The Library Development Review 1987-88

University of Tennessee Libraries

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The Library Development Review is issued annually as a means of informing friends and benefactors of the library's success in attracting new and important gifts. It is distributed to supportive faculty and alumni, contributors and potential contributors, and to a selected group of libraries across the country. The goal of the Library Development Program is to encourage gifts of books, manuscripts, and other appropriate items as well as funds for the purchase of such materials.

The University of Tennessee Library is most grateful for all the many gifts, large and small, which it has received from generous donors. We are particularly appreciative of the strong support from the recent development campaign involving the University community. Such gifts enrich the resources of the library and help it realize its ambition of becoming a great research institution. With the new library building now open and so very heavily used, it is even more important that we encourage private support to help us attain collections of distinction. We hope that some of the unusual gifts described in this publication will spark an interest among readers and will persuade them to become and remain library donors.

As Donald R. Hunt retires as Library Dean, it is most appropriate for us to pause to take note of the many important achievements he made during a twelve-year tenure at the University: the new John C. Hodges Library building, the introduction of computer technology to library functions, and a first-rate staff are only a few of the visible reminders he leaves behind. Thanks to his efforts, the libraries are poised to strive for greatness. Present and future library users will be ever-grateful to him.

The gifts described in these pages represent only some of the many important contributions the library received in 1987/88. The articles which follow focus largely on significant and expensive pieces presented by a few library benefactors. Our thanks extend beyond these few to all contributors.

Paula T. Kaufman
Dean of Libraries

On Cover: Portrait of Sarah Sutherland Boyd, by Lloyd Branson (circa 1870). For information about the artist, see inside back cover.
THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW
1987/88

Edited by James B. Lloyd
As I prepare to take leave of the beauties of East Tennessee, the years of hard work realized, and the dream come true, I keep remembering that day in 1976 when my commitment to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, began. It was then I heard the saga of John C. Hodges and observed the thriving program for library development initiated by him.

"The mark of a great university is an excellent library," he said, and, even before his retirement, set about gathering support to accomplish that ideal state. I find satisfaction in the truth that the "excellent library" continues to evolve in the magnificent new building bearing his name and holding the primary library collection of the University of Tennessee, and that I had a part in all of this. The name John C. Hodges—the name of a man I never met—has been an element of my Tennessee experience since the beginning, and it represents the most visible symbol of achievement within my tenure here.

Proud as I am of the new John C. Hodges Library, I am equally proud of the maintenance of high-level assistance to faculty and students; the automation of many library functions and services and the establishment of new services; and the continuing attention to collection building, no easy task, considering the sinking dollar and the long-lasting dilution of inflation, detriments that still frustrate us. We look with hope to the current campaign for a substantial endowment to alleviate their effects and bring about an era of healthy and accelerated growth to the book and journal collections. Thus we will hasten the realization of Dr. Hodges' excellent library, and I offer my best wishes to those who will see it through, particularly the new President, the new Chancellor, and the new Dean of Libraries.

To all those who have helped me during the completion of my professional career here, I am indeed grateful: to the excellent staff, to the university administration, to the faculty for their interest and support, and particularly to the donors, patrons and benefactors whose loyalty to the Library Development Program we so gratefully cherish.

Donald R. Hunt
Dean of Libraries Emeritus
Major John H. Eaton, Duelist, Revisited
by James B. Lloyd,
Special Collections Librarian

Some readers may remember that in "The Petticoat War and the Court of King Andrew I" in last year's Development Review, we followed Major John H. Eaton, Jackson's Secretary of War, as he sent the other members of the cabinet scurrying for cover when he invoked the code duello in defense of his wife, whom the wives of these gentlemen had found socially unacceptable. This year again through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Koella, the Special Collections Library has been able to acquire another item in which we find Major Eaton on the dueling field.

This piece, the manuscript journal of Joseph Clemm, chronicles the trip of a merchant from Augusta through the Indian nation to the Tennessee settlements in the summer and fall of 1819. About Clemm we know only what can be gleaned from the journal itself. A native of Baltimore, he fought in the Revolutionary War, so he should be in his mid-fifties at this time. He is a dry goods merchant, unmarried, and active in his church. And while his announced purpose for this trip is to collect an overdue debt, the actual situation is a bit more complicated than that. Clemm, it turns out, has become enamored with the adolescent daughter of one Col. Andrew Erwin, a business associate whose company he does not particularly relish, but whose presence is intimately to be preferred to traveling alone through such wild and unsettled country. Almost immediately misfortune befalls Clemm. His horse gives out after only one day on the trail. His response to the situation is illustrative of the primitive nature of commerce at this time. He gives one Mr. Pittman, whom he has never seen before, his personal note for forty dollars, the note is cosigned by Harris, and Clemm rides on with a new horse.

It develops that the pair are following the road from Augusta to Nashville described by John Melish in 1822 in his Traveller's Directory Through the United States. And one would think that given the time and place, accommodations along this route would be somewhat scarce. Such was not the case, however, as our travelers seem to be able to pick from any number of stations along the way. The trouble is that all of the choices are relatively squalid. Clemm relates on the second night, "I found my bed so full of unpleasant companions as to oblige to seek refuge on the floor, which offered but little comfort to the weary bones of a traveller, and left me consequently but little refreshed in the morning."

By the fourth day the pair has passed through Washington, Lexington, and Cherokee Corner and arrived at Captain Harry's in Athens where Clemm spends another night on the floor "with a blanket to rest on and a valise for... [a] pillow." From there they cross the Chestatee River on Monday, the 8th, enter the nation, and about ten o'clock see "for the first time an Indian hut. These are generally built on the margin..."
Clemm's route from Augusta to Shelbyville.

(Melish, John, The Traveller's Directory Through the United States, Philadelphia: The Author, 1822, p. 121.)

of some stream ... [next to] a small spot of tillable land where they make their sustenance which consists principally of corn.

They spend the first night in the nation at the home of a Mr. Blackburn and in the morning set off for the next stand fourteen miles away. At this point conditions become more difficult.

Clemm relates:

In consequence of the excessively bad roads, the country being extremely broken, [we] did not arrive at Homage's until dark .... Oh what a disappointment [It was] a miserable looking hovel before which by the light of some torches were seated a number of dirty looking Indians .... The filthiness of the place and the crudity of the society we were in rendered it to me extremely disgusting.

Their hostess, a tall handsome Indian woman, presents them with supper, "a dish of fried meat of some kind or other ... a dish of fried chickens—but so disfigured by the process as to have lost their shape and summary, a plate of corn bread ... butter and a cup of milk." And thereafter they are conducted to their sleeping chamber, "an outhouse of logs about 15 feet by 10 feet and barely commodious enough to contain two beds of a still more wretched appearance than those we had seen, at the foot of which notwithstanding were extended four Indians, three men and an old woman with no other covering than their common dress, a loose coat reaching to the knees."

The next morning they breakfast on corn soup, "corn and milk boiled, the corn being first cut off and scraped from the cob and slowly intermingled with the milk whilst boiling." This they bolt down and continue on to the next stand where they are to separate and where Clemm meets a Mr. Hall, a missionary from Brainerd, the Presbyterian mission and Indian School, who agrees to travel with him and invites him to spend the night at the mission as it lies only two miles off the road. This stand, operated by a man named Saunders, Clemm finds "like all the other Indian Houses in the nation, dirty, and uncomfortable," but he likes the Saunders children and plays the "clarinet" for them.

The next day our travelers pass through the Indian town of Cisuwatee which Clemm says "though containing but few Houses, occupies the space of several miles, being situated in a very fertile vale formed by the Home Mountain .... This valley is surrounded by a fence and worked in common, each Inhabitant doing his proportion and receiving a like proportion, which however abundant as it may be seldom serves them during the season, being squandered away most generally for Whiskey." They press on, spend the night uneventfully, and the next day arrive at one Widow Wolf's in time for lunch where they encounter another pair of travelers:

I was much and agreeably surprised to perceive on my entrance into the House two white females and wondered much at their appearance until I discovered they were travellers. I did not learn their names but could have easily judged them to be from Georgia by the ridiculous ostentation they exhibited, one of them having suspended by her side, in full view, a very handsome gold watch and powder enough on her face as would have sufficed if prepared for her breakfast.

That evening Clemm and Mr. Hall arrive at Brainerd Mission, which unhappily Clemm does not describe. He spends the night and the next day passes by Ross', "one of the best stands in the nation," and continues on across the Tennessee River where he encounters some drunken Indians, which causes him to ride at a brisker pace than usual in case they are following him. He crosses the river, thus leaving the nation behind him, spends the night at one Col. Clark's, and arrives at dusk in Franklin where he is "much pleased with the light and airy appearance which this little place presents .... It is handsomely situated and containing upward of 100 houses chiefly of hewn logs cemented with lime."

Clemm spends the night in Franklin and the next day continues on to Col. Erwin's home, Oak Hall, which lay about two miles outside of what is now Wartrace on the Duck River:

With the general appearance of the place I was at first disappointed ... It was a large brick house situated on a small eminence immediately on the margin of a thick and
heavily timbered wood with which it is en-
compassed save a comparatively small space
which has been cleared and now under
cultivation. The land around it very rich and
fertile and offering a profitable reward to the
laborer of a few years.

It appears to have been, in fact, the
acquisition of this property which
caused James Erwin to select a homestead
and settle in what is now called Erwin's Court.

Statements went back and forth
between Jackson and Dickinson, who at
twenty-seven was something of a dandy
and reputedly the best shot in Tennes-
see, and the situation worsened. Other
members of the rival factions began to
quarrel and Jackson's friend General
Coffee fought a duel with Nathaniel
McNairy, who fired on the count of two,
not three, and hit Coffee in the leg. Cof-
fee then fired a wild shot and claimed
another as he insisted the impact of
McNairy's bullet had caused his shot.
The seconds were unable to agree and the
principals cleared the field to make
room for Jackson and Dickinson,
who shortly made their appearance. They
agreed to meet on Friday, May 30, 1806,
at Harrison's Mills in Kentucky so as not
to pollute the ground of Tennessee.

There, after being shot in the chest,
Jackson managed to remain standing
ever, and continues on back to Franklin

The Col., however, is not at home,
and Clemm journeys to Shelbyville in
search of his note, fearing all the while
that he may be "destined to pecuniary
misfortune." Of this village he left the
following description:

It is situated on a rising ground whose
surface was covered with loose stones, the
appearance of which together with a luxuri-
ant growth of weed which were permitted to
flourish throughout the different lots pre-
sented an air of filth and uncleanness by no
means agreeable to the traveller. The only
thing remarkable for its neatness was the
Court House, which is handsomely built of
brick in the center of the town and encom-
passed by a white railing round which were
planted Locust trees which gave it a pleasant
and agreeable appearance. Like most of the
towns in this country the principal homes are
built on a square in the center of which
stands the courthouse. Here the chief business
is done being this the center of gravity to
which the material substance of trade is
attracted.

He finds out nothing here, how-
ever, and continues on back to Franklin
to visit his brother whom he has not seen
in four years. Why Clemm did not do
this when he first came through he does
not say, and one can only conjecture
that he must have been in some hurry
indeed to reach the Col.'s not to have at
least stopped in on his way. At any rate,
the Williamson County 1820 census lists
one Amos S. Clemm in Franklin, whose
household consists of three males under
ten, one male twenty-six-forty-five, one
female under ten, and one female
sixteen-twenty-six (they are gone in
the 1830 census). And Clemm spends
several days with his brother, and his
wife, Caroline, before continuing on to
Nashville where he finds, through Mr.
Yeatsman, that the Col. is expected the
next day.

He waits, but the Col. does not
arrive and he learns "that a challenge
had been passed from a Major Eaton to
Col. Erwin and that a meeting was to
ensue in a few days." He says:

I had on my first arrival in this country been
made acquainted with the subject of their differences—which had arisen from a political controversy. ... I resolved at once to leave Nashville on the following morning for Shelbyville where I had some unsettled business and proceed thence immediately to the Col.'s house for the purpose of assisting the impending event.

In Shelbyville he finds that the affair is publicly known and according to the "then prevalent rumor that it was to be settled by muskets or rifles." Clemm discovers from the lawyer he has employed that the Col. is supposed to have given the note to his brother in Huntsville to be forwarded to Shelbyville. This has not occurred, it is now October, and the note was due in August. And he also discovers that it was a piece in the Shelbyville paper, the Tennessee Herald, edited by T. Bradford which brought matters to a head. This may be some Accounts of Some of the Bloody Deeds of General Jackson which was published in Franklin in September, 1818, and reputed to be by Andrew Erwin, but according to an unpublished Jackson memo probably by Bradford.

