The Colophon

Newsletter of the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center  University of Minnesota Law Library  Spring 2009

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In March 2009 Vice President Walter F. Mondale presented his Vice-Presidential seal to the University of Minnesota Law Library. The seal is the centerpiece of an exhibit in the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center. Entitled “A Voice of Wisdom, Compassion, and Hope: An Exhibition in Celebration of the Life and Career of Vice President Walter F. Mondale,” the exhibit includes photographs, letters, documents, and memorabilia from Walter Mondale’s early years in Elmore, Minn., and his years as Minnesota Attorney General, U. S. Senator, Vice President, presidential nominee, and U.S. Ambassador to Japan.
So Much More Than a ‘harmless drudge”: Samuel Johnson and his Dictionary

Joan S. Howland – Roger F. Noree Profesor of Law and Associate Dean for Information and Technology

Lexicographer: A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words.

[from the first edition of Samuel Johnson’s Dictionary - 1755]

Since scribes translated the codes of conquered Akkadia to render these texts accessible to the victorious Sumerians, lexicographers have been capturing the meaning of words at specific points in time, and facilitating the use of language to shape both history and society. Greek scholars working at the great library in Alexandria developed lexicons to aid their studies of the writings of Homer, and medieval monks created Latin glossaries to facilitate interpretation of Biblical scriptures. Legal dictionaries and the lexicographers who created them have had a particular influence on the development of law in almost every jurisdiction, especially those stemming from the Common Law tradition. John Rastell, the brother-in-law of Sir Thomas More, published the first English dictionary of legal terms in ca. 1523, Exposicions of [th]e Termys of [th]e Law of England.

However, the development of a truly useful English dictionary was slow in coming. Robert Cawdrey published an abbreviated and ill-conceived work of merely twenty-five hundred words in 1604 under the title A Table Alphabetical of Hard Words. Several attempts at similar works over the next 150 years were equally unsatisfactory, leading philosopher David Hume to lament in 1741, “The Elegance and Propriety of Stile have been very much neglected among [the British]. We have no Dictionary of our Language, and scarce a tolerable Grammar.” Other scholars of the time, including Jonathan Swift, Daniel Defoe, and John Dryden, expressed similar sentiments as they advocated for the preservation of and “regulation” of English.

It was into this philological wasteland that Samuel Johnson wandered in the mid-seventeen hundreds as he accepted the challenge to forestall further mutation and decay of the English language. By the 1740s Samuel Johnson was a visible presence in London’s intellectual scene and had earned a modicum of respect for a smattering of published plays, poems, books, and articles. However, he is considered by some to be an odd choice for fate to select for this monumental task; “Blind in one eye, corpulent, incompletely educated, by all accounts coarse in manner, he was an obscure scribbler from an impoverished background when he was given a contract. . . to compile a dictionary in English.”

Born in 1709 in Lichfield, England, Johnson, the son of a magistrate and bookseller, early in life developed both an attraction to the law and a devotion to language and literature. Although a voracious reader, devouring his father’s eclectic personal
A DICTIONARY
OF THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE:
IN WHICH
The WORDS are deduced from their ORIGINALS,
AND
ILLUSTRATED in their DIFFERENT SIGNIFICATIONS
BY
EXAMPLES from the best WRITERS.
TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,
A HISTORY of the LANGUAGE,
AND
AN ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

BY SAMUEL JOHNSON.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

THE FOURTH EDITION, REVISED BY THE AUTHOR.

London,
Printed by W. Strahan,
For W. Strahan, J. & F. Rivington, T. Davies, J. Hinton, L. Davis; Hawes, Clarke & Collins;
W. Johnston, W. Owen, T. Cailon, S. Crowder, T. Longman, E. Law, E. & C. Dilly, J. Dodsley,
Z. Stuart, Becket & De Honot, J. Knoke, T. Cadell, Wilson & Nicoll, W. Nicoll, G. Robinson,
Jo. Johnson, J. Robson, Richardson & Ureynart, and M. Hingeston.

