



William Alexander Jackson: 1905-1964

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William Alexander Jackson

1905-1964

W. H. Bond

EARLY in 1938 there occurred an exchange of letters of great moment for the future of the Harvard Library. The correspondents were the Chairman of the Visiting Committee of the Board of Overseers and the Director of the Harvard University Library.

Charles Warren
Counsellor at Law
Mills Building
Washington, D. C.

January 7, 1938.

K. D. Metcalf, Esquire,
Director of the Harvard University Library,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

My dear Mr. Metcalf:

There has been referred to me, as Chairman of the Committee on the Library, the appointment, which is to be laid before the Board of Overseers, of Assistant Librarian in charge of the Treasure Room and Associate Professor of Bibliography. There has also been sent to me a copy of your letter to President Conant of December 23, 1937. This is in accordance with the practice of the Board that information of this kind shall be referred to the Overseer assigned to consider the affairs of the Special Department.

I judge from your letter that this is a newly created position and a newly created professorship. I should be very glad if you would write me more at length regarding the necessity for such a professorship, especially at the present time when economy seems to be a necessary watchword in Universities.

I think that it is very desirable that the resources of the Treasure Room should be more developed than they have been and that there should be someone particularly fitted to do that work. Whether, however, there is a necessity for the professorship, in connection with it, seems to me to be a matter of doubt. At least, it seems to me that the Overseers will probably want very full reasons for such a new professorship. . . .

Cordially yours,
Charles Warren

Harvard College Library
Cambridge, Massachusetts

January 8, 1938.

Charles Warren, Esq.,
St. Botolph Club,
4 Newbury Street,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Warren:-

The position of Assistant Librarian in charge of the Treasure Room and Associate Professor of Bibliography, concerning which you wrote on the 7th, is the most important of those which I mentioned at the meeting of the Visiting Committee last November (I did not at that time suggest a title for the position). I shall try in this letter to explain the need for the appointment, but I hope it will be possible for me to talk with you personally about it later.

The greatest single need of the Library at present is for a bibliographer and scholar in the broad sense of the terms. Unfortunately we have no such man on the staff. In Mr. [William A.] Jackson, for whose appointment I have asked, we have an ideal candidate.

The new appointee should, as is indicated in his title, take charge of the Treasure Room, filling the place formerly occupied by Mr. [George Parker] Winship. The Treasure Room now has no one able to care for it adequately or to serve it properly or to select additions to it. The man in charge should be one who would interest the college men in fine books and manuscripts and give informal, if not formal, instruction in connection with them. The returns that will come to the Library as a result of interest so aroused should in the long run prove to be one of the best sources of growth for our research collections. . . .

In addition to taking responsibility for the Treasure Room, Mr. Jackson, if appointed, would give bibliographical advice and instruction to graduate students who now must flounder around and waste time in getting started with their research work. He would take charge of book selection in the whole field of English literature. Here he could save a good part of his salary by coördinating our efforts and through his special knowledge of the field and of book values. He would become editor of the library publication which we hope to develop along lines which will make the Library more useful to the University, and at the same time will interest prospective donors.

Mr. Jackson is a man who would bring unusual prestige to the University. He is outstanding in his line and is one whom I am convinced the University cannot afford to lose. . . .

Your letter asks specifically about the need for a new professorship. The Library staff should include, as it has in the past, at least one man with professorial rank as part of his title (later there should be several of these

positions). This is in connection with my effort to knit the library and the faculty together so that the latter will take full advantage of the resources of the former. The Library, to perform its proper function in the University, should be the best possible service organization, and should also take its place as a productive unit. Without men of faculty rank and calibre on its staff, this will not result. In my opinion university libraries in general, in spite of their much advertised claims of being the heart of their respective universities, have been mediocre in character, this being largely due to their not having employed first-rate men to help open their doors to the faculty and students who are doing distinctive work.

Sincerely yours,

K. D. Metcalf,
Director

The appointment was made, with what result the worlds of scholarship, bibliography, and bibliophily well know. Coupled with it was the similarly momentous appointment of Philip Hofer, ('21), as Curator of Printing and Graphic Arts, transforming a pair of old friends into a formidable professional team, each contributing his own highly specialized knowledge and abilities.¹

As it turned out, Jackson's responsibility for book-selection never regularly extended beyond the Houghton Library. Apart from that, the only role he did not assume was that of editor of the *HARVARD LIBRARY BULLETIN*, but he took a leading part in planning it and securing the services of its first editor, G. W. Cottrell, Jr.; he was represented in its pages at least as often as anyone else; he fought for its preservation; and the *BULLETIN*'s present reincarnation is substantially financed by the Fund contributed by friends and admirers in his memory.

