

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XXXVIII, Number 5 Issue 221, September 2019

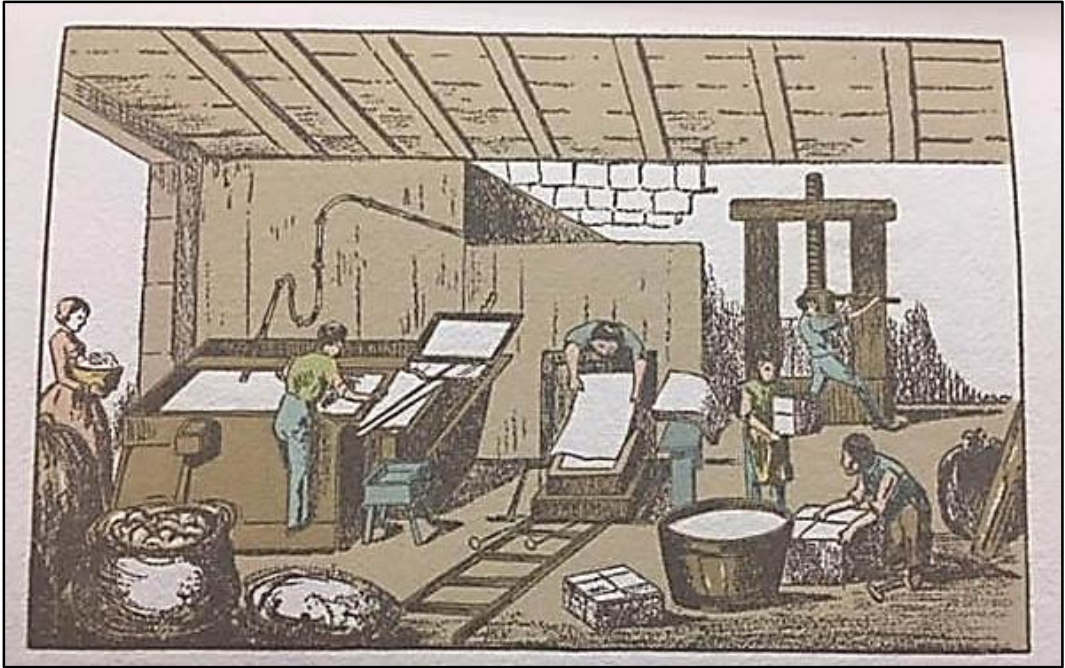


*Pumpkins, Turkey, and Apple Pie;  
Life is Good!*

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# White Lion Court By Cathie Abney



Standing there alone, “Well,” she thought to herself, “it certainly all has been a whirlwind and to be here in London, of all places.”

Just two days ago her aunt informed her that the two of them would be traveling to London. She suspected that her aunt had gotten her father to agree to the trip by telling him they were going to the newly opened Royal Free Clinic.

“Father would have whole heartedly agreed to that for me,” she said, still thinking to herself and remembering her poor dear sisters and mother.

They had gone to the clinic, so it wasn’t a lie, but it did give Aunt Elizabeth the added thrill of sneaking in a visit to the, also newly opened, London Zoo.

*Continued on page 12*

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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:

**W**ow, Spring and Summer just seems to have flew past the calendar and we are well through the doorstep of the 'Season of Colors'. Autumn is sometimes described as that time of year when we reflect on the joys of the growing season but I like to think of it as a burst of energy where nature once again shows us the beauty in everthing Mother Nature has to offer. It is a time for reflection, for sure, but also a 'reinvigoration of life' with the cool weather and a whole new season of indoor as well as outdoor activities. There is nothing like the smell of an apple pie baking in the oven or the sounds of the children playing soccer or jumping through the piles of leaves. I think back to all of those Sunday afternoon drives through the counrty looking at the hills and mountains of New England ablaze with the colors of the season. Soon enough those children will be looking out of their windows at the blowing snowflakes thinking of how big a snowman they can build and if they can find buttons of coal and a carrot for a nose.



The current issue contains six miniature book reviews and a large format reference book review for your enjoyment. Nina Mazzo continues with her series on the MBC. Todd Sommerfeld provides a large amount of details about Little Little Golden Books. Gail Curry introduces everyone to the Washington Irving, the man who brought 'Rip Van Winkle' and 'Sleepy Hollow' to life. Cathie Abney also provides an interesting Frontispiece based on the thoughts and reflections of a young author of yesteryears.

Additionally, as always, I ask that you please 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. Sometimes we do not know what the answer to a question may be or for that matter, what the next question should be, or what road we will take at the next fork. Let us gather around the harvest table for a feast of thoughts and share ideas to help satiate our hunger for life and adventure across the printed pages that represent the diversity and joys of our lives.

Subscription renewal time is upon us, same rates as the last years, check page 40 for the details. As we say, cash, checks, PayPal, no trading or livestock! We look forward to another great year with you as our customer and traveling partner on our journey through the world of miniature books.

Before you settle down for a great read, let me say, thank you for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your life and home. The world is a busy place today it is important to take time for reflection, sit down, and visit those things that are close and mean the most to you and your family. Life is short, enjoy your friends and family. Tempus fugit! 📖

## MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:

*The Guv'nor's Obit*, is another outstanding miniature book creation from the workshop and press of Pat Sweet. The full title is *The Guv'nor's Obit – The Obituary of Henry Irving*. I have to admit that not being a person who typically follows stage production or the people of the stage, I was not aware of who Henry Irving was until I opened this miniature. Then again that is part of the magic of Bo Press, always something new and always something to learn; past, present, or future.

I share with you a brief bio that was provided with the review copy of the book. “At his height, Henry Irving [1838 – 1905] was the greatest actor in the world and the first to be knighted. He was much more than an actor; he was an actor-producer, which in those days meant he was responsible for everything, what we would call the artistic director, the director, the production manager, the production designer, and the lead actor. The scale of his productions at the Lyceum Theater, in London, was gorgeous and spectacular, using the latest technology in staging and special effects. Irving led the theater for over thirty years and died as he would no doubt have wished, still acting.” As an interesting association piece of stage trivia, Bram Stoker, the author of ‘Dracula’ was the business manager at the Lyceum Theater and it is said that Irving was the inspiration for the title character, in the thriller, ‘Dracula’.



*Courtesy of BoPress.com*

The actual obituary was printed in the London Times newspaper. It begins, “We regret to announce that Sir Henry Irving died suddenly last night. He had an attack of syncope on returning from the theater, where he had appeared as Becket, and expired in his hotel.” The Bo Press miniature continues with the complete obituary.

Irving changed the status of the theater forever, bringing it from the demimonde of the 18<sup>th</sup> century into the realm of a recognized and respected form of art.

*The Guv'nor's Obit* is bound in a gray and gold textured paper. There is a title label pasted on the front cover as well as the spine. The same paper is used on the rear cover but

it is met with a black and gold marbled paper. This paper then continues to form a pocket on the inside of the rear cover that houses a large collection of miniature theater memorabilia: programs, autograph cards, posters, and playbills. The front and rear endpapers reproduce two very dramatic black and white images of Irving.

The miniature is printed in an edition of 20 copies, with 64 pages and 18 illustrations to support the various roles and aspects of Irving's life in the theater. One illustration is a reproduction of his bookplate. The book measures 2<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2" and is priced at \$65. Contact Pat for availability and shipping considerations. In summary, a great piece of art history 📖

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

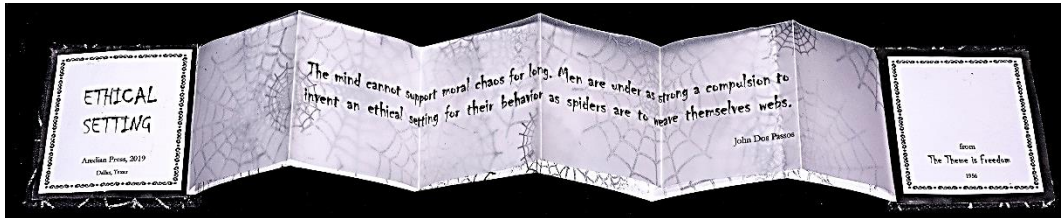


Image courtesy of Aredian Press



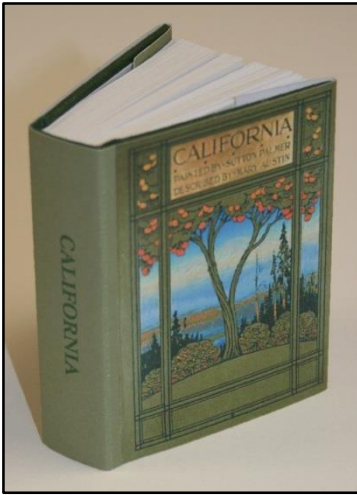
Cover and belly band

***Ethical Settings***, text by John Dos Passos [1896 –1970], published by Patrice Miller, 2019, Aredian Press. The publisher's website has an introductory statement: "Through Aredian Press, my goal is to create works that are aesthetically pleasing and approachable. My hope is the reader finds the experience of my books an engaging diversion, full of amusement and wonder." This statement sums up *Ethical Settings* in a perfect way. The text of *Ethical Settings* is from the published Dos Passos essay collection titled 'The Theme Is Freedom' [1956]. The text of the miniature is one quote: "*The mind cannot support moral chaos for long. Men are under as strong a compulsion to invent an ethical setting for their behavior as spiders are to weave themselves webs.*"

That is it, just thirty words, but thirty words that should invoke thirty volumes of thought, reflection, and discussion. Those words are certainly timeless in their possible application to our own lives.

The book is bound using an accordion format and is printed on a translucent vellum and Neenah Classic Stipple in black ink. The text is printed with a 20 pt. Chiller font. The pages are also printed with a 'shadow' image of spider webs to enhance the theme. The front and rear boards are covered with a lace cobweb design black paper to complete the image. The overall size of the book is 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>". A black bellyband with a title label is included to keep the accordion closed and in place. The published edition contains ten copies. Contact Patrice for availability and pricing.