MDCCCLXXIII.
library, Johnson’s formal education was sporadic and, even when in the classroom, he was a less than diligent student. He attended Oxford for two years with lackluster results. A combination of factors, including a distinct lack of focus and a spiraling decline in his family’s fortunes, led Johnson to withdraw in 1731 and move to London in search of both income and his destiny. For the next fifteen years he tried his hand at a variety of writing ventures and became a moderately successful poet, playwright, and essayist. Johnson’s fortuitous marriage to a wealthy widow twenty years his senior, Elizabeth Porter, gave him both domestic happiness and the financial stability to focus on his literary pursuits.8

In 1746 Johnson was invited by a consortium of booksellers to take on the arduous task of compiling a dictionary of the English language in two folio volumes. Enthusiastically embracing this opportunity, Johnson articulated his goals for the work in a “scheme” entitled The Plan of a Dictionary of the English Language.9 As stated in The Plan, “the chief intent of [the Dictionary is] to preserve the purity and ascertain the meaning of [our] English idiom.”10 Through his work on the Dictionary over the next eight years, he came to understand not only the complexities, inconsistencies, and ambiguities of English, but also to accept the inevitable evolution of the language. As opposed to the rigid pragmatism voiced in his original plan in 1747, Johnson wrote in the Preface to his dictionary upon its completion in 1755, “. . . we laugh at the elixir that promises to prolong life to a thousand years; and with equal justice may the lexicographer be derided, who being able to produce no example of a nation that has preserved their words and phrases from mutability, shall imagine that his dictionary can embalm his language, and secure it from corruption and decay, that it is in his power to change sublunary nature, or clean the world at once from vanity, affectation.”11

Although Johnson underestimated by over half the amount of time needed to compile his Dictionary of the English Language, the first edition published in 1755 contained an impressive 42,773 entries and over 114,000 quotations and etymologies. Johnson defined not only the words of common usage but those of specific professions and disciplines of study including history and philosophy. He also defined terms of war and navigation, and a host of other unique words. He broke philosophical ground by offering preferred spellings, pronunciations, and plurals. Although he studiously excluded words he found crude or obscene, Johnson included many words he dismissively described in his definitions as “vulgar,” “low,” or “common.” The majority of entries provided etymology and derivation. Johnson copiously quoted sources from widely diverse disciplines and authors to illustrate the meaning and correct usage of terms. Authors he referenced repeatedly include John Milton (200), William Law (173), John Wilkins (88), Alexander Pope (80), and William Shakespeare (21). He referred to portions of the Bible in the definitions of 71 different words.12 Conversely, he intentionally excluded many writers including Thomas Hobbes whom he “. . . . scorned . . . . to quote. . . at all because I did not like his principles.”13

Even in 2009, the 300th anniversary of Johnson’s birth, the Dictionary is more than a fascinating reference to the English language at a certain point in time. A close inspection of the first edition confirms that Johnson remains “supreme among lexicographers. . . . in his understanding of the metaphor, of the relations between the primary and transferred senses of words; and in that he [shows] a poet’s understanding.”14 The work also remains relevant in the twenty-first century because it is a true “literary creation as is shown not only in the . . . . definitions . . . . but in the verve and lucidity of hundreds of articles.”15 To browse the two folio volumes of the first edition is a pure delight with some term of interest or surprise to be found on every page. The masterpiece also reflects the personality, wit, erudition, moral views, prejudices, and compulsive tendencies of the compiler.

As noted above, Johnson was the first English lexicographer to define words and to give them an etymology.16 Johnson’s definitions, more than the massive nature of the work itself, contribute to the enduring popularity of the Dictionary. These definitions also, to an even greater extent than James Boswell’s seminal biography Life of Johnson,17 provide insights into Johnson’s personality. A sampling of the terms found in the Dictionary reflect as much about Johnson the man as they do about the English language in the mid-eighteenth century.
The publication of the Dictionary and its excellent reception firmly established Johnson’s position as the leading arbiter of the English language and one of the most influential intellectuals in London. The influence of Johnson’s achievement even reached across the Atlantic Ocean where Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and undoubtedly many other educated Americans of the eighteenth century purchased copies of the Dictionary for their personal libraries and considered it the definitive guide to the English language.