Mr. Metcalf's other predictions were speedily fulfilled to a degree that he probably did not expect. Within a few years the old Treasure Room was transformed into the Houghton Library. Jackson established courses in bibliography and book collecting for both undergraduates and graduate students. He attracted and held the nucleus of a professional staff of a calibre to suit his exacting standards. He began the search for new funds to bolster the woefully inadequate income

¹For Jackson's account of Hofer's collection, see "Contemporary Collectors XXIV. Philip Hofer," *The Book Collector*, IX (1960), 151-164, 292-300. Hofer's contribution to the development of the Library deserves full treatment beyond the scope of the present article.

annually available for rare books and manuscripts. His irresistible combination of enthusiasm and expertise aroused fresh support among old friends of the Harvard Library and brought into the fold a host of new friends. If anything, the pace of his scholarly labors increased. And he commenced a spectacular career of collecting for Harvard reflected in the twenty-two annual reports that were the admiration, envy, and despair of the rare book world.

How is a bibliographer-librarian of such formidable qualifications trained? Not by any common educational formula, and not by accident. Jackson perceived the outlines of what he wanted to do while still a pupil at the South Pasadena High School and set his course accordingly, at each stage of his development taking maximum advantage of the opportunities at his disposal. No Olympic athlete ever trained his muscles more systematically or unremittingly or to better avail than Jackson trained his eye and his mind. He regarded education as coterminous with life, and never ceased to learn and to explore. In our last conversation at the library I called his attention to the word "opsimath," which I had accidentally come upon in the *N.E.D.* It means "one who begins to learn late in life." Jackson was delighted: in his sixtieth year, it characterized so perfectly his own profound belief that learning is a constant beginning.

He was born in 1905 in Bellows Falls, Vermont, the son of Alice Mary (Fleming) and the Rev. Charles Wilfred Jackson, a Baptist clergyman who later moved to Canada and then was called to a parish in South Pasadena, California.

Here Jackson began his schooling. From the start the most important part of it was extracurricular and in a library — the Public Library, where he read voraciously and fell under the spell of writers about books and in particular A. Edward Newton, author of the classic *Amenities of Book Collecting* (1918). It is fashionable to dismiss Newton as an inaccurate amateur whose own collection sometimes failed to live up to the glowing descriptions he published; but he wrote with a vigor and enthusiasm that infected generations of bookmen and collectors, and he deserves all honor as a pioneer of bibliophily. He was precisely the right mentor for this particular boy growing up in the next town to the newly established Huntington Library.

Jackson's connection with the Huntington began on a homely plane — he cut the grass at the house of a neighbor, Dr. George Watson Cole,

who was its first librarian. The Huntington was founded in 1919 but it did not officially open until 1928. Mr. Henry E. Huntington himself still inhabited the house that is now the art gallery.

Cole and his staff were engaged in organizing and cataloguing Mr. Huntington's books and manuscripts; the great influx of students was far in the future. When young Jackson's interest in these matters became obvious, he soon had an entrée usually denied all but a few mature scholars, and he became confirmed in his life-long opinion that books form the only topic in the world worth continued and serious study and discussion.

Jackson graduated from high school in 1922, and on Dr. Cole's advice, matriculated at Williams College. Mr. Alfred Clark Chapin had just placed his choice collection of some twelve thousand volumes, mainly in English literature, in the college library, and these were a magnet as potent to Jackson as the newest electron accelerator to a nuclear physicist. He entered with the class of 1927 and was soon spending eight or more hours a day in the Chapin Library: a marriage of love and necessity, for he was putting himself through college and needed a job.

Miss Lucy Eugenia Osborne was Chapin's librarian.² She must soon have perceived that this was no ordinary freshman helper, fit mainly to fetch and carry and dust books. He began to take a part in the descriptive cataloguing, and before long had developed with a surprising degree of sophistication a form and style that Mr. Chapin found appropriate for a full-dress catalogue suitable for publication. Jackson also hastened to enter the world of rare books in New York, then as now the chief American market, attending his first auction, beginning his rounds of the shops, and breaching the defenses of the Morgan Library, which was not yet open to the public.