Contact information: Patrice Miller, 1412 San Saba Drive Dallas, TX 75218-3551  
E-mail: [p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net) or [www.aredian.co](http://www.aredian.co)



*Cover illustration courtesy  
of Plum Park Press*

***California, The Land of the Sun***, painted by Sutton Palmer and described by Mary Austin, published by Plum Park Press, August 2019. The original publisher is Macmillan Company, New York, New York, 1914. Sutton Palmer [1854 - 1933, was a British born watercolor artist and illustrator. He married in California and resided there for a period.

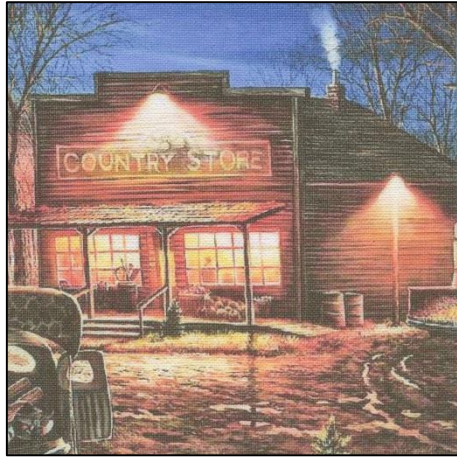
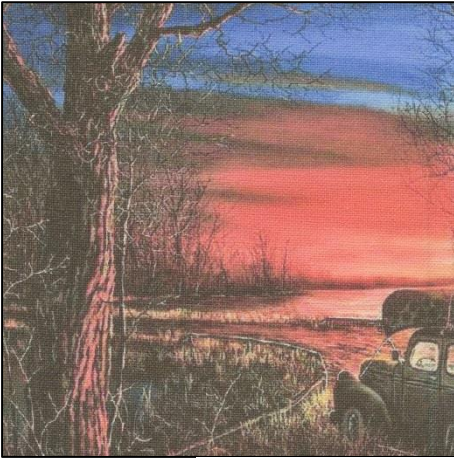
'California' is organized into eight chapters each representing and illustrating a distinctive and different geographical area of California. Along with the illustrations representing the original watercolors, the editor presents a companion text of California history aligned with each area. Along with the historical information, the editor also includes geological references that help explain the very varied California geographical area moving from the southern beaches to the northern mountain areas. There are 31 full color illustrations, most provided in a 'two-page' format to provide as much detail as possible.

The workmanship on the printing and binding is as expected; flawless. 'California' is bound in a pale green book cloth, with a printed dust jacket showing artwork from the original 1914 publication. The front and rear endpapers are decorated with an illustration of a painting titled 'Blue Lake, Lake Country'. The book consists of 280 number pages printed in a 7 pt. Garamond font, in black ink, using Navigator Platinum, 89 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper. The dimensions of the book are 3" x 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>". The edition is published with 20 copies, priced at \$50. The publisher signed the review copy. Contact Tony for availability and shipping arrangements. 📖



***Endpaper illustration***

*Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)*



*'Camp-by the-Lake' (covers rear L. and front R.)*

*The Vision of Chief Stands-by-the-Lake*, Wild Onion Press, written and published by Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 2019. The tome is the another revealing adventure into the world of those people who live and work in Little Booklyn. The ongoing series keeps us paced regarding the many fictional people that dedicate themselves to the world of miniature books.

The 'Chief', as explained by the author's notes is a cherished member of the Little Booklyn community, his actual name is Stan, a widower, and he has three sons, all with somewhat divergent directions in their lives. Stan is also at a decision point and dealing with the economies of time in his life. The notes explain that Stan 'has reached a crises' and the book is a journey explaining how he has been able to reconcile the crisis and improve his life.

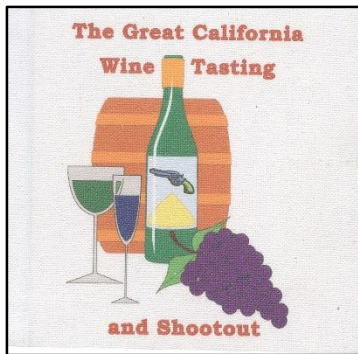
As I got into the details of Stan's stories and dreams I was reminded of Rocinante, that mystical traveling companion. Certainly not in comparative way but the way that a travel story, fact or fiction, lets your mind become part of the words and the adventures. Stan travels to the local library, gets some information and maps and departs on his journey. As the reader we share in his adventures with meticulous detail and are introduced to many different and interesting stories and dreams which bring forth a wide diversity of people to the story. Camping in a tent, meeting new people, revisiting old friends, and advice from his sons lead Stan to resolve his problems and move on to the next chapter of his life. The last page tells it all; 'And then he spoke. "I accept, partner." Then he kissed her'.

The bound size of *The Vision of Chief Stands-by-the-Lake* measures 3" x 3" and contains 259 numbered pages. The story is divided into thirteen chapters. The chapter



headings are printed in a dark blue color and an interesting feature is that each verso page carries the author's name in a small font and the recto page carries the book title. The book is bound with a book cloth printed with colorful 'camp-by-the-lake' scene; the spine carries the book title. The typeset is Bernhard Modern 9/12, which makes the tome very easy to read without any eyestrain and is very easy to operate. The construction of the book is flawless with tight binding, clean cut pages, and as always delivered from the publisher, a professional finished product. The book is priced at \$40.00 and is an open edition. An enjoyable read for a good night by the crackle of the wood fire. Please contact Pat for availability and shipping considerations. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [bailgardener@gmail.com](mailto:bailgardener@gmail.com) or [www.TheWildOnionPress.com](http://www.TheWildOnionPress.com)



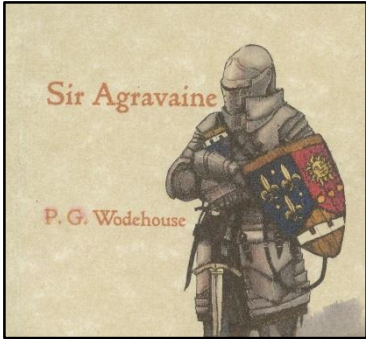
***The Great California Wine Tasting and Shootout***, by Pat Caernarvon-Smith, published by The Wild Onion Press. The tome is an adventure about "How to make a small fortune in wine making; start with a large fortune." I am not a wine connoisseur but wanted to at least understand what wine tasting was all about. Turns out there is a somewhat formal technique to wine tasting. Briefly as I am sure there is more to each step than the 'quick steps': Look, Smell, Swirl, Sip, and Enjoy.

Our tome begins as a bit of an introductory travel log experiences of Jim Sweet and his wife of 5 months, Silvia, moving from East to West through Colorado in 1875. They were looking forward to getting to California and possibly beginning a wine business. The various parts of the tale are divided into chapters titled: The Train, Sacramento, On The Road, Vegetables, Wine Country, Hostile Reception, New Respect, etc. etc. As you can imagine the adventures goes on and on. Gunslingers, growers, buyers, wine experts, babies hidden in wine barrels, and finally some peace and quiet, and the new business is growing. The men folk get a nice comfy chair for after dinner and the women get to pick out some new clothes.

The bound size of '*California Wine Tasting*' measures 3" x 3" and contains 257 numbered pages. The chapter headings are printed with a pale rust color ink. Each verso page carries the author's name in a small font and the recto page carries the book title. The book is bound with a white book cloth (a Little Booklyn series standard) and the cover is printed with a stylized illustration of wine related items. The spine is printed with the title as well. The front and rear endpapers carry an illustration of various wine bottles and shaped glasses. The typeset is Bookman 9/11, which makes the tome very easy to read without any eyestrain and is very easy to operate. The book also includes an

extensive bibliography (12 titles) of wine related reference books for additional reading information. The construction of the book is flawless with tight binding, clean cut pages, and as always delivered from the publisher, a professional finished product. Priced at at \$40.00 the book is an open edition. Please contact Pat for availability and shipping considerations. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [bailgardener@gmail.com](mailto:bailgardener@gmail.com) or [www.TheWildOnionPress.com](http://www.TheWildOnionPress.com)



**Sir Agravaine**, by P. G. Wodehouse [1881 – 1975]. Tony Firman published *Sir Agravaine* as a miniature book through his imprint, Plum Park Press 2019. Wodehouse was an English author and humorist. As Wodehouse was a humorist and enjoyed adding a realm of comedy his writings, so please do not think that this story is about the brave Sir Lancelot and the always-glorious Knights of the Round Table. In the opening pages of the book before we are introduced to ‘Sir Agravaine the Delorous’ the author gives us a little background into the discovery and development of the story; he came across the story in an old manuscript while visiting a friend’s country estate. “I found it necessary to touch the thing up a little here and there, for writers in those days were weak in construction”. Within the opening pages Sir Agravaine is promptly thrown off his mount in the first joust. Some knights are models of physical strength and mot handsome or one or the other but Sir Agravaine was neither handsome nor physically strong. The story bounces along the rode of various adventures and Sir Agravaine does survive it all in the end. A good read with a bit of a laugh in spread across the pages. Well Done! FINIS!

