasoned or novice collector. Hundreds of titles from several prominent and obscure miniature book publishers are available. All books offered with free domestic shipping. Do you have a want list? Have you been searching for a specific title, author, or publisher? Inquiries are always welcome to: Sherry at: oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net. Thank you, for your interest. 📖



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Grolier Club,

‘A Matter of Size; Miniature Texts & Bindings’ from the Collection of Patricia J. Pistner

March 5 – May 18, 2019

47 East 60th Street, New York, New York 10022

www.grolierclub.org

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/07/books/tiny-books-grolier-club.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share>

The Akron Antiquarian Book and Paper Show, April 19th - 20th

Friday: 3:00 PM-8:30 PM, Saturday: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Location: John S. Knight Center, 77 E. Mill Street, Downtown Akron

(MBS member in attendance)

38th Annual Florida Antiquarian Book Fair, April 26th – 28th, St. Petersburg Coliseum,

535 4th Street, St. Petersburg, FL.

Additional information: <http://floridabooksellers.com/bookfair.html>

(MBS member in attendance and MBS Traveling Exhibit on site)

Miniature Book Society Conclave XXXVI, Bloomington, Indiana,

The Lilly Library, August 8th – August 12, 2019

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

Collecting is an ever-changing and ongoing educational adventure. Being a miniature book collector can be a full time job. The sun never sets on new things in the world of book collecting, especially miniature books. One thing leads to another as we travel the globe and look through the bookshelves across the world via the various publications and the electronic links available to us today. Tell me about your ‘special links’ so that we can share them with the readership. Pack your socks, get a map, grab your keyboard or smart phone, open the door, and HAVE FUN. Maybe share the experience with a visiting friend and then stay up half the night talking about the adventures of the day. 📖

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Personalized quotes and catalogs available upon request.
Browse our stock of over 1,300 books at:
www.oakknoll.com/mini

advertisement 

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE, PROPOSED FRONTISPIECE,
Volume XXXVII, Number 3, Issue 219,
Write the Story for the May 2019 Issue:

Once again, we are offering you the opportunity to write a tale for the next issue. Whether fact or fiction, don't be timid, be bold! Trust your inner child and spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/book memory, storytelling can be magical! Possibly there is a favorite picture or illustration that fires your imagination or touches your spirit that you might be willing to share. Perhaps, you prefer a serious drama or a true-life adventure, either will enhance the next issue and delight the editor and readers.



Pick a picture for the Frontispiece and write a short article to explain the picture or short a short article and then find a picture that ties it all together. The choice is yours and this could be a fun thing to do. As the expression says, 'April showers bring May flowers' may be a great thing to do on a rainy day, or a sunny day, or a hot day, or a windy day.

The deadline for submitting articles for the May 2019 issue will be April 25, 2019, or thereabouts, electronic or paper submissions, either way, the choice is yours.

Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com or snail mail. 📧

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.



Darleen Cordova is looking for (Hazeltime) Piso Pocket Book Almanac for 1918 to complete her set of the 12-month almanacs.

Contact information: E-mail: c.cordova@sbcglobal.net or (714)808-9648

Neale Albert is looking for two miniature books by Asao Hoshino – *Kwaidan* and *Ichiaku 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

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

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).

Contact information: E-mail: arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch or +41/78/8542422

Caroline Brandt is looking for Colgate Calendars for 1884, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, and 1910. Also *A Plucky Woman*, (Hazeltime ca. 1886-1888, with enlarged type), *Red, White, and Blue* by Frank L. Armstrong. Lastly, two miniatures by W. Washburn; *Adventures of A Bottle of Pain-Killer* (1879) and *The Cat; His Immortality* (1880).


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.

Jim Brogan is looking for a tome from REM Miniatures, *Christmas Card*, 1979, Bradbury Number 57, Also, *The 70th Academy Awards*, by Gloria Stewart, 'buy or swap', cash, check, or livestock! Contact information: E-mail: jbrogan1@verizon.net

For Sale: Large selection of Juniper Serra Press, published by Msgr. Francis Weber, many copies signed by Weber, many letterpress printed, \$10 per volume, plus postage, contact the editor for a Excel list with titles and prices, Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com

Free for the printing! Please review your ad content and let me know about any updates that may be needed to help your searches. 📖

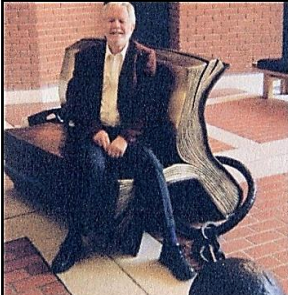
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Man's Best Friends

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