Caroliniana Columns - Fall 1998

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USCS Celebrates its 62nd Annual Meeting

The University South Caroliniana Society celebrated its 62nd annual meeting on Saturday, May 16, with a morning reception and exhibit at the South Caroliniana Library followed by a luncheon and business meeting in the Russell House. The highlight of the reception was an exhibit of manuscript, printed, and visual materials acquired by the library during 1997 as a result of gifts by Society members and acquisitions through the use of dues and other income. Among the collections on exhibit are the papers of Stanley F. Morse, Mrs. Caroline McKissick Dial, the Pinckney and Hayne families, and Clements and Katharine Ball Ripley. Selections from recently acquired visual materials, including stereographs and daguerreotypes are also featured in the exhibit. The Modern Political Collections exhibit included items from the papers of William Jennings Bryan Dorn, C. Bruce Littlejohn and John and Erminie Nave.

Society President Harvey S. Teal presided at the luncheon and business session in the Russell House ballroom. Retiring Executive Council members Carol Bleser, Isadore Lourie, Dr. Christine Heyrman, from the University of Delaware, delivered a talk titled, “Holy Wars in the Old South: Or, The Battle among Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians” at the 62nd Annual Meeting.

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Reception Announces Bryan Dorn Endowment

The establishment of the William Jennings Bryan Dorn Endowment was announced at a reception held at the South Caroliniana Library on June 29, 1998. The Endowment will benefit the Library's division for Modern Political Collections. Eighty-five family members, friends and associates attended the reception to honor Mr. Dorn. All were treated to remarks by Steve Griffith and Herb Hartsook. Griffith, who is Mr. Dorn's cousin, delighted the audience with remarks about Dorn's legislative legacy and South Carolina politics. Hartsook, the Library's Curator of Modern Political Collections, spoke of the historical importance of the collection and goals of the endowment.

Bryan Dorn represented South Carolina's Third District in the United States Congress for thirteen terms between 1947 and 1974. Dorn also served in the South Carolina House, 1939 to 1940, the South Carolina Senate, 1941 to 1942, and as chair of the South Carolina Democratic Party, 1980 to 1984. Dorn helped organize the informal House Textile Committee around 1961 and served as its secretary.

Dorn is perhaps best remembered as the strongest advocate in Congress of the interests of America's veterans.

The Bryan Dorn Collection is the most heavily used collection open for research in Modern Political Collections and is among the largest manuscript collections ever accepted by the University. The papers document Mr. Dorn's campaigns for office, his life and career in public service, his terms as chair of the Democratic Party, and his interests outside of government.

The Dorn Endowment will help fund expensive preservation work on the Dorn Collection, a research awards program, and an annual Bryan Dorn Graduate Assistantship in Modern Political Collections. The Endowment goal is $150,000. Contributions and pledges totaling $106,000 have been received to date, chiefly from leaders and foundations associated with the Textile Industry.

Genealogical Collections at the South Caroliniana Library by Allen Stokes

The South Caroliniana Library has extensive genealogical holdings available to the hundreds of researchers who visit the library each year. While most of our visitors live in South Carolina, a substantial number come from all regions of the country in search of ancestors who lived in this state. Some of the materials consulted most frequently include unpublished genealogies; church, cemetery, and bible records; family papers; unpublished genealogies; newspapers; published genealogical information from newspapers and public records; county and church histories; and publications of genealogical societies across the state. The library also has significant holdings of published genealogical material for other states from New England to Texas. Among the library's genealogical holdings are several collections which have research files on approximately 2,000 South Carolina families.

The Leonardo Andrea collection is the South Caroliniana Library's most frequently consulted genealogical source. Mr. Andrea was a professional genealogist who worked at a time when there were few published records and not nearly so many published family histories and other sources as there are today. While access to records was more difficult without the sophisticated indexes that are currently available, South Carolina's public records in county courthouses and at the Depart-
Metamorphosis: From College to University to South Caroliniana - But Always a Library by Robin Copp

The South Carolina Library, its collections and the University South Caroliniana Society did not always exist as they are today. Over several decades and with far-sighted leadership from numerous University Presidents and faculty, the South Carolina College Library was transformed into the South Caroliniana Library. The Library's collecting policy became more focused during those years under the guidance of the Caroliniana Committee, the forerunner to today's University South Caroliniana Society.