*Sir Agravaine* is bound in a light brown color and measures 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 2<sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub>". In keeping with the theme of the story, *Sir Agravaine* is typeset in the Morris Golden font and printed on animal-free parchment. The boards are also covered with printed parchment with a colorful illustration of the knight in his jousting regalia. There are 87 text pages; the colorful front and rear endpapers carry illustration of additional period activities. The edition is published with 20 copies, each signed by the publisher. A great short read and a very well-produced book for sure. The price is \$45. Check with Tony for availability and shipping costs. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)

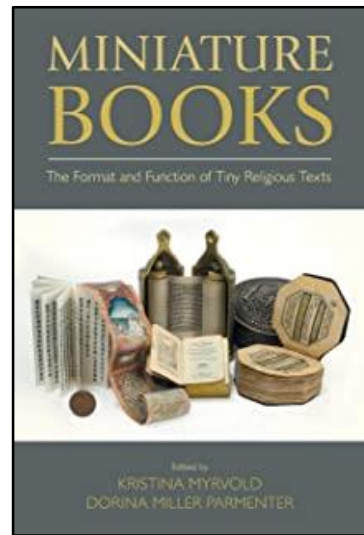
**Miniature Books, The Format and Function of Tiny religious Texts** was published by Equinox Publishing Ltd. in September 2019, edited by Kristina Myrvold and Dorina Miller Parmenter. The book is available in both a hardbound and softbound version. My review copy is the softbound version and is a well-made 6 1/8" x 9 1/4" volume with a glossy cover and 237 pages printed on a high quality paper stock. The softcover version is listed with a price of \$35.00 on both *Amazon.com* and *ABEbooks.com*.

The editors note that miniature books both handwritten and printed books, in the smallest format, have always fascinated readers, printers, publishers, and collectors through the more than 4000 years of their existence. The small lettering, the materials used for the text printing, the bindings, and the various covers highlight the visual form of the texts and facilitate the engagement and fascination with the miniature book. 'Miniature Books' is a reference book published with 10 very well written chapters written by 10 different well-informed authors. The overall subject content of the chapters is focused on miniature religious books, which are considered as sacred texts in the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist traditions. The chapter authors provide a well-written academic review of the individual subjects. The book opens with an introduction and overview that sets the tone for the remaining subject content. Each chapter includes a very detailed list of reference information to support the chapter. The various chapter discussions are supported by 34 color printed illustrations. There are many references to miniature books that collectors are more than familiar with as they are part of the library collected by Ruth Adomeit and part of the permanent collection of the Lilly Library. There also several reference to volumes published by the David Bryce Ltd. company. The editors have been diligent to always reference book sizes and in most cases provide illustrations with reference rulers as part of the illustration.

Certainly a specialized reference volume covering a wide diversity of the subject of miniature religious books. I would recommend the volume for any miniature book collector who would want to explore the genre and be learn about the format and function of the miniature book; how it has been produced, distributed, and used in different times and cultures over it long history. 📖

*Contact information: Equinox Publishing Ltd. 70 Enterprise Drive, Bristol, CT 06010*

*Internet: [www.equinoxpub.com](http://www.equinoxpub.com)*



## WHITE LION COURT, The Frontispiece continued:


“Auntie is probably at this very moment asking someone for directions and so leaving me here...”

Here. Where is here? Finally noticing her surroundings, it was nicer than Hawthorn, the little coal town where she lived, but certainly not as nice as the location of the clinic.

Wandering through a gate she saw a sign, “White Lion Court”. Then she noticed a shop with a large window with lots of activity going on behind it. Before she knew it she was looking through the window trying to decide what was going on. From somewhere inside a loud voice said, “Mr. Smith, it will not do! Not do at all!” She noticed an accent, but could not place it at first. Another voice, calmly said, “Mr. Elder, it will be fine.”

“Ahh,” she thought, the roll of the ‘r’ gave it away, “Scottish. Both of them.”


Suddenly, her wrist was grabbed and she was being spun around and pulled away. “Charlotte!” Even though her name was shouted at her, she barely heard it. It was her Aunt Elizabeth prattling on about her being lost. But Charlotte didn’t want to leave yet, there was something about the place that tugged at her. She looked up quickly for the shop name, “Smith, Elder & Company, #65 Cornhill, Publisher Of Fine Books.”

Charlotte continued looking back at the shop repeating the name over and over in her head as she was being pulled further and further away. As they rounded the corner, unexpectedly she heard herself shout at it, “I’ll be back. 

## THE EDITOR’S FEAR:

### TYPICAL TYPE TYPOS

*The typographical error is a slippery thing, and sly.  
You can hunt till you are dizzy but it somehow will get by.  
Till the forms are off the presses it is strange how it keeps;  
It shrinks down to a corner, and it never stirs or peeps.  
The typographical error is too small for human eyes,  
Till the ink is on the paper...when it grows to mountain size.  
The boss, he stares with horror, then grabs his hair and groans;  
The copy reader drops his head upon his hands and moans.  
The remainder of the issue may be as clean as clean can be.  
But the typographical error is the only thing that you see.*

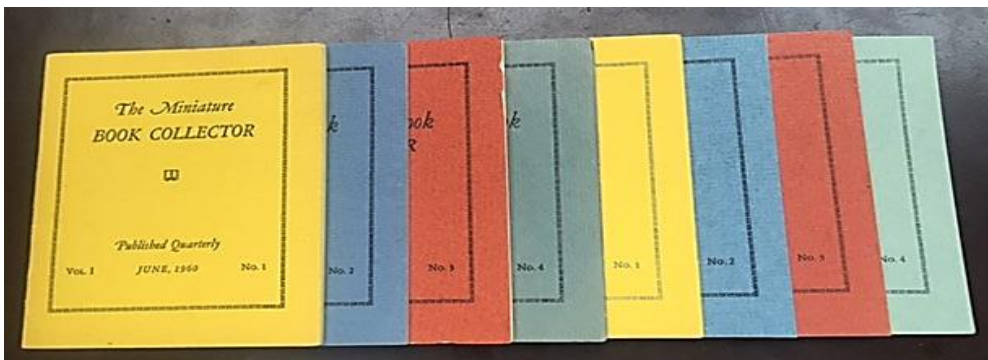
Anonymous 

# THE MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTOR,

Volume 1, Number 3, December 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 diversity of subjects within the world of miniature books. Many of the 20th century's prominent collectors and publishers contributed their work to the 'MBC'.*



Editor Ruth E. Adomeit shares letters she has received encouraging her efforts to provide a forum for shared information on our beloved miniature books. She mentions works by Doris Welsh specifically one titled *The Mecklenburg Declaration*. I am wondering if anyone is familiar with her work?

Highlights of this issue include the following:

The Black Cat Press published by Norman W. Forgue once published a magazine titled *The Book Collector's Packet*. Ruth Adomeit says he helped inspire her to begin her own search for miniature books. He wrote to Ruth and told her he was in the midst of creating a tiny book title *One Hundred Proverbs Adapted from the Japanese*.

*Looking Back to Buchanan's Time* by I.R. Sherwood was published in 1934 by C.R.F. Berry from Orrville, Ohio and 150 copies were issued. The story was about a romance in the life

of President James Buchanan who was the first bachelor elected to the presidency of the United States. Unfortunately, the woman he loved died before they married.

Books about miniature books – *An Unusual Collection of Miniature Books Formed by a Lady*. I loved that title! Dated 1928 published by the American Art Association as a catalog of an auction sale of 204 miniature books for sale.

Finally, the editor requests information on bookplates designed specifically for miniature books.

Hmmmm – I might start thinking about creating a personal bookplate! 📖

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

*Editor's Note: And who was that woman who 'formed the unusual collection' in 1928? If you think you know the answer, please let the editor know. It would make an interesting article for the next issue of 'The Microbibliophile'. The 'Miniature Book Collector' continues to be a valuable source of information about miniature books, after almost 60 years.*

*Editor's Note # 2: With this issue of the 'Miniature Book Collector', our reviewer has mentioned the works of Doris Varner Welch. Volume XXXIII, Number 4, Issue 190, July 2014 of The Microbibliophile carried a in depth article about Doris Varner Welch, including her life work and the many excellent miniature books she published. If you have a copy, of that issue, it is well worth reading again. If not and you would like a reprint, please let me know and I will send you an electronic version.*

*Editor's Note # 3: It would also be interesting to see just how many current collectors use miniature bookplates today. If you would send me a copy of your bookplate, I can gather them together to present as an article in a future issue. On that note about minaiture bookplates, check out Msgr. Francis Weber's essay on the subject in this issue on page 28.*

# LITTLE LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS, 'LLGB', New Information About Classics, An Addendum to REM By Todd Sommerfeld:

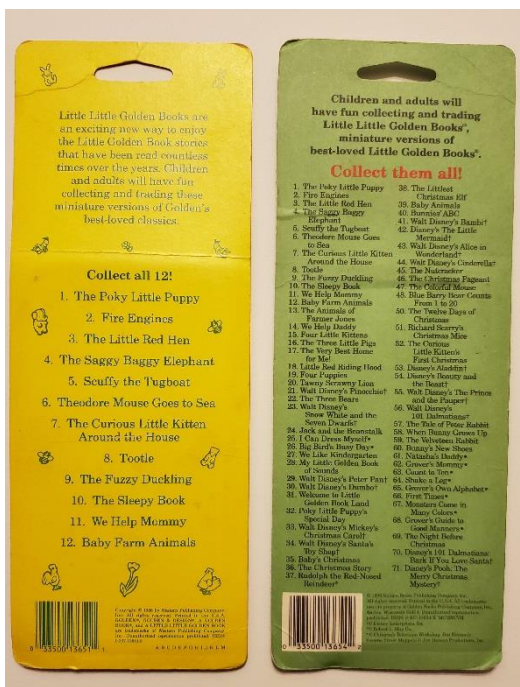
*Editor's Note: The original article by Massmann was published in the January 1998 issue of 'The Microbibliophile' and updated in the January 2012 issue as well. The January 2012 issue was dedicated to children's books. If a house exists with children there will more than likely be Golden Books. 'Little Little Golden Books' were introduced to extend the overall marketing program of the publisher, Western Publishing Company, by not only creating a 'small carry along size book' but through partnerships with various other companies for advertising. I cannot say which is my personal favorite, either 'The Poky Little Puppy' or 'Scuffy the Tugboat' for each brings back memories. How many children have improved their reading skills using these unique little little books? Todd's article brings more focus onto the genre of these classic children's books that can certainly be used by both the current or the new collector. If you would like a reprint of the January 2012 article please, drop me a line and I can send you an electronic copy.*

The original Massmann article started out with "You have all seen and probably have some of these books, with heavy colored pictorial boards, well within the 3" limit to be considered as a miniature, and issued in 'tow-book' to a bubble wrapped card with numbers on the front cover".

