



# The Book

Newsletter of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture  
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## *Report on Volume 3 Conference*

On February 25-26, 1994, a group of scholars met at the Society's Goddard-Daniels House to plan for Volume 3 of *A History of the Book in America*, which will cover the period of the industrial revolution. During the years from the 1830s to the 1890s, a national book trade system emerged in the United States centered increasingly in New York, with cities such as Philadelphia, Boston, Cincinnati, and later, Chicago, also playing important roles as regional nodes. Simultaneously, nationwide financial, transportation, and information systems emerged. Central to the volume will be an exploration of how these systems came into being and functioned and the extent to which they created some sort of national culture based on books and other printed matter.

Our discussions at the conference were structured around two themes. On Friday, we focused on books as market commodities, examining the production, distribution, and uses of printed materials and how these activities functioned within various markets. On Saturday, our discussion addressed books as cultural artifacts: on the one hand, the ways that reading and writing can serve to express or develop individual personal identity; on the other, the ways that reading and writing can serve collective political purposes by defining or controlling the identity of others. While this structure was useful for the planning conference, it is not meant to establish the organization of the published volume.

Since the discussions on both days were lively and far ranging, it is impossible to summarize them briefly, but two important points did emerge. One concerned market organization during this period: we must not assume that publishing and the book trade operated within a simple laissez-faire market system. Instead, we must explore how markets for books and print were ordered, rationalized, and segmented as the result of collaboration, coordination, and competition among publishers, manufacturers, labor, and others. Much publishing—religious publishing, for instance—was organized to control or work against market forces. A second point was the danger of trying to reduce the history of this period to a single over-arching paradigm. Although "industrialization," "consolidation," and "nationalization" are useful concepts, they may not take sufficient account of the market developments noted above or of the persistence of earlier forms. We must not oversimplify or reduce the complexities of our account of the role of the book in the industrial era.

The editors of Volume 3 are continuing to meet regularly to digest and analyze these discussions and other feedback received from the participants. We are now hammering out an outline for the volume. A draft table of contents should be finished this summer.

Participating in the conference were Georgia Barnhill (AAS), John Bidwell (Clark Library, UCLA), Burton J. Bledstein (University of Illinois at Chicago), Stuart M. Blumin (Cornell), Richard D. Brown (Connecticut), Janet Duitsman Cornelius (Danville Area Community College), Michael H. Harris (Kentucky), Bruce Laurie (Massachusetts at Amherst), Meredith L. McGill (Harvard), David P. Nord (Indiana), Barbara Sicherman (Trinity College), Louise L. Stevenson (Franklin and Marshall), Roger E. Stoddard (Houghton Library, Harvard), and Ronald J. Zboray (Georgia State). Also participating were Kenneth E. Carpenter (Widener Library, Harvard), chairman of the executive committee of the AAS Program in the History of the Book in American Culture, Robert A. Gross (College of William and Mary), chairman of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture and co-editor of Volume 2 of *HBA*, David D. Hall (Harvard Divinity School), general editor of the series, John B. Hench, director of research and publication at AAS, David McKitterick (Trinity College, Cambridge), editor of the nineteenth-century volume of *A History of the Book in Britain*, Carl Kaestle (Wisconsin), co-editor of Volume 4 of *HBA* and Caroline Sloat, assistant research and education officer (AAS).

Stephen Nissenbaum,  
University of Massachusetts at Amherst  
Michael Winship, University of Texas at Austin

## *AAS to Host 1996 SHARP Conference*

At its recent meeting, the Executive Committee of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) selected the American Antiquarian Society to host its 1996 annual conference. Details of the meeting, including the dates and the call for papers, will be announced within the next several months.

This will be SHARP's fourth conference. The first was held in New York and the second in Washington. Next year's meeting will be in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 15-17, 1995.