The mid-nineteenth century realization that good history comes only from primary sources began a metamorphosis of a library. Lyman C. Draper and others, driven to collect original source material, had already taken from South Carolina many Revolutionary War documents. In January 1906, in an effort to prevent further loss of South Caroliniana materials, History Professor Dr. Yates Snowden announced that the History and Political Science Department intended to establish "a depository for manuscripts" which would become the world's richest depository illustrating all of South Carolina. Four months later, the USC Board of Trustees responded by appointing a committee to perfect as much as possible the "South Caroliniana holdings of the University Library."

In October 1906, the University Bulletin contained articles by Snowden and English Professor and historian Edwin L. Green which stressed the need for a larger facility to house South Caroliniana material, which included the acquisition by gift of three manuscript collections. Twenty years after Snowden's and Green's appeal, the Board of Trustees approved funding to add two fireproof wings to the University Library. This addition included five levels of book stacks on the east side and seminar rooms, a reception room, and a workroom on the west. Completed in 1927, the workroom on the third floor of the new west wing housed the Caroliniana Collection of South Carolina manuscripts and published materials, as well as numerous artifacts that accompanied the gift collections.

The search for library funding continued in the early 1930s with the efforts of University President D.M. Douglas. Mentioning the valuable books and prints in the Caroliniana Collection, he requested funding to remodel the first floor as the wooden floors were rotting and the resultant ant population was eating the books! He added to his appeal by stressing the need for a lavatory and toilet, neither of which the building had. The Trustees finally approved funding for roof repairs and the replacement of the wood floors with tiletex.

In defense against what Professor of Journalism J. Rion McKissick dubbed "literary bootleggers from outlandish parts," President Douglas in 1932 appointed the Caroliniana Committee. The Committee was to work on ways to stem the tide of rich South Carolina historical materials being taken to out-of-state repositories like the Southern Historical Collection at UNC, Chapel Hill. The Trustees named History Professor Robert L. Meriwether chair of the Committee whose other members were Yates Snowden, Edwin L. Green, Librarian Robert M. Kennedy, and J. Rion McKissick. In February 1937, the

South Caroliniana Library after the addition of the two fireproof wings. Photo from collections of the University Archives.
Photographic Finds

Library Acquires Daguerreotype through Auction on the World Wide Web by Beth Bilderback

With the continued growth of services available on the World Wide Web, it was only a matter of time before the Library took advantage of on-line auctions to acquire new items for the collection. Armed with Federal Trade Commission recommendations to use a secure site, pay by credit card, and contact the seller before bidding, the Library cautiously delved into this new aspect of auctions with very positive results.

Harvey Teal received a tip about a South Carolina photograph being offered by an online auction house. We checked out the site and found the object to be a quarter plate daguerreotype of an unidentified family by David L. Glen of Charleston. The online image indicated the daguerreotype was in good condition. Harvey was excited because he had been searching for an example of Glen’s work for several years. Now here was possibly the only known specimen, and the Library had a chance to acquire it. We placed a bid and waited as the deadline slowly approached. Finally, as bidding was closed, we found ourselves the lucky owners of a Glen daguerreotype. The seller immediately contacted us to say the image was on its way. We soon received a beautiful daguerreotype of a father, mother, and young daughter in a leather covered case with “Glen, Artist, Charleston” in the inside felt.

We are learning every day about the new possibilities offered by that enigma known as the World Wide Web. We have a well designed and innovative Web page and have ventured into the World Wide Web marketplace. Who knows what will come next! ~

SCL Acquires Andrew Jackson Letter

The South Caroliniana Library recently acquired a letter of Andrew Jackson to Congressman Richard I. Manning. Written in response to a letter from Manning, the letter is in the hand of Jackson’s nephew Andrew Jackson Donelson and signed by Jackson. Jackson discusses the controversy in Congress over abolition memorials and expresses his regard for Manning “as the representative of that portion of So. Carolina which gave me birth.” The acquisition of this important letter was made possible by the University South Caroliniana Society endowment.

Washington, March 21, 1836
To Richard I. Manning
Dear Sir, I have read with much pleasure your letter of the 19th instant and the speech it enclosed on the subject of the Abolition memorials.