Clemm has a fairly low opinion of this affair. He writes "what would I then have given for the power of preventing it—but of this there was no possible hope save by an arrest of the two parties in the event of their passing through Shelbyville which was immediately determined by his friends." He returns to the house on Duck River and there finally finds the elusive Col. Erwin, whom he describes thusly: "in the Col. there appeared the same calm unruffled collectedness which I had ever known as his prominent characteristic." The Col. is astonished that the note has not been paid, makes a search of his papers and finds a memorandum stating that the note had been deposited in the hands of a "Mr. C." on the eleventh of August, which means that Clemm must now go to Huntsville in search of it.

But before he can leave he must see the Col. through the impending duel, which they discuss at length while Erwin is practicing with a rifle. This choice of weapons has caused some concern in Eaton's camp: "objections had been made on the part of his opponent to the mode he had proposed and ... this was agreed to be left to references by which it was decided in his the Col.'s favor, but allowing a space of ten days to practice." Clemm contemplates the event with ill-conceived self-interest:

I could not but shrink with horror at the idea that so good a man and one on whom so much depended should be thus compelled to risk his life by a mere compliance with what the world presumed to call rules of honor. I had no idea I told him ... that there had been any obligation on his part to accept the challenge. ... His antagonist was a single man without dependents. ... He was now advanced in years with a large and numerous family ... as well as creditors whose fortunes would be jeopardized if not ruined by his death.

The Col., however, remains impertinent. He tells Clemm that he has weighed these objections, but they have been "overruled by the thorough conviction that his death was the object sought after or if not that the ruin of his popularity which to him amounted to it." Besides, he says, he has a "perfect and thorough confidence in the justness of his cause."

At this point, unfortunately, the journal ends, and we are left with Clemm quivering in trepidation while the Col. blasts away. That can not be the end of the story, however. Does he ever find his money, we ask. Does the Col. fight Eaton, and if so, to what outcome? And what about Miss A.? Does Clemm win her? Does she marry someone else, etc.? The answers to some of these questions we know, others we can guess at, and some we will never know.

Clemm drops completely from sight, as does Miss A. No record of the marriage or death of either appears in the existing sources. Clemm does not appear as a head of household in the 1820 Georgia census or in any subsequent censuses in the southeast. One can only conjecture, but it seems unlikely that the pair got together or that Miss A. ever married.

About the Col. and Major Eaton, however, we know a bit more. Eaton goes on to grace the pages of history as Jackson's friend, confident, Secretary of War, and husband to the volatile Peggy Eaton, etc. Andrew Erwin continues to author scurrilous anti-Jackson pamphlets and lead the Nashville opposition until his death at sixty-one on April 19, 1834. And the duel? We do not know for sure that it occurred. We do know however, that the Eaton camp was indeed extremely reluctant to allow him to face the good Col.'s rifle, as Jackson writes to his friend, Captain Call, from the Hermitage on September 9th (as published in The Collector, April 1902, pp. 77-74):

Captain Call: In prosecuting the business you have taken charge of, for your friend Major Eaton. You must steadily keep in mind that the man you have to deal with is unprincipled. You will be guarded in all your acts, have everything in writing, and hold no conversation with him, unless in the presence of some confidential person of good character. He is mean and artful. It is possible from what I think of the man, that he will propose muskets or rifles. These are not the weapons of gentlemen, and cannot and ought not to be yielded to. Pistols are the universal weapons (with one solitary exception) of fire arms gentlemen use. These or swords ought to be selected, and as neither of those concerned are in the habit of using swords—the offend-

The Dickinson dueling ground, Harrison's Mills, Kentucky. (Harper's Weekly, January 8, 1859, p. 21.)
ing party will make choice of this weapon. The next choice in the opponent is distance—ten paces is the longest—and altho the defendant may choose as far as ten paces, still if the offended is not as good a shot as the defendant, custom and justice will bring them to a distance that will put them on a perfect level or equality position. To prevent accident—let them keep their Pistols suspended until after the word fire is given. The first rule is to let each man, fire when he pleases—so that he fire one minute or two after the word. Charge your friend to preserve his fire—to keep his teeth firmly clenched, and his fingers in a position that if fired on and hit, his fire may not be extorted—sometimes when the distance is long it is agreed that both or either, may advance and fire. If this arrangement is made, charge your friend to preserve his fire until he shoots his antagonist through the brain, for if he fires and does not kill his antagonist, he leaves himself fully in his power. Have every rule written down and signed by his friend, receive none but written answers and all open, that you may inspect and see that they are decorous—for this is the friends duty to see that no paper that comes through him ought to contain indecorous expressions. I have been always of an opinion that a base man can never act bravely. The attack upon Major Eaton, was in the first place wanted, then throwing the author ship on a diminutive black guard printer, that no one could notice—only with a cudgel—shows a meanness and cowardice, with all his boasted courage, that induces me to believe that he will not fight. It may be—he may rather select me—as he may think, that I will have nothing to do with him, and in this way get off—hehould he (by way of examples sake) just close with him—I then have a right of choice of distance—take him at seven feet—placed back to back—pistols suspended until after the word fire—and I will soon put an end to this troublesome scoundrel. It is possible from what I have heard and I charge you to agree on my part without hesitation—he is a man I cannot challenge—but if a villain will run from one danger, and hold out ideas of bravery—they ought always to be taken in. I pledge myself on the foregoing terms—if my Pistol fires, I kill him.

Your friend.

Andrew Jackson

Becoming Southernized
by John Dobson,
Special Collections Librarian Emeritus

Articles about collections of letters written by participants in the Civil War appear frequently in this publication. If such collections seem to be overemphasized, it is not because there is an obsession with that lamentable conflict, it is because in recent years the library has been fortunate in acquiring a number of notable groups of correspondence from the war period. Researchers using manuscript holdings will find that original resources relating to Tennessee in the years 1861 through 1865 are now greatly enriched. These resources have been mostly acquired through the use of gift funds.

Among letters accessioned this year are twenty-one pieces written by a New York physician while serving with military forces in Kentucky and Tennessee. The physician, John Shrady, at the outbreak of the war volunteered as a contract surgeon. The correspondence posted from Nashville, Knoxville, and various points in Kentucky during 1862, 1863, and 1864 is directed to his wife in Manhattan.

Shrady saw duty at Flat Lick and Barbourville, Kentucky, until the raid of the Confederate general, Kirby Smith, who returned him with many other captives to Cumberland Gap. While at the Gap, Shrady accepted the surgery of the second East Tennessee Infantry (mounted). He experienced much dangerous service, the main duties of his command being outpost assignments, skirmishing, raiding and the suppression of guerillas. Just previous to the battle of Stone's River, he organized and was surgeon-in-charge of the United States General Hospital, No. 19, at Nashville, and later was executive officer of General Hospital No. 4, at Holston, Tennessee (Knoxville). His entire hospital service, however, did not in the total embrace more than five months. When hostilities were most active he was appointed surgeon for special duties with specific military units. He was present at the battles of Danville and Pemberton in Kentucky and at the surrender of Cumberland Gap on September 9, 1863. He also accompanied his regiment in the chase after General John Hunt Morgan through Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio, and was present at the surrender of that general's command at Buffington Island.

After being mustered out of the army on October 18, 1864, he returned to practice medicine in New York.

While the surgeon's messages from Kentucky and Middle Tennessee hold a good deal of interest, only pieces sent from the Knoxville area have been selected for quotation. The quotes are chosen because they disclose information about local conditions and events in the months following the Confederate siege.

The first letter in the collection from Knoxville was written a few weeks after the siege was lifted. Dated Christmas, 1863, it said in part, "I arrived here safe and sound after a somewhat tedious journey both by land and water. I've had an opportunity of seeing the famous Lookout Mountain as well as the equally noted Mission Ridge—the former is some 2,480 feet high, so you may well imagine the possibility of 'fighting above the clouds.' The course, or rather route taken by me was as I predicted in a previous letter very circuitous, but it was the speediest and safest." The letter, which was complete with holiday sentiment, closed with the advice, "When you write address me as Dr. John Shady Knoxville, Tenn. —there is a post office here and I can call for it." A final remark imparted the news, "I think there is but little doubt of my getting a Hospital appointment—but the facilities for treating the
sick are now very poor from the fact that matters have not yet gotten into working order.”

The army doctor’s letters to his wife were sometimes posted frequently and sometimes sporadically. Time lapses between communications may represent periods of activity in which there was little opportunity for writing, or they may mean that pieces are missing.

There are two letters from Clinton dated in March, 1864. One written on March 27, Easter, is again filled with holiday sentiment and personal matters. About his surroundings the surgeon remarks, “The country . . . is getting poorer and poorer every day—the people receive with gratitude the supplies sent from the North—they think with this little aid that they will be enabled to make out until Harvest time.” On March 30, he wrote, “We still occupy the same dilapidated town of Clinton.”

The letters then skip to July 11, 1864, when he writes, “Address—Dr. John Shrady, Asylum U.S.A. General Hospital, Knoxville, Tenn. I have been promised the change of the Officers Hospital here. I don’t care about having it—there will be a deal of trouble and probable delay when the settlement comes. I might have to stay some weeks after the muster-out. Then again, my egotism sets down all these favors to the credit of tardy justice.” This letter seems to indicate that Shrady was assigned to Asylum General Hospital located in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

In her book The French Broad-Holston Country, Mary U. Rothrock states that during the siege of Knoxville a number of public buildings were pressed into use as hospitals. Among them were the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, several hotels (the Lamar House, Bell House, and Franklin House), the Court House, the Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches, the buildings of East Tennessee Female Institute, and the buildings of East Tennessee University. She adds, “There was also a ‘Holston Hospital’ somewhere south of the river.” The river at Knoxville was known as the Holston rather than the Tennessee until the 1880s.

The Holston Hospital was probably not opened until after the siege. The pontoon bridge near the mouth of First Creek, which had been completed early in November, 1863, was used to supply General Burnside’s forces throughout the siege. It also could have provided access to the Holston Hospital, but it is known from a John Watkins letter quoted in last year’s Review that the pontoon bridge washed away shortly after Confederate forces withdrew in December. It is likely that the hospital did not open until after another span was erected about two months later. Bridges were thrown up quickly by the U.S. Army Engineers. The pontoon bridge had been taken up at Loudon, transported on railroad cars, and reassembled at Knoxville in the days between October 28 and November 1, 1863. The military bridge replacing the washed away structure was constructed in five weeks and opened about February 27, 1864. An account in Brownlow’s Knoxville Whig and Rebel Ventilator for March 5, 1864, described the new bridge across the Holston as nearly one thousand feet in length. The builders were praised thusly: “The Yankees are a wonderful people for energy, skill, and endurance. Whatever they undertake they accomplish, and that quickly.” The new bridge was downstream from the site of the pontoon bridge, at the foot of State Street.

Dr. Shrady’s message to his wife on July 16, 1864, announced, “I am now on duty at a new hospital just established and christened the ‘Holston U.S.A. General Hospital’ near Knoxville—just across the Holston river connecting it to the city by a rough board but substantial bridge. I could have had charge of either this Hospital or of the Asylum, but in view of the rapid expiration of the term of service for which the regiment had enlisted and the requirements that I should have to receipt for a large amount of property, which to say the least would take a long time to ‘turn over’ to my successor I begged leave to decline the honor.” About his experience in army practice the doctor comments, “. . . I am conscious of having overcome . . . that timidity which careful men have in approaching a surgical operation. I have become bolder . . . I am conscious, however, of getting rusty about a good many of the fine points of the profession and I will have to brush up some when I get home. You know too that there are many wide differences between army and civil practice—I’m afraid, too, that I am parting with a good deal of my New York city polish—in other words that I am becoming Westernized in consequence of contact with people from that portion of our ‘great republic.’ ”

While most of the text in Shrady’s correspondence is personal, many of the pieces contain comments and observations that provide an understanding for the period and setting in which they were written. A letter dated Holston U.S.A. General Hospital, July 28, 1864, reveals a political stand. The surgeon reassures his wife, “. . . have no fears of my voting for McClellan for the Presidency—I am not full in faith with regard to his capacity or the policy he intends pursuing. I believe that Lincoln means to put down the rebellion, that he is honest and I should certainly vote for him for this reason if no other the rebels hate him. They feel themselves conquered but
their pride will not allow themselves to admit it. I say, let them be humbled for once and evermore.” A letter of July 31, 1864, gives a feeling for the scene in which Shady lived and worked. He describes his surroundings in a few lines,

The weather though quite warm is in other respects unobjectionable—the streets of Knoxville are of course not as busy as our own, but the whole town, to my eye, wears a garrison-like aspect. Almost every pedestrian is a soldier and every equestrian ditto. The shops display Army staples, such as shoulder straps, uniforms etc. in dazzling profusion. We have more than a sprinkling of Darkies in the population but somehow or other we became accustomed to these things and don’t notice them. At all events I flatter myself that I could do very well down here, if you should agree to become Southernized—since the people of East Tennessee think that there are no Doctors to be compared with those from the army.”