*Participants in the eighth summer seminar were: (seated, left to right) Wasowicz, Butler, Larkin, Winship, Youngberg, Ashton, Budnick, Hench; middle row: Leach, Sedgwick, Stoddard, Jackson, DiGeronimo, Preyer, Englund, Sloat; back row: McGuinn, Beckman, Pannapacker, Ewbank, Schroeder.*

## *Eighth Summer Seminar at AAS*

This seminar, "Critical Methods in Bibliography and the History of the Book in the United States" was one of a series that I have taught designed to introduce participants to bibliographical techniques and theories while exploring the place of bibliography within the history of the book. On a practical level, the hope was to teach the bibliographical skills used in describing and analyzing books and other printed materials, but more importantly the goal was to point to the ways that a fuller understanding of book production, distribution, and reception in the United States leads to richer cultural history.

In addition to formal presentations and discussions, I have devised two afternoon laboratory sessions which familiarize participants with the conventions of bibliographical description. On two other afternoons, Roger E. Stoddard of the Houghton Library and James N. Green of the Library Company of Philadelphia discussed their own bibliographical work with the seminar: the former stressed the difficult task for many books of gathering together and establishing the bibliographical facts of their publishing history, the latter shared his work-in-progress on authors and publishers in the early national period. Two evening sessions were held in the library in Antiquarian Hall: Monday evening Joanne Chaison, head of readers' services, discussed important reference sources for book history, and Wednesday evening Alan Degutis, head of cataloguing, introduced the Society's new on-line catalogue, MaRK. Joanne also greeted the participants on Sunday with a fascinating exhibition

entitled "The Emergence of a Field of Study: Possibilities and Sources," which paired recent scholarly publications with the primary materials from the Society's collections that they were based on.

As in the past, this year's participants came from a varied background and with broad interests. A majority were academics, historians, or literary scholars, though there were also a number of librarians, including two members of the AAS cataloguing staff. While some were experienced scholars well along in their careers—including were a professor of history, emerita, and a departmental chair—I was particularly pleased to also have a large group of graduate students this year.

The participants were Susanna Ashton, Ph.D. candidate in English, University of Iowa; Thomas Beckman, registrar, Historical Society of Delaware; Dean E. Budnick, Ph.D. candidate in the history of American civilization, Harvard; Marilyn Butler, cataloguer, AAS; Gretchen DiGeronimo, Ph.D. candidate in English, University of New Hampshire; Sheryl A. Englund, Ph.D. candidate in English, University of Texas at Austin; Linda C. Ewbank, cataloguer, University of Pittsburgh Library; Mildred L. Jackson, Ph.D. candidate in English, University of Michigan; Edward J. Larkin, Ph.D. candidate in American literature, Stanford University; James F. Leach, M.A. candidate in American history, University of Massachusetts at Amherst; Marion G. McGuinn, curator, Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham; William A. Pannapacker, Ph.D. candidate in the history of American civilization, Harvard; Kathryn Preyer, professor of history, emerita, Wellesley College; Edwin C. Schroeder, catalogue librarian, Beinecke Rare



*Matriculants in the seminar: Regional Cultures of the Book, 1783-1861, gathered on the Goddard-Daniels House steps for a photograph: (front row, left to right) Thomas, Govia, Dickinson, Kennelly, Miller; (second row) Poerner, Chaison, Price, King, White, Zarobila; (third row) Austin, Bledsoe, Stalker, Casper, Scholz; (fourth row) Larkin, Brubaker, Dock, Howell; (fifth row) Hench, Horrocks, Sloat, and Gilmore-Lehne. Not pictured, Youngberg.*

Book and Manuscript Library, Yale; Ellery Sedgwick, professor of English and department chair, Longwood College; Laura E. Wasowicz, cataloguer, AAS; Karin L. Youngberg, professor of English, Augustana College.

My greatest pleasure in teaching these seminars is being part of a group of scholars in book history centered around the Society and its programs. Many former participants have told me that sessions at recent scholarly conferences and meetings seem like AAS seminar reunions, a chance to continue discussions and show what new research they are pursuing. One valuable result of these seminars, it seems to me, is helping to build this community of scholars.

