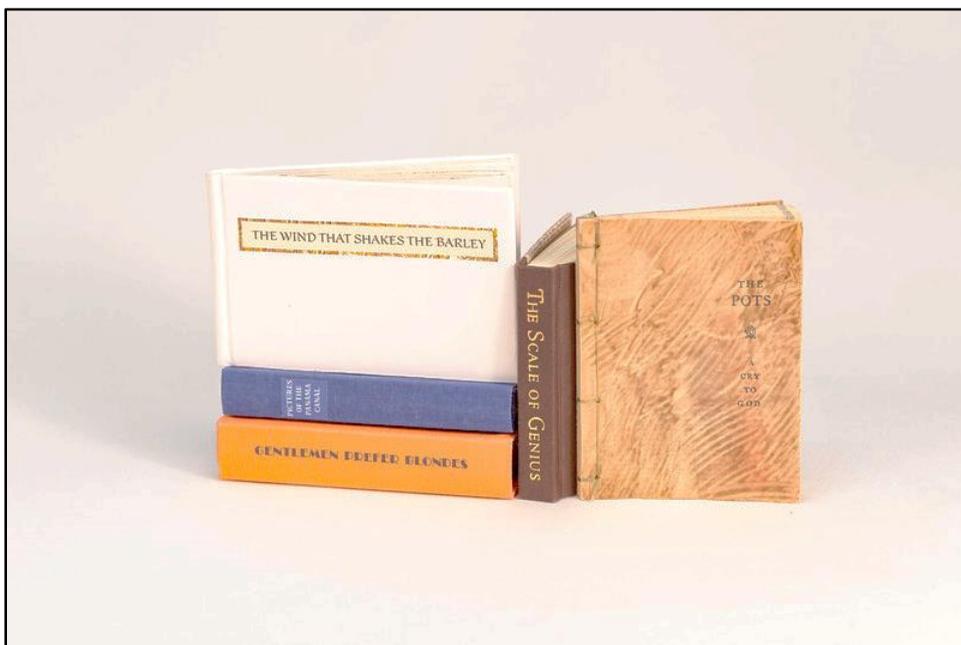


THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

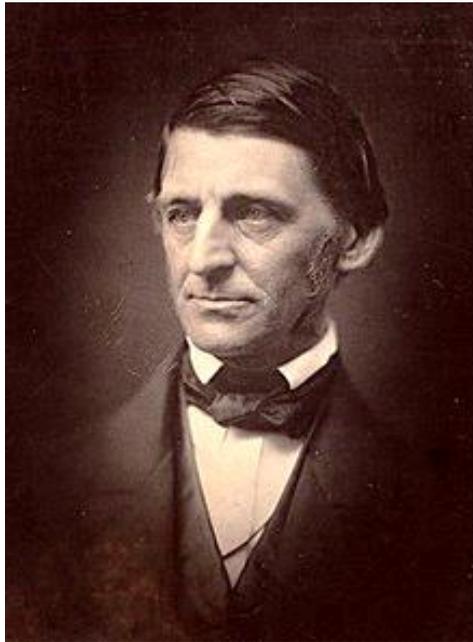
Volume XLI, Number 3 Issue 237, May-June 2022



*The Flowers of Life Bloom
Around Us Each and Everyday*

Single Issue Price: \$7.00

ISSN #1097-5551



*Image:
Josiah Johnson Hawers*

Ralph Waldo Emerson American Writer

Emerson [1803 – 1882] was an American essayist, lecturer, philosopher, and abolitionist who led the transcendentalist movement of the mid-19th century.

He wrote dozens of essays and made more than 1500 public speaking lectures across the United States. Typically, he would present his work as a lecture and then ‘rework’ the text into a suitable published item. His first two collections of essays, *Essays, First Series*, (1841) and *Essays: Second Series* (1844) represent the core of Emerson’s philosophy of life. He was a well know friend and mentor of Henry David Thoreau, a fellow transcendentalist. Both men kept extensive journals of their thoughts and ideas. The essay ‘Friendship’ is part of the first series. Emerson remains until this day a pillar of American literature.

At least three of his works have been published in three 20th century miniature books: *Friendship*, 1938, A.J. St Onge; *The Lord’s Supper*, 1980, B. Raheb; and *Chapter One from the Essay Nature*, 1983, Whippoorwill Press.