Thanks to his loyal friend and somewhat biased biographer, James Boswell, Johnson’s professional and personal lives are incredibly well documented. At several points in his Life of Johnson, Boswell mentions Johnson’s fascination with the theory and the practice of law. In 1738, Johnson investigated the possibility of entering the legal profession, despite having no legal training, and opined, “I am a total stranger to [legal] studies; but whatever is a profession, and maintains numbers, must be within the reach of common abilities, and some degree of industry.” Although disappointed to learn that without formal training he would not meet the requirements of the Inns of Court, he maintained a lifelong interest in the study of and the language of law. Johnson’s familiar moniker, “Dr. Johnson,” stems from the LL.D.s in honoris causa he received from Trinity College in 1765 and from Oxford in 1775.

Always short tempered, as Johnson became more revered in London’s social circles, he became increasingly infamous for his

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**from Samuel Johnson’s Dictionary**

*Curtain-lecture: a reproof given by a wife to husband in bed*

*Dull: not exhilarating; not delightful; as, to make dictionaries is dull work*

*Enthusiasm: a vain belief of private revelation; a vain confidence of divine favour or communication*

*Essay: a loose sally of the mind, an irregular, indigested piece, not a regular and orderly composition*

*Excise: a hateful tax levied upon commodities, and adjudged not by the common judges of property, but wretches hired by those to whom excise is paid*

*Justice: the virtue by which we give to every man what is his due*

*Mouth-friend: one who professes friendship without meaning it*

*Mushroom: an upstart; a wretch risen from the dunghill; the director of a company*

*Oats: a grain, which is generally given to horses, but in Scotland supports the people*

*Patron: one who countenances, support or protects. Commonly a wretch who supports with inodence, and is paid with flattery*

*Pension: an allowance made to any one without an equivalent*

*In England it is generally understood to mean pay given to a state hireling for treason to his country*

*Pettifogger: a petty small-rate lawyer*

*Shabby: a word that has crept into conversation and low writing; but ought not to be admitted into the language. Mean; paltry*

*Spinny: I suppose small, slender. A barbarous word*

*Tory: . . . . from an Irish word signifying a savage. [Defined as] one who adheres to the antient constitution of the state, and the apostolical hierarchy of the Church of England, as opposed to a whig*

*Vermicelli: a paste rolled and broken in the form of worms*
abruptness, often bordering on rudeness. Shortly after the publication of the Dictionary, a woman trying to ingratiate herself with Johnson commented that she was surprised and pleased to have found no indecent words in either folio volume. Annoyed with her fawning, Johnson retorted, "So you have been looking for them, Madam?'22

Boswell’s biographical masterpiece also offers insights into Johnson’s personality and private life, including the softer side of the man who is best known for his biting wit and irascible demeanor. In reflecting upon Johnson’s frequent acts of kindness, Boswell wrote, ‘Nor would it be just . . . . to omit the fondness which [Johnson] showed for animals he had taken under his protection. I shall never forget the indulgence with which he treated Hodge,23 his cat: for whom he himself used to ‘stabilized’ the English language and earned him immortality.24

Johnson created a monumental work in the Dictionary that "stabilized" the English language and earned him immortality.24 He certainly was far from being a drudge. Subsequent to Johnson’s death in 1784, generations of lexicographers built upon his work to further record, define, and refine English. Noah Webster perhaps stated it best when he wrote, "Johnson’s writings had, in philology, the effect which Newton’s discoveries had in mathematics."25

Notes
1 Samuel Johnson, Dictionary of the English Language (London: Strahan, 1773).
4 Ibid., 3.
5 Ibid., 4.
6 Ibid.
10 Ibid., 166.
11 Ibid., 41. See also Kusuiro Miyoshi, Johnson and Webster’s Verbal Examples with Special Reference to Exemplifying Usage in Dictionary Entries (Tubingen: Niemeyer, 2007), 7.
15 Ibid.
16 Green, Chasing the Sun, 166.
18 Johnson may have particularly personalized this definition since he was frequently in conflict with one of his benefactors as he was compiling the Dictionary.
21 Ibid.
23 The name Hodge is old English for “from the country.”