During the summer vacation of 1924, Jackson returned to Pasadena, where he found more than ever to do in the Huntington and to talk about with its staff. In particular C. K. Edmonds, cataloguer of early English books, and Captain R. B. Haselden, curator of manuscripts, each in his own right a remarkable character, spent many evenings of conversation with him. Back at Williams in the autumn, the pace of his bibliographical work increased and the publication of the catalogue was discussed in concrete terms.

² For Jackson's tribute to Miss Osborne on her retirement, see *Williams Alumni Review*, XI, no. 1 (October 1947), 19-20.

He passed the summer of 1925 in the almost hermit-like solitude of Williamstown when the college was closed, working on the books for a salary underwritten by Mr. Chapin. An abortive diary, kept up for a few weeks only, records long days of concentrated work in the library. It also contains bibliographical maxims and shrewd self-analysis:

[June 23] A good thing for any person who is engaged in bibliographical work to realize is the fact that there are generally several ways of approaching the same subject—when blocked on one avenue, back away until you get a clear view, outside the smoke and dust of the struggle, find a new opening and charge there.

[July 6] I tried my best to untangle an ugly mess of Allots^s today and although I kept at it for some time I didn't get as much done as I should, possibly because I was thinking too much of the pleasures of owning a great and fine library and so on. If I could only convince myself that the only way to have such pleasures is to get in and dig now—with all my heart and energy—not letting even my unconscious stray into such pleasant paths.

Cataloguing books on the scale that he had begun demanded the comparison of copies in other libraries. Jackson had already started to explore the resources at Yale, Harvard, the Morgan Library, and the Newberry in Chicago, as well as the old familiar Huntington back home. It was time for further explorations overseas. He had not asked help from his parents for his college education, but now he wondered if they could assist him to finance a trip abroad. They could; and it was planned for the summer of 1926, between his junior and senior years. Their acquiescence produced a letter extraordinary for the clarity of its view of his future course. It is undated, but it was probably written in May or early June, 1926.

Dear Father and Mother,

I have read your letters over several times and am very much pleased that you give the idea of the trip as much consideration as you do. I'll confess I was afraid that you would reject the idea altogether.

In this letter I shan't go into the financial side of the question at all because I haven't talked over my salary with Miss Osborne and so can't say just exactly what I can do.

However as to P.[ost] G.[raduate] work I have thought a good deal

^s *Englands Parnassus* and *Wits theater of the little world*, anthologies of prose and verse compiled by Robert Allott. They are very complicated bibliographically; the revised S.T.C. will list four issues of the former and two of the latter—which Jackson at last properly differentiated.

about it and this is about where I have come out. I shall probably stay here at Williams to get my M.A., finishing up the cataloguing of the Eng. Lit. It is even possible that I can submit the published catalogue as my thesis for altogether it represents far more toil and investigation, not to speak of thousands of decisions, the ability to maintain that "bane of little minds," consistency, and a grasp of bibliographical method than any ordinary thesis for the Master's Degree.

If I am allowed to do that I shall only take a few courses, and those in foreign languages, German, Italian, and Greek, and tutor in my French. (My French is so funny. I can read anything in that language, technical monographs, novels, poetry, absolutely everything that I have ever picked up with very very little stumbling, and yet although I can understand it when Joe Harsch, who returned yesterday from Paris, speaks it, I cannot somehow speak more than the most elementary sentences. The words come all right but I can't remember their order, whether you use *en* or *dans* with a particular word, anything in fact that is idiomatic. All I need to know about the language is how to read it with facility and that I hope to get without much difficulty. When I start any new languages I shall be much more careful about how I get the elements of it than I was with French.)

Of course if I do that I shall be paid for the work in the Library and liberally enough, I hope, so that I can begin getting together those books that I shall later master and use, as well as pay off such things as the loan from the college which still stands but need not cause me any anxiety for I am not expected to pay it back until I have finished my education, i.e. the collegiate part of it.