The information on the back of the two book blister packs is both interesting and informative. Because the copyright date on the card is for the packaging and not the books themselves, we cannot know the earliest year of issue for the various titles. However, I have identified six unique packs plus one mentioned by REM that I have not seen yet:

- 1) List of 12 titles, copyright 1988
- 2) 28 titles, 1989
- 3) 40 titles, 1991
- 4) 60 titles, 1993
- 5) 60 titles, 1994
- 6) (69 titles noted by Robert Massmann)
- 7) 71 titles, 1996.

As you can see from the following lists, the series expanded rapidly, #72 was only available with Disney's Princess Stories collection which will be discussed later. While the



vast majority of the LLGBs measure  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ ", oblong, I have found 'Snow White #23', 'Cinderella #44', and 'Sleeping Beauty #72' in a slightly larger edition  $3\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ ", without the number on the cover and with reset texts.

### Little Little Golden Books, 'Original List', updated:

- |     |                                                      |     |                                                        |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | The Poky Little Puppy                                | 37. | Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer                         |
| 2.  | Fire Engines                                         | 38. | The Littlest Christmas Elf                             |
| 3.  | Little Red Hen                                       | 39. | Baby Animals                                           |
| 4.  | The Saggy Baggy Elephant                             | 40. | Bunnies' ABC                                           |
| 5.  | Scuffy the Tugboat                                   | 41. | Walt Disney's Bambi                                    |
| 6.  | Theodore Mouse Goes To Sea                           | 42. | Disney's The Little Mermaid                            |
| 7.  | The Curious Little Kitten Around The House           | 43. | Walt Disney's Alice in Wonderland                      |
| 8.  | Tootle                                               | 44. | Walt Disney's Cinderella                               |
| 9.  | The Fuzzy Duckling                                   | 45. | The Nutcracker                                         |
| 10. | The Sleepy Book                                      | 46. | The Christmas Pageant                                  |
| 11. | We Help Mommy                                        | 47. | The Colorful Mouse                                     |
| 12. | Baby Farm Animals                                    | 48. | Blue Barry Bear Counts From 1 to 20                    |
| 13. | The Animals of Farmer Jones                          | 49. | Frosty the Snowman                                     |
| 14. | We Help Daddy                                        | 50. | The Twelve Days of Christmas                           |
| 15. | Four Little Kittens                                  | 51. | Richard Scarry's Christmas Mice                        |
| 16. | The Three Little Pigs                                | 52. | The Curious Little Kitten's First Christmas            |
| 17. | The Very Best Home For Me                            | 53. | Disney's Aladdin                                       |
| 18. | Little Red Riding Hood                               | 54. | Disney's Beauty and the Beast                          |
| 19. | Four Puppies                                         | 55. | Walt Disney's The Prince and the Pauper                |
| 20. | Tawny Scrawny Lion                                   | 56. | Walt Disney's 101 Dalmatians                           |
| 21. | Walt Disney's Pinocchio                              | 57. | The Tale of Peter Rabbit                               |
| 22. | The Three Bears                                      | 58. | When Bunny Grows Up                                    |
| 23. | <b>Walt Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs</b> | 59. | The Velveteen Rabbit                                   |
| 24. | I Can Dress Myself                                   | 60. | Bunny's New Shoes                                      |
| 25. | Jack and the Beanstalk                               | 61. | Natasha's Daddy                                        |
| 26. | Big Bird's Busy Day                                  | 62. | Grover's Mommy                                         |
| 27. | We Like Kindergarten                                 | 63. | Count to Ten                                           |
| 28. | My Little Golden Book of Sounds                      | 64. | Shake a Leg                                            |
| 29. | Walt Disney's Peter Pan                              | 65. | Grover's Own Alphabet                                  |
| 30. | Walt Disney's Dumbo                                  | 66. | First Times                                            |
| 31. | Welcome to Little Golden Book Land                   | 67. | Monsters Come in Many Colors                           |
| 32. | Poky Little Puppy's Special Day                      | 68. | Grover's Guide to Good Manners                         |
| 33. | Walt Disney's Mickey's Christmas Carol               | 69. | The Night Before Christmas                             |
| 34. | Walt Disney's Santa's Toy Shop                       | 70. | <b>Disney's 101 Dalmatians: Bark If You Love Santa</b> |
| 35. | Baby's Christmas                                     | 71. | <b>Disney's Pooh: The Merry Christmas Mystery</b>      |
| 36. | The Christmas Story                                  | 72. | <b>Walt Disney's Sleeping Beauty</b>                   |

*(bold font titles are changes/additions)*



### **Little Little Golden Books, 'Retail Editions', HARDEES:**

- |    |                        |     |                         |
|----|------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 1. | Little Red Riding Hood | 7.  | Three Little Kittens    |
| 2. | The Poky Little Puppy  | 8.  | The Three Bears         |
| 3. | Three Little Pigs      | 9.  | Problem Puppies         |
| 4. | The Little Red Hen     | 10. | Pick of the Litter      |
| 5. | The Little Red Caboose | 11. | Kitten Companions       |
| 6. | Old MacDonald          | 12. | The Puppy Nobody Wanted |

### **Little Little Golden Books, 'Retail Editions', SONIC:**

There were a total of six books issued by Sonic in their Whacky Packs Kid's Meal as listed on the back cover of the books. The Sonic issued books utilized their own numbering from 1 - 6.

- |    |                                    |    |                          |
|----|------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1. | The Poky Little Puppy              | 4. | The Saggy Baggy Elephant |
| 2. | Welcome to Little Golden Book Land | 5. | Scuffy the Tugboat       |
| 3. | Tawny Scrawny Lion                 | 6. | Tootle                   |

### **Little Little Golden Books, 'Retail Editions', LIFESAVERS:**

There were a total of 12 LLGB books sold in the Lifesavers "Sweet Storybook" packages numbered I-XII. They were issued in three different series of 4 books each as noted on the back covers.

- |      |                                       |       |                                                 |
|------|---------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------|
| I.   | Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer        | VII.  | Disney's 101 Dalmatians: Bark If You Love Santa |
| II.  | The Nutcracker                        | VIII. | Disney's Pooh: The Merry Christmas Mystery      |
| III. | Frosty the Snowman                    | IX.   | Disney's Donald Duck's Christmas Tree           |
| IV.  | The Night Before Christmas            | X.    | Walt Disney's Micky's Christmas Carol           |
| V.   | The Twelve Days of Christmas          | XI.   | Pooh; The Sweetest Christmas                    |
| VI.  | Walt Disney's Micky's Christmas Carol | XII.  | Disney's 101 Dalmatians: Snow Puppies           |

### **Little Little Golden Books, 'Retail Editions', Food Lion, Andes Candies, and Target:**

The books issued by Food Lion, Andes Candies, and Target do not have a list of titles on the back covers, so there seems to be no way to determine how many or which titles were issued, this way but I have listed the ones I have in my personal collection. The numbers on the covers correspond with the numbers of the basic set so are probably indicative of nothing in particular.

#### **WELCHES / FOOD LION**

1. The Poky Little Puppy
4. The Saggy Baggy Elephant
8. Tootle

### ANDES CANDIES

3. The Little Red Hen
7. The Curious Little Kitten Around the House
9. The Fuzzy Duckling
10. The Sleepy Book

### TARGET

1. The Poky Little Puppy

The first three books in this section are the smallest, measuring only 2½" x 2½" and have no publication information other than the rather cryptic "HOL: 120420" and an item number printed on the back. The 'Scuffy' and 'Shy Little Kitten' books were already mentioned by REM. The 'Poky' and 'Friends' book has "first edition 1999" noted inside the back cover making it one of the most recently published LLGBs.

### MISCELLANEOUS TITLE/FORMATS

The Poky Little Puppy

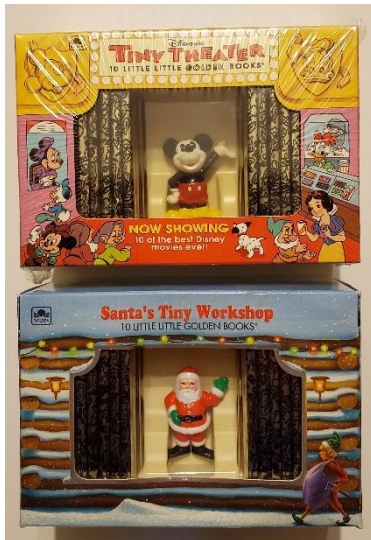
The Curious Little Kitten Around the House (paperback)

Tootle (paperback)

Scuffy the Tugboat #3 (paperback)

Poky and Friends: The Truth About Kittens & Puppies (paperback)

The Shy Little Kitten (hardbound)



These special sets all utilize books from the basic set along with special packaging and other items. The dates given are for the packaging shown on the above images.

