

Spring 2012

Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter - Spring 2012

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The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter

SPRING 2012

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COLUMBIA, SC

COOPER MEDAL BESTOWED UPON POET W.S. MERWIN



W.S. Merwin accepts the Thomas Cooper Medal from Dean Tom McNally.

THE THOMAS COOPER MEDAL

The Thomas Cooper Society and Thomas Cooper Library inaugurated the Thomas Cooper Medal for Distinction in the Arts and Sciences in 1995. Dr. Thomas Cooper, for whom the main library is named, was the second president of South Carolina College, a friend of Thomas Jefferson, and himself distinguished both as a scientist and political economist.

Earlier recipients of the medal were novelists Pat Conroy, Joseph Heller, John Updike, William Styron, Ray Bradbury, John Jakes, Joyce Carol Oates, Norman Mailer, and Janette Turner Hospital; poets James Dickey and Derek Walcott; dramatist Edward Albee; critic and editor George Plimpton; and biographer Matthew J. Bruccoli.

American poet W.S. Merwin was honored as the sixteenth recipient of the Thomas Cooper Medal during the Society's annual dinner in the Hollings Library on April 20.

Ninety-two guests listened as Merwin, United States poet laureate in 2010-2011, read from his work. He has written more than 30 books of poetry, translation and prose over the course of six decades, and has won numerous awards, including two Pulitzer Prizes and a National Book Award. He lives, writes and gardens in Hawaii, on the island of Maui. He has spent the past 30 years planting 19 acres with more than 800 species of palm, creating a sustainable forest.

With Society President Warren Darby presiding, the evening began with a welcome from Dean of Libraries Tom McNally and continued with an invocation from Hemrich N. Salley Jr., USC Libraries friend and donor. After dinner, Society Vice President/President-Elect John Mark Dean introduced Merwin, who rose to the podium and read several of his poems. McNally and Darby then presented Merwin with the Thomas Cooper Medal for his work as a poet and environmentalist. Later in the evening, Merwin took questions and visited with guests during a book signing. The evening also included the presentation of newly elected Board members David Goble, Mary Kennemur and Rodger Stroup. Melanie Huggins, also elected, was unable to attend. Twelve former Society presidents were in attendance, as well as a number of current and past Board members.

Darby also presented the 2012 Student Book Collecting Award to Robert Smith, a graduate student in the master's in library science program. The Society sponsors the award, which includes a \$250

PALM

The palm is in no hurry
to be different
and it grows slowly
it knows how to be a palm
when it was a flower
when it was a seed it knew
how to be a palm seed
when it was a flower
it knew how to be
the flower of palm
when it was a palm it grew
slowly
and without eyes
in a salt wind.

— W.S. Merwin

cash prize. An avid bibliophile with more than 3,000 volumes in his personal collection, Smith won the award for his “Historical Radio Book Collection.”

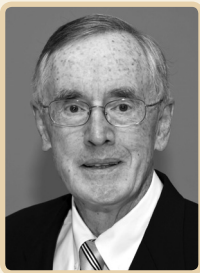
Society members who attended the dinner received printed broadsides featuring Merwin’s poem “Palm” and a reproduction of palm trees from a painting by Columbia artist Stephen Chesley. Each was signed by Merwin.



Robert Smith won the Student Book Collecting Award.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

WARREN A. DARBY, PRESIDENT 2011-2012



It has been a huge honor to serve as your president, working with friends and associates in support of a world-class research library. The most significant event of the year was the “Salute to Patrick Scott,” a celebration of Patrick’s many accomplishments and years of dedicated service to the University, the Libraries, and the

Society. I feel fortunate to have enjoyed his friendship and advice over the years and look forward to working with him in the future. The other very significant event was the naming of the new Director of the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. After conducting an international search, the University wisely selected our own Elizabeth Sudduth, who has already demonstrated her remarkable abilities as his successor.

As we reflect on the year, we should pause to note the passing of four friends and associates who had a significant impact on the University Libraries and the Irvin Department of Rare Books, in particular. Mrs. Josephine B. Irvin, who along with her husband Dr. Warren Irvin, Jr. were benefactors of our new rare books library and was mother of our Past-President Warren Irvin; Trevor Howard-Hill, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and TCS Board Member; John Winberry, former President of the Thomas Cooper Society; and Mrs. Susan Robinson, a great library supporter.