Dean Howland’s cat, Hodge, named after Dr. Johnson’s famous feline, exhibits an instinctual appreciation for a rare treatise on British law.
Celebrating 120 Years
The University of Minnesota Law Library

University of Minnesota Law Library 1898

Arthur C. Pulling, Professor of Law and Director, 1912-1942

Edward S. Bade, Professor of Law and Director, 1943-1948

Bruno H. Greene, Professor of Law and Director, 1960-1973
George S. Grossman, Professor of Law and Director, 1973-1979

Back row: Leon Liddell, Director, 1949-1960
Middle row: Doris Pagel, Marlys Marshall, Arlette Soderberg, Head of Public Services; Ester Morze
Front row: Luella Rasula; Caroline Brede, Associate Director; Vera Carlsson, Head of Acquisitions

M. Kathleen Price, Professor of Law and Director, 1980-1991

Suzanne Thorpe, Associate Director for Faculty, Research, and Instructional Services; Peter Lawin (Class of 2008)

Joan S. Howland, Roger F. Noreen Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Information and Technology, 1992-
A Garden of Knowledge

Harry S. Martin III (Class of 1968)

For out of olde feldes, as men seith,
Cometh al this newe corn fro
yeer to yere;
And out of olde bokes, in good feith,
Cometh al this newe science that men lere.

In The Parliament of Fowls, Geoffrey Chaucer tells of holding a book, “written with ancient letters,” and “in order to learn about a certain thing, I eagerly read the long day through,” for out of old books comes new science.

The Parliament of Fowls is reputed to be the first poem to mention St. Valentine’s Day as a day for lovers and must have been well known to Lord Coke, who made a distinct reference to it in the Preface to his Reports: “To the Reader my advice is, that in reading of these or any new Reports, neglect not in any case the reading of the old Books of years reported in former ages, for assuredly out of the old fields must spring and grow the new corn.”

One of the most delightful passages in Chaucer’s poem describes a garden, “full of blossomy boughs” where the air “so a-temperate was, That never was grievance of hot nor cold.”

The University of Minnesota Law Library is a luxuriant, extensive, and carefully selected garden of the law. Its twenty-five miles of shelving, thousands of microforms, and numerous computer terminals contain millions of grains of information and many rare blossoms of legal science. The Library selects nutritious plants from around the world and varietals from all of the disciplines related to the law.

Much of the collection is available on open lawns but more is fenced off from casual browsers: rare blooms over 500 years old are kept in secure greenhouses; fragile flowers are protected by special pots; new electronic hybrids and miniaturized strains are being rapidly developed and deployed in remarkable terraces.

Time is limited for every member of the Law School community; there are many exciting demands on one’s energy and attention. But you whose sojourn here is brief will miss a unique opportunity if you fail to walk the rows of the Library’s formal gardens or ramble its backwoods, turning the leaves and examining the petals.

Here are the rules of many times and climes; here the ideas and ideals of scholars and students, jurispruders and judges. Here, too, is the information and expertise necessary to develop your own personal vineyard, to nourish and sustain your professional life.

Acquiring new stock, tending and cultivating, pruning and weeding, arranging and rearranging the fields of justice are many gardeners with a variety of skills and specialties. All, however, wish to share the fruits of their labors with appreciative students of the law and lovers of justice.