Your turn. 📖

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A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

ISSN# 1097-5551

Volume XLI, Number 3, Issue Number 237 May-June 2022

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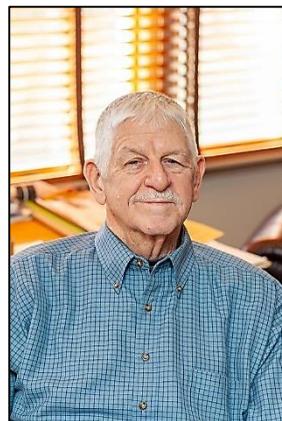
The Microbibliophile

P. O. Box 5453, North Branch, NJ 08876 U.S.A.

Sherry Mayo, Publisher James M. Brogan, Editor © 2022 by James M. Brogan

Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

Good-bye Winter, Hello Spring, and Summer is just the next page on the calendar. The daffodils have bloomed and the dances of the iris are underway next. The bushes have been pruned, the leaves of last fall have been raked away, the garden tilled, the snow blower is enjoying its hibernation, and the lawn mower has taken over for the next several months. I held up planting my annual flowers, as it is best to always wait as the last frost is always after the full moon of May. Then it will be time for the tomatoes plants to begin their season with the squash, melons, carrots, radishes and of course the raspberries. The gazebo will replace the woodstove as the 'best seat in the house', always fun to sit in the gazebo, and listen to the night birds, or if it happens to be a rainy night the raindrops always play a warm song.



Plum Park Press has published two new books that we have reviewed in this issue. Bo Press has a new book as well, this one, the lyrics of an Irish ballad. There is always interest concerning the Brontë juvenilia, we have a few words about this subject as well an insight to the Bronte Press. Nina Mazzo gleans more tidbits from within two issues of the MBN. William Lewis Washburn was a very special miniature book person, *The Pots, A Cry to God* is one of his more rare miniatures. It is always fun to turn the pages of time back a bit and revisit things as they were 'in the old days'. Another miniature to share is *Fun With Tortes*, a small cookbook by REM. Plenty to read and plenty to keep you interested, what have you been up to?

We continue with another special review/synopsis of two books from the 'Bradbury 100' list for your enjoyment, Number 20 and 86. The '100 List' is an ongoing feature that began in 2021 with the goal of enticing readers to submit their own review of a book of their choice from the list. The entire list was included in the January 2021 issue of *The Microbibliophile*. Pick one from the list and do a review for the next issue.

If you have not sent your subscription renewal and there are more than a few who are still looking for their postage stamps. Please check the back cover of this issue for the specific details. Within this issue are instructions about how you may, 'print' your digital copy of *The Microbibliophile*, if you so choose, as a 'straight list' or a double sided booklet.

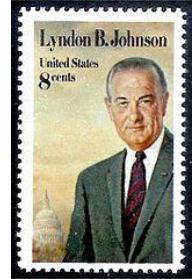
In closing, my message is simple, your support and interest is what keeps *The Microbibliophile* an active publication of all things "miniature bookish", something new, something old, but always, we hope, something interesting, since 1977. Thank you again, for providing a place in your home for *The Microbibliophile*, it is a joy and a privilege to produce each issue for your enjoyment. 📖

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

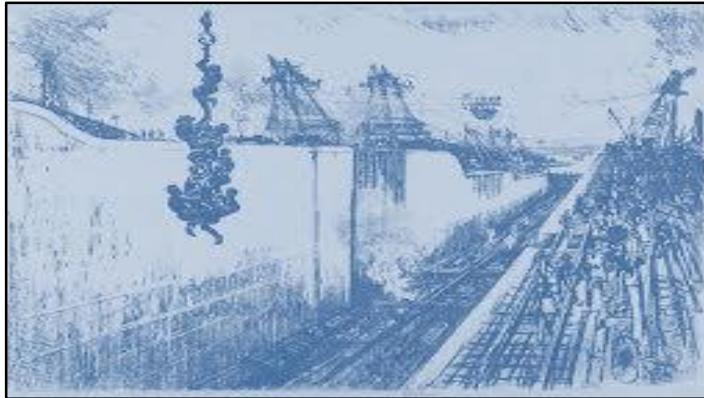
Lyndon Baines Johnson 1908 – 1973,
36th President of the United States,
1963 – 1968.