In every view I have been able to take of the subject my mind has become more thoroughly satisfied that the course taken by Mr. Pinckney was the most effectual one to quiet the agitation which had been produced by the attempts of the abolitionists. Whilst his resolutions place the subject of constitutional power in respect to the states on the proper ground, and wisely abstain from agitating the abstract question of the legal power of Congress within the district of Columbia, in respect to which intensive and honest differences of opinion were known to exist, they embrace the most important of those considerations of expediency on which the citizens of the non slaveholding states can give us the aid of their cooperation in checking what is manifestly dangerous to the peace and harmony of the country—a character which the sound and reflecting portions of a large majority of the northern and western people have no hesitation in ascribing to the scheme of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia. Had Congress abruptly refused to receive the petitions which were presented to them from those persons who proceed on the principle...
Richardson’s “Collections of Collections” by Terry Lipscomb

A grant-funded effort at the South Caroliniana Library will at last give researchers access to the Thomas E. Richardson collection. Richardson (1847-1933), a Sumter County probate judge, rare book and manuscript dealer, and rival contender for A. S. Salley's job as secretary of the South Carolina Historical Commission, assembled during his lifetime a unique library of books and papers relating to South Carolina. His manuscripts, mostly acquired from the estates of locally prominent judges and attorneys, represent a rich resource for the history of Sumter and its adjacent counties.

In 1934, an unpublicized gift of $3,800 from financier Bernard Baruch made it possible for the University to acquire Richardson’s library. The manuscript portion became accession number two in the South Caroliniana collection, but for sixty-four years it remained a disassembled 10,000-piece jigsaw puzzle. Not only were the documents arranged in no rational order, but broken fragments of the same document were often stored in separate boxes and on different shelves.

The arrangement and description of the collection that began earlier this year has yielded some surprising finds. Richardson’s hoard comprised collections within collections. Sometimes these included papers of great historical significance belonging to prominent South Carolinians. Eighteenth-century land records bearing General Thomas Sumter’s name proved to be part of Sumter’s own papers—a great-grandson of the general had given Richardson some of his ancestral manuscripts. These land records include documents that have been heretofore unavailable to Sumter’s biographers.

Business records of Sumter attorney Franklin J. Moses—later chief justice of South Carolina during Radical Reconstruction—contain detailed builder’s contracts and specifications for two houses Moses built during the 1850s. Richardson acquired some interesting railroad documents, perhaps from the papers of an uncle who was general counsel for the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad. A letter from James Henry Hammond to Martin Witherspoon Gary penned on 12 July 1860 denounced the Blue Ridge Railroad. “[A]lthough for a time, I checked these mad rail road schemes,” Hammond complained, “ultimately they wore me out & got the State to aid hundreds of miles of R. Roads that will not pay a dividend until they have been rotted down & been rebuilt half a dozen times if they ever do... I am entirely opposed to the expenditure of another dollar by the State on the Blue R. R. Road at this time.”

A letter from Albertus C. Spain, one of the Sumter delegates to the 1860 Secession Convention, was found hidden among a disorganized mass of undated papers. Spain wrote from St. Andrews Hall in Charleston, and references made in the letter date it to 29 December 1860—just three days after Major Robert Anderson occupied Fort Sumter. “[T]he match will be applied,” Spain reported, “unless the President does, what no one supposes he will do, to wit, order all United States troops from the territory of So. Ca.,... Scarcely any thing has engaged our attention but Anderson & Fort Sumter for some hours.”

Both Spain and fellow delegate John Alfred Calhoun (nephew of John C. Calhoun) had been involved in the secession movement as far back as the

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From the Collections

“...gems like the Hammond, Spain, and Calhoun letters exist alongside interesting mini-collections...”

Thomas E. Richardson’s acquisitions included even a set of old British legal records. This 1765 land conveyance in Devonshire contains a sketch of the royal arms of George III in the upper left corner. The British revenue stamp (inset) from the left margin is a contemporary domestic counterpart to the “stamped paper” that sparked riots in the American colonies.
Raindrops Continued.

take stock, to examine our record of giving and to make comparisons. Using today's prices, we assessed the total market value of the historical materials the Society has given the University over the years. We very quickly came to the conclusion that their monetary worth far exceeds the value of any single monetary gift the University has ever received from an individual or group. Since this accomplishment has occurred so gradually and almost silently, most society members and university staff are not aware it has happened. Consequently, as a means of calling attention to this achievement, I thought we should give, at the very least, a symbolic horn toot or two at this time or if you wish a more demonstrative expression to mark this occasion. During the next 10 seconds clap your hands, or as Dr. Meetze informs me, it would be appropriate to say amen, if the spirit so moves.