After that of course I can only vaguely plan, but I hope that I can get a scholarship which will enable me to spend a couple or may be three years at Cambridge or Oxford, if it is possible to get a degree there to get it but not to let it control my whole time for I have been looking forward to that period as a time when I shan't have to feel that when I am reading what interests me most, I am using time that I ought to be spending on lessons that are of no interest to me at all. I hope then to become familiar with the literatures of all nations and all times, to read and master things that I shall never have time later to touch but which will give me a broader view-point, add immeasurably to my ability to appreciate what I do come in contact with in my latter life, in short to provide broad foundations upon which I can build whatever 'specialized' structure I later decide upon, and know that it will not be weakened by my failure to see it in its proper proportions and relations to the life of mankind. I hope to break away from the things which take so much time here, the bull-sessions, happy and profitable as they are, fraternity and extracurricular activities and the earning of money. I am sure that if I can those three years will be the happiest of my life. I don't intend to become a hermit — in fact I think I should seek the society of those from whom I could learn so much, men whose work I now admire,

and men who are interested in the things that I am interested in. They are so few here at Williams.

If I didn't take a degree in England, I should probably return and spend a year in residence at Harvard to get it there.

In these plans the \$500 would make little difference one way or the other.

Joe Harsch has just come over and I think I'll go out to lunch with him. When I know how I shall stand financially I shall write.

Lovingly,

William.

Apart from its professional overtones, the letter contains evidence that Jackson was enjoying a normal and active college career beyond the Chapin Library and his preoccupation with books. He joined the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity and always valued his association with it; he became editor of the college magazine, the *Williams Graphic*, whose business manager was his life-long friend Joseph C. Harsch; he was Ivy Poet for his class at commencement; and he so far overcame his distaste for a set curriculum as to graduate with final honors in English Literature. The letter also shows that even in his college years Jackson's thorough enjoyment of social intercourse was always overlaid with a sense that such things constituted an interference with his life's work and were therefore of secondary importance.

The summer of 1926 was decisive in many ways. He set out for England; on shipboard he met Miss Dorothy Judd of Honolulu, who three years later was to become his wife. He made his earliest forays into the Bodleian, the North Library of the British Museum, and the other great collections that were to be his familiar haunts. He met and quickly earned the respect of his bibliographical heroes, such as W. W. Greg, R. B. McKerrow, and Seymour de Ricci, and made the acquaintance of the coming men of his own generation, such as John Carter, Graham Pollard, and Percy Muir. And in London the Bibliographical Society published *A Short-title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland and of English Books Printed Abroad 1475-1640*, compiled by A. W. Pollard and G. R. Redgrave, the key to the books he loved most, and the bibliographical tool he was to spend the rest of his life revising and enlarging. He secured a copy at once, had it interleaved, and began entering the thousands of annotations that eventually crowded every page.

By June, 1927, when Jackson graduated from Williams College, the

shape of the Chapin Catalogue had been fully determined and it was agreed with Mr. Chapin that he should stay on, complete it, and see it into print. Instead of working towards a master's degree from Williams, he was engaged in directing his own specialized curriculum, outlined a few years later (July 15, 1930) in a letter to Carl H. Pforzheimer, Sr.:

While it is true, that in recent years, I have specialized in English to 1640, nevertheless I have not neglected such opportunities as I have had for keeping in touch with other fields. Though I do not pretend to be an expert in all lines, realizing that dogmatic infallibility is rather more than usually foolhardy in things bibliographical, I may state that I have paid particular attention to the study of bindings (sufficient to correct, and have it admitted, several of the ascriptions in the Huntington bindings exhibit), to English provenance marks and armorial stamps (in this I have had the assistance of M. de Ricci but have gathered and verified some hundreds of unrecorded rubbings by myself), and to English paleography especially the later court hands. I have also paid particular attention to the recognition of fakes and facsimiles and have made a practice of estimating the value of the items in the auction sales and later checking my estimates by the priced catalogues. As opportunities and circumstances have permitted I have gathered together a usable collection of reference books which I have systematically annotated after the fashion of the copy of the Short-Title Catalogue which I showed you.⁴ As a collector I have specialized in American 19th Century literature and in English 18th and 19th century prints. . . .

