their teams at a dollar-fifty a day to grade the school grounds and plant the much needed trees. The school board was pessimistic. The members said that it would be all right to grade the grounds but that the children would destroy the trees. In answer to this Doctor Boyd appealed to the school children and each child pledged himself to care for the trees and act as a guard. Today Arkansas City is one of the pleasantest towns in Kansas.

Accordingly, in the spring of '94 Doctor Boyd began to plan for trees for the campus and in the fall and winter of '95 and '96 they were planted. The original plan was to have a lane of trees running down the center of the street and the drives on each side. This was changed however and the present handsome trees of the campus and adjoining streets are the realization of Doctor Boyd's dream.

The citizens of Norman and their properties were also in Doctor Boyd's plans and he offered trees free to all who would plant them. If the trees died they must be paid for.

The Oklahoma drought was near disastrous to the first saplings however for during their first spring they did not leaf. With this dreary sight to look back upon Doctor Boyd left early in July for an educational conference in Denver. After he left a heavy rain fell and when he returned a month later he describes the sight of the young trees, sprouting with foliage in the August moonlight, as the happiest of his life.

After the young trees began to grow they were threatened with borers which began to feast upon them. The woodpecker is the natural enemy of the borer and it was good news to the Norman city beautiful promoters when two families of woodpeckers came and nested in a cottonwood tree. Woodpeckers are, however, as disastrous to telephone poles as they are to borers and Mr. Render, the manager of the local telephone company offered a reward of fifty cents to every boy killing a woodpecker. When Doctor Boyd found a youth bound for prosperity with two dead woodpeckers in his hand he determined to protect their lives. Professor James S. Buchanan was then a member of the city council and contrived to have an ordinance passed forbidding the killing of woodpeckers.

By this date the old path to Adkins' Ford had been supplemented by a board walk which extended along University Boulevard from the present site of the McFarlin church to the campus. The price of good lumber for this walk was beyond the means of the university, but a nearby sawmill furnished post oak which was very cheap. This made a walk which was crude but efficient and proved to be a wonderful resort for rabbits. The rabbits would burrow beneath the walk and spend their nights eating the nearby gardens. A progressive minded boy decided to solve the difficulty by bringing a bull snake to eat the rabbits and one of the tragi-comedies of the early days was when Miss Grace King, an instructor in music, was frightened by the snake. Miss King is now Mrs. James D. Maguire of Norman.

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**Mater Admirabilis Chapel**

**By Altha Leah Bass, M. A. '21**

There are pigeons on the roof of the little chapel
That belongs to the Mother of God;
White and purple and grey and dapple,
They preen their feathers and promenade.

Come out, come out, O Mother of God!
Come out, for the sun is bright
And radiant as God's own face,
And the pigeons dance to do you grace;
Come out into the light.

They wheeled in the air and they turn in the light
And they walk in stately procession,
While the Virgin near God's altar white
Makes her endless intercession.

Come out, come out, O Mother of God!
Come out, for the sky is blue;
Yes, bluer than your painted robe
Is heaven's dome above this globe,
And the pigeons dance for you.

Yet a morning will come, so dewy and fair
That the Mater Admirabilis
Will leave her pale candles and her prayer
To watch the pigeons' holy bliss.

Come out, come out, O Mother of Christ!
Come out this very day,
For the pigeons pirouette for you;
On a golden roof, under heaven's deep blue,
They dance that cannot pray.

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**Gems for bibliophiles**

**Rare books in the Oklahoma library**

O ut of the east, out of Elizabethan England, out of the age of Romanticism and the age of Classicism, even from the Italy of the fifteenth century, when the finest of printing was done by hand, have come books, folios and manuscripts to grace the handsome paneled walls of the university's proudest possession, its new library.

That the library in itself is magnificent, that it is a work of art and that it has already been called "Oklahoma's crown jewel," is familiar knowledge to Sooners and Soonerland. That it is to hold books which are the gems of the writers' and printers' arts will be welcome news to the scholars, bibliophiles and lovers of art in the Southwest.