Although John Shady’s association with Knoxville was short and his service in local hospitals was brief, his letters shed light on conditions that prevailed after the area was restored to Union control. In spite of the fact that the doctor resisted becoming “Southernized” and returned to Manhattan, he contributed to the community by recording useful knowledge about his sojourn in the place. His comments verify information about postal service, the location of the Holston Hospital, and construction of the military bridge. They provide views related to medical care for the armed forces and civilian population, and they provide glimpses into commercial activity of the town.

The collection is of especial value because the letters are written from the point of view of a medical officer and not of a combatant. These papers, as do other groups of manuscripts, give researchers shreds of knowledge that when assembled, form a complete picture of a time and place in history.

“In Dixie at Last”:

More Letters from Harry C. Cushing

by Anne Bridges, Reference Librarian

One had habit I have learned out here is to smoke and every evening fragrant clouds of incense ascend to the ridge poles while we discuss politics. I am opposed to the institution of slavery and would like to see it done away with—but for Heaven’s sake! wait till we get the rebellion crushed . . .

wrote Harry C. Cushing, a Civil War Union officer, in an April 20th, 1862, letter to his father. This letter is one of a series written by Lt. Cushing at the front and addressed to his mother, father, and friend Ned, back home in Providence, Rhode Island. In an animated style, he described his views on life, the war, politics, the opposite sex, the scenery and the Southern people.

An article in the 1986/87 Library Development Review highlighted the letters written by Lt. Cushing from November, 1862, through November, 1864. These letters, written while Cushing served with the Federal army in Tennessee, were purchased with gift funds by the University of Tennessee Library, Special Collections. In order to obtain more information about Lt. Cushing, the library contacted the Rhode Island Historical Society and discovered that its director had purchased the Cushing Civil War letters that were written from October, 1861, through November, 1862, and from September, 1864, through January, 1865. Special Collections and the Rhode Island Historical Society photocopied their respective sets of letters and exchanged the copies so that each institution would have a complete set of Cushing’s delightful and informative letters from the South front.

This article focuses on the Rhode Island letters which were written at the beginning and the end of the war. The letters from 1861/2 were longer and more descriptive while those from the end of the war were briefer. Cushing was optimistic at the start of the war. After the Union victories in February of 1862, he wrote his mother that “success seems to perch on our banners” and that “our only fears up here is that the rebels will not give us a chance to lick at them.” In contrast, at the end of the war, he complained frequently of being bored and seemed understandably battle-weary. In the four years of conflict, he had participated in a total of twenty-three major battles and several minor skirmishes.

One of the most informative components of Cushing’s letters is the descriptions of the places that he visited. When he arrived “in Dixie at last,” he traveled through Harper’s Ferry, stopping at “the famous place immortalized by old John Brown,” inspecting the “famous engine house and the hole he made to fight through.” That cold and windy night, as they camped on a high hill, the men sang “Dixie with all their might.” Later in 1862, he made a few pungent comments about Kentucky towns through which he had traveled. Louisville was described as a “mean hole,” while Columbia was characterized as having “dirty inhabitants” and the same want of thrift that I have marked in Virginia only more so.

As the battery moved further south, the scenery entranced Cushing. Of Charleston, Virginia, he wrote:

The mountains are piled one upon another in great masses and the early morn sun shines on them and bathes them in golden light the effect is indescribably grand. . . . The huge thunder clouds cover their tops and the flashes of lightening dart from the black mass overhead down on their rocky summits and illumine the gray crags. . . . The broad fields which stretch far away to the bases of the hills and lose themselves in their woody coverings are spotted with tents and covered with maneuvering battalions and clattering battery at their evolutions. The music of the regimental bands at dress parade floats through the still air as I sit now at my desk . . .

Cushing was interested in Southern people as well as Southern scenery. Sensitive to the Federal Army’s role as an invading force, he was pleased that the people of Charleston were finally “beginning to view us more in the light of human beings every day and they now are quite polite to us.” However, at one point, his patience wore thin, announcing in a letter to his mother that “the more I see of these rebels the more I hate them—Notwithstanding all efforts we make to convince them to the contrary
they still believe we are Abolitionists and Murderers ... and they are so infernal imprudent in their treason that it is enough to make one mad. They come up and ask a guard to protect their pigs and fowl etc and yet insult the very guard who watches over them."

Since Cushing was in the service for the duration of the conflict, he spent several holidays in camp. After his first Thanksgiving in the service, he wrote to his friend Ned, "... what wouldn't I have given to have been out there [home] on Thanksgiving. Even I would have consented to but one turkey to have been at the jovial place. I presume that you gorged taffy all the evening without a thought of the undersigned. ..."

His last Thanksgiving in camp, that of 1864, was noteworthy in that the soldiers "glutted their unaccustomed appetite with poultry of every description" donated by "the loyal people of the north." Christmas also was a time to think of home. Cushing wrote to his mother in December of 1861 that "Christmas—I beg to call attention to the fact is ten days within coming and I earnestly recommend to your consideration that Adam's Express communicates with Frederic and that they do not understand how to make pies in Maryland." He apparently was not disappointed as he wrote December 27th, "when I returned from [Washington] I found your box and so surfeited myself with the luxuries both gastronomical and intellectual. ..."

As an army travels on its stomach, food was the subject of many of Cushing's letters. In December of 1861, Captain Best's wife, "somewhat adipose and unspirituelle in form but very handsome and lively," arrived to oversee the cooking. Cushing was pleased because "we can have our meals served up without that prodigal and somewhat too lavish proportion of dirt which unfortunately marred the cuisine of the old regime." Apparently, the former "chef" displayed "too much partiality for soiled digits and not being as particular as he should with regard to the purity of his dish cloths. ..." He must have looked back with fondness on those days when Mrs. Best was in charge of the food. Later in 1862 he wrote that after a battle they were living on "the fat of the land namely hardbread coffee pork."

It was frequently necessary to procure food from the neighboring farms, much to the dislike of the local farmers. When a farmer arrived in camp to complain about his missing pig or cow, instead of treating him poorly and sending him away angry, the officers wisely "invite him to sit down and then we deprecate the necessity we have of killing one of his cattle and tell him it grieves us to the heart to do so." They talk with him, pay him, and "bow him out of the tent delighted with our kindness and vowing that we are the most admirable gentlemen he ever met with and promising that he will send us some eggs butter bread & chickens in the morning."

Apparently, Cushing left a rather active social life behind in Providence. In one of his first letters to his friend Ned, he asked him to "remember me to all the fair and joyous ones of the Prospect Hill set ... and pile on any other poetry which you may deem necessary." In the same letter he advised Ned that a friend, Mary Earle, may "wave the pro-
prieties and write and I will not be offended if he do it unladylike. But with my customary gallantry I will write her first and have already commenced one which will be a stunner. . . ." Unfortunately, his letters to Mary Earle have not survived in this collection.

In another letter, Cushing asked Ned to tell the "bright angels" in their social group that he was "ever fondly thinking of them and have to keep their remembrances still fresh in my mind named several of my Quartermasters' mules after some of them. . . ." The mule drivers can be heard "expostulating with 'Marian' and telling her to 'geet up' or gently chiding 'Josie' with the infallible logic of an oxhide whip." The responses of Marian and Josie, back home in Providence, to this piece of information would be interesting to know.

No matter the location, Cushing always had comments to make about the local ladies. In a jest to his friend Ned in December of 1861, he wrote that Frederick, Maryland was filled with "young and blushing females! We have oceans of them—why I have got five now picketed with lariat rope and pins in front of my tent door. . . ." In a letter, again to Ned, dated the next spring, Cushing took several pages to describe the charms of a "fair Secesh" at whose house they camped. She conformed to all the requirements of a heroine, "waving curls," "lustrous eyes," and "swan like grace," except for the teeth which did not "come up to the regulation 'pearly' probably because her paternal progenitor forgetting the intention to form a heroine presented her in her prattling youth with too excessive amount of confectionary."

Although the poor teeth did not stop Cushing from pursuing this young woman, he seems to have met with limited success.

Encountering a woman who did not succumb to his charms depressed the usually buoyant Cushing, especially when the woman in question was in charge of his food. While camped at Charlestown, Cushing reported encountering ladies who "are very bitter and the strongest adherents of secession." One was in charge of the cooking and gave them "coffee made of rye or corn and hardly any sugar in it. . . ." Later in his stay in Charlestown, he apparently had better luck as he wrote that he had found "an accommodating lady who sends me in every morning for my breakfast nice rolls and mild ham etc. Perhaps she has mixed it with slow poison and I may yet dissolve. However I guess not."

Between battles, the soldiers had to find activities to occupy their free time. At the beginning of the war, the officers held frequent drills and practices to ready the troops for fighting. Still, there was time for "parlor concerts" with Captain Best on the flute and his son on the violin. After the nightly concert, "we draw up to the table and indulge in a lively game of euchre."

To fill in other spare moments, Cushing was fond of the "contemplative luxury of a quiet smoke" and discussing "the use of the negro as soldiers or the policy of England and giving vent to many sage and apostle remarks." From the length and quantity of letters that he wrote, we also know that Cushing spent a significant portion of his spare time writing to his friends and family.

In the letters written during 1864/5, Cushing frequently complained that he was bored by inactivity. To alleviate this boredom, the soldiers held a horse race in December of 1864 between the 6th Corps and the Cavalry. The Cavalry was the victor in the best two out of three races. Afterwards, there were several "impromptu matches," and, Cushing wrote, "I had pleasure of beating a crack horse of Army Headquarters with a little grey horse of mine."

On a much more serious note, Cushing's early letters included very graphic battle descriptions. By the time he had arrived in Tennessee, he had stopped these detailed descriptions, hinting that their inclusion was upsetting to his mother. But, while still in Virginia, he wrote two letters, one to his mother and one to Ned, describing the March, 1862, battle at Manassas. In the letter to his mother, he wrote that his battery was "the first in the fight and was the most accurate in its fire." At the end of the battle, he visited the battlefield and "saw any amount of dead Secesh lying around in all sorts of positions with all sorts of wounds." Hardly words to calm a mother's fears for her son's safety.

His letter to Ned was even more graphic as he described the field of battle:

As you advanced toward the scene of the infantry conflict the scene of destruction assumes a more fearful cast. Every fence was riddled with balls. Splinters of wood broken musket stocks cartridge boxes torn in fragments lay around and every bush appeared as if some strong reaper with an immense scythe had been engaged in cutting them to pieces. But in this copse of wood is the most horrible sight of all—amid the rotten branches broken twigs roots rocks and stones lie thirty human beings flung out in every imaginable shape—dead.

In June of the same year Cushing's battery was again involved in fighting near Winchester, Virginia. "We fought for three hours and a half during which we punished the rebels severely until they developed their force and almost surrounded us," he wrote to Ned. The regiment was forced to retreat, fording "the Potomac during which some of our horses were drowned and we had to cut

"We deprecate the necessity we have of killing one of his cattle and tell him it grieves us to the heart to do so." (Harper's Weekly, November 14, 1863, p. 733.)
loose and let the rest find their own way over having to leave the guns in the river." In conclusion, he wrote:

I marched my section 70 miles in two days with but one feed in the meanwhile for my horses was up for three days and three nights with but five hours sleep in the meanwhile had three fights took nothing to eat [but] a piece of bread and butter and one or two biscuits forded the Potomac seven times and had a rough time generally.

It is easy to understand that time pressures and the desire to spare family members and friends the details of battles would have forced Cushing to omit these lengthy battle descriptions in later letters. However, his powers of observation were so keen that it is a loss for us 125 years later.