Books are like
the windows of a great tower. They let light in.
-William L. Stidger

Harry S. Martin III (Class of 1968)
Henry N. Ess III Librarian, Emeritus & Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
Visiting Professor of Law & Interim Director of Research
Jamail Center for Legal Research
Talston Law Library
The University of Texas Law School

A Garden of Knowledge was originally written by Professor Martin for the Harvard Law School Library. We graciously thank Professor Martin for adapting his essay for the University of Minnesota Law Library.
A measure of the depth and the breadth of the Rare Books Collection is the remarkable number of books it possesses that are included in *Printing and the Mind of Man*, a catalog of the world’s most influential books. PMM, as the catalog is often called, was first published in 1967 and is the standard reference source citing the most significant books since the dawn of printing.\(^1\)

*Printing and the Mind of Man* includes books in all fields of human endeavor, from Gutenberg’s Bible (c. 1455) to Archimedes’s *Opera Omnia* (1544) to Lewis and Clark’s *History of the Expedition...to the Pacific Ocean* (1814) to Hitler’s *Mein Kampf* (1925-27). The Rare Books Collection includes first editions of almost all the books in the fields of law and political science listed in the catalog. Included in this category are works by such giants as Edward Coke, John Locke, William Blackstone, and Alexander Hamilton. Other less known titles listed in PMM are also found in the Rare Books Collection: John Howard’s *The State of Prisons in England and Wales* (1777), a seminal work on penal reform, is but one example.

The following selected titles from *Printing and the Mind of Man* that are held in the Rare Books Collection confirm not only the immense influence of legal minds on the evolution of western civilization, but also illustrate the strength of the Rare Books Collection.

Sir Thomas Littleton. *Tenores Novelli*. London, 1481. Littleton’s *Tenures*, an introduction to the common law of real property, was the first significant text on English law not written in Latin and not influenced by Roman law. It was the first attempt in the history of the common law to systematically discuss a single branch of the law. According to Sir Edward Coke, “This booke is the ornament of the Common Law, and the most perfect and absolute work that ever was written in any human science.”\(^2\)

Littleton’s *Tenures* proved to be a bestseller among lawyers. The Rare Books Collection holds over thirty editions printed during the sixteenth century. Our earliest edition is dated 1528.

Henry de Bracton. *De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ*. London, 1569. *On the Laws and Constitutions of England* was written in the early thirteenth century and attributed to Henry Bracton, one of the king’s justices, although it was probably written by more than one person. Using cases from the plea roles, Bracton compiled the first systematic treatise on the English common law. Although Bracton had no concept of stare decisis, his reliance on carefully selected cases had significant impact on the development of case law. Bracton’s influence extends even to the present, cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*.\(^3\)

Bracton’s work was first printed in 1569. It was printed again in 1640 as Sir Edward Coke sought to assert the supremacy of the law over the king. In a confrontation with King James I, Coke allegedly quoted Bracton’s memorable words, “The King is subject not to men, but to God and the law.” The Rare Books Collection possesses both the 1569 and 1640 printings of Bracton.
Hugo Grotius. *De Jure Belli ac Pacis*. Paris, 1625. Grotius’s masterpiece, *On the Law of War and Peace*, is the foundation of modern international law. Influenced by violence in his home country of Holland and in Europe, particularly the bloodshed of the Thirty Years’ War, Grotius constructed a theory of law that advocated the restraint of armed conflict and the regulation of war. His principle of an immutable law flowing from man’s inherent nature was the first attempt to regulate society and government outside church doctrine or scripture. In one passage of *De Jure Belli ac Pacis*, Grotius wrote that,

> [f]ully convinced...that there is a common law among nations, which is valid alike for war and in war, I have had many and weighty reasons for undertaking to write upon this subject. Throughout the Christian world I have observed a lack of restraint in relation to war, such as even barbarous nations should be ashamed of. (Prolegomena, 28).

The Library’s earliest edition of Grotius is dated 1642.