To understand this collection it is best first to understand its collectors. President Bizzell has long been known for his love of books and is one of the inspirational as well as active forces in obtaining the collection.

Chief credit however is due to Jesse L. Rader, '08 arts-sc. (M. A. '13), the quiet, diligent librarian who is one of the university's finest and most modest scholars and who is a true lover of books. Mr. Rader handles his volumes with understanding, his eye is practiced as he notices binding, printing, dates, paper,
fore-edges, illustrations and all of the material evidences by which the collector may judge rare books. The inspection is sure, he refers to collectors' books to collate dates and editions. We wait for a decision. Then no matter how thorough the investigation, he has been the previous leaf is regarded. Mr. Rader is a scholar, he knows that no matter how true the indications may be, there is yet room for a mistake. It is this quality of scientific surety that makes him invaluable to the university and to the state.

"The first requirement of any book is that it be a perfect copy," he explains. "Popular belief often causes people to think that an imperfect book may be valuable just because it is old. This is not so. And to be perfect a book must contain every one of its original sheets and all illustrations. With the disappearance of any of these its value depreciates.

"It is necessary to inspect books closely for there are so many means of faking rare editions that the collector must be wary. The famous forgery of Lord Byron's English Bards and Scotch Reviewers was thought authentic until a dubious collector examined it."

Mr. Rader picked up a copy of the forgery which has recently been acquired by the university and indicated the date of publication. It was 1810 and marked "fourth edition." He then held a page of the volume to the light and quite clearly the watermark of 1818 showed through the paper.

"This is one example. Another may be found in the case of the gullible Frenchman, one of the most renowned scientists in the world, who, when he tried book collecting, was the victim of a laughable hoax. He paid 150,000 francs for the supposed letters of Cleopatra and Helen of Troy. They were written on modern paper in characters that were modern. Yet he paid a large sum for them, not even recalling that in Cleopatra's day all writing was done on papyrus."

Such requirements are those of the collector rather than of the student however. They add to the material value of the book but have no influence upon the value of its contents as long as it is complete. The fact that in addition to the rare books of the collection there are numerous reference books makes of the library's most recent acquisition a "fine working collection of seventh century literature for scholars and teachers."

This addition is the Adams collection and is the most extensive group which has been placed on the university's shelves. It was gathered together by John Quincy Adams of Cornell university who spent twenty-five years accumulating it. The collection was purchased a year ago by the university but the display of its rare pieces has been reserved until the opening of the new library will provide the necessary space.

Foremost among the volumes is an exceptional collection of the works of Richard Brinsley Sheridan. The first Dublin edition of The Rivals which was edited in 1775 and is now in the university collection is so rare that its existence has been doubted by Walter Sichell, foremost Sheridan biographer and authority. A first edition of The Duenna published in 1785 is so rare that no copy is found in the British museum and no copy of it was ever seen by Sichell. Also in the Sheridan group is a volume which is classed as "unique." This signifies that it is individual and has no duplicate in existence. It is a transcript of the manuscript of The School for Scandal, made by Ben Oakley in 1788. It is written in a long even script and is very well preserved.

Two volumes concerned with Sir Philip Sidney are a first edition of Almanzor and Almanzaida, the only novel written by Sidney, and a first edition of Fulke Greville's Life of Philip Sidney. The first was published in 1652 and the second in 1678.

The most extensive group of books covering one period is that of the volumes on the Restoration drama. Chief among these are five first folios of the plays of Ben Jonson. Two of the folios were already in the possession of the university and three were added with the Adams collection.

"Complete and perfect" is the description of the folio of Fifty Plays by Beaumont and Fletcher which was published in 1679. Another of the restoration dramatists to be found represented with a first folio of his work is William Davenant.