In August of 1862, Cushing was involved in an incident that exemplified the tragic nature of civil war. During a battle, he lost one of his guns to the enemy. After an armistice had been declared to allow both sides time to bury the dead, Cushing rode over to the Confederate Army to ascertain the location of the confiscated gun. He met a Colonel Ferrell who informed him that Captain Pegram had the gun. So Cushing wrote a note to the Captain telling him of the circumstances surrounding the capture of the gun and asking him "to take good care of it as it was a favorite of mine...." During his conversation with Ferrell, Cushing discovered that a friend of his brother Sam, a Captain Field from Texas, was with the enemy army. Ferrell then proceeded to escort Cushing behind enemy lines to see Field. To his mother, he wrote, "We rode away back in the rebel lines but could not find him and as we were going farther a rebel officer said that I must not be allowed so far in there..." Before they parted, Ferrell "gave me a pipe to remember him by and we had quite an amicable time he inviting me down to see him at the close of the war." After this brief interlude, it was back to war as usual.

In October of 1864, Cushing wrote to his mother that he was presently in Frederick, Maryland, visiting "many of my old friends here who are quite surprised at seeing me they presuming that I was killed." Although he fought in dozens of battles and skirmishes, his most serious medical problem appeared to have been a boil "in a place which seriously impaired the comfort of my riding." In the final letter of the collection dated January 1, 1865, Cushing reported to his mother that he had been transferred from the 2nd Brigade to the Reserve Brigade which was composed of the "Regular Cavalry and one or two of the best Volunteer regiments." At this point, we do not have any information about Cushing's life after the end of the war. But his letters have contributed significantly to our knowledge about life in a Civil War battery and the persistence of the human spirit when confronted by great tragedy.

Against the "Theiving Hordes of Lincoln"
By Herbert Dieterich and Anne K. Chapman

Herbert Dieterich is a Professor of History and American Studies at the University of Wyoming, and Ann K. Chapman is co-donor of this collection of Civil War material.

In one of the many hallowed simplifications of Civil War history, East Tennessee was a stronghold of Unionist sentiment within the Confederacy. Perhaps this was so in a general sense, but the fact remains that in the valleys and villages along the Tennessee River south of Knoxville, many a yeoman farmer cast his lot with the secessionists. The reasons were undoubtedly more cultural than political. Close ties of family and neighborhood, common patterns of agricultural subsistence, and the binding presence of tradition had created a closely-woven social fabric of remarkable strength and durability in local communities like Maryville, Lenoir, Concord, and Loudon. Slavery, though not in its classic plantation mode, was part of this culture. Even so, it was remote as an issue; for these rural white southerners the Confederate cause was essentially a matter of friends, family, and regional loyalties.

A collection recently donated to the University of Tennessee Library by Elizabeth Fisher and Anne Chapman illuminates the lives and attitudes of a group of these people. In some fifty letters, dating from June of 1861 to May of 1865, the Bogle and Saffell families recorded the vicissitudes of military service, local news of farm and community, and personal impressions of the events of the day. Writing one another to "keep in touch," their correspondence amounts to a kind of grass-roots saga in which the immediacy of their experience compels attention and interest. Moreover, these letters document a particular sort of Confederate allegiance, perhaps more common in East Tennessee than historians have thought.

The manuscript census reports for Blount County in 1860 establish some facts about the two families. Eldest of the letter writers was John Bogle of Maryville, thirty years old and married to Elizabeth Saffell Bogle, twenty. Bogle, a surveyor and enterprising farmer, held real and personal property recorded in the amount of $14,000. From the schedule of slave ownership for the county we
but is listed along with younger brother Sam as being a resident of Roane County. According to these records, their ages were twenty-five and twenty, respectively. From the letters, it is evident that Saffell was unmarried and farming near Concord when in the summer of 1861 he joined the Confederate Army as a lieutenant in the 26th Tennessee Volunteer Regiment. Saffell's letters to relatives in Maryville comprise about a fourth of the collection. His unit was heavily engaged against Union forces in Tennessee, and by March, 1864, he was a colonel commanding his regiment.

The letters from R. M. Boman indicate that this transplanted Tennessean was with Lee's Army of Northern Virginia (4th Texas Regiment) in the spring of 1862. In three letters written in the spring and early summer of 1862 to his cousin, John Bogle, Boman recounted impressions of the Peninsular Campaign; later that year he spent a recuperative leave with relatives in Maryville. In the late summer of 1863 he wrote again to his cousins in Maryville from Fredericksburg, Virginia, where his unit was regrouping after the Gettysburg campaign. R. M. Saffell's last letter in the collection (March 12, 1864) mentions that Boman, and Saffell himself, had survived the Battle of Chickamauga, and that Boman was then a captain with Longstreet's Army in East Tennessee.

The central figures in this collection of letters are the Saffell brothers, Dick and Sam, and their brother-in-law John Bogle. Of the trio, only Bogle survived the war. He remained on the family farm except for a period of some six months in 1863 when he was a contract commissary agent for the Confederate Army at Vicksburg. He arrived there in April of 1863 and describes daily experiences in letters to his wife. Then, in May, his letters cease. Other papers in the collection explain the silence when they tell of his capture at Vicksburg and parole back to Maryville. The letters from Vicksburg suggest that Bogle's confidence in the Confederate effort was measured at best. On May 11th, shortly before being captured, he describes the situation around the river stronghold to his wife, adding his own impressions: "As to the final result, persons who ought to know feel confident of our ability, tho I, not being one of the knowing ones, cannot yet realize the good feeling resulting from such a thing." Bogle reported on the "Maryville boys" whom he had seen in Vicksburg, and worried about the possibility of a Union invasion of "our valley" back in Tennessee. In another letter he advises his family to pay all debts with Confederate money and to hold their cotton from the market. Though he sent home several hundred dollars from the Vicksburg assignment, he was not optimistic: "If the post gets much more sickly than it is now," he wrote, "I think I will vacate and go home, tho I think it would not be much better there than here, for the conscript [law] is very rigidly enforced now and I presume my exemption papers would not save me tho if I could get a place in some office nearer home it would be much more pleasant." He advised his family to rely on the neighbors for help with the "corn, wheat, pork, and hay," and sent his letters when he could by friends going back to Maryville. From his correspondence, Bogle emerges as a devout man dedicated to his family and homeland and concerned with the war chiefly as it had disrupted a way of life he knew and loved.

His brother-in-law, bachelor R. M. Saffell, reacted very differently to the crisis. He appears first in this collection writing to Bogle on June 11th, 1861. Having started from home in Concord to visit Bogle in Maryville, Saffell had been sidetracked by neighbors who were considering "raising a company." He himself had "twenty men dead certain as soon as harvest is over to go in a horse company & if Thom Pope will join Henley and myself we can get it up. Bill Hutton is not worth a damn. I hear he voted No Separation & if so he is worse than I ever
thought him. "Be sure and give me your views," he said; "We voted 68 separation votes at our precinct & will poll 400 in the County."

In one of the many letters during the fall and winter of 1861, Lt. Dick Saffell, stationed with his regiment in Bowling Green, Kentucky, seems fired by the prospect of a fight with the "Lincolnites." The officer relates that most of his men were "poor and have left wives and children at home, to support whom it takes all of the pittance $11.00 a month which they receive for exposing their lives and health in trying to drive the thieving hordes of Lincoln, from desecrating by their tread the soil of their nation state." The young officer obviously relished military life despite the fact that his unit spent most of its time in drill and the construction of earthwork fortifications, "Camplife on the whole is just the life for me," he wrote. "We have hardships true, but we have fun enough to make it all up. The excitement is just what I like & we have a lot of as clever officers as ever were out." Of Kentucky and Kentuckians, he had little good to say; the women could "beat the world for Big-Ugly," and the men were "cowards." "I think Jeff Davis will have a hard bargain if he takes Kentucky over, let alone giving men and money both, for the game ain't worth the candle. ... Our boys all hate the people about here and say if they had known that they were going to be sent to defend such, they would have staid at home." In spite of his distaste for the locale and its inhabitants, Saffell's spirits were not entirely daunted, according to friend and fellow soldier Talbot Greene, who colorfully recalled:

I passed on, and on through the encampment, till I reached the marquee of Captain McClung, where I hear the strains of another song, as it floated out on the evening air, and settled like snow-flakes for at least a hundred yards around. I paused to listen: it emanated from my quaint and humorous friend, Lieutenant Dick Saffell. For the edification of the reader, I will give the words: "Oh who would be a private, and wallow in the dirt, I'd rather be a captain, and wear a speckled shirt."

From the letters it is clear that his volunteer unit relied heavily on relatives and friends for many necessary items. The Bogles sent him blankets, underclothes, shirts and a coat. "You have no idea as to the scarcity of everything in the way of army supplies, such as clothing and blankets," he wrote to them. "There are not a single pair of blankets to be bought in Bowling Green & what the sick soldiers get, are sent from home or given up to them by their comrades in arms who do without themselves."

Saffell explained the supply problem to his sister in a long letter written November 24, part of which is as follows:

Thousands of dollars worth of clothing have been sent our Boys which they could have got in no other way, than through the charity of Southern Wrights folks at home. For no such things are to be bought at any thing inside the bound of reason. ... But in fact such gifts are not charity but no more than justice for those who remain at home & are protected in their persons & property should see as a duty that the poor man who goes forth to protect them does not die for want of the bare necessities with which to support life. W. S. Tullar of Concord was here yesterday & says our company have a large lot of goods there awaiting shipment & I hope how soon they may come for all other companies in the Reg have received theirs.

By December Saffell was ready for a leave, though it did not come through: "I think Old Hardee (General William J.) ought to let me go home for two weeks anyhow now. But he is a damned Old Regular & no more soul than a lizard. ... Regulars don't like Volunteers much anyhow & Volunteers hate Regulars like the Devil." After six months Saffell finally got the action he had awaited. On February 11th, 1862, he wrote to the Bogles that his unit was on its way to Ft. Donelson. On the night of February 13th, Saffell's regiment boarded the steamer John A. Fisher, at Cumberland City, on the Cumberland River, reached Fort Donelson just before daylight the 14th, and was at once placed in line of battle. Under the direction of Col. John M. Lillard, the 18th Regiment fought gallantly until its surrender to federal forces on February 16th. In a letter dated February 18th, Saffell writes home again, this time from a Union steamer bound for "some United States prison." His regiment had been captured at Ft. Donelson and Saffell's company suffered sixteen men killed and wounded. Of the Confederate debacle he wrote bitterly:

Gen. Pillow is a damned white livered coward, he sold us to save his own carcass & ran on the battle field & hid behind a big poplar tree." (Brigadier General Gideon J. Pillow: National Archives.)

in Columbus, Ohio. He was well treated and asked for news from the neighborhood. "Do the best you can and keep things done up on the farm and make all the money you can," he wrote. "Tell Sam to farm it strong & try to make money."

The Ft. Donelson episode was only the first of Saffell's battle experiences. In a prisoner-of-war exchange he was released in the summer of 1862 and his regiment was reorganized at Chattanooga in September. He wrote again to his brother-in-law for clothing and boots. In early January of 1863, Saffell, having been recently promoted to Major, suffered a severe thigh wound in the Battle of Murfreesboro and was again captured. This is evident from the letter of a fellow officer also from Maryville serving in the 26th Regiment who wrote the details to the Bogle family. Another source mentions the injury of color-bearer E. P. Green in the same clash. The soldier was initially thought to have received a fatal chest wound, but as was soon discovered, the enemy projectile had not penetrated his body. It had been blocked by an object in his coat pocket. When an attending fellow soldier removed the life-saving obstacle, it turned out to be a dagger-ss type of Green's sweetheart. Others in Saffell's unit were not so lucky.

A few months after his injury at Murfreesboro, Saffell was paroled home and shortly returned to active duty in the 26th Regiment. In September of 1863 he saw action again in the Battle of Chickamauga where his regiment lost 117 killed.
and wounded out of a force of 332. He describes the fearsome battle in a report of October 6, 1863, addressed to Captain H. J. Cheney, Assistant Adjutant General. Saffell relates that after his unit received orders to advance to the battle front, they soon came upon the enemy's main line, which had taken position upon the crest of a low ridge running parallel to with our line of battle. The enemy's whole line now opened fire upon us at a distance of about 150 yards. We then received orders to fire upon him as we advanced, and the engagement now became general and the fighting on both sides desperate. Immediately in front of my regiment the enemy had planted a battery of small field pieces, from which he was pouring a destructive fire into our ranks. We had nearly succeeded in reaching the top of the ridge when the enemy's reserve line of fresh troops opened a most destructive fire upon us. Here Colonel Lillard fell mortally wounded by the explosion of a shell, and the command of the regiment devolved upon me.