The Chapin Catalogue itself is also best described in his own words, in a letter written to Professor Karl Young of Yale, November 7, 1928:

The Catalogue is an attempt to describe by means of the most advanced bibliographical methods some 1500 volumes in the Chapin Library which were printed in England (i.e. in what is now the United Kingdom) before the year 1641, or which were printed in English in Europe prior to the same date. The Catalogue will also contain an appendix of such books as are in the Chapin Library which were written by Englishmen and first printed on the continent in Latin but which were later translated into English and are to-day regarded as English books. . . . In the case of an author whose works were published both before and after the year 1641, all of the editions of his works which are in this Library, except of course modern reprints, will be described if the Library possesses a copy of at least one work by that author printed prior to 1641. . . .

⁴ See James E. Walsh, "The Librarian's Library: the William A. Jackson Bibliographical Collection," *The Book Collector*, XIV, no. 4 (Winter, 1965), 499-510; XV, no. 1 (Spring, 1966), 35-45.

Besides containing descriptions of the books in the Chapin Library the Catalogue will also describe, in many cases with facsimile reproductions, all known variant issues of those books. It will, moreover, in those instances where two or more editions of a book were printed with the same date, distinguish between them and present such evidence, bibliographical or documentary, as may be adduced to determine the order in which they were printed. For example, and this is only one of several hundred which might be cited, the early editions of Edward Halle's "The union of the two noble and illustre families of Lancastre [and] Yorke" were all printed in the same shop within a period of two or three years and many copies are made up from sheets of more than one edition. Because of the confusion which has thereby arisen and which has previously only been worse confounded by the attempts which have been made to distinguish between the variant issues and editions by the examination of the copies to be found in one library alone, in describing the copy of this book in the Chapin Library the copies in the British Museum, Bodleian, and Huntington libraries have all been examined and compared. . . .

In the preparation of this Catalogue, a task which has consumed the better part of five years, I have not been confined to the resources of the Chapin Library and of the Williams College Library alone, but have personally examined in nearly all the great libraries of this country as well as in the British Museum other copies of the books which will be described in the Catalogue. Before the Catalogue is ready for the press I shall have spent some five months at the Huntington Library, for the purpose of comparing copies of these and related books. I have also had the assistance of a paid expert correspondent at the British Museum.

It is not possible to mention here all of the matters to which particular attention has been paid in the preparation of this work; but this care has been gratifyingly productive of original and important discoveries. Attention should perhaps be called to the effort which has been made to identify the printers of anonymously printed books; and the use that has been made of the Calendars of State Papers for the discovery of the authorship and the history of the suppression of anonymous books.

Finally, besides indices of printers, publishers, engravers, provenience, etc., the Catalogue will contain what may be called a bibliographical index. By this means it will be possible to make available for general use the numerous examples and instances of printing practices and bibliographical methods which are discovered or discussed throughout the Catalogue. This index will largely supplement the recently published work of Dr. McKerrow and Miss Albright. For example, in the case of title-signatures of which Dr. McKerrow was only able to cite one example in English printing this index will contain, among others, eighteen examples of this practice in the production of Wynkyn de Worde alone. . . .

It is astonishing to realize that these statements were made by a man in his early twenties, and that they represented not daydreaming but

solid achievement. Bibliographical work of such scope and calibre had scarcely been done before, certainly not in the United States.

The letter to Professor Young marked another step in the education of the bibliographer, for what was proposed was nothing less than that Yale University accept the catalogue as a thesis for the doctorate in English philology. One greatness of a university lies in its ability to recognize a truly exceptional situation: a week later Dean Wilbur L. Cross replied, "The Department of English has voted unanimously to accept as your dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy the bibliography you are preparing of the Chapin Library."

By 1929 work on the catalogue had progressed towards a conclusion; in August he and Dorothy Judd were married in Honolulu. They returned to the States and set up housekeeping in Altadena, California, the first of a series of homes where Dolly Jackson presided over domestic tranquillity and warm hospitality.

After some nine months, they moved to New Haven, Connecticut. Thus he established residence at Yale and was well located to see the catalogue into print. He had the resources of a great library at hand; he had not too long a journey to visit Williamstown as occasion arose; and the publication itself was to originate in New Haven. Carl Purington Rollins, typographer for the Yale University Press, had already produced specimen pages which had accompanied Jackson's application to the Yale faculty.

But 1929 was also the year when the declining stock market signaled the beginning of the great depression. Early in 1930 Mr. Chapin decided that the state of his investments no longer permitted him to incur the cost of printing an elaborate catalogue. On very short notice he canceled all further work on it. To all intents and purposes, the text was complete, and it can still be consulted in typescript at Williamstown, but it has never been printed. The published record of the Chapin Library is the much simpler *Check-List* prepared by Lucy Eugenia Osborne and issued in 1939.