Disney's Tiny Theater, (boxed set of ten books and a vinyl Mickey Mouse figure, 1993)

Santa's Tiny Workshop, (boxed set of ten books and a vinyl Santa figure, 1994)

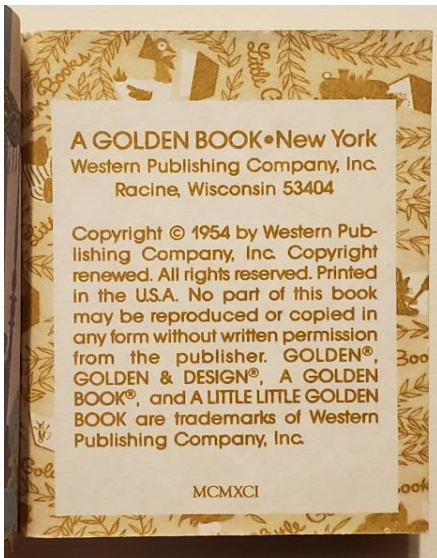
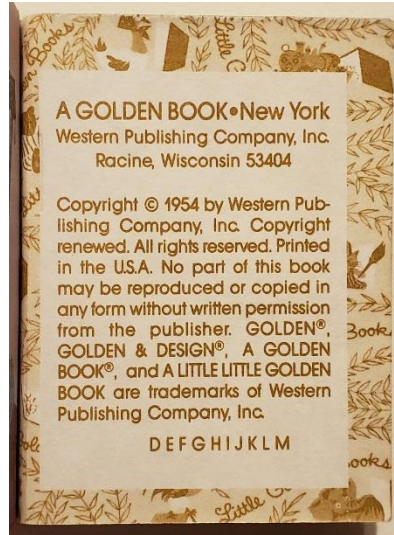
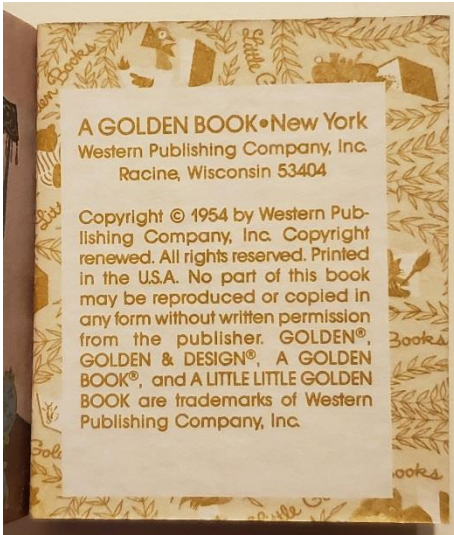
#### **DISNEY'S PRINCESS STORIES COLLECTION**

Another cross-promotional venture that western entered into was the Princess Stories Collection with Disney and Mattel in 1997. There were five different sets in the series, each one included a Barbie doll dressed as a Disney princess, a vinyl figurine related to that princess, and a Little Little Golden Book with a story of that princess. I have seen these sets both with and without the series number. The titles are:

Cinderella  
Snow white  
Belle  
Sleeping Beauty  
Jasmine

#### **PRINTING MARKS:**

Finally, a brief note on printing marks. Printing marks were used by the publisher internally to differentiate between different printings of the same edition of a book, and in some cases may be helpful in dating individual copies of a book. I have identified three basic marks on the inside back cover of the LLGBs. 1) It appears that the vast majority of these books have no printing mark, making them probably impossible to date. 2) Date in Roman Numerals. All the books I've seen with this mark date to between 1991 and 1993. Some copies have an "A" preceding the date. 3) Alphabet mark. This mark tells us how many times a book in edition was printed. The first letter shown tells which printing the book at hand is. The mark in the book pictured starts with "D" making it the fourth printing. Unfortunately, Western Publishing assets were sold off in a bankruptcy auction in 2001 and the business records were lost at that time making the printing marks unhelpful in dating the books.



In summary, I am sure there is much more to learn about these fascinating relics of childhood and I will continue to seek out anything that can be learned about them. If you have any titles I have missed or have found any of my information to be incorrect, please do let me know, and I'll put it in future updates.

As always, questions, comments, and criticisms are welcome.

Happy Collecting! 📖

Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, 6475 Ridge Road #1, Parma, OH 44129  
E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) or [www.booksbypress.com](http://www.booksbypress.com)

## WASHINGTON IRVING,

By Gail Curry:

*It was the policy of the good old gentleman to make his children feel that home was the happiest place in the world, and I value this delicious home feeling as one of the choicest gifts a parent could bestow.*

Washington Irving  
"Christmas Eve"

**The Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.**

As I write, the holidays are upon us. Halloween has sped by with with Thanksgiving just past and Christmas soon to follow. It is a good time to look at the contributions of an iconic American writer, a founding father of America's national literature, Washington Irving.

Washington Irving (1783-1859) was born in New York, the eleventh child of a Scottish immigrant. He was named after General George Washington. By the age of 19, Irving was well launched on his writing career. He spent two years touring Europe, ending in 1806. His first major work, *A History of New York*, was published in 1809 under the pen name of Diedrich Knickerbocker. That same year, his fiancée, Matilda Hoffman, died of tuberculosis, sending Irving into a deep depression. He would never marry, however Irving did return to writing and traveling. Many years later after extended trips and numerous writings, Washington Irving settled down. In 1835, he built his home, Sunnyside, along the East bank of the Hudson River just north of Tarrytown. He would continue his writings, ending with the epic five volumes *The Life of George Washington*.



*The Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.*, a collection of sketches and stories published in 1820, became immensely popular in the United States, Britain and Europe. Among these tales are "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and "Rip Van Winkle", giving rise to Washington Irving being called the father of the American ghost story, with the headless horseman in the former and ghosts of Henry Hudson and his crew bowling in the Kaatskills in the latter.

As a child growing up across the Hudson River from Sunnyside and south of the Catskills, as they were later known, I remember well the tale of Rip Van Winkle falling asleep on a mountain which our family drove by

on more than one occasion. As a young child, I remember wondering if he was still there and if not what happened to him. I was assured that he did wake up after a very long time, and was fine....

It is interesting to note that these ghost stories appeared alongside a collection of essays relating to Christmas. These sketches helped to revive interest in the holiday and to lay the foundation for Christmas, as we know it today. The four Christmas stories were later published by Macmillan & Company of London in 1875 as *Old Christmas* with illustrations by Randolph Caldecott. Irving's words in the introductory chapter entitled "Christmas" eloquently define the spirit and meaning of Christmas:

*Of all the old festivals, that of Christmas awakens the strongest and most heartfelt associations. There is a tone of solemn and sacred feeling that blends with our conviviality, and lifts the spirit to a state of hallowed and elevated enjoyment. The services of the church about this season are extremely tender and inspiring. They dwell on the beautiful story of the origin of our faith, and the pastoral scenes that accompanied its announcement. They gradually increase in fervor and pathos during the season of Advent, until they break forth in full jubilee on the morning that brought peace and good will to men. I do not know a grander effect of music on the moral feelings than to hear the full choir and the pealing organ performing a Christmas anthem in a cathedral, and filling every part of the vast pile [sanctuary] with triumphant harmony.*

As for the children, Washington Irving gave life and endurance to St. Nicholas in his 1809 celebrated book, *A History of New York*, by Diedrich Knickerbocker. Historically, the term evolved from a monk named St. Nicholas, who was born ca. 280 A.D. in Turkey. Admired for his piety and kindness, his popularity spread. He became known as the protector of children and sailors. His popularity endured through the Protestant Reformation, especially in Holland. In America, he became popular toward the end of the eighteenth century through the efforts of Dutch families. His name became Sinter Klaas, a shortened form of Sint Nikolaas (Dutch for St. Nicholas). Irving referred to St. Nicholas as the patron saint of New York. He was promoted as a beloved character bearing gifts in a wagon, and thus laying the groundwork for Santa Claus. In Chapter IX, it is stated that "At this early period was instituted that pious ceremony... of hanging up a stocking in the chimney on St. Nicholas eve [before St. Nicholas's birthday of Dec. 6]; which stocking is always found in the morning miraculously filled; for the good St. Nicholas has ever been a great giver of gifts, particularly to children."

It is interesting to note that Washington Irving and Clement Clarke Moore were close friends at the time of the publication of Irving's 1809 book. According to Nancy H.

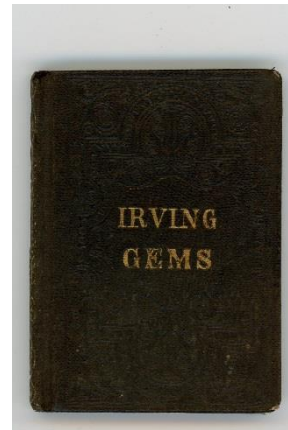
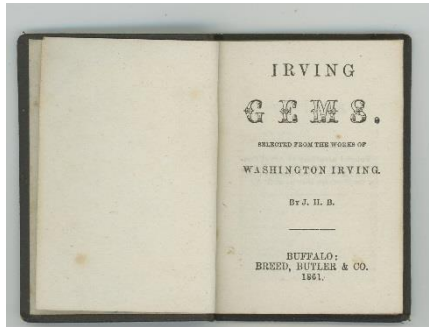
Marshall in her wonderful book *The Night Before Christmas: A Descriptive Bibliography of Clement Clarke Moore's Immortal Poem*, published in 2002 by Oak Knoll Press, "There are at least two dozen allusions to St. Nicholas who appeared to Oloffe Van Kortlandt in a dream." Among these are "...riding over the tops of the trees, in that self-same wagon wherein he brings his yearly presents to children." Other images that became part of Moore's poem were "...laying his finger beside his nose, gave...a very significant look..." and last, "...mounting his wagon, he returned over the tree-tops and disappeared..." pp. xxi, xxii

The following miniature books provide a sampling of the works of Washington Irving.