Soon after this battle he was promoted to Colonel in command of his regiment and some six weeks later was engaged in the Lookout Mountain-Missionary Ridge battle. He described both actions in a letter to his sisters dated March 12th, 1864. It is his final letter in the collection. His spirits remained high as he wrote, "The boys are now well over their scare [at Missionary Ridge] & Old Jo Johnson is the man to win the next fight whenever and wherever we meet the foe. This is only my prediction: but time will tell & if we don't whip we will be the most disappointed army that ever fought a battle." But the tactical skills of General Johnson and the valor of his men, including Col. Dick Saffell, could only postpone the inevitable. Still fighting in Johnson's army, Saffell, the farmer who found military life exciting, was killed in March of 1865 at the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina—one of the last battles of the Civil War. His stalwart attitude is reflected in fellow soldier William A. Mayo's diary entry of May 10, 1865: "Dick Saffles is dead. He refused to sign amnesty oath even in the face of defeat of the South." The officer replacing Saffell as commander of the few surviving members that comprised the 26th Regiment was a lieutenant-colonel named A. F. Bogess. Records reveal that Bogess had not been at the helm long when he too was killed and, for what must have been the sake of convenience, was buried alongside Saffell in the same grave.

The younger of the Saffell brothers, Sam, was the poorest writer of the group. His prose is adequately functional, written in a labored scrawl. Letters were clearly a chore for him and were brief and apparently infrequent. About a dozen are included in the collection. At one point his brother-in-law chided him good-naturedly, "I think you must have forgotten how to write. If you have you can get the captain or some other man in your company who has larnin to write for you."

Sam was still farming near Woods Hill in January of 1862 when he wrote Bogle about local affairs, including a plea; "I will have in a large crop of corn and will need right smart of help." By March he too had joined a local volunteer company and in July he reported that they had elected "good officers." He added a note of advice to Bogle, "I understand that the conscript law is a going to be enforced in E. Tenn. If that be the case you look up a substitute." The Maryville relative had already sent him coat and pants trimmed for the military and Sam asked a further favor, "I want you to send me fifty dollars by the first mail as we cannot draw any & I have to let the boys have a little once awhile." A year later, from Camp Cumberland Gap, Sam wrote his sister asking for word of his brother whom he knew to have been wounded at Murfreesboro, adding a note of unconscious irony: "We have nothing new here, a great deal of sickness in our regt. 2 or 3 deaths a week sometimes as many in a day." From his brother's letter (March 12, 1864) we know that Sam was by then a captain serving with General Longstreet in East Tennessee. The last letter of the collection tells of Sam Saffell's death on June 27, 1864. He suffered a fatal gunshot wound in the Petersburg campaign, the injury being described by the officer in charge of a field infirmary at Petersburg.

As the excerpts and commentary suggest, the Bogle-Saffell Collection rarely speaks to the grander themes that have dominated Civil War history. There is some material here that will interest the military historian, but the battlefield impressions are by participants who were themselves minor figures. On the other hand, the letters document a social dimension of wartime life, reminding one again and again that the problems of Confederate supply were often met at the family level. If the Southern effort seems to have been relatively loose and unstructured, this was partly because it depended so much upon the folks at home. Among these East Tennessee Confederates there was a kind of pragmatic acceptance of the war. In some cases, as with the Saffell brothers, the farmer became a seasoned soldier. Their brother-in-law John Bogle remained a civilian, tied to the farm and the impulse
to succeed in an economic way.

In the final analysis, the collection is of greatest importance to the social historian interested in wartime attitudes of the common folk. One is able to share in the immediate exasperation of young Lt. Dick Saffell when he writes from Bowling Green, "You have no idea of the way in which soldiers are imposed on here & in Nashville. The fact is we are at the mercy of a set of thieves, sharpers & speculators & just have to submit with the best grace possible." One can glimpse a bit of the folklore of the time, as Borman writes his cousin, "We are under marching orders—my health is improved greatly—I rec'd the buckeye & am much obliged—I cant help but have some faith in it." And one is amused when Bogle describes for his wife one of the minor trials of Vicksburg life, "We drink cistern water which is said to be the healthiest though it is a well defined case of animated nature, it being literally alive with wiggle tails... which gambol about under your nose quite lively whilst you take a drink."

These vivid excerpts from the letters of Confederate Tennesseans testify to the wealth and quality of content present in the Bogle-Saffell Collection, and hint at its research value. The letters are a welcome addition to the library's ever-increasing Civil War manuscript holdings, especially so because they document the experiences of Tennesseans.

The Rise and Fall of a Summer School

by William B. Eigelsbach, Senior Library Assistant

During the library's move last year numerous file boxes of forgotten university records were discovered in a long unused room of the old building. These records and other material already in Archives and the Manuscript Section of Special Collections form the basis for the following article.

"In my opinion, if we could have compelled the Summer Schools to close," George F. Peabody of the General Education Board wrote in 1908 to Philander P. Claxton, Superintendent of the Summer School of the South, "we would have done a good thing." Had Claxton been of a mind with Peabody, Southern public education would have been the poorer. For the Summer School, now little remembered, was a principal instrument in the improvement of our region's educational system. From its inception in 1902 to its demise in 1918 the Summer School of the South instructed some 32,000 teachers in the art of education.

That Southern teachers needed significant improvement seems beyond dispute. The Summer School's founder, Charles W. Dabney, President of the University of Tennessee, described in another context the intellectual state of the South as one of "almost insurmountable prejudice, narrowness, sectarianism, sectionalism, demogoguism, and pro-

found stupidity. ..." In a region in which the average citizen received only 3 years of schooling of all kinds in his entire life most pedagogues were "makeshift teachers," little better educated than their students.

To Dabney the Summer School would change this directly and indirectly, directly by improving the professional skills and increasing the knowledge of attending teachers, and indirectly by energizing teachers to sell school improvement when they returned home. In sum the school was to do double duty as a summer college and as the equivalent of an Amway convention for teachers.

In addition to founding the school Dabney made two further major contributions. First he provided it with a home by persuading the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees to allow the Summer School free use of university buildings normally vacant over the summer and to also allow the school to erect its own buildings on university land. Second he picked P. P. Claxton, who was later to be U. S. Commissioner of Education and Provost of the University of Alabama, to organize and administer the new school. In picking him Dabney made the right choice, for Claxton was a man of enthusiasm and talent dedicated to educational improvement.

Quickly he set about spreading the news of the new school. In a two month period in early 1902 Claxton toured some ten Southern states. He addressed state educational assemblies, enlisted the help of local superintendents, and talked to individual teachers by the score. At one point it probably seemed that when two or more teachers gathered together

Charles W. Dabney, President of the University of Tennessee and founder of the Summer School of the South. (Archival Photo Collection.)

Philander P. Claxton, Superintendent of the Summer School of the South. (Archival Photo Collection.)
there was Claxton. As a buttress to these personal appeals, Claxton flooded the mails with over 100,000 brochures and posters announcing the school’s first session.

Expectations varied as to how many teachers would respond. Edward Sanford, trustee and future Supreme Court Justice, thought attendance would be from 150 to 200. Dabney though felt that the number would be closer to 600. Both considered Claxton’s estimate of 800 to 900 overly optimistic. All three men were confounded when the response exceeded all three estimates. By the end of registration 2,019 students had enrolled.

What accounts for such a response? Certainly Claxton’s enthusiasm played a part. Also some teachers were influenced by the school’s nominal cost and the reduced fares offered by Southern railroads to attending teachers. But more important in generating initial attendance was the high quality of the assembled faculty and the diversity of the courses offered. In the beginning session eight of the fifty-one faculty members were or had been university presidents. Additionally, the faculty included the famous Southern novelist Walter H. Page and prominent Northern editor Albert Shaw. But probably most important to attending teachers was the opportunity to be instructed by America’s leading educator, William T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education and leader of the St. Louis Hegelians. In later sessions the faculty level remained high, attracting such scholars as John Dewey, Richard T. Ely, U. B. Phillips, and W. H. Kilpatrick.

Paying for such a faculty presented a continual difficulty. To change a full-market price to students would have placed school fees beyond the fiscal capacity of most Southern teachers. That would have defeated the school’s very reason for existence. So the Summer School resorted to soliciting corporate sponsors to pay some faculty salaries. Usually the sponsor would be a textbook or school supply corporation seeking to advertise its wares to teachers. For example, the Nashville artist L. W. George’s salary was paid by a company dealing in art textbooks.

But such sponsorships were unstable. For a variety of reasons corporate sponsors would cease to fund a faculty position. Ginn and Company stopped because company policy changed. McMillan and Company did so because Tennessee had not yet adopted its books as school texts. In dropping his company’s faculty subsidy, A. N. Palmer, the famous handwriting expert, wrote in explanation:

...I must consider my own finances, and I find that I have been very reckless in the past in the expenditure of money for free instruction in summer schools... You know we can all chase the ideal too hard at times, and in this pomeranian work I have sometimes done this, ignoring the cold blooded business side and have forgotten that people to whom I owe money are necessarily merciless when it comes time to pay.

Whatever the source of faculty salaries the Summer School offered to teachers a wide variety of instruction. In his 1902 report to the State Superintendent of Schools President Dabney divided the curriculum into three sections. The first dealt with “common school subjects and methods.” Instruction covered courses about “Kindergarten, Primary School Organization, Primary and Elementary Reading, Expression, Arithmetic, Elementary Geometry, Geography, Grammar and Rhetoric, United States History, and Civil Government.” Two areas emphasized in this section were Nature Study, as it relates to Botany, Zoology, Ornithology and Agriculture, and Manual Training, including Drawing, Basketry, Weaving, and Sewing. Also taught within this section were courses on Music and Physical Education. Section two dealt with “high school and college subjects.” Here courses were taught in English Language and Literature, History (Medieval, Reformation, English, and Modern), Mathematics (Algebra, Plane Geometry, and Calculus), Chemistry, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Botany, Geology and Mineralogy, and the “Physiography of North America and Distribution and Adaptation of Plants and Animals.” Within section three courses related directly to the art of education proper. Dabney described it as “the professional school of the teacher.” Here were taught courses on the History of Education, School Management and the Art of Teaching, Psychology, and the Philosophy and Principles of Education.

Given the alleged lack of substance in some teacher education today it is quite easy to feel nostalgic for the Summer School’s curriculum. But education then was not without flaws. It was, and still is, prone to fads. The fad then sweeping education was for “Simplified Spelling,” the spelling of words as supposedly pronounced. What this meant in practice can be seen in the following extract from a letter by W. W. Charters, Dean of Education at the University of Missouri:

I should not rite to you wef it not for the fact that the Kansas people huv put me down for the week beginning July 6, and say that they find sum little difficulty in making a change from the 6th to the 20th as I suggested in view of the fact that I mite possible cum to Knoxville.

I should like to kno at once whether or not you wil need me, so that I may giv them the date 6-10 unles you want it.

But fortunately, as the above course lists show, “Simplified Spelling” was an exception, not a rule, for teacher education at the time.

Formal classes did not exhaust the school’s capacity for instruction. From the Chautauqua Circuit and elsewhere lecturers were carefully selected to provide improving and uplifting presentations. These could range from Charles Zueblin on civic reform through dramatic readings by President John Duxbury of the Manchester (England) School of Elocution to a slide show with accompanying lecture by explorer Charles Wellington Furlong.

To make up for the region’s lack of high culture, classic plays and music constituted an important part of the school. Charles Coburn and his troupe of al fresco players regularly appeared to perform Greek and Shakespearean plays. Maude Powell, “the world’s greatest woman violinist,” was also a Summer School regular. Among the many other artists who appeared on campus were contralto Margaret Keys, soprano Corinne Rider-Kelsey, and conductor Leopold Stokowski and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

Relations between the Summer School and the University were quite cordial during the presidency of Charles Dabney. After all, while president of one, he was the founder of the other. But with his departure to be President of the University of Cincinnati tension between the schools soon developed. The following from a letter to Claxton by Dabney’s successor Dr. Brown Ayres neatly provides one example:

...I am very anxious that Ogden Hall should be removed before the opening of the session. I recall that you asked that the summer school property be allowed to be stored in it until your return from the campaign and to this I agreed, but on thinking the matter over I am persuaded that it would be far better for us to
remove this building before the opening of the session. I think that it would be very hard to prevent the students from tampering with or making a bonfire of the lumber if the building were torn down while they are here. Of course my solicitude in regard to the possible action of the students arises not only from a desire to protect the material building were torn down, but from the fear that any fire started by them might communicate to the other buildings or seriously injure the trees on the campus. We may be able to use the lumber in Ogden Hall in the construction of seats on the athletic field.