Having said this let me hasten to add that the true value of our “raindrops” is not monetary. Their value is historical. In the beginning these “raindrops” formed small brooks and rivulets, but soon merged into a tremendous stream of South Carolina historical materials flowing into the South Caroliniana Library. This process has now created a large enough critical mass of South Carolina historical materials to justify scholars and others from far and wide to come and use them. In reality, what the Library has become is a historical research laboratory.

Behind those Caroliniana columns reside papers from most of our South Carolina “founding fathers” and state leaders, many papers from the nation’s “founding fathers,” and of equal importance, millions of manuscript papers from ordinary citizens. The stacks of the library literally bulge with thousands of first edition and one-of-a-kind South Carolina books and pamphlets. Tens of thousands of photographs of South Carolina faces and places from all corners of the state await the researcher. Either the original or a microfilm copy of almost every known South Carolina newspaper is available for use at the Library. The South Carolina map collection at the library is unmatched in the world. This is the worth; this is the value of what we have given the University. How can we price our history, our heritage, if you please, our collective memory of our state and the very underpinnings of our future? We hold this truth to be self-evident: these possessions are priceless!

As a Society member each of you should be extremely proud of your Society. Our private, non-profit organization and the University entered into a partnership sixty-one years ago dedicated to the preservation of South Carolina’s history and heritage, and what we have accomplished together is a success story in every sense of the word. The University provides staff to service and facilities to house the “raindrops” we provide. However, it is incumbent upon both the University and the Society to have a clear understanding of the role each plays, the value we are to each other and the necessity to be concerned about the continued well being of each organization. Through a spirit of cooperation,
and Rex Wilson were recognized for their service. Elected to succeed them were Belinda Gergel, Harry Lightsey, and John McLeod. President Teal’s remarks to the membership entitled “Rain Drops and Silent Drums” can be read beginning on page 1. Following his remarks, President Teal called upon the Society to honor and recognize several individuals who have made gifts and bequests that will enable the library to acquire collections and to conserve current holdings.

Dr. Daniel W. Hollis, USC Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History and author of the sesquicentennial history of the university, has established the Daniel Walker Hollis Endowment for the Acquisition and Preservation of Materials on South Carolina History.

Dr. Robert K. Phillips, who teaches English at Lander University, has established the Robert I. and Swannanoa Kenney Phillips Libraries Endowment to honor his parents and his family’s long commitment to the University of South Carolina.

Mrs. Gladys Ingram of Hartsville is a daughter of Professor John C Hungerpiller who had a long and distinguished career in public education and South Carolina.

Professor Hungerpiller was also a poet and editor of a 1931 anthology entitled South Carolina Literature. Mrs. Ingram has made a bequest of a half million dollars to the College of Education to honor her father’s contributions in public education and a half million dollars to establish the John C Hungerpiller Library Research Fund to further the work of the South Caroliniana Library.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that in 1997 the Society received $22,410 in dues and endowment contributions and $37,623 in interest and dividend income. The fund’s balance at the end of the year was $859,308, an increase of $297,711 since 1996. The fund’s market value stood at $1,477,132, an increase of $304,476 during the year. The Society contributed $34,350 of accumulated dues and investment income to purchase printed, pictorial, and manuscript Caroliniana for the library’s collections. The Society continued to provide financial support to two nationally recognized editorial projects at the University of South Carolina, The Papers of Henry Laurens and The Papers of John C. Calhoun, with contributions of $1,500 to each project.

Dr. Christine Heyrman, professor of History at the University of Delaware, was introduced by Dr. Jessica Kross of the University of South Carolina Department of History. Professor Heyrman received her Ph.D. degree from Yale University where she studied under Dr. Edmund Morgan. Among her publications are Commerce and Culture: The Maritime Communities of Colonial Massachusetts, 1690-1750 and Southern Cross: The Beginnings of the Bible Belt. Her address, “Holy Wars in the Old South: Or, The Battle among Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians,” will be published in the program for the 63rd annual meeting in 1999.

Dan Hollis, pictured here with his wife Peggy, was among those honored with a framed print of the Caroliniana.
University South Caroliniana Society was formed to extend and support the work of the Caroliniana Committee. President Douglas argued that the Caroliniana Collection, hampered by both inadequate appropriations and space, needed an annual purchase budget. All twenty academic departments showed their support by transferring their library funds for the sole purpose of Caroliniana purchases. These moves received an even greater boost in 1933. A *State* editorial headlined "Keep It In South Carolina" stressed "South Carolina historical material should remain in South Carolina."