Through the good work of John Mark Dean, the Membership Committee and the Board, membership

is stable at 540. Purchases for the year include “The Destroying Angel,” a mezzotint engraving by John Martin from his illustrations of the Bible, and Emma Darwin’s *A Century of Family Letters*, purchased in memory of Mrs. Irvin. The Society continues to sponsor a wide variety of programs of interest to our membership and prospective new members. This year the list includes Dr. John DeWitt’s lecture on the King James Bible; the Hemingway Symposium with addresses by Hemingway bibliographer and collector C. Edgar Grissom and James L.W. West; a holiday coffee featuring a talk by Herbert Hartsook about the holiday cards in the South Carolina Political Collections; a public lecture by David Shields on Sir John Dalrymple; and remarks by the distinguished poet W.S. Merwin following the presentation of the Thomas Cooper Medal.

The Irvin Department is one of the crown jewels of the University, but it remains virtually unknown to many outside the University family. Last year, our past-president, Warren Irvin, began hosting a series of events inviting local community leaders to the University to see first-hand the treasures stored here. This very successful program continued this year and we plan to offer these Open Galleries on a regular basis. We expect this program to both increase awareness of the library and enlarge the membership of the Thomas Cooper Society, which should lead to future gifts and bequests.

I know the Society will be in excellent hands next year under the leadership of President-Elect John Mark Dean. It will be an honor to turn the gavel over to him. I would like to thank the current board for their support this year and, again, thank the Thomas Cooper Society for the privilege to serve as your president.

IRVIN DEPARTMENT OF RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NOTABLE GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS FOR 2011-2012

ASTRONOMY

The academic year began with the arrival of the **Robert B. Ariail Collection of Historical Astronomy**.

NATURAL HISTORY

John Edward and Mary Taylor donated four plates from Selby's *Illustrations of British Ornithology* (1841) and also *The American Encyclopedic Dictionary*. In December, Anne McCarthy donated the "Red Throated Diver," an engraving from John Gould's *The Birds of Europe* (London: 1832-1837). Other gifts to the natural history collections include Andrea Wulf's *Founding Gardeners* (2011) and *The Brother Gardeners* (2008), donated by Susan Coleman Fedor.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE BOOK

The most significant purchase was the acquisition of a **14th-century**

missal for Dominican use from Augsburg. The Irvin Department also acquired a fragment of a folio of a notarial register, ca. 1384-1391, and a copy of *Dominici Massarii Vincentini de ponderibus et mensuris medicinalibus libri tres* (1584), which is bound with three additional 16th-century texts.

To support the library's commitment to the study of the history of written communication, the department has committed to purchase a facsimile edition of the *Liber Chronicarum* with funds from the Treasure Acquisitions Program. The Irvin Department received the gift of more than 850 journals and books about books, book history, printing and bibliography from the estate of Distinguished Professor Emeritus Trevor Howard-Hill.

John de Witt donated a copy of the English Bishop and scholar Lancelot

FROM THE DEAN OF LIBRARIES

This has been a great year for the Irvin Department, which saw significant additions to many of our major collecting areas. Our students and faculty, as well as visiting scholars, benefit from the research opportunities provided by these special collections. The Irvin Department and the University Libraries are very fortunate to have friends like those mentioned here; their generosity helps our libraries grow.

— Dean Tom McNally

Andrewes' *XCVI Sermons* (London, 1631). Alex Pappas donated Michael Zinman's selection of original American Bible leaves, and Elizabeth Fairey Bates donated a collection of 25 19th- and early 20th-century religious histories, Bibles, and books about the Bible.

LITERATURE

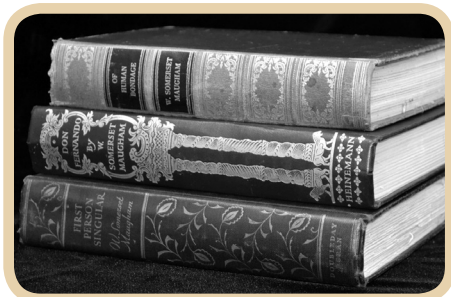
Thomas Johnson donated a scarce 1830 edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Through the auspices of Robert J. Wickenheiser, the library acquired 14 mezzotint engravings by John Martin of scenes from *Paradise Lost* and *The Holy Bible* series, funded in part by the Thomas Cooper Society. The library purchased *Scriptum Dom. Protectoris Reipublicae Angliae*, 1655 and *A Copy of the Letter from His Excellency the Lord Generall Cromwell Sent to the Members of Parliament. Called to Take upon Them the Trust of the Government of this Commonwealth*, 1656 with funds from the Nancy Pope Rice and Nancy Rice Davis Library Treasures Endowment.