Minor in itself, this and other points of conflict hint at deeper and more troublesome problems between the schools.

These problems came to a head in 1911. Prior to that year the University Board of Trustees had routinely granted three-year renewals of the Summer School's permission to use the campus. In that year at renewal time President Ayres launched a full-scale assault against the Summer School of the South. In a presentation to the board, Ayres asserted that the University gained nothing and lost much as host to the Summer School. "The character of the school is such," he wrote, "as to give rather a false impression of the ideals and standards of the University itself." The "Chautauqua features" of the school and the emphasis on teacher education "filled up the school mainly with elementary teachers, mostly women," who formed "an unorganized mob" that left "everything in a delapidated and dirty condition." Further the central building of the Summer School, Jefferson Hall, was an offense against architectural beauty: "I do not believe any university in America would have consented to have its campus disfigured for ten years by a structure of this character. It makes an exceedingly irritating feature of our landscape and places us in an apologetic attitude to all visitors." Should the Board decide to renew Ayres recommended conditions be attached. The most important of these were as follows: that the Summer School operate no dining hall on campus; that Summer School students be banned from the library; that no university employees have anything to do with the school's business management; that Jefferson Hall be leveled immediately; that instruction be basically in the hands of University of Tennessee professors.

Fairness required President Ayres to provide Dr. Claxton authority to all visitors. Should the Board decide to renew Ayres recommended conditions be attached. The most important of these were as follows: that the Summer School operate no dining hall on campus; that Summer School students be banned from the library; that no university employees have anything to do with the school's business management; that Jefferson Hall be leveled immediately; that instruction be basically in the hands of University of Tennessee professors.

Fairness required President Ayres to provide Dr. Claxton with a copy of his presentation prior to placing it before the board. With such advance warning Claxton composed the Board a response to Ayres' hostile assertions. His reply rested upon the fundamental argument that Ayres did not know what he was talking about. Of course Claxton, who was also a University department head, did not put the point so baldly. Instead he wrote:

I think President Ayres has not quite understood the character of the school and the nature of the features to which he offers objections. This is no doubt due to the fact that he has not been as intimately connected with it as I have.

Principally Ayres' misunderstandings related to the Special Lecturers, the students, and the faculty. In regard to the first, the Summer School did not possess any "Chautauqua features" as properly understood. Special lecturers were not "the ordinary popular and semi-sensational type given at the Chautauquas," but instead dealt in "matter of a high type" presented "in a scholarly and thoughtful way." In regard to the second, Claxton ignored Ayres' bizarre charge that a school founded to improve teachers actually attracted teachers and proceeded to defend the caliber and character of the school's students.

Among them have been the best and most progressive teachers from all kinds and grades of schools, from the kindergarten to the college, scholarly and earnest men and women of wide influence in their communities. Most of them have been graduates of colleges, universities and normal schools of good standing, and a large majority have worked earnestly and intensely, fully as well as the average college student works during the regular season.

And in regard to the third, Claxton argued that the Summer School faculty were "the equal of any college faculty of like size in the country" and offered to the students many courses the university has not yet felt itself able to provide.

Where Claxton agreed with Ayres was in the area of aesthetics. He too did not find Jefferson Hall a pleasure to the eye. But Claxton did advance a defense of the building, noting that, while not beautiful, it was "very useful, both to the Summer School of the South and the University." As to the conditions President Ayres wished to add to the renewal agreement, Claxton estimated that these would result in a revenue loss close to $17,000. Such a loss would make it impossible for the school to do much of its most useful and valuable work. Finally Claxton stated that the Summer School would be better closed.

Caught in a clash between the President and the Superintendent, the Board of Trustees, some of whom were or had been on the Summer School's Board, attempted to avoid the issue. A committee was appointed to study the question and report back at some future date. Fortunately for the board's peace of mind the question answered itself. Before the committee could report Dr. Claxton resigned to accept President Taft's appointment as U. S. Commissioner of Education. With Claxton's departure, Ayres successfully urged upon the Trustees that the Summer School should be taken over by the University.

Under University control the character of the Summer School remained unchanged. Teacher education remained the principal emphasis. The so-called "Chautauqua features" that President Ayres so abhorred not only remained but were soon supplemented with the showing of silent films. Even Jefferson Hall had not a single board or plank disturbed.

In fact, the changes made were so few that the reason for the President's attack takes on an air of mystery. University historian James Montgomery accounted for it by ascribing to him an opposition to the teaching of education courses. Certainly the details of Ayres' indictment support Montgomery, but contradictory evidence exists. In his authoritative book on Tennessee education, The Struggle for A State System of Public Schools in Tennessee 1903-1936, Dr. Andrew Holt credits Ayres, along with Dabney and Claxton, as a leader in the fight to improve public education.

That Ayres could in the context of the time be such a leader and yet a principled opponent of teaching education seems a trifle difficult to believe. The mystery deepens.

If Ayres' stated reasons were not his real reasons, what then explains the President's actions in 1911? Institutional factors provide a partial answer. Among the University faculty many resented and were hostile to the Summer School. Ayres' attack can be understood as the institutional manifestations of that faculty hostility and resentment. So perhaps any president of the University would sooner or later have done the same, but Ayres, also, had a personal motive to augment the institutional one. When Dabney departed in 1904, Claxton had been his choice as successor. Though the Board of Trustees picked Ayres, it is humanly understandable that he would dislike seeing a rival running.
The story of the Summer School's years under university control can be quickly told, for the only significant event was the school's death. From the last session under Claxton to the year 1916 the Summer School lost 719 students or 28 percent of its enrollment. Such a decline endangered the school's existence. The 48 percent decline from 1916 to 1918 ended it. Faced with large losses, the Board of Trustees closed the Summer School of the South with its 1918 session.

Various factors played a part in this decline and death. The most obvious were increased competition and war. Success brings competition and the success of the Summer School of the South was no exception. With various summer schools starting up across the South, teachers could find a school nearer to home than Knoxville. With the start of Mr. Wilson's War in 1916 the government took over the railroads and ended the reduced fares granted attending teachers. This too helped influence potential students to look closer to home for a summer school. But these obvious factors simply provided the environmental context within which the school needed to survive. What they do not explain is why the school failed to survive.

The reason for the school's failure to respond to the challenge of war and competition was institutional. With university control came university bureaucracy. Where Claxton could, while riding a trolley, cut a deal with the Anderson County Superintendent of Schools for a group rate, E. E. Rall, the University's Superintendent of Normal Studies at the Summer School, had to have Executive Committee approval to allot an additional $50 to the Kindergarten Department. In a crisis requiring the flexibility, intelligence, and energy of the individual, of a Claxton, the University responded with the inertia of a bureaucracy. Given the degree of the challenge, the University's summer school simply lacked the capacity to survive.

Several conclusions can be made about the Summer School of the South. As one of the first and largest summer schools in the country it helped to pioneer among universities the concept of summer education. Also, it had a profound influence upon Southern teachers. For years afterward Claxton and the various presidents of the University received letters from teachers expressing gratitude and fond remembrance for the contribution the school made to their careers and lives. But perhaps it would be most fitting to let the final conclusion about the Summer School of the South come from Dr. Claxton. In 1950 he described the school as "not much money but a lot of fun." With that nothing more need be said.

Not a Lexicographer
by John Dobson,
Special Collections Librarian Emeritus

Although he is not mentioned in Tennessee Writers (a Tennessee Three Star book published by the Tennessee Historical Commission in cooperation with The University of Tennessee Press in 1981), most surveys of literary notables who were natives of Tennessee feature the name T. S. Stribling prominently. The author, whose home was Clifton, Tennessee, was a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist. According to The World Almanac only two other Tennesseans have had the distinction of being chosen for the coveted fiction award. They were James Agee for A Death in the Family in 1958, and Peter Taylor for A Summons to Memphis in 1987.

Born in 1881, Thomas Sigismund Stribling's career flourished in the period between World War I and World War II. The Pulitzer award came to him in 1933 for his novel, The Store, which was the second volume of a trilogy about the South. The first volume, The Forge, published in 1931, told of the Civil War and Reconstruction. The final volume, Unfinished Cathedral, published in 1934, was described by the author as "a story of religion and preachers and the connection between them." While The Forge, published during the depression, was a failure in America, it was successful in England. Prize winner, The Store, enjoyed wide critical acclaim, and Unfinished Cathedral helped the publishers, Doubleday, Doran to boast on a 1935 dust jacket, "T. S. Stribling's tremendous trilogy of the South: the story of Colonel Milt Varden told in three dramatic novels ... have been bought by 104,280 Americans ... ."

Between 1917 and 1938, fifteen of Stribling's novels were published, ten of them by the well-known Doubleday publishing house. Following a policy of collecting the works of Tennessee authors, the library has attempted to acquire his books in the first edition. All of the fifteen titles are present in the Special Collections division, but only seven are first editions. The effort goes on to bring the author's published output to the shelves. Efforts have also been made through the years to acquire the Stribling papers, which include much unpublished material.

In 1966 a scholar at a northern university brought the Stribling papers to the attention of officials at the Univer-
At this point, the Press director advised the library that the time was ripe to inquire again about placement of the papers.

Since two approaches from the library itself had proved ineffective, it seemed appropriate to change tactics. Why not issue an invitation from a high level in the University? About then, as it happened, there appeared on the scene a former top official from a West Tennessee campus. This official, reassigned to Knoxville, was provided with a loosely-defined post and an executive office. In a search for meaningful pursuits, he offered assistance to the library and expressed a particular concern for encouraging gifts of manuscript material. Here was an opportunity for a different tactic. The new executive was furnished with background information surrounding the cause of the Stribling collection and his help was solicited. A letter explaining the matters said in part, "This case is an instance in which we would welcome your assistance. If you can use your persuasive powers, your office, or your contacts in helping to convince Mrs. Stribling to place her husband's papers here, it would certainly be appreciated. Perhaps you could accomplish the two-fold purpose of aiding the library and furthering the publishing interests of UT Press." Nothing happened. No response. No help.

Almost a year later a telephone call came to the library from one of the editors of the Stribling autobiography. In an amicable conversation regarding the work, the editor suggested that an acceptance of the autobiography for publication by the Press would probably bring about a favorable decision to place the papers in the library. A follow-up letter on the subject indicated that Mrs. Stribling, on further consideration, did not wish to contribute the papers as an exchange for publication of the autobiography. She felt rather the Press officials should accept the autobiography on its merit and "feel sincere about it being worthy of their most august attention." The editor expressed an opinion that a decision about publication did not govern placement of the papers.

Laughing Stock, the posthumous autobiography of T. S. Stribling, was not published by the University of Tennessee Press. It was issued in 1982 by St. Luke's Press of Memphis. The Stribling papers were not given to the University of Tennessee Library.

The topic of Stribling and a review of efforts to acquire his papers is not broached here as the report of a failure. Instead it is a recollection of the library's long-standing interest in the writer. The recollection was put in motion because an original Stribling piece has at last been acquired for the manuscript division. The piece, a signed typewritten letter, was acquired from a western autograph dealer through the use of gift funds. The single letter is a far cry from the mass of papers sought from Mrs. Stribling, but it is significant in content and is certainly worthy of attention.

The letter, dated Marianna, Florida, January 21, 1938, to M. H. Kowan of Columbus, Ohio, is apparently in response to several questions about writing. It is uncertain what the questions were, but from the answers clues may be drawn. Stribling begins, "I am not a lexicographer and am not good on definitions. If I wanted one I would go to Mr. Webster who has made something of a reputation for being if not correct, at least usable. However if you really are interested in a home made definition unblemished by Merriam and Co., here goes." Following are two statements of meaning supplied by the novelist:

Fiction—Facts, near facts, or fantasy based on facts, taken out of its natural inchoate order (these two terms contradict each other but I hope you see what I mean) and simplified and rearranged until they convey a meaning touched with emotion.

Novel—One of the longer literary efforts to create a world of some emotional unity and intellectual comprehensibility out of the flotsam of Time and Space.