Edward Coke. *The First Part of the Institutes of the Lawes of England; or, a Commentarie upon Littleton*. London, 1628. As Attorney General beginning in 1594, Edward Coke was a strong defender of the crown and its prerogative powers. He was a ruthless prosecutor in the great treason trials of the early seventeenth century, including that of Sir Walter Raleigh and the conspirators in the Gunpowder Plot. With his appointment as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in 1606 he became the champion of the supremacy of the law over the king. His struggles with the king led to his dismissal from judicial office in 1616. Coke’s *Institutes*, as well as his *Reports*, firmly established the common law as the foundation for freedoms in England. The first part of the *Institutes—Coke on Littleton*—is the more famous. A long, rambling commentary, the book was nonetheless the principle text on the law of property until the mid-nineteenth century. Sir John Baker, prominent English legal historian, wrote of Coke’s work:

> He delighted in wandering off at tangents, and in doing so covered many aspects of the common law which Littleton’s text never hinted at. Coke seems to have been oblivious to the disorder, but the reader can easily forgive him. He wrote like a helpful old wizard, anxious to pass on all his secrets before he died, but not quite sure where to begin or end.4
A nearly a complete collection of all editions of *Coke on Littleton*, including the first, is held in the Rare Books Collection.


Called the “magnum opus of the eighteenth century” by Sir John Baker, the *Commentaries* was a bestseller among law books both in England and in the colonies. Wrote legal historian Theodore Plunknett: “Twice in the history of English law has an Englishman had the motive, the courage, the power, to write a great readable, reasonable book about English law as a whole. First it was Bracton, and five hundred years later Blackstone.”


Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay.

These eighty-five essays on the Constitution were originally published in New York newspapers under the title “Publius” in an effort to persuade voters to support ratification of the Constitution. Although written as political propaganda, *The Federalist* is a brilliant commentary and interpretation of the Constitution.

In addition to possessing a first edition of *The Federalist*, the Rare Books Collection includes such notable items as a 1776 edition of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense*, proceedings of the first Continental Congress, and a copy of the first session laws of the United States printed in 1789.

It is my hope as Curator that this very limited description of a few of the titles held in the Rare Books Collection will lead alumni to a deeper appreciation of legal history as it is preserved and made available in the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center.

The particular strength of the Arthur C. Pulling Rare Books Collection is early English law, particularly works published between 1490 and 1599, and early American law from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Law Library’s Clarence Darrow Collection is superb and includes 553 letters written by Darrow and over 100 letters written to Darrow. The Library seeks to acquire everything written by and about Darrow, including debates, essays, closing arguments, and addresses; trial transcripts; and photographs. The Rare Books Collection also includes an outstanding collection of European and international law materials, canon law, and American Indian law and treaties.

In choosing new acquisitions, the Law Library strives to build on existing strengths. New acquisitions generally fall into one of the following areas: Clarence Darrow materials; American Indian law; early American law, including the development of African-American rights and women’s rights; Minnesota legal materials; and limited press legal works. English works are collected very selectively. The following is a sampling of some of our new acquisitions.


A key pamphlet by James Otis, a political activist in pre-Revolutionary America and a strong supporter of the rights of the colonists. Otis argued fiercely against the Writs of Assistance, search warrants which freely authorized officers to search houses for smuggled goods, though neither the house nor the goods were specified in a writ. In a speech in 1761 Otis denounced the writs as “the worst instrument of arbitrary power, the most destructive of English liberty and the fundamental principles of law, that ever was found in an English law-book.” It was at this time that Otis coined the phrase, “Taxation without representation is tyranny.”

In this pamphlet, Otis passionately asserts the rights of the colonists under the English constitution. Attacking the Governor of Massachusetts for authorizing payment for ships without the consent of the House of Representatives, Otis argues that the right of originating taxes resides with the Legislature.

*Message of the President of the United States, Communicating a Copy of the Constitution of Minnesota*. [Washington, 1858]

A lovely copy, in modern half morocco and marbled boards, of the first federal printing of the Minnesota constitution.