The Destroying Angel, mezzotint by John Martin (1789-1854), 1835

Tom and Jill Bettendorf donated more than 460 volumes by and about D.H. Lawrence. Don Rosick donated a 1927 edition of Lawrence's *Morning in Mexico*. Keith Revelle donated a collection of more than 250 books in memory of Robert Books. The collection includes the anniversary edition of the Oxford Classics, Modern Library editions, a rare 1833 edition of Voltaire's *Histoire de Charles XII*, Jean

de la Fontaine's *Fables* (an vii) and *Contes et nouvelles en vers* (an viii), and books by and about Somerset Maugham.



First Person Singular (1931), *Don Fernando* (1955), *Of Human Bondage*, by Somerset Maugham.

James and Robin Verlaque donated a collection of 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century English, French, Latin and Spanish language classics from the library of Mr. Verlaque's father, the late Jules Verlaque. The collection includes titles by Shakespeare, Tennyson, Rousseau and Rabelais.

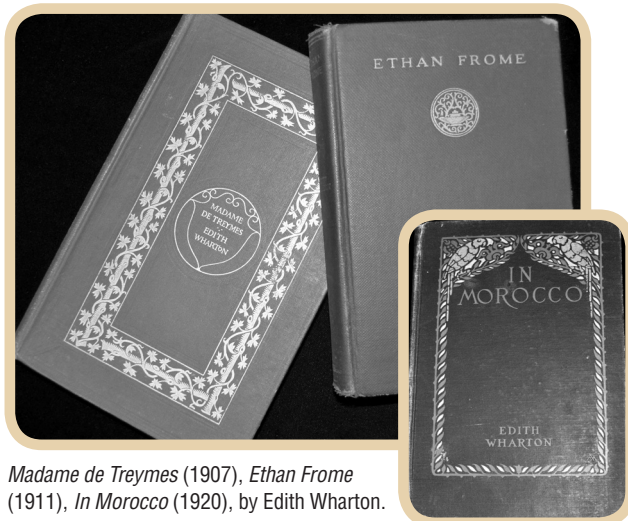
Daniel Hovey donated the papers of his parents, Serge and Esther Hovey, who worked together on the compilation of *The Robert Burns Song Book*. The collection of 38 boxes of papers and manuscript scores also includes books and sound recordings.

The most significant acquisition for the **G. Ross Roy Collection of Burnsiana and Scottish Literature** was Burns' manuscript poem, "A Poet's Welcome to His Bastard Wean." Other noteworthy purchases include a three-volume set, *The Caledonian Musical Museum* (1809-1811), Robert Ford's Scrapbook, 1846-1905, and John Armstrong's *A Full View of All the Diseases Incident to Children, A Speech Delivered at the Jacobin Club* (1793). The Roy Collection benefitted from gifts from G. Ross and Lucie Roy, Patrick Scott, Carl McIntosh, Michael Montgomery and others. In 1999, G. Ross Roy donated a collection of works by the British poet John Masefield. A significant item was added to that collection -- an autographed letter dated January 1914.

HELLER LETTER, DESK AND LAMP

The year 2011 marked the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Catch-22*. The Irvin Department holds the later part of Joseph Heller's papers and is the home of the **Matthew J. Bruccoli Collection of Joseph Heller**. Recent additions include a typed letter, signed from Heller to Peter Nagle of Northwestern University, dated March 13, 1974. Valerie Heller has donated translations of her husband's works, as well as books from his personal library, and most recently his desk and lamp.

New acquisitions for the **Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth Century American Literature** include an 1841 edition of Emerson's *Essays*, an Emerson letter, Christopher Pearse Cranch's holograph poem "To the Aurora Borealis," and Frederic Louis Ritter's score for Walt Whitman's *Dirge for Two Veterans* (ca. 1880). In addition to his other donations, James Kibler gave 28 first and rare editions of Edith Wharton, as well as works by Sinclair Lewis and T.W. Higginson. Further donations include Kristin Pruitt's gift of 77 volumes of the 19th-century periodicals, *Harper's Magazine* and *The Century*; D. Reece Williams' gift of 11 titles by William Gilmore Simms, as well as Samuel Butler's *Hudibras* (1799), two titles by



Madame de Treymes (1907), *Ethan Frome* (1911), *In Morocco* (1920), by Edith Wharton.