“Education is the key to opportunity in our society, and the equality of educational opportunity must be the birthright of every citizen”

(Image of the 1973 \$.08 USPS stamp, issued at Austin, Texas) 



MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



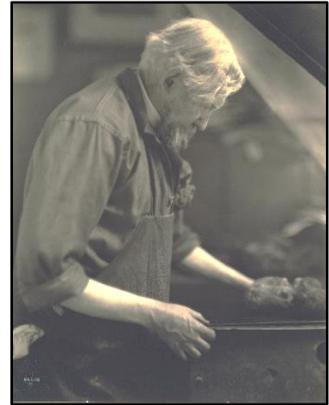
Front and rear end paper image “End of the Day Gutan Lock”

Joseph Pennell’s Pictures of the Panama Canal, by Joseph Pennell [1857-1926], published 2022, by the Plum Park Press, Tony Firman Publisher. The original book was published in 1913, by J.B. Lippincott Co. Philadelphia, Pa. The miniature published by Plum Park Press, Tony Firman, Publisher.

Pennell, as a youth, was determined to work as an artist and chose to attend the

Philadelphia School of Industrial Art and Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Throughout his productive career as an artist, Joseph Pennell made over 1800 prints, many as illustrations for magazines and books of prominent authors. First, depicting landmarks of his native Philadelphia, USA, then travelling the globe and back recording the landscapes of South America, mainland Europe and industrial cities of his adopted English home. **He gained world distinction as a highly talented etcher, lithographer, illustrator, writer, lecturer, and critic.**

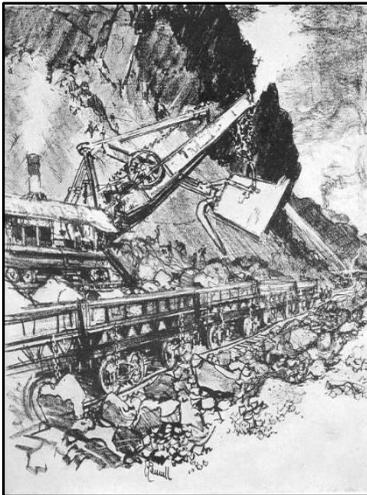
His travels brought him to the Panama Canal, for several months early in 1912. You can only imagine the excitement generated by the September 16, 1912 headline in the 'New York Times'...



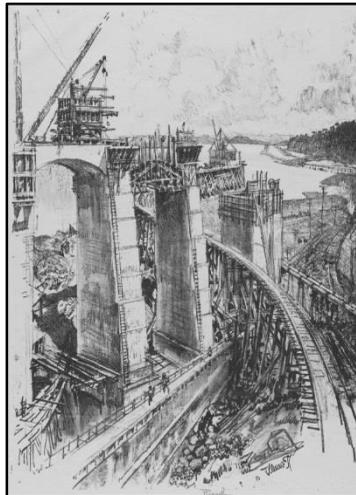
Pennell at work

'The news from Washington that the Panama Canal will be flooded next Fall lends special interest to JOSEPH PENNELL'S remarkable drawings of the canal in the course of construction, which will be reproduced in a special pictorial section of THE NEW YORK TIMES next Sunday. These pictures are accounted among the best examples of Mr. PENNELL'S extraordinary talent.'

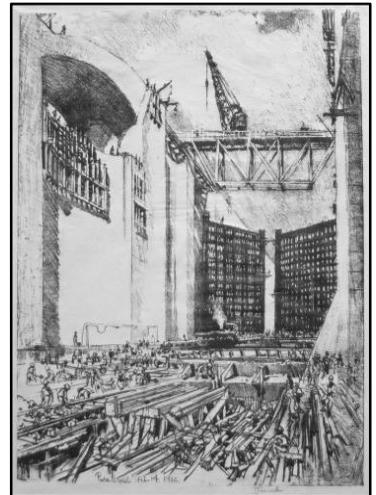
The Panama Canal was one of the largest construction project the world had ever seen. Pennell's illustrations bought the experience and sights of the feat to the world. Each of the original drawing depicted in the book is accompanied by a description of the work being done as well as the relationship of the particular site to the overall project.