Although the Depression created financial hardships on the library and collections, President Douglas refused to be deterred and consistently made appeals for more funding. Even President Douglas' untimely death in 1932 did not slow the momentum of his movement to promote better housing for and continued growth of the collection.

Douglas' successor, Leonard T. Barker, an ardent supporter of the Collection and advocate for a bigger library building, actively solicited support for the Caroliniana Committee. He pursued a lengthy correspondence with Barnard Baruch, eventually securing from Baruch the funds to purchase Judge Thomas E. Richardson's collection (see article on page 5).

When J. Rion McKissick assumed the Presidency in June 1936, he too supported the moves for a bigger library and more Caroliniana acquisitions. One of his first proposals to the Board of Trustees was to secure WPA funds to erect a new library building. At the Board of Trustees meeting in June 1937, President McKissick, citing the Society's growing membership and substantial contributions, proposed the "old" University Library be used as a special South Caroliniana Library. The Society President, Judge M. L. Bonham, put forth a formal request that the Trustees allow the "old" library to house the Caroliniana Collection. The board voted favorably on this proposal at their December 1939 meeting. The announcement that the "old" library would become the permanent home of the Caroliniana Collection was made at the Society banquet on the building's Centennial Anniversary, April 17, 1940.

In his welcoming remarks at the gala dinner, Dr. McKissick described the Society as "the most representative, the most distinguished that meets in South Carolina each year." The main speaker, Dr. Francis Pendleton Gaines, President of Washington and Lee University, praised the "notable advance made by my native state" when he referred to the dedication of the library to its new use. He went on to say that here "will be stored in safety the hard won accumulation of our own people, their legacies of courage and enterprise, achieved wisdom bequeathed to us in our enjoyment and our enriching utilization." While the University was to provide regular apprpriations for staff, development and other operational expenses, the Society would contribute vital support through gifts and donations to allow for the collection's preservation and growth.

Today the Library's collection of South Caroliniana is the finest in the state. With it books, pamphlets, serials, documents, personal papers, newspapers, institutional and private business records, engravings, photographs and other visual materials, it is a true treasure trove for researchers.

Most significantly, however, is that the first free-standing academic library became the first and only separate university library wholly devoted to the history and literature of its supporting state. All of this thanks to the earnest endeavors of the Caroliniana Committee and its successor, the University South Caroliniana Society.  

In defense against..."literary bootleggers from outlandish parts," President Douglas in 1932 appointed the Caroliniana Committee.
Genealogy Continued

Ingram/Hungerpiller Endowment

To honor the life and works of her late father, John C Hungerpiller, Mrs. Gladys Hungerpiller Ingram, of Hartsville, S.C., has established a one million dollar bequest for the University of South Carolina, half of which will go to the South Caroliniana Library. The remaining funds will create a Hungerpiller professorship in the College of Education.

The papers of John C Hungerpiller (1882-1976), public school educator, author, and 1908 graduate of USC, have been donated to the South Caroliniana Library for their literary and historical significance. The collection of manuscripts and correspondence related to his editing and publishing of the anthology, *South Carolina Literature* (1931), are of particular value.

Mrs. Ingram's generous gift to the Library will be used to preserve the Hungerpiller Papers and other significant documents and volumes within the Library's collection.

The Daniel W. Hollis Acquisition and Preservation Endowment

To honor the life and work of Distinguished Professor Emeritus Daniel W. Hollis, teacher and historian of the University of South Carolina and former president of the University South Caroliniana Society, The Daniel W. Hollis Acquisition and Preservation Endowment has been established at the South Caroliniana Library. In his research, Dr. Hollis made extensive use of early historical records related to the University and the state and recognized the necessity for obtaining and preserving such historical and cultural records for future generations. His two-volume work, *The History of the University of South Carolina*, stands as a testament to the scholarly use of library holdings.

Proceeds from the Daniel W. Hollis Acquisition and Preservation Endowment will be used for the acquisition of books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and other materials related to South Carolina history and culture, as well as for preservation of similar holdings in the Library, which are in need of conservation.