Michael Winship, University of Texas at Austin

### *Ninth Summer Seminar at AAS*

Intense immersion in the Society's newspapers, periodicals, almanacs, books, pamphlets, broadsides, and maps. An authentic Thai banquet. Small-group research projects and reports auguring well for a multicultural perspective on print communications. Independent-minded discussions of classic and recent scholarly literature. Exhibits, workshops, dialogues with guest scholars, and informal gatherings. And, above all, an invigorating, cooperative sharing atmosphere. These were among the highlights of "Regional Cultures of the Book, 1783-1861," the second of this summer's seminars at AAS, June 12-17, 1994. An enthusiastic group of twenty-one participants met over six days to study relationships among regional, local, and national dimensions of communications history in theory and practice.

The region, as a symbol of an approach adding other contexts to the rise of the nation-state, is becoming a touchstone for scholarship in several fields of knowledge involving print communications. I thought it would be useful to engage the concept of region directly, and to include new work on gender, race, and class, broadening our sense of how to approach the period as a whole.

The seminar explored the development of print culture within America's principal settled regions (the Northeast, the South, and the Midwest) from 1783 to the Civil War. The role of the region in relationship to other "imagined communities"—the nation-state, the local community, transatlantic connections—was the central subject of the seminar. The key question was: How might aspects of the culture of print be linked together to create exciting new approaches crossing several traditional fields of scholarship?

The seminar probed relationships between communications circuitry and the broad array of printed matter it carried; the individuals and social groupings it linked together; and the whole array of information, opinion, beliefs, and values it transmitted and reinforced. Conceiving of communications history as a way of engaging the interplay of communications, culture, and society, the seminar studied ways and processes through which printed and written words and pictures were produced, imported, distributed, and assimilated.

The seminar examined regional growth and diffusion of the communications system; ways in which newspapers, periodicals, almanacs, books, and pamphlets helped shape national and regional reading communities; and ways in

which race, class, gender, and religion reshaped the reception of specific works and grounded cultural dialogue in the diverse communities comprising antebellum America. The role of the newspaper as a central vehicle of communications was highlighted in class discussion and with a broad-ranging exhibit of sixteen varieties of newspapers circulating between 1783 and 1861.

There were presentations and dialogue on women and southern print culture with Amy M. Thomas, Montana State University, and on the concept of an educated citizenry with Richard D. Brown, University of Connecticut. Joanne Chaison, head of readers' services, organized and led two special sessions as she had for Michael Winship's seminar. Alan Degutis, head of cataloguing, introduced MaRK, the Society's on-line catalogue.

Taking part in the seminar were Nancy Austin, Ph.D. candidate in architectural history, Brown University; Robin Bledsoe, antiquarian bookseller, Cambridge, Massachusetts; R. Michael Brubaker, Ph.D. candidate in American history, Georgia State University; Scott E. Casper, assistant professor of history, University of Nevada at Reno; Marilyn Davis-DeEulis, assistant professor and coordinator of the Regional Book Culture Program, West Virginia Graduate College; Cynthia Dickinson, McNeil Fellow, Winterthur Program in Early American Culture; Julie Bates Dock, visiting assistant professor of English, Loyola Marymount University; Gwen Govia, technical library assistant, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey; Thomas A. Horrocks, director, Francis C. Wood Institute for the History of Medicine and director of the Library for Historical Services, College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Margaret A. Howell, head, Special Collections, University of Missouri at Columbia; Laura B. Kennelly, adjunct professor of English, University of North Texas; Martha J. King, assistant editor, Papers of Thomas A. Edison, Edward J. Larkin, Ph.D. candidate in American literature, Stanford University; Emily Miller, librarian, Missouri Historical Society; Katherine Poerner, history student, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey; Michael L. Price, director, The Providence Athenaeum; Anne-Marie Scholz, lecturer in history, University of California at Irvine; Dianne S. Stalker, preservation librarian, State University of New York at Stony Brook; Bruce A. White, professor of English, Gallaudet University; Karin L. Youngberg, professor of English, Augustana College; and Charles Zarobila, coordinator, periodicals, A-V, and microform, Grasselli Library, John Carroll University.

In the end, the participants' contribution — vitality, esprit de corps, and stamina—and thoroughly cooperative tone was preeminent in the seminar's success. Continuing a longstanding tradition, the seminar provided a valuable forum to stimulate further exploration in the history of the culture of print and its impact on American life.