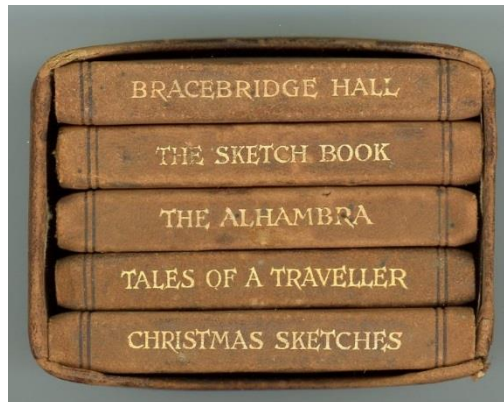
***IRVING GEMS:***

Selected from the Works of Washington Irving by J.H.B. (Editor). Buffalo: Breed, Butler & Co., 1861. 3-1/16" by 2-1/4", embossed brown cloth with gilt title and elaborate gilt decorated

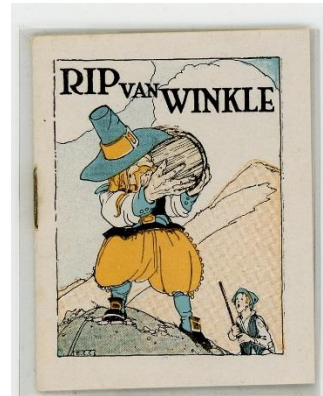
spine, 96pp., all edges gilt. Twenty selections. Published less than two years after the death of Washington Irving on Nov. 28, 1859, this was most likely the first miniature book containing Irving's writings. Bradbury p. 185, #5



***THE MINIATURE IRVING***, by Washington Irving. NY: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., printed at the Riverside Press in Edinburgh, ca. 1905. Five miniature volumes with the titles: *Tales of a Traveller*, 347pp.; *The Alhambra*, 352pp.; *Bracebridge Hall*, 352pp.; *The Sketchbook*, 383pp.; and *Christmas Sketches*, 352pp., all printed on fine India paper. Each book is 2-1/8" by 1-5/8", bound in limp brown suede with black tooling and gilt spine titles, all edges gilt. Housed in matching brown leather slipcase. Considered very rare by Bondy pp.119-120

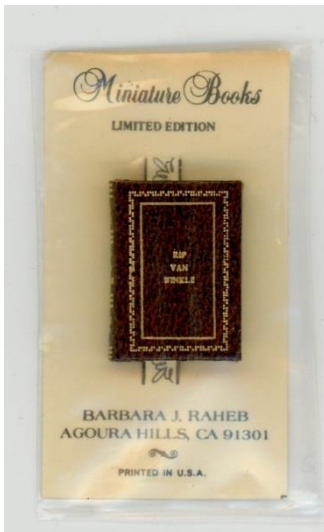


***RIP VAN WINKLE***, by Washington Irving. NY: John H. Eggers (1916). 2-7/8" by 2-3/16", color pictorial self-wraps, [10]pp. Color illustrations by Rhoda Chase



***OLD CHRISTMAS***, by Washington Irving, Van Nuys, CA, Barbara J. Raheb, 1980, limited to 300 copies, 15/16" by 5/8", gilt burgundy pyroxylin, 144pp. Illustrated, Bradbury 1542

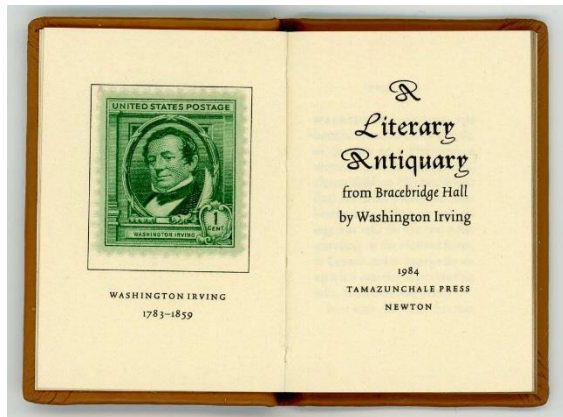
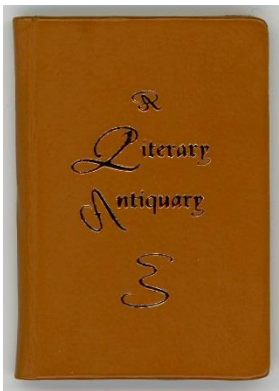
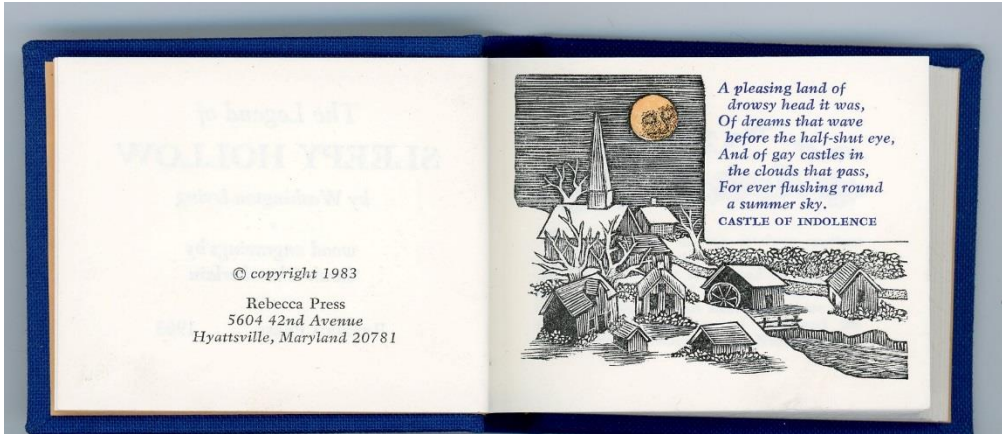
***RIP VAN WINKLE*** by Washington Irving. Van Nuys, CA: Barbara J. Raheb, 1980, limited to 300 copies. 15/16" by 5/8", gilt brown pyroxylin, 60pp. illustrated, Bradbury 1544



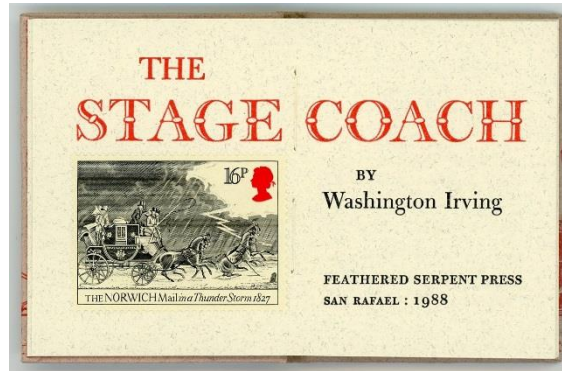
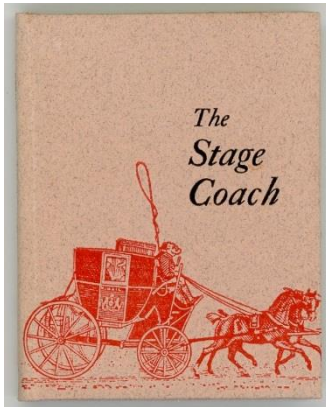


***THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW,***

by Washington Irving. Hyattsville, MD: Rebecca Press (1983). Published on October 31, 1983 in the bicentennial year of the birth of Washington Irving, limited to 150 copies. Sized at 2-3/8" by 2-15/16", dark green cloth with round paste label, [120] pp. Wood engravings by Sarah Chamberlain, Bradbury 1540



***A LITERARY ANTIQUARY:*** From Bracebridge Hall by Washington Irving. Newton, IA: Tamazunchale Press, 1984. 2-1/2" by 1-3/4", gilt leather by Reliure d'Art, 40pp. Marbled eps. Postage stamp frontis of Washington Irving. Story of a literary antiquary, or book collector, as he would be called today, Bradbury 1541.



***THE STAGE COACH***, by Washington Irving, San Rafael: Feathered Serpent Press, 1988, limited to 190 copies, signed by Susan Acker. "From ***The Sketck Book***, 1820". 2-9/16" by 2-1/8", printed-paper over boards & endpapers, (36) pp. First of the four Christmas stories, Bradbury 1545.

*Author's Note: To Washington Irving, family was very important, along with deep and heartfelt "moral caring" for our fellow man. His many books, sketches, as well as short stories provide excellent reading, not only for the holidays, but also throughout the entire year. 📖*

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

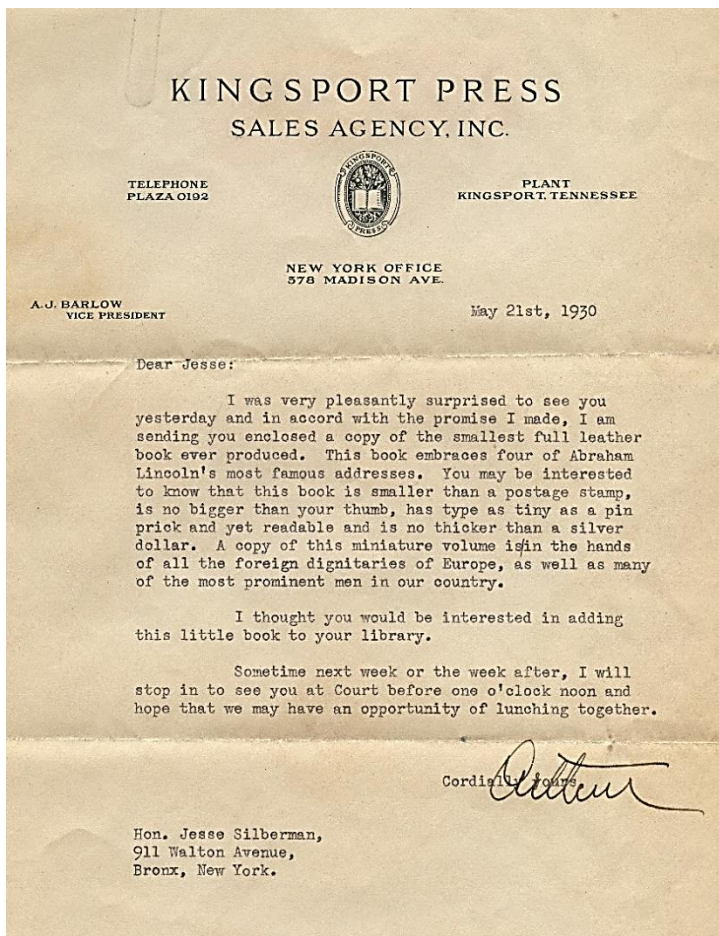
*Editor's Note: The little village of Sleepy Hollow is located on the eastern banks of the Hudson River, near Tarrytown, NY. The 2020 MBS Conclave will be held in Tarrytown and Washington Irving will certainly be close at hand and in the minds of many.*

## KINGSPORT PRESS,

### A Letter from A. J. Barlow, Vice-President, Kingsport Press:

The search for information about the miniature books published between 1928 and 1932 by Kingsport Press, Kingsport TN continues to be a long road. Sometimes we walk in the dark for several months and never hear a bit of new news. Sometimes we open a drawer or an old envelope and find some pieces of the puzzle. The publication of the three miniatures dealing with Lincoln, Coolidge, and Washington between 1929 and 1932 are pretty well documented both by previous articles within *The Microbibliophile* as well as *20<sup>th</sup> Century U.S. Miniature Books*, by R. Bradbury. However, the 1928 'publication' is a different story. I did come across a letter from a Kingsport executive that talks about the 1929 Lincoln book.