Robert I. and Swannanoa Kenney Phillips Libraries Endowment

A permanent endowment has been established in memory of Swannanoa Kenney Phillips and in honor of Robert I. Phillips by their son, Dr. Robert Kenney Phillips. Funds from this endowment will be used to preserve historical materials and acquire new holdings for the South Caroliniana Library and the Thomas Cooper Library. A portion of the fund will be devoted to strengthening the holdings of British and American Literature and Culture to support undergraduate studies. The Phillips family has a long history of association with and support of the University. Mr. Robert I. Phillips is a lifetime member of the South Caroliniana Society as was Mrs. Swannanoa Phillips. Dr. and Mrs. Robert K. Phillips are lifetime members of the Thomas Cooper Society. The University Libraries is grateful to all of these donors for their generous and far-sighted gifts to the South Caroliniana and Thomas Cooper Libraries.
Spartanburg resident Alice Tonge’s interest in a particular family, the Lawtons, broadened into extensive research for almost a half century on the Lawtons and related families. The Tonge collection of 2.5 linear feet contains files on over 150 family names as well as genealogical notes, marriage, birth, and bible records, and cemetery records for Allendale, Greenville, Hampton, and Jasper counties, and Edisto Island.

William Harris and Edna Manning spent many years researching and abstracting records of Barnwell County. The collection contains 15 volumes compiled between 1949 and 1966 and includes abstracts of wills, marriages, and cemetery records; a record of Barnwell County officials, 1880-1962; and service records of South Carolina veterans in the War of 1812. Eleven of the volumes are devoted to histories of approximately 150 families.

Floyd Bennett was chiefly interested in the Dickson, Bishop, Bennett, and Douglass families but also conducted research on 30 or more related families. The 6.25 linear feet which constitute the papers of Reba Holmes Brown represent the research that she conducted in writing two books: *American Shoots from the Baskerville Family and The Youngblood Family: Some Descendants of Three Generations*. Mrs. Brown also completed research for, but never published a book on the Norwood family. The bulk of her research files relate to the three families cited above, but there is also significant information on a number of related families. Mary Claire Oliver Cox researched South Carolina families from her home in Nebraska. The 2.5 linear feet of research files contain information on over 30 different families including Boyce, Faust, Jernigan, Kerr, Langley, Sims, and Oliver. The genealogical research of Edward Latimer on the Latimer family of Alabama, Maryland, and South Carolina is contained in 3.75 linear feet of research files on various branches of the family.

The library’s holdings include other collections containing genealogical research on numerous families. Files on Fairfield County families included in Fitz Hugh McMaster’s *History of Fairfield County, South Carolina* are in the McMaster papers. Harry L. Watson and his daughters Margaret and Louise compiled information on many Greenwood County families. John Shaw Billings’s interest in his Hammond and Cumming forebears inspired Billings to compile volumes of information on the Hammond, Cumming, Wade, Black, and many other families in the Beach Island, S.C. - Augusta, Ga. area.

The South Caroliniana Library recently received the collection of Laura Bellinger Jones who researched many South Carolina families over a period of several decades.

All of the collections are housed in the library’s manuscripts division and are listed in either the online or card catalog. A “Genealogical Collection Guide” provides researchers a list of family names in the collections as well as location information.
Raindrops Continued

together we have accomplished much, but we must remain focused and on
guard against any factor that might
impede the achievement of our
mission.

Lest we get too complacent or
enamored with our success, I must
stress that much remains to be done.
We must continue
giving and soliciting
the giving of historical
materials to the
South Caroliniana
Library and we must
continue contributing
to our endowment.

Over the next ten years in order to
continue adding materials to our
collection and to address conservation
needs for our "raindrops" at the library,
we need to increase our endowment
from the present $1.4 million to $5
million. I challenge each of you to dig
a little deeper and to encourage others
to contribute to our endowment so
that the Society and the Library may
realize their true potential. I passion-
ately believe we should be excited
about what we are doing and should
pursue our mission with dedication,
persistence and zeal.

Our speaker will later discuss
in some detail the evangelical move-
ment in the South. I have honored that
theme by also couching these remarks
in a somewhat evangelical tone. Rev.
Meetze, if we were to remain com-
pletely in the evangelical mode, at this
point, I should pass the collection plate
and later extend an altar call, but I will
do neither. Instead, I wish to do two
things. First, I exhort every Society
member to be a missionary dedicated
to our great mission, the mission of
being good stewards of our part. From

the past we have individuals such as
Mrs. Yates Snowden, J. Rion
McKissick, Caroline Dick McKissick
Belser Dial, and Professor A.L.
Geissenhimmer who serve as examples
for us to follow. There, of course, are
hundreds more.