Steam Shovel at Culebra Cut



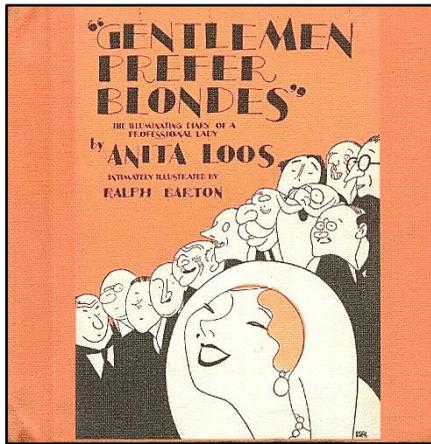
Approach to Gatun Lock



Pedro Miguel Lock

Joseph Pennell's Pictures of the Panama Canal is bound at 2¹⁵/₁₆" x 2³/₈", and contains 140 pages of digitally printed text on a bright white paper, black text printed with a Centaur typeface. The titles of the lithographs are printed in blue ink to match the bound covers. The covers are bound with a blue book cloth and a spine label attached. The front and rear endpapers carry a two-page image of the original lithograph by Pennell. The miniature includes all 28 lithographs from the original book. The edition is limited to 20 copies, each priced at \$45.00 plus shipping. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787,
E-mail: TonyFirmanBooks@gmail.com or www.TonyFirmanBookbinding.com



Front cover

short stories (diary tales) that were published in the 'Harper's Bazaar Magazine'. The popular publication had the effect of quadrupling circulation almost overnight. The heroine of the stories, Lorelei Lee, is a bold, ambitious flapper, who was much more concerned with collecting expensive baubles from her 'conquests' than any marriage licenses, as she traveled across Europe. Certainly not a risqué story today but 100 years ago, it was the rage of popularity.

The text of the Plum Park miniature is unabridged from the original and set in Bernhard Modern typeface. The miniature includes all of the 32 original illustrations created by Ralph Barton. The front

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, by Anita Loos [1888 - 1981], this miniature, published 2022, by the Plum Park Press, Tony Firman Publisher.

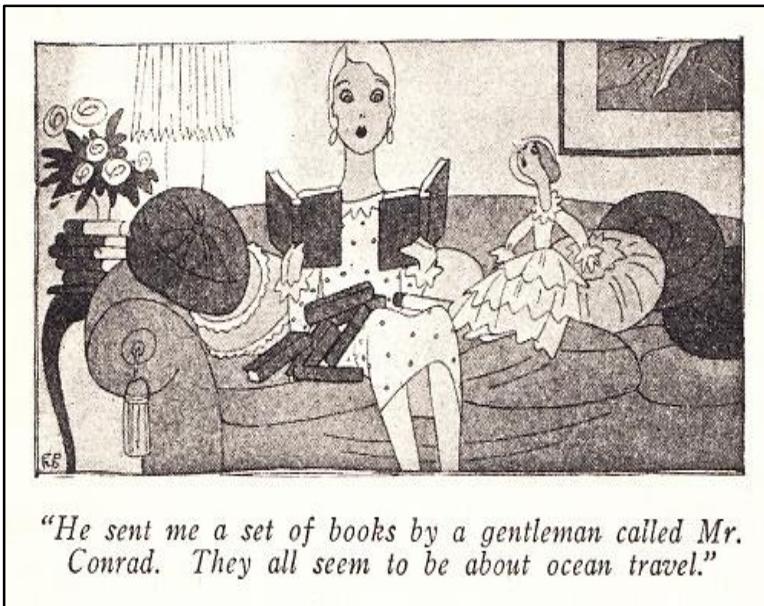
Loos wanted to be a writer from the early age of six. Over her lifetime, she was an actress, novelist, playwright, and screenwriter, in fact she was the first female screenwriter in Hollywood in 1912. Her most well know and successful work was *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. Written in 1926. It was eventually printed throughout the world in 14 languages, with 85 editions, adapted into a newspaper comic strip, a silent movie, and a Broadway musical.

The actual 'story' began as a series of



*Frontispiece image,
Anita Loos, author*

and rear endpapers carry a two-page illustration. The set of illustrations are a bit comical but suite the text perfectly.