Yet, the real answer to the question of just 'what was the '1928 Lincoln publication' is still an unknown today. Was there only one book bound for the contest held at the 'bookbinder's convention' or were there more, Bradbury mentions 100 copies. Was it as small as the 1929 books or larger? Were there truly two editions of the 1928 book? One printed in 1928 and the other printed in 1929? We may never know for sure, but it is an interesting pursuit. It would surely be a great day to hold the 1928 book in my hands or even see a picture of it. 📖



## ON MINIATURE BOOKPLATES,

By, Msgr. Francis J. Weber

*Editor's Note: this essay first appeared in the November 1992, #179 issue of the Hoja Volante publication as produced by the Zamorano Club, of Los Angeles, CA. Reprinted with the permission of the author.*

Bookplates (or EX LIBRIS) are as significant to bibliophiles as fingerprints are to detectives. They tell where a book has been, who owned it, and how it arrived in this library or collection of books.

Edward Gordon Craig put it another way when he observed that “a bookplate is to the book what a collar is to a dog.” And still another has linked bookplates to “fingerprints in the wet sand. They indicate where a book has been and often how it got there.”

Bookplates can be traced to early days of heraldry in Germany. Their function is analogous to that of heraldry insofar as they are a declaration of identity. The earliest ones were usually armorial and/or religious in character. One of the oldest printed bookplates was a Swiss production for Telamonius Limperger, Suffragan Bishop of Basel and Tripoli, appointed in 1498.

Most dealers and collectors feel that bookplates, at least those of artistic merit, enhance the value of a volume because they identify a relationship between the book and its owner. Knowing a book's provenance is vitally important when attaching a cash value to books from such prominent collections as that of Carrie Estelle Doheny.

In the 1930's, Charles Dexter Allen wrote that “with four hundred years of interesting history behind it, the bookplate holds today a conspicuous place as a phase of art to which the best engravers and etchers, the best cutters of wood, and the greatest illustrators have given serious attention”. The distinguished bookman further noted that “to the collector, the bookplate presents interesting features in the history of the art and engraving, of nations and great families, and an insight into the particular traits of persons long dead, whose choice of what should constitute their bookplates remains as a significant indication of their habits of their times”.

The literature about bookplates is monumental in quality. Our friend, Audrey Arrellanes, probably knows more about the subject than any other living authority, Secretary of the American Society of Bookplate Collectors and Designers, she has edited their newsletter since 1970.

If indeed a bookplate on a grown-up volume endows it with a bibliothecal personality, certainly the same principle applies to miniature books. Yet examples of the *ex libris* in miniature books are seldom seen and, even when they do appear, they are often little more than makeshift means of identification.

Wilbur Macey Stone, himself a collector of all sizes of bookplates, said that “miniature books with a provenance are always a treasure-trove to the collector”. He described a *Satyricon of Petronius* of 1614 from the Plantin Press with a stamp of the celebrated Bishop Heber Library, *Bibliotheca Heberiana*, on a flyleaf. The daintily bound little volume has on its spine four impressions in gold of the initials of Louis XIV, each surmounted with the royal crown.

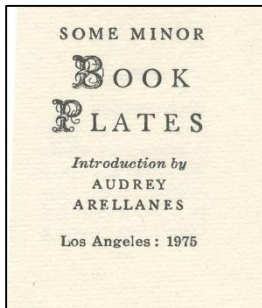
There are several miniature books about bookplates. My favorite, probably because it mentions my own *ex libris*, is the tiny tome, *Some Minor Book Plates*, which was printed by William Cheney at his press in the Gatehouse in 1975.

The current president of the Miniature Book Society [1992], Robert Massmann, not only has his own distinctive bookplate but he has also amassed a superb collection of miniature *ex libris* that fill no fewer than a dozen blank books.

Those collectors of miniature books who do not use plates might consider the usefulness and challenge of having one designed. Edward Gordon Craig gave some good advice on that subject when he said, “I have always held that a postage stamp is, in point of its size and adaptability, just what a perfect bookplate should be.”

Having one’s personal bookplate marks its owner as a person of taste and discernment or, as one writer put it: “To the observant, the personal bookplate carries the unmistakable though unconscious revelation of character.”

### Additional Information:

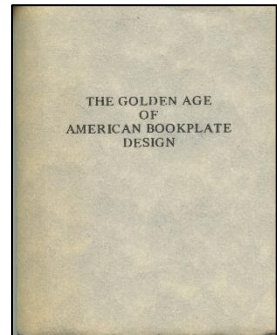


*title page*

Books about books are always of interest to me. There are three miniatures that I would like to share with you on the subject of miniature bookplates.

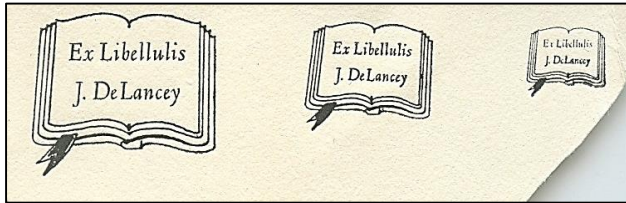
The first is that which was mentioned by Msgr. Weber in his article; *Some Minor Book Plates*, written William Cheney and published by Dawson’s Book Shop. It is a small book 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" is hardbound, the Introduction was written by Audrey Arrellanes and the book contains reproductions of 28 bookplates.

The second book is *The Golden Age of American Bookplate Design*, written by Francis Allen and published by Robert Hanson, Opuscula Press, 1979, 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>". The book contains several finely reproduced images of highly detailed bookplates, which are ‘tipped into’ the miniature.



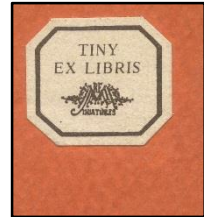
*cover image*

Included with this copy is an additional page with a bookplate example shown in three different sizes to accommodate the possible size variations which might meet the needs of a collection.



*Not actual sizes but shown as a relationship of size possibilities*

The third volume is titled *Tiny Ex Libris*, published by Robert Massmann, REM, 1979, 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 1" The front cover is decorated with an actual miniature Robert Massmann bookplate. There are several reproduction drawing of bookplates included in the volume. 📖



## GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

The next issue Number Six for 2019 will be available in December. 'Time willing'.

- A review of some of the entries submitted to the MBS Book Competition
- A article about a special subject by Todd Sommerfeld
- Nina Mazzo, more news and insight from the 'Miniature Book Collector'
- *Voice of the Hollywood Bowl*, published by Francis J. Weber
- *Alaskan Totems*, published by Cider Press
- *Balloons and Airships*, from Plum Park Press
- *The Twilight of the Gods*, from Plum Park Press
- *Tasting the Wine*, published by Wild Onion Press
- *The Booklover and his Books*, published by Wild Onion Press
- *The Parting Glass*, published by Cider Press
- In addition and most importantly, a story or article from you!

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

## MINIATURE EDITIONS,

### More Interesting Kingsport Information:

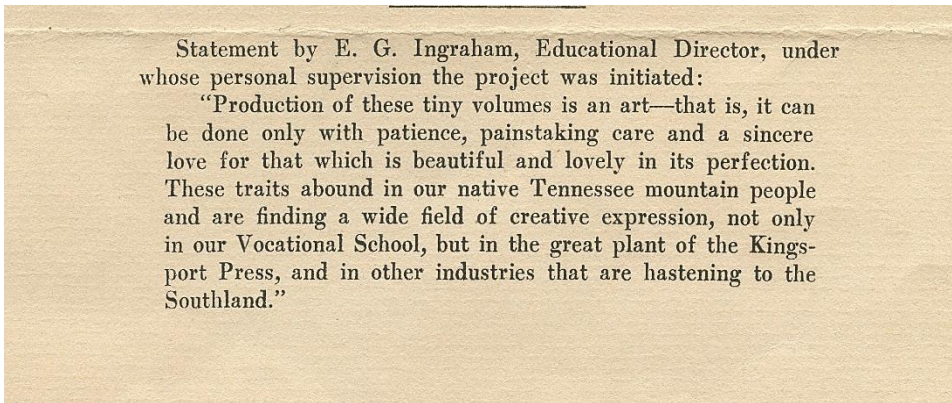
We are always talking about walking down the road of adventure with regard to miniature books. Sometimes you kick over a rock, sometimes you open a door or a drawer, or a box of old stuff and there it is another piece of the puzzle.

The following printed document “talks” at length about the two issues of the Lincoln miniatures that were produced by Kingsport in 1928 and 1929. I am not 100% certain where this document originated but it looks as if it was authored by Ingraham, the Educational Director of the Kingsport Press.