In response to an apparent query about reasons for being a writer, Stribling answered, "Material gain and self entertainment. Also I want to paint a picture of the world as I see it so that some archeologist living a thousand years from now could read over my works, if any of the paper hangs together long and, get some idea of what our world looked like." Another interesting response had to do with the elements of the novel. Stribling's opinion was, "Elements of a novel arranged in respect to their greatest importance to me: Philosophic theme...character...plot...humor...style...but pervading all I would place sincerity...if a writer hasn't honesty of philosophy, character, plot, humor and style he is nothing." A final suggestion regarding important steps in composition was simply, "Rewriting."
Cover design for Stribling's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel.

not be worthy of extensive comment, but its acquisition does represent a small success in expanding the scope of a literary collection. A more or less comprehensive assemblage of the printed words of a renowned Tennessee author has been augmented by a unique unprinted piece. While the hope of obtaining the large group of materials that make up the Stribling papers has gone unrealized, a possibility of finding scattered pieces from a variety of sources still exists.

A profile of the Stribling collection being assembled in the library serves as an example of practices followed in building up holdings of other literary figures. There is a wish to actively increase the stock of printed titles and manuscript items that are the work of notable writers on the national, regional, and local scenes.

The Archival Center for Radiation Studies: An Update
by Stephen C. Wicks, Senior Library Assistant

Eighteen years have passed since the University of Tennessee established the Archival Center for Radiation Biology in the manuscript division of the Special Collections Library as a reflection of a common interest held by scientists from the University and from nearby Oak Ridge National Laboratory. It was created with the purpose of attracting a rich, comprehensive group of papers that would represent the broad field of radiation science and serve as a primary record of its evolution. The decision to locate the Center at the Knoxville campus, according to Dr. John Totter, Director of the Atomic Energy Commission Division of Biology and Medicine, “is most appropriate in view of the close proximity of the University to Oak Ridge, one of the world’s largest centers of radiation biology, and the very close relationship of the University to these laboratories.”

With the assistance of the late director and radiation research pioneer Alexander Hollaender, it took little time for the archive to become rife with significant research material. In January of 1971, less than three months after the archive’s establishment, the papers of Louis Harold Gray were acquired. Gray (1905-1965), a distinguished British physicist and radiobiologist, was the first Director of the British Empire Cancer Campaign Research Unit in Radiobiology, and, as his papers reflect, was actively involved in many other important organizations in the field, most

Alexander Hollaender, who was the guiding force in the formation of the radiation archive, is presented with the 1983 Enrico Fermi Award by President Reagan for his scientific achievements. (Alexander Hollaender Collection.)
notably, the British Institute of Radiology, and the U.S. National Research Council. Occupying fifty linear feet of shelf space, his is the single largest collection in the archive. (Louis Harold Gray Collection.)

Despite rapid growth and substantial holdings, the Archival Center for Radiation Biology's exclusive scope came to hinder its ability to fulfill the increasingly complex research needs of the scientific community. In response to this situation, University representatives met with the History Committee of the Radiation Research Society in 1986, and decided to broaden the archive's range to include all facets of radiation science. Hence, the collection was officially rechristened, The Archival Center for Radiation Studies.

Aware that much of the collection's material pertained to radiation biology alone, University and History Committee delegates agreed that in order to create the diverse yet comprehensive archive desired, a new solicitation effort must be launched. A number of important scientists, including those whose research would have fallen outside the archive's previously narrow scope, were targeted to receive a written appeal for donations. To consider responses to the solicitation, the University created a special local committee comprised of several scientists from the Knoxville campus and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Financial support was provided by the Radiation Research Society, which supplied a generous fund used to cover contributors' shipping costs. By eliminating such expenses, the library hoped to encourage gifts of material.

After a brief period of silence following the mailing of the solicitation letters, replies from the selected scientists began to appear regularly in the library's mail. Considering the number of positive responses and the volume and quality of material donated, the solicitation drive was quickly deemed successful. The following scientists responded by offering to give some or all of their non-current files and a few arranged to send future shipments on a regular basis: M. M. Elkind, John L. Magee, E. L. Powers, Theodore T. Puck, Harald H. Rossi, Robert S. Schuler, Warren K. Sinclair, Lauriston S. Taylor, Paul Todd, Fred Urbach, and H. Rodney Withers. Previous donors Daniel Billen, Farringdon Daniels, and Raymond Latarjet also replied to the appeal by sending new gifts of material. The size of this group of contributors appears especially large when one considers that it nearly equals the total number of scientists that had donated papers to the archive in its previous sixteen years of existence. This response would seem to indicate that the library is well on the way toward becoming a radiation research center of international importance, and in fact, nearly one-third of the thirty-three scientists whose papers comprise the collection hail from abroad.

With the addition of these gifts, the archive now has substantial holdings in a variety of radiation science disciplines beyond radiation biology: photobiology, biophysics, radiation oncology, radiological physics, photochemistry, cytolgy, biochemistry, genetics, etc. The types of material donated have also varied greatly in format: there are experiment notes and data, reports and minutes of proceedings, scientific correspondence, and other papers, as well as relevant reprints, and photographs. The volume of recent donations has expanded the archive's holdings from just over 300 to nearly 400 linear shelf feet.

In light of the archive's large size and ever-increasing acquisitions rate, it was timely and fortunate that the Special Collections Library was recently awarded additional space, part of which has been allocated for the manuscript division containing this collection of scientific papers. It is hoped that the expansion will enable the library to accommodate...
The newly-obtained expansion space will be especially critical because the archive, with its broader scope, is now an appropriate repository for a potentially vast photobiology resource. This material was brought to the attention of the University’s local committee by Dr. John Jagger, past-president of the American Society for Photobiology (ASP), who currently serves as its historian. When gathered, the collection will most likely consist of the papers of many distinguished photobiologists, as well as the official files of the ASP. In essence, the merger would unite two of the chief branches of radiation studies: the ionizing radiation branch, which is the focus of radiobiologists; and the non-ionizing radiation branch, which is of concern to photobiologists. The value of this body of photobiology material to the University of Tennessee’s Archival Center for Radiation Studies is assessed in a letter of June 29, 1987, to the University in which Dr. Jagger states, “Such a merger would, I believe, make that collection [the Archival Center] the most comprehensive one in radiation studies in the world.”

David VanVactor
by Stuart Garrett, Music Cataloger

David VanVactor—composer, conductor, flutist, and teacher—has for many years been a major part of the musical life of Knoxville and the University of Tennessee. For this reason it seems fitting that his papers, the documentary record of his outstanding career, have found a permanent home in the Special Collections Library.

Van Vactor came to Knoxville in 1947 as conductor of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra and head of the newly founded University of Tennessee Fine Arts Department. Under his direction the orchestra experienced a period of growth and technical polish and made its first professional recording for the CRI label. Before coming to Knoxville, Van Vactor was flutist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for thirteen years, taught theory at Northwestern University for seven years, and from 1943 to 1946 was Assistant Conductor of the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra while serving as head of the Theory and Composition Department at the Conservatory of Music. Van Vactor speaks Spanish fluently and, under the sponsorship of the State Department, made four South American tours as a member of a woodwind quintet in 1941 and as guest conductor of the orchestras of Rio de Janeiro and Santiago, Chile, in 1945, 1946, and 1965.

Van Vactor’s gifts to the Special Collections Library of scores, tape recordings of Knoxville Symphony Orchestra performances, and his music manuscripts are exciting. The collection of his music manuscripts represents a life of musical creativity begun in 1926. Van Vactor’s long-time colleague, George DeVine, has devoted many hours to organizing the manuscript collection. Mr. DeVine, a retired University music professor, is most familiar with Van Vactor’s career, and his assistance has been invaluable. With DeVine’s guidance, a catalog of the collection is being prepared.

Van Vactor has composed in a number of musical forms. Included in the collection are the five symphonies composed between 1937 and 1975. The first symphony won a thousand-dollar prize in 1937 and 1938. The Suite for Orchestra, regarded as his most outstanding compositions, are the Five Bagatelles for Strings of 1938 and the Suite for Orchestra on Chilean Folk Tunes of 1963. There are numerous other orchestral works including the Overture to a Comedy No. 2, the composer’s work that has received the most performances. William Starr, violist and former University professor and department head, played the first performance of Violin Concerto in 1950 with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra. Van Vactor had earlier written two other concertos, one for flute and the other for viola. There are also other works for solo instrument with orchestra.

Van Vactor’s style had been described as “medium modern, set in sophisticatedly enhanced tonalities and sparked with ingenious invention.” He is attracted to traditional forms—passacaglia, chaconne, fugue, sarabande, etc. Dance rhythms are prominent in his last movements. He believes melodies should be able to be whistled. Van Vactor has been honored by the State Legislature by being named the “Composer Laureate of Tennessee.”

The last three symphonies were written after the composer moved to Knoxville. The Third Symphony (originally called the Second) was composed over the three year period between 1955 and 1958. William Steinberg conducted the first performance with the Pittsburgh Symphony in 1959. The Fourth Symphony for chorus and orchestra has the title Walden. Completed in March 1971, it was performed two months later by the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra and the Maryville College Concert Choir with Van Vactor conducting. The Fifth Symphony, commissioned by the Tennessee Arts Commission as part of the observance of the American Bicentennial, was composed in 1975 and first performed by Arpad Joo conducting the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra.

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The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, as previously mentioned, premiered a number of Van Vactor’s works, and these taped performances complete the gift to the Library. Taken together, the various forms of musical composition which make up this collection offer significant research opportunities for the music scholar and insight into the career and life of one of Knoxville’s foremost composers.
Library Day

After a one year hiatus Library Day 1988 was held on March 30th. The event, which celebrated the relationship between writers, readers, and librarians, featured the thirty-ninth Library Lecture by former governor and then future University System President Lamar Alexander, who spoke on "Books and Writing in the Life of a Public Servant: Confessions of a Rookie Writer." Other speakers included Sue Ellen Bridgers, novelist from Sylva, North Carolina; Robert Drake, short story writer and member of the University's English Department; Jeff Daniel Marion, poet and faculty member at Carson-Newman College; and John Manchip White, novelist, poet, screenwriter and Lindsay Young Professor of English at the University.

More than three hundred people enjoyed the library's and the University's hospitality. Most sessions occurred in the new library's auditorium, with receptions being held in both the Library's Ground Floor Study Area and in the University Center, which likewise hosted the luncheon.

Reception Honoring Friends and Benefactors

The annual Friends and Benefactors Reception was held on Monday, May 23, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. in the Ground Floor Study Area of the John C. Hodges Library. Guests enjoyed the opportunity to view the new library. Some partook of the organized tours, while others preferred to wander about on their own.

The reception, hosted by the Chancellor's Associates and the University Library, is held each year as a means of recognizing donors and encouraging additional gifts. Guests were greeted by Donald Hunt, Dean of Libraries, by members of the Friends and Benefactors Reception Committee, and by Development Office staff. Renda Burkhart, Chairman of the Chancellor's Associates, introduced Chancellor Jack Reese. The Chancellor greeted the guests and expressed gratitude to friends and benefactors for their support and for their continued interest. He discussed the nascent Library Development Campaign, then introduced Jim Haslam, who announced his agreement to lead the public campaign, and Milton Klein, who reported on the Family Campaign, which was restricted to University faculty, staff, students, and retirees.

More than two hundred people were present to partake of refreshments, to view the library, and to visit with friends, librarians, and colleagues. Name tags were provided at the entrance so that those assembled could mingle with ease. Acting as hosts, library faculty and Chancellor's Associates circulated among guests and extended a cordial welcome to all.

Keepsake programs, which for twelve years have been offered as mementos of the event, were handed to each arrival. Keepsake program covers have featured reproductions of Special Collections prints holding historic interest. The view of Knoxville from across the Gay Street Bridge used this year appeared in an article entitled "Southern Mountain Rambles" in Scribner's Monthly, May, 1874, and is reproduced here on the inside back cover. Limited numbers of programs for this and past years are available from the Special Collections Library. Entertainment for the evening was provided by hammered dulcimer soloist Tim Klein, whose music filled the background with a selection of soft and pleasing melodies.

Members of the library committee and officials of the Development Office who organized the gathering felt that this year's social affair was another in a successful series.
Left to right - Reference Librarian Mary Frances Crawford visits with Mr. John Dobson, Special Collections Librarian Emeritus, and library patron Wallace Bowman.

Left to right - Professor Emeritus Milton Klein, Co-Chair of the Library Family Campaign, visits with Mr. James Haslam, II.