Charles Portis, and issues of *Firsts*; and Joseph McElrath's gift of his Frank Norris collection and works by Charles W. Chesnutt.

Arlyn Bruccoli donated a number of items to the **Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald**.

The library acquired three letters from Kurt Vonnegut to William Price Fox and Sarah Crawford Fox. In addition, Sarah Crawford Fox donated a number of artists' catalogues and art books dating from the 1920s through the 1980s.

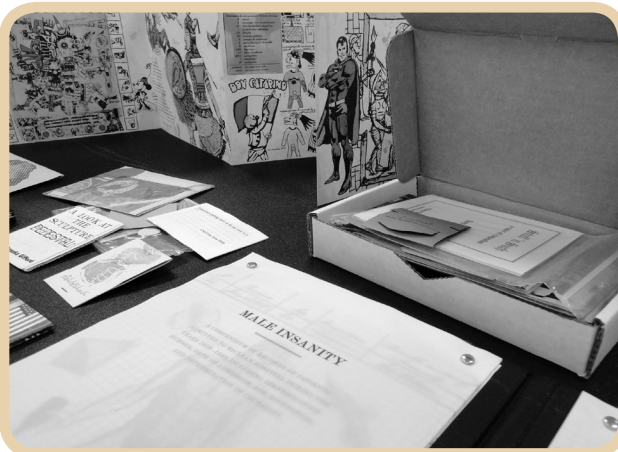


HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

The library continues to add to the **Joseph M. Bruccoli Great War Collection** through purchases and gifts. More than 30 books were added this year, in addition to gifts of sheet music from Ed Albritton and Robert Oakman and a photograph of Lord Kitchener from Pat Mason and Don Rosick. Gilbert and Susan Guinn continue to donate to the **Guinn Collection of Military History and Aviation**. Phyllis Salmons donated 16 issues of *Women in Aviation*. Other gifts include the donation of periodical issues by Randolph Churchill and Patrick Scott to the **Dr. E. Conyers O'Bryan Collection of Winston Churchill**.

Other significant gifts include David Robinson's donation of his research collection of more than 3,000 volumes on Northern Africa and Islamic history, and Sloan Brittain's gift of books from the library she built with her husband.

The Irvin Department is home to the **William Savage Textbook Collection** and this year 19th- and 20th-century textbooks were donated by Sloan Brittain, Susan Haynesworth, Janet Martin and Robert Oakman. The department received American cookbooks from Carol Benfield, Sloan Brittain, and Leland and Cornelia Williams, as well as a copy of Nathan Myhrvold's six-volume set of *Modernist Cuisine*, presented by Dr. Scott Goode's fall 2010 chemistry classes.



Artists' books and contemporary book arts acquired from Bill and Susan Hogue's recent Treasure Acquisitions Program gift.

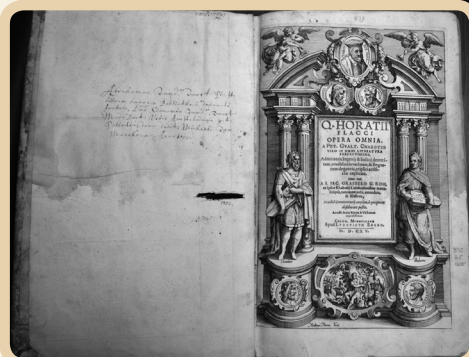
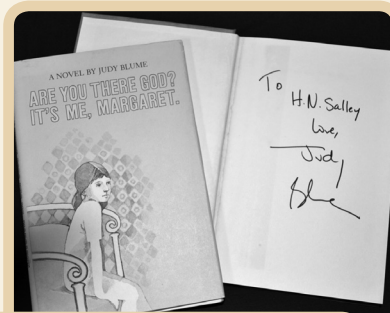
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Christine Whitaker donated books from the Campfire Girls series; Carol Benfield donated books by Carolyn Keene; Jeffrey Makala donated a group of boys' books; Francese Larsen donated books by Annie Fellowes Johnston, Lucy Maud Montgomery and Louisa May Alcott. Susan Haynesworth and Hemrick N. Salley, Jr. also donated to the collection.