William Gilmore-Lehne, Richard Stockton College

## *Gifts for Financial Aid*

Thanks to generous contributions from the following alumni who responded to the challenge of a matching offer by Mr. and Mrs. David Heller, a pool of financial aid was available to 1994 seminar participants. Scott E. Casper, JoAnn E. Castagna, Ann M. DeKlerk, Alice E. Fahs, Christopher J. Kox, Susan L. Grigg, Jeffrey D. Groves, Lee E. Heller, Thomas A. Horrocks, Ronald Labuz, Deanna B. Marcum, Russell L. Martin III, Mary R. McCarl, MaryKate McMaster, Rosalind Remer, Elizabeth M. Renker, Grantland S. Rice, Jocelyn Sheppard, Amy M. Thomas, Jonathan S. Tryon, Kathleen Verduin, Susan B. Williams, Michael Winship, and Charles Zarobila contributed to this fund.

## *Call for Papers*

The third annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) will meet July 15-17, 1995, at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. SHARP welcomes proposals for papers dealing with the creation, diffusion, or reception of the written word in any historical period. Conference proceedings will be in English, but papers may deal with any national literature.

Proposals (one-page maximum) and inquiries concerning the conference itself should be sent to the conference hosts, Bill Bell and David Finkelstein, Department of English Literature, University of Edinburgh, 5 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9JM, United Kingdom. The deadline for proposals is November 1, 1994.

## *Buell to Deliver Wiggins Lecture*

"The Rise and Fall of the Great American Novel" is the title of the twelfth annual James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture, to be given by Lawrence I. Buell on Friday, November 4, 1994, at the Society. Professor of English and American Literature and Language and dean for undergraduate education in the faculty of arts and sciences, Harvard University, Buell will also "take the lecture on the road," repeating it on Thursday, February 16, 1995, at the University of Texas at Austin where local co-sponsors will include the Humanities Research Center.

The Wiggins Lecture is open to the public free of charge. Complete details for the Worcester lecture will be announced in the fall and, for the Austin lecture, towards the end of the year.

### *E-mail and 'The Book'*

Please note that [cfs@mark.mwa.org](mailto:cfs@mark.mwa.org) is the new e-mail address for reaching the editorial office of *The Book* and AAS's Program in the History of the Book in American Culture.



### *Diane Schoen Retires*

Diane Schoen, secretary in the Department of Research and Publication at AAS for the last thirteen years, retired at the end of July. To say that she will be missed is an understatement.

Diane arrived at AAS not long before the departmental staff moved into their new offices in the recently acquired Goddard-Daniels House. In her new digs at the back of the house, Diane in short order welcomed the first of what has become a steady stream of fellows and other readers to rent guest rooms in the GDH for stays as short as a night or as long as a year. As a kind of "house mother," Diane has counseled our visiting scholars on everything from where to cash a check to where to find a dentist who will relieve a toothache on a weekend.

Diane has been present throughout the rapid and remarkable growth of activities and services provided by the department over the last baker's dozen years—the establishment of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture and its complex undertakings of lectures, conferences, summer seminars, and the collaborative history project; the multiplication of our regional seminar series from one series to five; the continual growth and refinement of our fellowship program; the proliferation of public programs designed to enrich the life of the mind of our fellow citizens in greater Worcester; and the development, most recently, of several programs designed to bring elementary and secondary school teachers and librarians into closer contact with AAS through research fellowships, workshops, and institutes. Not only has she been present through all this, she has, through her unique blend of qualities of hard work, patience, intelligence, and devotion to the Society, quite literally made it possible for us to have carried it all off.

Now, having seen the last of her five sons through college, Diane, regrettably for us, is leaving all that for a quieter life with her husband, Ken, her sons and their wives, and her grandchildren—a life, we trust, that will be free of grant application deadlines, massive bulk mailings that have to be out tomorrow, and six phone calls one right after the other. We shall miss her, we thank her, and we wish her the best of everything.

J.B.H

### *Other Staff News*

Phyllis Hunter and Joyce Matlock have joined the research and publication staff and Caroline Sloat's duties have been reconfigured to include the broader responsibilities of assistant research and publication officer. James David Moran is also a recent addition to the staff with an office in the Goddard-Daniels House. His responsibilities include the implementation of the public programming and fellowship initiatives funded by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund grant.