Gentlemen Prefer Blondes is bound with a dimension of 3" x 2" and contains 220 numbered pages. The cover of the book is an orange book cloth with an illustration printed directly on the cover and the title printed on the spine. The edition contains 20 copies and the price for the book is \$50 plus shipping. Great workmanship throughout. Contact Tony for availability and shipping details. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787,
E-mail: TonyFirmanBooks@gmail.com or www.TonyFirmanBookbinding.com



dust jacket image

The Wind That Shakes the Barley, by Robert Dwyer Joyce, [1830 -1883], an Irish poet and writer. This miniature is published in 2022 by Bo Press Miniature Books, Pat Sweet publisher. Joyce was born in County Limerick, Ireland and lived most of his life near Ballyorgan. To supplement his earnings as a school teacher/principal he wrote poetry and music.

'Barley' was written from the perspective of a doomed young Irish rebel who is about to sacrifice his relationship with his loved one and plunge into the cauldron of violence associated with the 1798 rebellion between Ireland and England. The references to 'barley', in the song, are derived from the fact that the rebels often carried barley or oats in their pockets as provisions for when they were 'on a march'. As fallen fighters were frequently buried in 'unmarked graves' in the battlefields, with the barley still in their pockets, the meaning is somewhat regenerative, the barley growing each year as a symbol of the continuance of life.

'Barley' is hardbound in a white cover with a title label affixed to the front cover. The book is also supplied with a printed dust jacket. 'Barley' is 2" x 3¹/₈", with 28 pp. The text is printed on each recto page and each verso page carries an illustration of barley printed in muted tones of gold and brown.

Included below is the complete text of the ballad for your reading pleasure. You can almost hear the music of the wind blowing through the fields as you read the words.

**The
Wind
That
Shakes
The
Barley:**

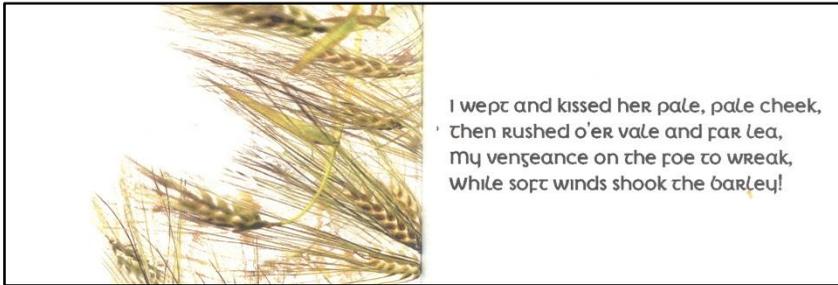
I sat within a valley green,
I sat there with my true love,
My sad heart strove the two between,
The old love and the new love, -
The old for her, the new that made
Me think of Ireland dearly,
While soft the wind blew down the glade
And shook the golden barley

'Twas hard the woeful words to frame
To break the ties that bound us
'Twas harder still to bear the shame
Of foreign chains around us
And so I said, "The mountain glen
I'll seek next morning early
And join the brave United Men!"
While soft winds shook the barley

While sad I kissed away her tears,
My fond arms 'round her flinging,
The foeman's shot burst on our ears,
From out the wildwood ringing, -
A bullet pierced my true love's side,
In life's young spring so early,
And on my breast in blood she died
While soft winds shook the barley!

I bore her to the wildwood screen,
And many a summer blossom
I placed with branches thick and green
Above her gore-stain'd bosom:-
I wept and kissed her pale, pale cheek,
Then rushed o'er vale and far lea,
My vengeance on the foe to wreak,
While soft winds shook the barley!

But blood for blood without remorse,
I've ta'en at Oulart Hollow
And placed my true love's clay-cold corpse
Where I full soon will follow;
And 'round her grave I wander drear,
Noon, night, and morning early,
With breaking heart whene'er I hear
The wind that shakes the barley!



text page example

'The Wind That Shakes the Barley' is a classic among Irish rebellion songs and retains the evocative power it had when it was first published. 'Barley' is available as an open edition, contact Pat for pricing and shipping details.

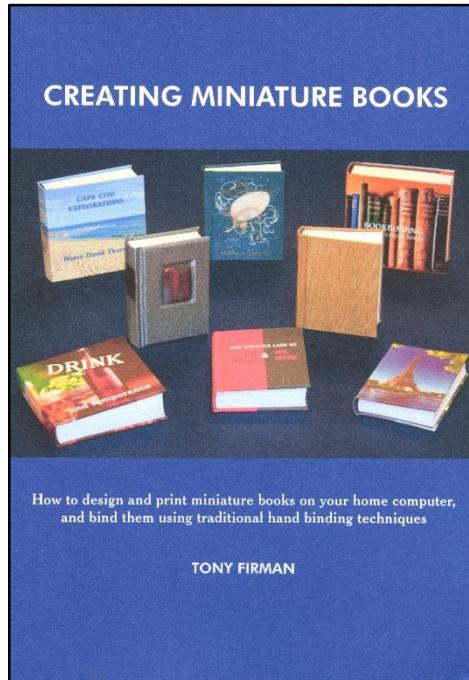
If you wish to hear the magic of the barley shaken in the wind, you can listen to the lyrics:

(with this link)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-p6nS02eW4E>

Enjoy. 📖

Contact information: Pat Sweet, 231 Blaine Street, Riverside, CA, 92507-3230
e-mail: bopress@chater.net or <https://www.bopressminiaturebooks.com/>



Creating Miniature Books, by Tony Firman, published by Tony Firman Bookbinding, 2022, There is always room at the workshop for another 'how to' book. The cover text presents the theme of the book, 'How to design, and print miniature books on your home computer, and bind them using traditional hand binding techniques'.

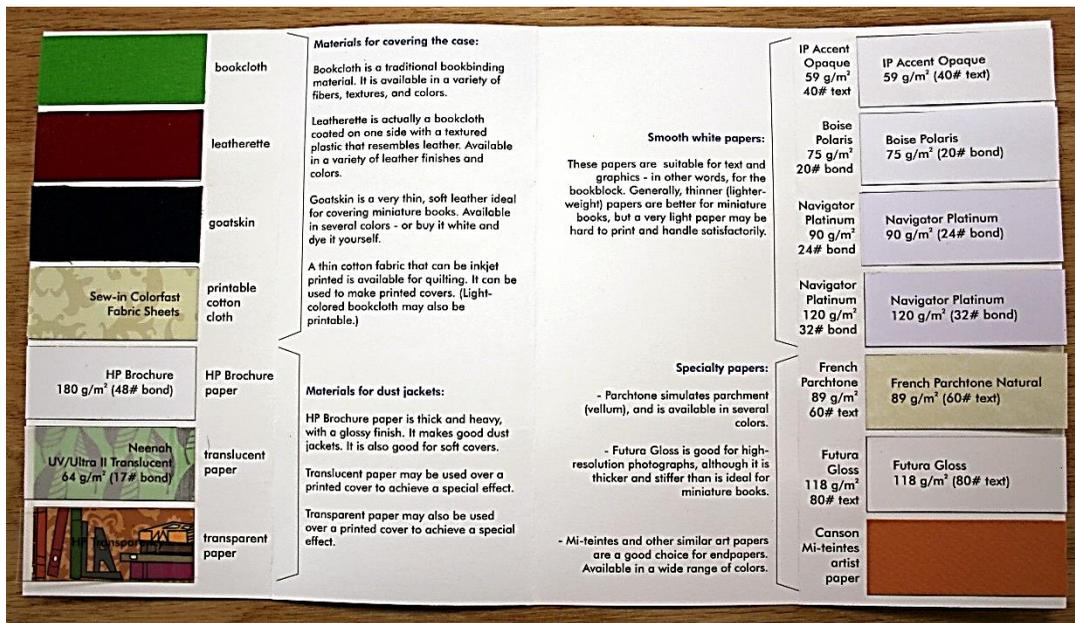
Tony has been making, binding, and publishing miniature books for several years. This has certainly sharpened his skills and complemented his knowledge of book making. Over the years, Tony has shared his knowledge and techniques with students both in person, via Zoom, or via the instructions provided in this new book.

The book is not a miniature and is printed in an 8" x 5¹/₂" format. Still, it is a good reference work for anyone interested in producing their own miniature works. Tony's book contains 183 pages and is divided into five sections: 'The World of Miniature Books', 'Designing the Pages', 'Selecting Materials', 'Binding the Book', and a very helpful 'Appendices'.

Each step of the process, from one's first concept of 'where to start' until the bound book is completed, is explained in detail with the help of the more than 130 illustrations

and figures that accompany the text.

Another very helpful item included with the book is a 'work materials sample card' that has 14 different paper and binding materials samples to help you decide what may be best for your project. If you have ever looked through a catalogue of bookmaking



supplies, you know that the amount of different materials is somewhat overwhelming, the 'sample card' is just the perfect 'helper' to have available and get you going your selections going in the right direction.