Left to right - Mr. Ted Reynolds, library patron from Norman, Oklahoma is pictured with Virginia Hunt, wife of Library Dean Emeritus Don Hunt.

Renda Burkhart, 1987-88, Chairman of the UTK Chancellor's Associates, welcomes the guests to the reception.
The University of Tennessee's movement toward excellence has placed growing demands on our libraries. As we add Distinguished Professors, Centers of Excellence, and Chairs of Excellence, we must expand our entire information base to support that growth. In addition, the inflation in print material costs and the devaluation of the dollar have limited the power of our budgets.

Our State government and campus administration have supported the library fully. Yet, virtually all the truly great library collections were created with the help of private funds.

We have a good collection. But, first-rate professors and students expect and deserve a first-rate collection.

For these reasons, we have committed to a major fund-raising campaign. The campaign will create a large endowment earmarked only for library acquisitions. As the first step in the campaign, in April, 1988, we turned to the Library Family—faculty, staff and retirees.

In order to give all members of the University family the opportunity to participate in the campaign, we called upon many volunteers. Chancellor Jack E. Reese asked professor emeritus Dr. Milton Klein and architecture professor Dr. Marian Moffett to co-chair the solicitation. They helped design the campaign structure and helped recruit an additional 220 faculty volunteers. Those faculty members represented every college on the University campus. They asked over 1,500 other faculty members to consider making gifts to the library. Our volunteers were crucial for communicating with faculty to explain fully the library's needs.

Others helped us communicate with University staff. A number of volunteers, listed below, helped coordinate solicitation of all exempt staff members. The Chancellor wrote personalized letters to all non-exempt staff members.

The University Retirees Association was especially helpful to the Family Campaign. Members and officers, including Ms. Kaddie Barber, Mr. Howard Lumsden, Dr. LeRoy Graf and Dr. Bain Stewart, led the effort to contact almost nine hundred former faculty and staff members. Their efforts were very productive. The Association itself gave $1,000 to the drive and its individual members added over $23,000.

Even before the actual start of the campaign, students led by the Panhellenic Council raised $5,000. A gift from the Better English Fund of $50,000 added further to the Family Fund total. As of August 31, 1988, the University Family had committed over $450,000 to Library endowments.

As we initiate the public portion of the campaign, the strong beginning made possible by our volunteers and donors will be extremely important. The following individuals deserve special recognition for giving their time, efforts and influence to the library.

Carolyn J. Ammons
Paul G. Ashdown
Deborah A. Arthur
Richard A. Austin
Kathleen Bailey
Kaddie Barber
Pauline Bayne
Susan Becker
Patricia A. Beitel
Barbara Bell
Thomas L. Bell
Edward Bennett
George Bittas
James A. Black
Kermit J. Blank
Mary D. Blanton
Thomas P. Bohm
Robert A. Bohm
Patricia Boling
Mary Boynton
Nancy Bright
William Britten
Edward R. Buckner
Alvin G. Burstein
Earl Bush
William L. Butefish
Thomas A. Calcott
Libby Campbell
D. Allen Carroll
Sugg Carter
Jack L. Cassell
Brenda Childress
Dale G. Cleaver
Charles R. Cleland
Carroll B. Cockley
Sheldon M. Cohen
Tom Collins
Evelyn Connor
Kelsey Cook
Robert M. Cothman
Christopher P. Craig
Mary Frances Crawford
Chalmers T. Crutchfield
Jo Lynn Cunningham
Robert B. Cunningham
Thomas Davies
Lloyd J. DeCuir
Henry R. DeSelm
Joy T. DeSensi
Donald J. Desart
Allan O. Diefendorf
Norman E. Dittrich
Patricia Droppleman
Melinda Duke
D. Allen Carroll
Mike D. Dungan
Michael C. Ehrhardt
Bill Eggelstach
Allison R. Enor
Ginger Evans
George A. Everett
Felicia H. Felder-Hoehne
Charles J. Ferrell
Bruce D. Fisher
Homer Fisher
Pat Fisher
Michael R. Fitzgerald
Cynthia G. Fleming
William F. Fox
Charles Garrison
Thomas W. George
Solon Georghiou
Kenneth C. Gilbert
Bob Gisler
Robert A. Glenn
Charles A. Glisson
Dale H. Goodfellow
Joe Goddard
Nancy M. Goslee
LeRoy Graf
Bob Greenberg
Maureen Groer
Jim Grubb
Michael W. Guidry
Stephen J. Handel
Dorothy M. Habel
Charles H. Hargis
Leonard C. Harmon
Mark A. Hector
Henry W. Herzog
Lewis R. Hodge
Carolyn R. Hodges
Darrell W. Holt
Mary Jo Hoover
Dolly C. Hough
Roger Hudson
Phyllis E. Huff
Howard N. Hull
Donald R. Hunt
Lawrence S. Husch
Vernon R. Iredell
Karen Irving
C. Douglas Icard
Joyce Jackson
Charles W. Johnson
Mary L. Jolly
Mary C. Jones

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Private gifts have played an important role in the library program of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. State appropriations simply cannot provide sufficient funds for us to acquire the many materials and books which are needed to build the level of quality we desire.

Listed below are a number of ways in which individuals, corporations and foundations may offer private support of our library programs.

GIFTS OF CASH

One of the most effective ways of assisting the library is an outright gift of cash or securities. An unrestricted gift of this nature enables us to apply the funds to the area of greatest need.

SECURITIES/REAL ESTATE

A gift of appreciated securities or real estate offers attractive income tax benefits to the donor.

PLANNED GIFTS

Included in the planned gift category are gifts by will, trusts and insurance. It is important to note that while planned gifts do not accrue to the University until some date in the future, there are often immediate income tax benefits which can be enjoyed by the donor. The Director of Development can offer detailed information to interested individuals.

GIFTS OF BOOKS

Of course, we are also interested in receiving gifts that will enhance our collections or help fill out certain subject areas as required by the academic programs of the University. You are encouraged to get in touch with us if you are in doubt about the desirability of books you may want to contribute.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Office of Development has the responsibility for working directly with all interested donors to ensure that their gifts are intelligently planned in light of current tax regulations. Anyone interested in making a gift to the Library may use the business reply envelope included in the Review, or contact:

Director of Development
612 John C. Hodges Library
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-1000
Phone: (615) 974-4127
LIBRARY ENDOWMENTS

Over the years, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Library has enjoyed a steady growth in the number and size of named endowments. There are currently fifty-two endowments with a total value of nearly $1,300,000. Each fund is invested by the University with the income dedicated to purchase materials for the library. The value of these endowments may increase in two ways . . . through additional gifts from the donors and/or through the reinvestment of a small portion of the annual income, thereby increasing the value of the principal.

Listed below are the private endowments which support the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Libraries.

Agriculture Veterinary Medicine Library Development Fund
Anonymous Library Development Fund
Lalla Block Armstrong Library Endowment
Margaret G. Blanton Library Endowment
James Douglas Bruce Endowment Fund
William Waller Carson Library Endowment
Ira Chiles Library Endowment-Higher Education
Kenneth Curry Library Endowment Fund
Durant Daponte Memorial Library Endowment
Richard Beale Davis Humanities Library Endowment
Frank M. Dryzer Endowment Fund
Ellis & Ernest Library Endowment
Harold S. Fink Library Endowment-History
Stanley J. Folmsbee Library Endowment Fund
Armour T. Granger Library Endowment Fund
Henry Haensler Library Endowment
Hamilton National Bank Library Endowment
Hodges Books for English Endowment
John C. Hodges-Alumni Library Endowment
Paul & Evelyn Howard Humanities Library Endowment
Human Ecology Library Development Endowment
Thomas L. James Library Endowment Fund
William H. Jesse-Staff Endowment
Mamie C. Johnston Library Endowment
Angelyn & Richard Koella Historical Documents Fund
Law Library Endowment
Wayne and Alberta Longmire Library Endowment
Edwin R. Lutz Memorial Library Endowment
Edward J. McMillan Library Endowment Fund
Stuart Maher Memorial Endowment-Technical Library
Flora Belle and Bessie Abigail Moss Endowment Fund
Angie Warren Perkins Library Endowment
John L. Rhea Foundation Library Endowment Fund
Lawrence C. Roach Library Endowment
Norman B. Sayne Library Endowment Fund
Dr. C. D. Sherbokoff Library Endowment Fund
Judge Robert White Smartt Law Library Endowment
McGregor Smith Library Endowment Fund
Social Work Alumnae Library Endowment
D. Allen Smith Endowment Fund
Dr. and Mrs. Walter Stiefel Library Endowment
Florence B. and Ray B. Striegel Library Endowment
Tennessee Tomorow/Humanities Library Endowment Fund
Charles A. Trentham Library Endowment
United Foods Humanities Endowment

Valley Fidelity Bank Library Endowment
Bill Wallace Memorial Library Endowment
Walters Library Endowment Fund
Frank B. Ward Library Endowment
White Stores Library Endowment
Ronald H. Wolf Library Endowment
Guy C. Youngherman Library Endowment Fund

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This unique section of the library houses rare books, manuscripts, maps, prints and historical ephemera. Special Collections is of vital importance to the research collection and to the scholar, but often must give way to the needs of the instructional program and may suffer disproportionately in time of budgetary stress.

Several friends of the library have made generous contributions to the Special Collections Library specifically to be used for the purchase of items of Tennesseana which, because of budgetary constraints, could not otherwise be obtained. This fund allows the Special Collections Librarian the opportunity to purchase materials which appear on the open market. Specified funds serve to bring rare pieces of Tennesseana to our holdings.

THOSE MEMORIALIZED
Betty Keer Adams
Helen McCarty Altman
Calvin A. Buehler
William Chaney
Ira Chiles
Richard B. Davis
James Dobson
John Duncan
Frank M. Dryzer
Harriette A. Farrar
Lucy E. Fay
Harold S. Fink
Stanley J. Folmsbee
Fenton Alan Sevier Gentry
John A. Hansen, Jr.
John C. Hodges
Andrew Holt, Jr.
William H. Jesse
Madelyn Jones
Louis Amos McDaniel
R.H. Minkel
Florence Morris
Oscar F. Norman
John L. Rhea
Frances Scott
Gena Sharp
June C. Silcox
Tom Siler
Steve Speer
Walter E. Stiefel
Molly Tucker
Robert White Smartt
Judge Robert White Smartt
McGregor Smith
Social Work Alumnae
D. Allen Smith
Dr. and Mrs. Walter Stiefel
Florence B. and Ray B. Striegel
Tennessee Tomorrow/Humanities
Charles A. Trentham
United Foods Humanities

THOSE HONORED
Kenneth Curry
John Dobson
Donald Hunt
James B. Lloyd
Jack E. Reese
Meredith Smoke
Stephan C. Wicks
A view of Knoxville across the Gay Street Bridge, from an article entitled, "Southern Mountain Rambles" appearing in Scribner's Monthly, May, 1874. (Friends and Benefactors Keepsake Program, 1988. Copies of the Keepsake Programs, which are suitable for framing, can be obtained upon request at the Special Collections Library. A limited number of these programs from past years are also available.)

About the cover artist: Lloyd Branson was a painter of some note. His work has in recent years attracted new attention in the art market. He was born in 1854 in Union County, Tennessee, and was educated there and in Knoxville. As a youth, Branson was encouraged to study art by Dr. John Boyd, a prominent Knoxville physician. Perhaps it was because of Dr. Boyd’s influence that one of Branson’s earliest portraits was of Sarah Sutherland Boyd. In 1873 the young artist went to New York to study at the National Academy of Design. He received first prize at the Academy in 1875. Later he went abroad and visited the art centers of Europe. Branson returned to Knoxville in 1878, where he lived and worked until his death in 1925. Subjects of his paintings were political figures, college presidents, private citizens, and historical scenes. Among other places, his works hang at the Lawson-McGhee Library in Knoxville. Seven of his portraits hang in the Special Collections Library and several others can be seen in Andy Holt Tower. The Special Collections paintings are of Sarah Sutherland Boyd, Horace Maynard, Charles Coffin, John Bell, J.G.M. Ramsey, James Robertson, and Isaac Shelby.

Back Cover: Hauling Marble, by Lloyd Branson, 1910. This painting, winner of a gold medal at the Appalachian Exposition in 1910, now graces the office of University of Tennessee President Lamar Alexander.

Lloyd Branson. (Print Collection.)