Ms. Hunter is a doctoral candidate in the department of history at the College of William and Mary and has been a Peterson Fellow at the Society. She is a part-time research assistant for *A History of the Book in America* while she completes her dissertation. Joyce Matlock of Holden, Massachusetts, brings a wealth of office experience to the department. We shall rely on her good humor and many skills to help us keep up with the flow of work and people that characterizes this aspect of the Society. Caroline Sloat's new duties as administrative assistant for HBA, with the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture, and with the academic fellowship and educational programs complement the editorial work she has been doing at AAS since April 1993.

### *Book Preview*

JAMES N. GREEN: BOOK PUBLISHING IN AMERICA

In 1958, the A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography, given annually in Philadelphia, provided the occasion for William Charvat to make his enduring contribution to American literary and cultural history. Viewing the production of literature as an aspect of economic life, Charvat surveyed the publishing arrangements of the new nation and their impact upon the careers of American writers in the period 1790-1850. In his framework, publishers shaped and mediated relations between authors and readers, the institutions of the book trade were central to the growth of a reading public and the development of authorship as a profession. Charvat was a historian of the book before the field gained a name and a place in the academic world.

With his emphasis on the social context of literature, Charvat was at odds with the "new criticism" gaining sway over English departments in the 1950s and 1960s, and his influence was initially limited. Three decades later, his approach is now on the cutting edge, and his Rosenbach

lectures, issued as *Literary Publishing in America 1750-1850* (1959), constitute a classic in the history of the book. Long out of print, the work has recently been published in paperback for the first time by the University of Massachusetts Press, with an “afterword” by Michael Winship, co-editor of Volume 3 in the AAS’s collaborative *History of the Book in America (HBA)*. In the brief compass of one hundred pages, it provides a lucid account of the publishing system—the interplay among authors, publishers, and readers—as a foundation for the history of the book. Still bristling with intellectual excitement, it will surely command the interest of undergraduate and graduate students alike in introductions to the field.

Charvat’s portrait of the publishing scene circa 1830, on the eve of Washington Irving’s and James Fenimore Cooper’s triumphs in establishing the profitability of American novels, has long documented the literary history of the early republic. As he saw it, American publishing was an underdeveloped industry, inadequately capitalized and hampered by the absence of a national market. Limited in their resources, publishers preferred to pirate British books, on which they paid no royalties, rather than to invest in original American works, protected under the national copyright law of 1790. When they did deign to issue American texts, publishers hedged their bets and pushed the burden of financing onto authors themselves. Even then, there was no guarantee that books would reach a wide readership. To market their products across a vast, far-flung nation, publishers were obliged to grant favorable terms to retailers, often falling hostage to local monopolies. In short, economic circumstances discouraged the aggressive pursuit of markets for American books. “In the years when Irving and Cooper showed that a literary profession in America was possible,” Charvat wrote, “the publishing industry was not prepared for it.”

So compelling was Charvat’s depiction of early American publishing that few scholars have been prepared to contest it—until now. The challenge comes from another A.S.W. Rosenbach Lecturer in Bibliography, James N. Green, curator of printed books at the Library Company of Philadelphia and a member of the editorial board for *HBA*. In a three-part series delivered in 1993, Green set forth an alternative view of “Book Publishing in Early America” that contradicts Charvat on every key point. His interpretation, presented with an economy, intelligence, and wit equal to Charvat’s, deserves to be reported now, well in advance of publication, because it touches on central issues in nineteenth-century book history, notably the dynamics of the literary marketplace and the receptiveness of writers to the commercialization of their work.