Another super example of workmanship and sharing by Tony Firman, priced at \$60.00, plus shipping. 📖

Contact information: *Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787,*
 E-mail: TonyFirmanBooks@gmail.com or www.TonyFirmanBookbinding.com

A THOUGHT FOR LIFE:

As children or even young adults when we studied the classical authors presented with our schoolwork, we may have read the words yet not necessarily understood the author's real meaning. While searching through my library of ephemera, I came to this piece written by Emerson. I thought it was an excellent example to share with readers, especially in today's fast moving world of activities.

To laugh often and much;

**To win the respect of intelligent
people and the affection of children;**

**To earn the appreciation of honest
critics and endure the betrayal of false friends;**

**To appreciate beauty, to find
the best in others;**

**To leave the world a bit better, whether by healthy child, a garden
patch or redeemed social condition;**

To know even one life has breather easier because you have lived.

This is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson:

Well said... 

**A BOOK of RYHMES,
A Journey Home,
The Brontë Society:**

Editor's Note: The following pages represent a reprint from the following website:

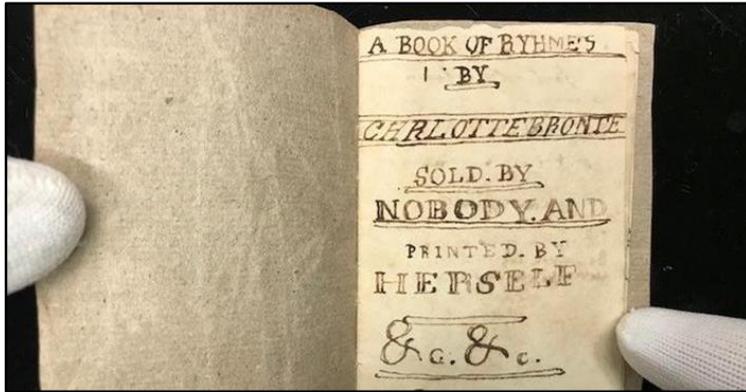
<https://www.bronte.org.uk/whats-on/news/248/bronte-parsonage-museum-to-acquire-charlotte-brontes-a-book-of-ryhmes>. *My question to you is; would you rather read the text as a page of text in The Microbibliophile or just reference the link and read it directly from the link? Our digital format allows us to provide the 'hot link' address, which in a way saves 'text pages' but digital pages do not really have a cost. There is another consideration, that being over time, the 'linked to address' could be removed and any reference to the information, in our journal archive would not be available. Your thoughts, please.*



The last Charlotte Brontë miniature manuscript book known to be in private hands has been bought for \$1.25m through swift action by the Friends of the National Libraries, and will be donated to the Brontë Parsonage Museum in Haworth, Yorkshire, [England] where it was originally written.

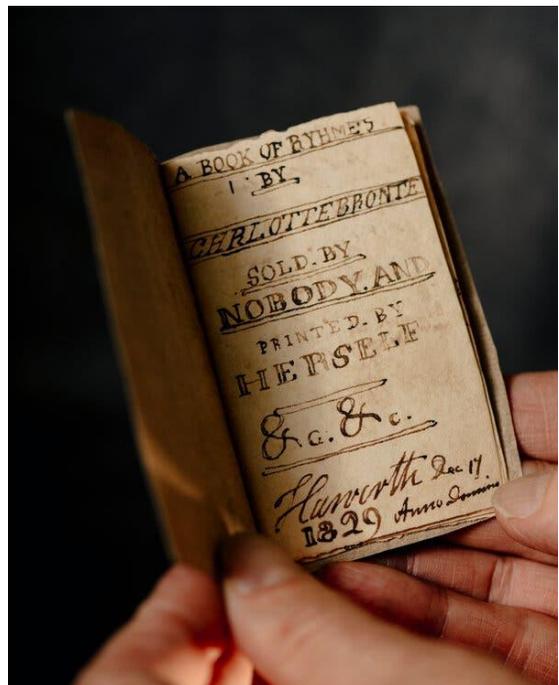
It is one of her famous 'little books' and so inch for inch is possibly the most valuable literary manuscript ever to be sold. It measures just 3.8 x 2.5 inches and contains ten poems.

Friends of the National Libraries (FNL) purchased "*A Book of Ryhmes*" after an urgent appeal for funds to meet the purchase price. They will donate it to the Brontë Parsonage Museum in Haworth.



