RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Manuscript Collections

Acquisitions January–December 1983

By Scot McKendrick


Caesar Family: Journal of Mary Caesar, née Freman, wife of Charles Caesar, MP, of Benington, Herts., together with papers relative to her and her family; 1705–41. Add. MSS. 62558, 62559.


Nicola Francesco Haym: Six anthems, for one to three voices, with various instruments; 1716. Autograph full score. Dated ‘Cannon the 29th of September 1716’ on title-page and dedicated to James Brydges, Earl of Carnarvon, later 1st Duke of Chandos. Listed in the 1720 inventory of music at Canons (Huntington Library, MS. ST.66). Add. MS. 62561.


William Hancock: Problems in spherical geometry and trigonometry, astronomy, orthographic and stereographic projection, and navigation; 1700. Add. MS. 62563.

John Drinkwater (1882–1937): Correspondence with his second wife, Daisy Kennedy, together with a few letters to and from his first wife, Kathleen Walpole, and a friend, Lillian Faithfull; 1921–37. Presented by Mrs J. Drinkwater. Add. MSS. 62564–62567.


Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough: Letters to Robert Jennens of Acton, Suffolk, formerly groom of the bedchamber to William III, and his wife Ann, née Guidott, a relation of the Duchess’s lawyers, Anthony and William Guidott of Lincoln’s Inn, including several drafts and copies of their replies and some related documents; [1707?]–1726. Partly printed in Letters of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough . . . at Madresfield Court (London, 1875). Add. MSS. 62569, 62570.


Philip IV of Spain: Confirmation of the sale, 3 Mar. 1641, to Don Manuel Alvarez Pinto y Rivera of the lordship of Chilueches [Chiloeches, near Guadalajara] and an accompanying grant of arms; 15 Sept. 1642. Calligraphically written, with two fully illuminated pages. Contemporary Spanish binding of gold-tooled brown goatskin. Add. MS. 62581.

Burney Papers: Notes on classical grammarians probably made by or for Charles Burney, DD (d. 1817). Transferred from the Department of Printed Books. Add. MSS. 62582-62584.


Travel diary of an anonymous Englishman, possibly E. Kenyon, in Germany and Austria; Oct.–Nov. 1814, and Feb.–July 1815. Relates principally to Vienna during the Congress. Add. MS. 62663.

Travel journal, possibly of Sir Thomas Gage, 7th Bart., of Hengrave, in Florence, Pisa, Rome, and Naples, with related antiquarian notes and drawings; [1817?]. Add. MS. 62664.
George, Earl Macartney: Diplomatic instructions, papers, and letters sent to him by the Foreign Secretary, Lord Grenville, and others, mostly relating to the former’s secret mission to Louis XVIII in exile in Verona; 1795-6. Partly French; partly in cipher. Phillipps MS. 19002. Add. MS. 62665.

Henry Purcell: Dramatic music, odes, etc., in full score; 18th cent. The name 'Jos. Fish, Darwen, Lancashire' occurs as copyist in Add. MS. 62672, with the partially erased date 1771(?). His hand appears in all other volumes except Add. MS. 62667. Listed in F. B. Zimmerman, Henry Purcell, 1659-1695; An Analytical Catalogue of his Music (London 1963), app. iii, nos. 380-6. Presented by the British Council. Add. MSS. 62666-62672.

Walter Leigh: Autograph music manuscripts, comprising parts for his String Quartet, 1929, and an imperfect pencil full score of his Concertino for harpsichord or piano and string orchestra, 1934. Presented by the British Council. Add. MS. 62673.


Album of songs and other short musical pieces; 1798-1802, n.d. Two songs by Jonas Blewitt are endorsed with his receipts dated 1800 for payment of copyright from the publisher Edward Riley and many of the pieces have engraver's markings. Other named composers of songs include James King Day and J. Ambrose. Also included are music from 'Joanna of Surinam' (imperfect) by James Sanderson; a sonata for piano with flute or violin by Thomas Brabazon Gray; and a set of waltzes for piano duet by Christoph August Gabler. Add. MS. 62677.

Hyatt King Papers: Letters on musical subjects addressed to Alec Hyatt King, formerly Music Librarian, British Library, with related papers and some printed material; 1913, 1949-82. The correspondents include Eric Blom, Frank Howes, and Sir Sacheverell Sitwell. Presented by Dr Hyatt King. Add. MS. 62678.

Supplementary Avebury Papers: Diaries and correspondence, etc., of and relating to Sir John Lubbock (1834-1913), 1st Baron Avebury 1900, and also of his first wife Frances, née Hordern (d. 1879), and his second wife (1884) Alice, née Fox-Pitt-Rivers; 1850-1913, n.d. Presented by the 4th Baron Avebury. Add. MSS. 62679-62693.

Knight and Forbes-Robertson Papers: Papers of Joseph Knight (1829-1907), Editor of Notes and Queries, and of the Forbes-Robertson family (Knight's daughter Gertrude being the wife of Ian Forbes-Robertson); 1690-1952, n.d. Add. MSS. 62694-62707.