In tribute to Charvat’s lasting influence, Green treats publishing as the vital link between writers and readers. But where Charvat saw the publishing scene in 1820 as an extension of colonial circumstances, Green probes into the record of an earlier era, especially from the 1750s on, with particular attention to Benjamin Franklin’s Philadelphia, the leading print center of the rising republic. His central theme is

the rise of publishing, whose expansion was driven by the spur of competition. In the face of the problems Charvat pinpointed—the shortages of capital, the disadvantages of decentralization—Green finds that publishers undertook significant innovations and displayed an ambitious entrepreneurial spirit. In a vigorous pursuit of profits, publishers split off from printers, actively sought out authors, and increasingly devoted themselves to the wholesale trade. If they did not develop into publishers in the modern sense—that is, specialists who decide that a work is publishable, finance its printing and distribution, and assume the risk and acquire the profits of the enterprise—they laid the foundation for the vibrant literary marketplace of the antebellum era.

Green’s lectures revise our understanding of American book history on several important points. It is well known that imports from abroad, the principal source of books in the colonial era, declined in the wake of independence, replaced by American reprints of British and European works. How did this substitution come about? Green shows us that it was the hard-won achievement of American publishers, motivated by economic nationalism and personal self-interest. Their strategy was carefully calculated. Instead of importing titles in small quantities to supply limited, local demand, publishers combined forces to create a national market for their own manufactures. Essentially, they divided up the trade: once an entrepreneur claimed a title, his colleagues would refrain from issuing it; in exchange for the work, they would supply imprints of their own. This system of exchange overcame the barriers of distance that so impressed Charvat. Extending the geographical scale of trade, it stimulated the ambitions of publishers and promoted access to readers throughout the republic. Lured by the prospect of profits, publishers flooded the market with books. As a result, prices plummeted, imports were driven from the market, and the economic basis of a reading revolution—cheap books—was in place.

Thus, by the time Irving and Cooper arrived on the scene, Green argues, publishers were well prepared to capitalize on their achievements in fiction. They were also well disposed to American authors. In a forceful refutation of Charvat’s claims, Green carefully details the readiness of publishers to finance publication of their fellow citizens’ books. One method was to purchase copyright from authors; by this means, writers obtained compensation for their efforts, while publishers sought gain from the investment. Under a second arrangement, publishers assumed the risk of bringing out a book, but split the profits with the authors once the costs of production were paid by sales. A third recourse was for authors to hire printers to produce their works, then to sell off the entire edition to wholesalers; in this way, the author got all the profit, little of the risk, and none of the unsold copies. When Irving and Cooper followed the route of self-publication with their early novels, it was, Green says, a measure of their strength in the marketplace, not of limited enthusiasm for American writers. Publishers like Mathew Carey eagerly bid for their works. If writing books for a living was not yet a paying proposition for most writers—it

still isn't—it nonetheless became a tantalizing possibility. "The custom of publishers risking American works and paying their authors," Green concludes, "was well-established before 1820."

On these and numerous other themes, Green's "Book Publishing in Early America" provides a bracing challenge to conventional wisdom. Though it will be a while before scholars can review his claims in print, his Rosenbach lectures have opened up an important debate about the impact of book publishing on authorship and reading in the early republic. They remind us of the centrality of the book trade to fundamental questions in the history of the book. William Charvat, the path-breaking Rosenbach lecturer, insisted on that point long ago. He would doubtless be pleased to see his successor developing it in such important and iconoclastic ways.

R.A.G.

## Research Notes

### THE BOSTON BOOK TRADES DATA BASE, 1789–1861

Historians of Boston's post-revolutionary book trades have relied upon a few reference works compiled from city directories. These resources include: Rollo G. Silver's "The Boston Book Trade, 1790-1799" (1951) and *The Boston Book Trade, 1800-1825* (1949); two Simmons College master's theses, by Gordon Gaskill for 1826–35 (1952) and by Robert W. Flint for 1836–45 (1956); and J. Francis Driscoll's "List of Publishers, Booksellers and Printers Taken from the Boston Directories of 1789-1840" (ca.1922), typescript at the American Antiquarian Society. Of these, only Silver's is published (but not widely available), and they each employ different standards for inclusion. For example, Silver adds material culled from selected newspapers, both he and Driscoll ignore bookbinders, and Driscoll inexplicably drops "editor" from his 1830s listings. Flint, after 1840, presents no directory information at all, only announcements from a few periodicals. In addition to these limitations, the compilations essentially end at 1840, just as they become most interesting to historians of the American Renaissance and the publishing boom that accompanied it.