Understanding that Kingsport built their entire production facility in Tennessee to take advantage of the logistics of a ready labor pool, they most likely would have needed an educational director to offer an extensive training program in the art of printing.

It would appear that the phrase ‘first edition’ is making reference to the elusive 1928 publication and the ‘second edition’ is the 1929 publication. There are a few points that, according to the text below, may be somewhat confusing, i.e. ‘*six point type*’ [second paragraph] vs ‘*The type again was handset in ten point size*’, [third paragraph]. It appears both editions were ‘hand set’ but the font size was different. A key piece of information is the statement ‘*only a few words to a page*’ [second paragraph]. This leads one to visualize a book that is very small, maybe less than 1" x 1". The 1929 -1932 volumes were all sized at  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $\frac{5}{8}$ "

Just part of the continuing search into the mystery...



## ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S SPEECHES

### MINIATURE EDITION

These miniature Lincolns were produced originally by the students of the Vocational School of the Kingsport Press, Inc., Kingsport, Tennessee, as an educational exercise. It was used by the School as their exhibit in the competition sponsored by the Employing Bookbinders of America at their Annual Convention held at the Parker House, Boston, in 1928, where it was awarded a first prize.

The first edition consisted of slightly more than a hundred copies. It was set in six point type, only a few words to a page, and was printed direct from the type.

The second edition was undertaken on a much more ambitious scale. Instead of merely the Gettysburg Address, it contains three of Lincoln's addresses complete, and a portion of a fourth. It runs into 160 pages of Bible paper, and is complete in its format, with title page, half titles, table of contents, preface, and a dedication "To Student Craftsmen Everywhere." The type again was hand set in ten point size and made up into pages sixteen times larger than it was intended the book would be. These pages were accurately imposed, and proofs pulled on dull coated paper. These proofs were sent to the photoengraver who made the plates in the reduced size.

Presswork called for a very high degree of accuracy, for the slightest variation made register impossible. A sheet  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 12 inches was required for the entire book, and it was run sheet-wise—that is, half the book was printed on one side; the sheet was then turned over and the other half printed.

The pages were imposed for sixteen-page sections, all parallel fold. The original plan was to fold the entire book at one operation, but this was found next to impossible, for again a very slight variation threw margins entirely out of register; so the sections were cut apart and each folded separately by hand. Signature guides had been printed on the trim margins, which solved the problem of collating.

The books were sewed with silk thread without bands and with but two stitches, every stitch being what the bookbinder calls a "kettle stitch." The girls were able to sew about 125 books a day, after several days' practice.

Trimming was a baffling problem, but was finally worked out by means of a wooden gauge—a board with notches accurately cut into it, which positioned the stock exactly for each of the three cuts. Three books were trimmed at a time.

Gilding was accomplished by securing the tiny volumes in a vice-like clamp leaving all three surfaces exposed for the gilder to work upon. About 25 books were clamped up together for this operation.

Rounding, backing, headbanding and backlining were the standard operations, such as the bookbinder is accustomed to perform in the binding of ordinary books.

Leather for the cases was cut for gangs of covers, and stamped in gold before the individual covers were cut apart. Careful, accurate work was necessary at every point or they would have been ruined. Fitting the books into the covers was also an operation of extreme delicacy.

Up to the present, the books have been used entirely for presentation purposes. A special presentation edition was prepared under direction of Mr. Edmund Gress for the members of the American Institute of Graphic Arts. A like service was performed for the XLIVMOS; the world-wide club of lovers and collectors of miniature editions. The first edition was produced entirely by the students of the Vocational School. Later editions were produced in such quantities that the School was obliged to enlist the help of the plant, after advancing the project to the point of completion of the original set of plates.



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## CATALOGS RECEIVED:

**Karen Nyman Miniature Books**, Catalog Number 80, September 2019 and Catalog Number 81, November 2019. Both very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 101 items with many pictures, a large and interesting selection of antiquarian, children's, and rare books in an electronic PDF format catalogue. Contact info: 7835 Rush Rose Drive, # 124, Carlsbad, CA 92009, telephone 760-944-3019  
website: [www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com](http://www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com), E-mail: karennyman2@gmail.com

**John Howell For Books**, ABAA bookseller, e-mail distribution of a catalog with 75 miniature items mostly from the private collection of Glen Dawson. Organized by publisher.  
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## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'Private Press':

The term 'private press' is something that is common in the world of miniature books. A private press is a book printing business that is owned and operated by an individual or family. As the owner he/she chooses what to print and sets their own standards. Generally speaking, a private press produces books in smaller quantities and usually for a select audience of buyers. The press may also print books of limited quantity for an author or publisher.

There is not an all-embracing definition for the term 'private press', however, it is usually not a large commercial entity that produces hundreds if not thousands of copies of a given title.

The ownership and operation of a private press is dates back to the early printing trades. One of the earliest known private presses was that of a wealthy Nuremberg physician, named Ulrick Pinder who in the early 1500's printed and published 10 titles that he believed needed to be preserved in print.

The term 'private press' is distinctly different from 'privately published' which is a term used to define a work published at the expense of the author. The work may or may not be offered for sale to the public. 📖



*"The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists."*

*- Charles Dickens*

**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 some interesting Dawson Book Shop publications, Please inquire for titles and prices. Email: [hello@themicrobibliophile.com](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com)**

**ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY,  
Marsh's Library, Dublin, Ireland,  
Bucket List Places To Visit:**



*Photo image courtesy of marshlibrary.ie*

The library is the oldest public library in Ireland. It was built for the Most Reverend Narcissus March and opened the doors in 1707. The building is one of the last 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings still used for its original purpose. Marsh donated his personal collection of more than 10,000 books to the library.

Today the library contains more than 25,000 volumes from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> century including the subjects of medicine, law, science, classical literature, and theology. The library is a small in relation to many of the libraries in use today. However, the unique physical attributes of the building are truly magnificent in this 300-year-old piece of history. The library still features its original furnishings including the seating and shelving. The bookcases are made of beautifully crafted oak with carved and lettered gables. The individual shelves contain 'locking bars' to prohibit removal of a book without permission of the librarian. In some of the bookcases, there are bullet holes from the

Easter Rising (1916) when the building next door, Jacob's Biscuit Factory, was occupied by rebel forces.

There are also three wire alcoves, known as 'cages', which were installed in the 1770s in response to thefts from the library. Readers would 'review/read' books in the cages, which were securely locked by an attendant. Marsh's Library was visited by Bram Stoker and James Joyce who did research at the library, and Jonathan Swift was known to frequent from time to time as well.

If you have the opportunity to visit Dublin, be sure to put Marsh's Library on your itinerary, especially for the person with historical literary interests. The 2011 MBS Conclave was held in Dublin. Your Editor had the opportunity to visit this library, an outstanding experience to say the least. If you cannot step on the soil of the Emerald Island, do take the time to visit the website for the Marsh Library and expect to be amazed.

IF YOU CAN BELIEVE YOUR EYES! 📖

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

“The real difficulty is with the vast wealth and power in the hands of the few and the unscrupulous who represent or control capital. Hundreds of laws of Congress and the state legislatures are in the interest of these men and against the interests of workingmen. These need to be exposed and repealed. All laws on corporations, on taxation, on trusts, wills, descent, and the like, need examination and extensive change. This is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people no longer. It is a government of corporations, by corporations, and for corporations.”



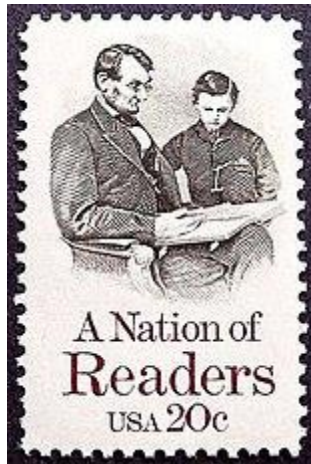
*(Image of the 1922 issue of \$.11 stamp issued on Hayes' 100<sup>th</sup> birthday)*

Rutherford B. Hayes, 1877 - 1881

Nineteenth President of the United States, 1868 -1876 📖

***THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE* - PROPOSED FRONTISPIECE,  
Volume XXXIX, Number 6 Issue 222,  
Write the Story for the November/December 2019 Issue:**

Once again, we are offering you the opportunity to write a tale for the next issue. Whether fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner child and spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/book memory; storytelling can be magical! Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration 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 write a short article and then find a picture that ties it all together. The choice is yours and this will be a fun thing to do. The above picture depicts a bit of history as Abe Lincoln is reading a story to a young boy. What are they reflecting about as they read?

Perhaps your story can revolve around this view of life as it has been repeated millions of times by millions of parents, teachers, and children. Just how many stamps focus on the subjects of books and reading?

The deadline for submitting articles for the November 2019 issue will be December 10, 2019, or thereabouts. Electronic or paper submissions, either way, the choice is yours. Email: [hello@themicrobibliophile.com](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com) or send via snail mail to address on back cover. 📧

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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@gmail.com](mailto:karennyman2@gmail.com) or call 760-944-3019

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](mailto: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](mailto:arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch) or +41/78/8542422

Caroline Brandt is looking for Colgate Calendars for 1884, 1887, 1889, 1891, and 1893 Also *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).


Contact information: 1500 Westbrook CT # 1109, Richmond, VA 23227

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](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) or 216-965-7490.


Jim Brogan is looking for a tome, *The 70th Academy Awards*, by Gloria Stuart 'buy or swap', cash, check, or livestock!

Contact information: E-mail: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net)

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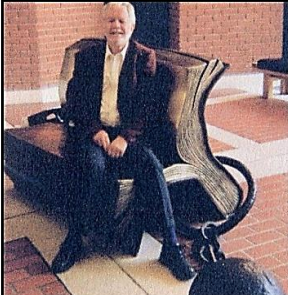
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