THE SALLEY FAMILY COLLECTION

The Hemrick Nathan Salley Family Collection

represents over 200 years of book collecting. Notable titles given to the Irvin Department are Pierre Gaultier's 1615 edition of *Horace*, the oldest book in the collection; books from the library of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney; rare French editions of Benjamin Franklin's *The Way To Wealth*; books on the history of African-American life; and late 18th- and 19th-century textbooks.



From the Salley Family Collection: books by Judy Blume, some signed; *Horace*, 1615; and Gervase Markham's *Master-piece Revived*.



Susan and Bill Hogue's donations include Guillaume Apollinaire's *New Boots* (2008), Gaylord Schanilec's *Mayflies of a Drifless Region* (2005), Aron Matthew's *Suburban Skies: A Field Guide* (2010), and Heidi Neilson's *Home Planetarium Survey* (2008).

Donors who regularly contribute to named collections include Arlyn Bruccoli, Susan and Gilbert Guinn, Greta Little, Ed Madden, Michael Montgomery, Joel Myerson, Ross and Lucie Roy, Patrick Scott, Roy Thomas and Robert J. Wickenheiser.

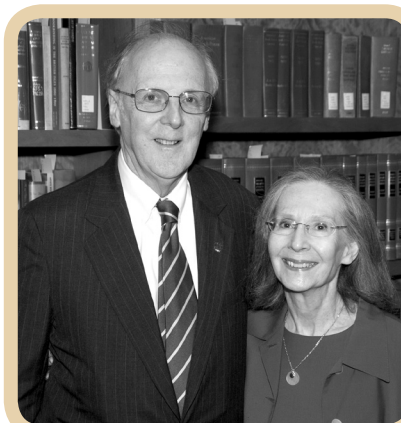
'A SALUTE TO PATRICK SCOTT'

The evening began with a first: the full-throated sounds of a bagpipe being played in front of Thomas Cooper Library. The emotive notes set the tone for an event honoring Dr. Patrick Scott, a longtime member of the USC English faculty and former director of the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.

More than 166 colleagues, former students, friends and family members attended "A Salute to Patrick Scott," which took place February 16 and was sponsored by the Thomas Cooper Society. There were several speakers — including USC Libraries Dean Tom McNally, USC Honors College Dean Steve Lynn, Thomas Cooper Society President Warren Darby, and Frank Shaw, editor of Robert Burns Lives! and past



Engineering student Cameron Kloot



Patrick and Mary Jane Scott

president of St. Andrews Society of Atlanta, and all talked about Dr. Scott's contributions to the University, the Libraries, and the literary world as a whole.

The Thomas Cooper Society presented the Irvin Department

with a presentation copy of the first edition, first separate issue of English poet A.H. Clough's *Poems* (London, 1850) in honor of Dr. Scott's scholarship and service.

To date, more than \$18,000 has been contributed in honor of Dr. Scott to benefit the Treasure Acquisitions Program Fund, which provides timely support when there are opportunities to acquire significant materials that will enhance the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections holdings.

Donations to this fund in honor of Dr. Scott are being accepted. If you wish to honor him with a donation, please contact the University Libraries Development Office at 803-576-6016.

DONORS TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES TREASURE ACQUISITIONS PROGRAM FUND IN HONOR OF DR. PATRICK SCOTT

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'IMPRINTS OF A NATION' EXHIBIT IS ON DISPLAY

"Imprints of a Nation: Eighteenth-Century Scottish Writers and Publishers" will be on display in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections Gallery in the Hollings Library through June.

The exhibit illustrates the achievements of 18th-century Scottish writers and draws attention to the Scottish publishers and printers who brought their work to the world. Created to welcome the 25th annual conference of the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society in April, the exhibit draws on current scholarly approaches to the history of the book, and its broad range shows the library's outstanding strength as a center for Scottish research.

The exhibit is arranged chronologically. Most cases feature work from a single publisher, focused on the publications of one or more major writer whom he published. Along with first and other early editions, and original manuscripts by Robert Burns and others (including his first book, the "Kilmarnock edition"), the



Scottish poet Allan Ramsay (1686-1758)

exhibit includes special sections on the Scottish debate over church-state relations, Jacobite writing (with a musket ball from the battle of Culloden), and Scottish Enlightenment books from the antebellum library of South Carolina College.