Since 1992, we have been constructing a data base of city directory information on the Boston book trades, 1789–1861. This dBase IV data base tracks names of individuals or firms, home and business addresses, and occupations, taken from prior compilations through 1840 and our own scan of Boston city directories from 1841 through 1861 (we have thus far reached 1850). We are also checking the information from earlier compilations against the city directories themselves and adding relevant but overlooked occupational categories. The task is not easy: for example, the number of entries for 1841-50 (9,323) alone is 146 percent that of the entire period 1789-1840.

Unlike previous book trade directories, our data base offers a series of information that can be statistically analyzed via computer. In May 1994 we presented some of our preliminary findings at "Entrepreneurs: The Boston Business

Community, 1750–1850," a conference held at the Massachusetts Historical Society. We contrasted the growth in numbers of book trades-related entries with that of all entries in Boston city directories, charted yearly fluctuations of numbers of entries for selected book trade occupations, compared the numbers of home and work addresses given for each year and occupation, traced the longevity of firms and individuals, located the principal street locations of various establishments, and mapped home and work place addresses for selected years. Through this statistical and geographical analysis of the Boston book trades, we uncovered dynamic, yet unstable, growth, a pattern at odds with the traditionalism associated with publishing there.

The data base will provide a foundation for our larger, long-term project on the cultural history of publishing, authorship, and reading in the antebellum Boston region. Output from the data base (indexed by occupation, street, and year as well as by name), the statistical and geographical information, and a discussion of findings will comprise a separate volume.

Other works we have in progress, on reading and Whig women's political culture, and on fiction publishing in the region, for example, will shed further light on neglected aspects of Boston's print culture. We plan, as the culmination of these smaller studies, to produce a synthetic book that will give print culture a central position within the political, social, cultural, and economic life of the Boston region.

Ronald J. Zboray, Georgia State University  
Mary Saracino Zboray, Atlanta, Ga.

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Assistant Editor: Caroline Sloat

The editors welcome all news relevant to the interests of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture.

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## *AAS Fellowships for Creative Artists*

A new program of visiting fellowships for historical research by creative and performing artists, writers, film makers, journalists, and other persons who are producing work involving history for the general public has been funded by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. It is imagined, for example, that the recipients of these grants might be authors of historical novels, journalists seeking historical background to current issues, documentary film makers, or musicians working on historical repertory. These examples are intended to illustrate the kind of person who might apply, not to limit the nature of the research that the library can support.

As with the recipients of academic fellowships (NEH, Peterson, Botein, ASECS) and the fellowships for K-12 teachers and librarians inaugurated in 1994, these persons will have the benefit of extended research in the AAS library, collegial interaction with AAS staff and fellows, and participation in seminars, lunchtime colloquia, and public programs sponsored by the Society. At least three fellowships (with stipends) will be awarded for residence of from four to eight weeks between January 1 and December 31, 1995. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is October 17, 1994. Notification of applicants will be completed on or about November 30, 1994. Additional information about the artists' and writers' fellowship program and each of the Society's other fellowship programs may be obtained from John B. Hench at AAS.

## *Fellowships for 1995*

Grants and fellowships for research in 1995 are announced by the Bibliographical Society. Awards may be made for immediate research needs, such as for microfilms or travel expenses, and for longer-term support in connection with prolonged research visits to libraries and archives. Applicants for all awards may be of any nationality and need not be members of the Society. Applications must be submitted by November 30, 1994, with two references sent directly to the address below. Successful applicants will be notified early in February 1995. Further information and application forms for both grants may be obtained from Dr. E.S. Leedham-Green, Cambridge University Library, West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DR, United Kingdom, e-mail: EL17@uk.ac.cam.phx or phx.cam.ac.uk.

## *1994 APHA Conference*

"APHA at 20: Celebrating the Past, Looking to the Future" is the title of the American Printing History Association's 19th Annual Conference, to be held at the Pierpont Morgan Library on Saturday, October 8, 1994. For further information about the anniversary conference and its associated exhibitions throughout the weekend, write to APHA, P.O. Box 4922, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10163.

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