The Sheares Bible: The Bible paraphrased into English verse and copiously illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings, some of them coloured, by Abraham Sheares; 1710-31. Sheares was probably a member of the Sheer family of Exeter. Add. MS. 62708.
Fairfax Family: Letters and papers of the Fairfax family of Yorkshire and Leeds Castle, co. Kent; 1680-1833. n.d. Partly copies and printed. Most of the letters, which are of a personal or business nature, are addressed to Brian Fairfax the younger, Commissioner of Customs; 1713-45, n.d. Add. MS. 62709.


Miscellaneous Papers; c.1680-1879. Included are letters of W. C. Macready, 1823, Benjamin Disraeli, 1840, 1846, Charles Dickens, 1850, Alexis Soyer, 1855; a plan of Waterbeach Rectory, co. Cambs., c.1680; and a quill, 1833. Add. 62711.


Harleian Manuscripts: Preface to 'A Catalogue of the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts', 1759. MS. copy apparently taken from the proofs and subscribed '24th December 1762 . . . Thos. Astle/To Mr Palmer in Queens College', in a hand, not Astle's, which has also inserted most of the footnotes and marginal subject titles. On the printing of the 1759 catalogue, see The Diary of Humphrey Wanley, eds. C. E. and R. C. Wright (London, 1966), vol. i, pp. lxxxi-lxxxii. Add. MS. 62775.


Dora Carrington: Correspondence with Lytton Strachey; 1916-31. Many of Carrington's letters are illustrated with pen and pencil sketches. Add. MSS. 62888-62897.


Ralph Vaughan Williams: Songs for voice and piano; 1901–2, 1904. Autograph. The songs are ‘Linden Lea’, ‘Blackmore by the Stour’, ‘The Vagabond’ and ‘Bright is the ring of words’ (from ‘Songs of Travel’). Presented by Mrs R. Vaughan Williams. Add. MS. 62906.

Diary, principally of travel in Italy, of an anonymous Englishman who was a pharmacist at Florence, working at the Farmacia Roberts
Mrs Katherine Peterkin Grindrod (1862-1940): Diary, principally in Siam; 1892-4. With a typed transcript, addenda, and a preface by Dr R. D. Hill. Presented by Dr R. D. Hill, at the request of Miss Muriel Grindrod. Add. MS. 62908A-C.


George Gordon, 6th Lord Byron: Accounts for the Newstead Abbey and Rochdale Manor estates prepared for the Court of Chancery by John Hanson, solicitor; 1802-6. Add. MS. 62910.

Spencer of Althorp, Seymour and Hervey Papers: Travel journals, diaries, commonplace-books, and letters, etc., of the Spencers of Althorp, and related families; 1800-89. Add. MSS. 62911-62923.


Pelham Papers: Ledger listing the daily bills of fare and farm expenses of Henrietta, Dowager Duchess of Newcastle (d. 17 July 1776); 1 Jan. 1775-17 July 1776; and of Thomas Lord Pelham, later 1st Earl of Chichester; 18 July-14 Aug. 1776. The volume was used as a scrapbook in the 19th cent., with most items apparently dating from 1835 to 1840. Add. MS. 62926.

Sir Edward Nicholas, Secretary of State: Memoranda-book; 1663. The notes are entered in an interleaved copy of a printed almanac, Lilly's Merlini Anglici Ephemeris, 1663. This volume precedes Add. MS. 41202B in the series of Nicholas memoranda-books, now Add. MSS. 41202A-AA. Add. MS. 62927.

Samuel Wesley: Notebook, 1870, of Eliza, daughter of Samuel Wesley, containing copies of his letters of 1808-16 to Benjamin Jacob relating to the music of J. S. Bach (published as Letters of Samuel Wesley to Mr Jacobs, ed. E. Wesley (London, 1875)), and copies from Add. MSS. 11731, fols. 17-19, and 11729, fols. 1-20, of his letters of 1830, 1811-12 to Vincent Novello. Add. MS. 62928.


Swarthmore Manuscripts: Three Quaker treatises originating from the circle of George Fox and his wife Margaret Fell at Swarthmore Hall, Ulverston, c.1652-68. Add. MS. 62930-62932.

Rokeby Letters: Letters of Edward Montagu, 5th Baron Rokeby of Armagh, to his brothers
Henry (6th Baron Rokeby, 1847), Spencer and to his sister Caroline; 1834-47. Add. MSS. 62933-62934.


Gilbert White of Selbourne: Autograph sermon on 'For Godly sorrow worketh repentence to Salvation' (2 Cor. 7: 10); c.1757. Included are lists in White's hand of places, indicating where and when he delivered this sermon. Later annotations were probably the work of White's great-nephew, Revd. Glyd White, MA (d. 1869), Curate of Ewelme, co. Oxon. Add. MS. 62937.

M. W. Balfe: Music album containing piano pieces and sketches for unidentified works; 1861, n.d. Imperfect. The piano works include 'Nocturne' and an arrangement of an air from Balfe's opera 'The Maid of Honour'. Some of the sketches have words or indications of orchestration. Add. MS. 62938.

Sir Robert Peel: Letters to Peel, mostly from various ministers of the Crown, including George Canning, Lord John Russell, and Lords Liverpool and Castlereagh, together with a copy of a letter from Peel to Sir Walter Scott and a draft reply from Peel to Liverpool; 1813-[1847?]. Add. MS. 62939.


Siegfried Sassoon: Letters and poems; before c.1906-30. Add. MSS. 62941, 62942.