Publication of the catalogue would have established an international reputation at once. To have it withheld at the last minute was a bitter blow. There were additional personal responsibilities as well: the Jacksons' only child, Jared Judd Jackson, was born in the summer of 1930. A new position had to be sought in a field in which there were not many openings.

The Huntington offered a job, but not at a salary sufficient to com-

pensate for the expensive transcontinental move. Jackson began to correspond with Carl H. Pforzheimer, Sr., of New York, who had a magnificent library of English literature in many ways similar to Mr. Chapin's, and unsurpassed among private collections with respect to some authors. Mr. Pforzheimer wished to publish a proper bibliographical catalogue, and also to enlist expert advice for further acquisitions. Jackson was obviously the man on both counts. A bargain was struck, and in the autumn Jackson moved to New York to begin an association that lasted seven years and resulted in the superb three-volume catalogue, designed by Frederic Warde and Bruce Rogers and published in 1940.

Anyone who compares it with the unpublished Chapin Catalogue will be struck by the close similarity of method and style. The underlying principles were the same: meticulous description of each book, close analysis of its bibliographical features, a succinct resumé of its publishing history, notes on copies in other collections, and references to it in bibliographical literature.

Jackson's attack was unchanged, but his knowledge had widened and deepened. He continually enlarged his acquaintance with libraries great and small. In order to bring still more information to bear on the problems of the catalogue he spent the year 1933-1934 in England with his family, mainly to have constant access to English collections but also to represent Mr. Pforzheimer in the London book market. It was his longest continuous residence abroad. He returned to the United States to complete a book that provides a standard against which all other bibliographical catalogues are to be measured. The self-training so rigorously administered and the years of experience came to full flower in it.

In New York Jackson began another association of the greatest importance to him. In 1931 he joined the Grolier Club, the premier collectors' club of the United States, a club with a long and honorable history and a vigorous and lively membership. The club roster included not only the tycoons of American collecting but also a good representation of younger men and coming collectors, with a liberal seasoning of able booksellers, librarians, and other professionals.

The club library, then as now, was one of the most distinguished bibliographical reference collections anywhere, notably strong in books relating to provenance and book sales, matters that particularly concerned Jackson. In daily intercourse in the library and clubrooms

he met those of like interests and became known to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, men who speedily came to recognize that along with his engaging amateur qualities he was a professional of professionals. It was at the Grolier Club that his lifelong friendship with Philip Hofer was cemented.

In addition to such private contacts Jackson also made his public debut before a stated meeting of the Club, on 19 December 1935, reading a paper on Thomas Frognall Dibdin. Young, tall, handsome, in full command of his subject and with enthusiasm to spare, he made a stunning impression on his audience. Next day A. Edward Newton wrote to him: "I knew that you were a bibliographer but I had no idea you could beat me to a frazzle at my own game. Your address last night was the finest that I have ever heard. I don't think there was a single fault or blemish, and I am but voicing the general opinion." Praise such as this must have been exhilarating, coming from the man whose writings had helped start him on his way years before in the Pasadena Public Library. And other members joined in congratulations.

Out of his friendships at the Grolier Club sprang a great bibliophilic tour, planned for the summer of 1938 with Philip Hofer, Boies Penrose, and Peter Oliver. At the last moment Oliver was stricken with appendicitis and could not go. To this mischance we owe a long Dibdinian account of the trip, written by Jackson to Oliver while homeward bound aboard the *S. S. Scythia*. In sixteen days the three friends had made a circuit from London through the Midlands, back to East Anglia, and then to London again, with a carefully prepared entrée to selected great private and institutional libraries all along the way.

Each of the three concentrated on his own specialties, and then pooled findings and enthusiasms over dinners in country pubs specially selected by Penrose. Jackson's account shows how he could go Dibdin one better by adding accurate observation to the old master's verve and gusto. Expeditions of such felicity are likely to occur only once in a lifetime. His later bibliographical journeys in England, largely in quest of notes for the *Short-title Catalogue* and books for Harvard, were more strictly professional. They were always studded with social occasions, thoroughly relished and accorded due importance, but Jackson never again had such an opportunity for a sustained excursion in bibliophily.

(To be continued)