The exhibit is chiefly drawn from the library's G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns & Scottish Poetry, the many Scottish Enlightenment books acquired by the College 200 years ago, the James Willard Oliver Collection of David Hume, the Charles B. Weasmer Collection of Secession Presbyterianism, and the recently-donated collections of Donald T. Siebert and G. Edward Gregg.

The exhibit is open to visitors 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday in the Hollings Library.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

"Writing America: Columbus to Wendell Berry,"
July – September

"Hemingway in Print," September – November

"Charles Dickens at 200: A Bicentennial Exhibition,"
November – January 2013

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY MEETS AT HOLLINGS LIBRARY

Co-hosted by the USC Libraries and the Department of English Language and Literature, the 25th annual conference of the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society met at USC on April 12 – 14. This year's topic was "Media and Mediation in 18th-Century Scotland," chosen to fit with the libraries' G. Ross Roy Collection

of Robert Burns & Scottish Poetry and other Scottish special collections. Most sessions were held in the Hollings Special Collections Library.

The conference had 54 lectures or presentations, with 71 formal participants. Attendees came from the UK (with 12 from Scotland), Canada, France and Japan, as well as from 17

U.S. states. Three participants came early to use library collections, and three stayed on afterwards for more extended research.

USC participants included organizer Dr. Patrick Scott, Director Emeritus of the Irvin Department; Dr. Tony Jarrells, Department of English; Dr. Ross Roy, Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of English; Dr. Charles Bryan from the USC School of Medicine; Dr. Don Seibert, Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of English; Dr. Steve Lynn, Dean of the South Carolina Honors College; Elizabeth Sudduth, Director of the Irvin Department; John Knox, a graduate student in English and managing editor for the new series of *Studies in Scottish Literature*; Dr. Bill Rivers, Chair of the Department of English; and Tom McNally, Dean of Libraries.

PRECONFERENCE FEATURES PROJECTS

To bring new resources developed by the Irvin Department to the attention of researchers, Charles Knight, Santi Thompson, Mark Taylor and Patrick Scott presented information about their projects in a session moderated by Elizabeth Sudduth. Knight, a USC senior working on an independent study project, introduced his digital project which will make newspaper appearances by and about Robert Burns available online. Taylor, a South Carolina Honors College student,

described his project about Robert Thornton's book on James Currie. Thompson, USC Libraries, Digital Collections, described the Robert Burns Chapbook Project, which is part of the Irvin Department's Scottish Literature website; and Scott described the recently acquired Serge Hovey Archive. The three students' reports are to be printed in a Scottish literature journal, *Studies in Hogg and His World* and *The Burns Chronicle*.

**The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter
Spring 2012**

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter is published twice a year by the Society. Send correspondence to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, Room L203, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, or to kdowell@mailbox.sc.edu. Visit library.sc.edu.

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STUDENT LEARNS ABOUT BURNS

Recent graduate Charles Knight spent his final semester immersed in rare 18th- and 19th-century newspapers.

“Elizabeth Sudduth and Tony Jarrells, my English professor, put together an internship for me,” said Charles Knight, who graduated with a B.A. in English in May. “The library has a large amount of newspapers that have articles about Scottish poet Robert Burns in them. Newspapers are so fragile. You have to be very gentle with them, and Elizabeth and her team wanted people to be able to see and study them. The best way to do that is to digitize them so they’ll be accessible online.”

Knight scanned the 32 newspapers and then entered metadata about each one. One of the earliest papers is *The London Chronicle* (1786), which features an advertisement for a volume of Burns’ poems. Another, *The Scottish American Journal* published in New York, features a front-page article by Henry Ward Beecher celebrating the 100th anniversary of Burns’ birth, dated January 29, 1859.

“I needed to have a good idea of what was there in the newspapers, and of who Burns was,” Knight said. “I had read a few of his poems in class but not in-depth, so I learned a lot about him.” Knight added that this project



Charles Knight and Elizabeth Sudduth examine an early issue of *The Scottish American Journal*.

gave him the opportunity to learn more about Burns and the dissemination of information through newspapers in the 18th and 19th centuries, while learning about the creation of digital resources.