The Lovelock King, by Anthony Brower, published in 1655 is another of the valuable Restoration volumes. There are only two copies of it known to be in existence. One is in the royal library of The Hague and the other in the British museum. Both are imperfect.

A further Ben Jonson rarity is a copy of Every Man Out of His Humor taken from the first folio.

The works of George Gordon, Lord Byron, are second to those of Sheridan in volume and importance in the collection. They include not only Byron's own work but a volume by his grandfather and one by one of his biographers.

A copy of the first quarto edition of Don Juan published in 1819 leads the group in significance. There is a first edition of The Prisoner of Chillon, dated 1816 and a fourth edition of Beppo, dated 1818.

The famous forgery of the rare fourth edition of English Bards and Scotch Reviewers is found alongside the genuine fourth edition issued in 1810. A first edition of Marino Faliero published in 1821 is yet in its original binding. Canto the third of Childe Harold's Pilgrimage and a volume which includes Sardanapalus, Cain and The Two Pessar, are first editions.

Count Peter Gamba wrote a diary of Lord Byron's Last Journey to Greece. An extract from it was issued in the first and only edition, which appeared in 1825, and a copy of it is now included in the Byron collection of the university library.

The Narrative of Honorable John Byron, dated in 1786, is the account of the sea voyages of Byron's grandfather, Admiral John Byron, who was known as "Foulweather Jack" because of his luckless voyages.

Seven first editions of the works of Lord Tennyson provide an unusual number of sources from which to work in studying this author. Among them are included the first issue of the first edition of In Memoriam and a copy of The Forever.

This first collected and only complete edition of the works of Seneca, translated into English, and published in 1614 is one of the distinguished pieces of the Adams collection.

An actor's prompt book containing the alteration of Massinger's A Very Woman is an interesting volume. It contains the original play with the alterations written in in longhand. The revised play has probably never been printed for no copy of it is found in the British museum.

The second edition of Milton's Defense of the Reign of Charles I which was published in 1651 contains two books in one and is very rare.

The first collected edition of the works of Sir Charles Sedley, published in 1722, has been bound in the finest red morocco by the contemporary publisher, Riviere.

Particular pieces of the printer's and binder's art, not included in the Adams collection but which will be displayed when the library moves into its new quarters range in date from the fifteenth century to the present day.

The volume which Mr. Rader classes as the finest in the possession of the library is Speculum de Confessione which was published in 1483 in Louvain. It has a handsome natural leather binding decorated with an exquisite design. It is an almost perfect copy and is printed by hand in beautiful antique characters. The book is worth hundreds of dollars, says Mr. Rader.

A fine piece of the binder's art is exemplified in a copy of The Phoenix in Her Flames, by William Lawer. The book was first published in 1634 but the original leaves were later inserted into fresh paper and bound again.

A perfect copy of Aristophanes' Comedies which was published in 1525 is an index to the expertness of the Florentine printer's craft of that date. It is very rare.
GEMS FOR BIBLIOPHILES

(Continued from page 96)

Two volumes by the famous Aldine press of Venice are handsome examples of expert typography. One of the volumes is *Epistolae Ciceronis ad Aticum*, issued in 1553.

Fine contemporary binding in such diverse materials as morocco, brocade and moire may be found in the publications of the Nonesuch press, Riviere press, Golden Cockerell press and the Zaehnsdorf press. With the exception of the Golden Cockerell press which is located in Berkshire, England, the others of this group are located in London.

Recent acquisitions of the library which are distinguished in yet another way are three volumes selected by President Bizzell. One is a copy of the Bible and the other two are copies of the poems of William Cowper. When Mr. Rader first examined them he found nothing unusual about the volumes. A second examination proved that each bore one of the famous fore-edge prints, which were originated by Thomas Edwards of Halifax, a famous binder. These prints are not apparent when the book is closed normally but when the leaves of its fore or longest edge are pressed back fanwise the print appears. The Bible bears a picture of Westminster Abbey and the Cowper books are decorated with colorful hunting prints.

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