Clarence Darrow. Baccalaureate Address to the law graduates of Valparaiso University, June 14, 1914.

Typescript with annotations, folded, probably to fit into the pocket of a suit jacket. Blunt and at times cynical, the speech nonetheless affirms a commitment to social justice as the most important attribute of a lawyer.

“The common man has been growing and struggling to get more, and more, and more. Today he is demanding his share, and ever demanding more and more, which has caused an infinite conflict the world over . . . . You have got to be a part of this great movement of this conflict. Most of the lawyers of any consequence are against the poor; almost all of them. They are against the poor because all of the prizes of the world are with the rich. There is money, there is leisure, there is fame, there is honor. Most of the lawyers naturally drift to the strong, most of those who have the chance. Here and there are a few who might be offered all the prizes of the world, and still, within them is a feeling that is stronger than anything else that makes them do something else. These few are growing stronger and stronger. More and more are getting in touch with the great spirit which today is moving the world to something higher, something better than the world has ever known.”

Notes

In 2007, the Law Library received two rare books from William B. Wolf, Jr: *The Reports of Sir Edward Coke in Verse* (1742) and *A Collection of Select and Modern Entries* by Sir Creswell Levinz (1702). Both are in splendid condition, bound in lovely marbled boards backed with leather. The Law Library is deeply appreciative of this generous gift.

Mr. Wolf, father of Susan M. Wolf, McKnight Presidential Professor of Law, Medicine & Public Policy; Faegre & Benson Professor of Law; Professor of Medicine, received his B.A. from Princeton University and his J.D. from Yale Law School. He practiced law at several Washington D.C. firms, including the family firm of Wolf & Wolf. Mr. Wolf passed away in August 2007.

Coke’s reports in verse is a most unusual book. Each of the cases in Coke’s *Reports*, compiled by Sir Edward Coke—attorney general and later justice in seventeenth century England—are rendered into two line verse. This little book was possibly compiled by John Worrall, a bookseller in London, in 1742, although he states in the preface that “an ancient manuscript of the following verse [fell] accidentally into my hands.” Lord Campbell in his *Lives of the Chief Justices* references a manuscript of poetry written for children found in Coke’s papers, suggesting that Coke himself was the author.

The basis for Levinz’s book of entries of pleadings, verdicts and judgments are cases he decided as justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Sir Creswell Levinz is particularly remembered for his role as a defender in the Seven Bishops’ Trial. The Seven Bishops, including William Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, were imprisoned in the Tower of London for sedition when they defied orders of the king. Their acquittal helped fuel opposition to the king, eventually culminating in the Revolution of 1688. The bishops’ challenge to the authority of the King was one precedent that helped inspire the revolutionary movement in colonial America.

This fall the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center was honored to receive an archive of material relating to Professor Bruno Greene, Director of the Law Library and an esteemed member of the faculty from 1960 until his retirement in 1973. The archive was generously given by his daughter Josephine Bachmann (Class of 1961).

Professor Greene’s area of expertise was foreign, comparative and international law. As Director of the Law Library, Professor Greene recognized the importance of foreign and international law long before interest in these fields grew to its current intensity. This foresight allowed the Library to build a superb collection of unique material. The Library’s collection in such areas as civil law, public international law, international trade, and human rights could not currently be replicated. Professor Greene was a stellar and innovative instructor. He was one of the first law professors to integrate technology into teaching, creating legal research video tapes in the early 1960s.

Professor Greene was born in Austria and received a law degree from the University of Vienna in 1927. He practiced law in Vienna until 1938 when he immigrated to the United States. He earned an M.A. in library science from Columbia University in 1948 and an LL.B. from Rutgers University where he served as editor-in-chief of the Law Review. Professor Greene began his teaching career at Syracuse University Law School. He died on February 6, 1998.

The archive of material given by Josephine Bachmann includes photographs of Professor Greene and his family, articles, and an exceptional collection of books of German history and literature. These books, named the Bruno H. Greene Collection, have been added to the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Collection.