The second thing I wish to do
is to move forward in time to the
present and recognize
some current benefac-
tors who understand
that endowed funds
generate lasting
resources to develop
our magnificent
collection of South
Caroliniana which resides in the oldest
free-standing academic library building
in the country, and to conserve and
preserve our holdings to ensure that
they will be available and accessible to
future generations of researchers. I will
ask them to come forward and be
recognized for their generosity.

"...the true value of
our 'raindrops' is not
monetary. Their
value is historical."

Richardson Continued

early 1850s. On 19 September 1851,
the younger Calhoun had written
Spain from Abbeville to endorse a
secession rally held by Sumter resi-
dents.

In the Richardson collection,
occasional gems like the Hammond,
Spain, and Calhoun letters exist
alongside interesting mini-collections
like the antebellum correspondence
files of the Sumter newspaper the Black
River Watchman, or extensive office
records for Sumter law firms like
Fraser, Haynsworth, and Cooper, and
Richardson and Moses.

A large concentration of
material for the years 1866-1872

makes the collection especially valuable
for the Reconstruction era. The papers
document famine relief, military rule,
corruption, racial tensions, and the
legal problems peculiar to the time.

When work on the
Richardson collection is completed,
the documents will be arranged by date
or topic, housed in acid-free folders,
and accompanied by appropriate
finding aids.

Grant Proposal to Benefit
Photographic Collection

The South Caroliniana Library
recently submitted a grant proposal
to the National Endowment for the
Humanities (NEH) to rehouse and
recatalog the entire photographic
collection. If funded, an archivist
will be hired for the duration of the
grant to store the photographs in
archivally safe materials, unite
disassembled collections, and create
descriptive records to be loaded onto
both the University's online catalog
and OCLC, a national bibliographic
database.

Another aspect of the grant
will be to duplicate 750 nitrate and
acetate sheet negatives in the
collection and to conserve those
acetate negatives which are begin-
ning to deteriorate. NEH will send
notification in February 1999, and
the project will begin in May if
selected for funding.
the agitation of the subject had produced, some step that would admit the declaration of this opinion. This was done by Mr. Pinckney and the temperance and patriotism you have evinced in sustaining him are deserving of the highest commendation and cannot fail to secure you the approbation of a liberal and generous public.

I will not of course be understood by these observations as casting my censure on those who have felt it their duty to oppose the reception of these petitions. In answering your letter I could not with propriety withhold the expression of my conviction that the course adopted by Mr. Pinckney was the true one to quiet the apprehensions of our southern brethren and to satisfy all parties that no attempt to effect the objects of the abolitionists, whether in, or out of this district, could possibly succeed, or would be seriously entertained by any considerable portion of the American people.

I feel the less hesitation in being thus explicit to you, as well on account of the personal interest which, in common with my fellow citizens of the south, I have in the subject as because of the kindness with which you have addressed me as the representative of that portion of So. Carolina which gave me birth. I look back with fondness, Sir, to that sacred spot, and feel an interest in whatever affects its character and prosperity which words can scarcely express. Among the reminiscences of my life now near its close there are none so bright as those which recall the scenes of my youth: and you could offer nothing more acceptable to my feelings than the assurance that the inhabitants of that region feel the interest of my friends in my private welfare while they approve of my public conduct. You will confer a favor upon me, if on your return to your fellow citizens, you will say this much to them on my behalf.

I am very sincerely
Yr obt Ser\[van\]t
Andrew Jackson

Dr. Miriam J. Shillingsburg, the 1998 William Gilmore Simms Visiting Research Professor, has spent the summer working in the South Caroliniana Library on transcribing and editing five lectures written by Simms in 1856-57. Dr. Shillingsburg, Dean of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English, Lamar University, Beaumont Texas, received her master’s and doctoral degrees from USC’s English department in 1966 and 1969.

Dr. Jack Hayes, this year’s Lewis P. Jones Fellow, is doing further work on his 1972 dissertation, “South Carolina and the New Deal, 1932-38,” with a view to publish a book by the same title. Hayes has been going through manuscript and printed material that were not in the library’s collection at the time of his doctoral work.

Membership Nomination Form

Membership in the Society is by invitation. Any officer or member of the Society may nominate persons interested in the Society’s work. Please submit nominee’s name and address.

Name
Address

Member’s name and signature

Mail to Allen Stokes, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208

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