When informed of the availability of the manuscript, the FNL immediately expressed interest, and acted swiftly to secure funding for the proposed purchase. Within two weeks they had successfully raised the funds needed to secure the purchase from the seller, who is represented by antiquarian book dealers James Cummins Bookseller of New York and Maggs Bros. Ltd. of London.

The miniature manuscript, entitled “*A Book of Ryhmes*, by Charlotte Bronte, Sold by Nobody, and Printed by Herself”, is a collection of ten poems written by 13-year-old Charlotte Brontë (1816-1855). The 15-page manuscript, smaller than a playing card, is dated December 1829, and is stitched in its original brown paper covers. *A Book of Ryhmes* is well known in the world of Brontë scholarship: a mention appears in Mrs. Gaskell’s *Life of Charlotte Brontë* (1857), from the transcription of Charlotte’s own handwritten catalogue of the books she wrote in 1829 and 1830. The titles of the ten poems (including “The Beauty of Nature” and “On Seeing the Ruins of the Tower of



Babel”) have long been known, but the poems themselves have never been published, photographed, transcribed, or even summarized.

The Brontë Parsonage Museum has the largest collection of Brontë manuscripts in the world. Its collections already include nine little books, soon to be joined by seven more from the Blavatnik Honresfield Library, also saved thanks to the efforts of the Friends of the National Libraries. The manuscript will be exhibited, available for study and digitised so that it can be made accessible to a worldwide audience.

This extraordinary achievement was only possible thanks to the great generosity of our many benefactors:

Garfield Weston Foundation; the Murray family; the Ardeola Trust; Mr Vernon Hill; the David Cock Foundation; the N. Sethia Foundation; the Hintze Family Charitable Trust; the Ian and Natalie Livingstone Charitable Trust; the T. S. Eliot Estate and other donors who prefer to remain anonymous.

Ann Dinsdale, Principal Curator at the Brontë Parsonage Museum said, “We are absolutely thrilled to be the recipients of this extraordinary and unexpected donation and wish to thank the generosity of the Friends of the National Libraries and all of the donors who have made it possible.

It is always emotional when an item belonging to the Brontë family is returned home and this final little book coming back to the place it was written when it had been thought lost is very special for us.

Visitors to the Museum love seeing these little books and we know how inspiring they are to so many. Sharing this newest addition to the collection later this year is something we very much look forward to.”

Geordie Greig, Chairman of FNL, said: “Saving Charlotte Brontë’s little book is a giant gain for Britain. To return this literary treasure to the Brontë Parsonage where it was written is important for scholars and also students studying one of our greatest women writers. As the leading libraries and literature charity Friends of the National Libraries had the daunting task of raising \$1.25m in just two weeks. It is due to wonderfully generous donors that Friends of the National Libraries did raise this sum to buy this rarest of manuscripts and return it to its rightful home.”



It is 'unquestionably the most significant Brontë manuscript to come to light in decades,' according to Museum Director Andrew McCarthy, and 'in important part of our broader literary heritage.' But sadly the Parsonage Museum was outbid when Charlotte Brontë's 'Little Book', containing a story that seems to prefigure the plot of *Jane Eyre*, went on sale on December 15, 2011, at Sotheby's, London, achieving a record price for any Brontë manuscript sold at auction.

The handwritten miniature magazine, in the Brontë children's famous minuscule script, is 19 pages long, and titled *Young Men's Magazine Number 2*, one of a group of six. Of the remaining five magazines, four are held at the Parsonage Museum; the last has been missing since the early 20th century. One of Charlotte's stories within concerns a murderer who is driven to madness after being haunted by his victim, at which point 'an immense fire' burns in his head, and he imagines it catching his bed curtains, setting fire to his bed, much as the bed of Mr. Rochester's mad, incarcerated wife Bertha burns at the end of *Jane Eyre*.

The successful bidder, at a record price of £690,850, was Le Musée des Lettres et Manuscrits, a relatively new Parisian museum set up in 2004 to showcase significant literary manuscripts. Although the Parsonage had mounted a fundraising campaign, and secured a grant for £613,140 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, the eventual sale price was beyond anything the Brontë Parsonage Museum could afford.

'It will not be going home, back to the place where it all began, the Parsonage at Haworth,' commented Brontë Society President Bonnie Greer after the auction. 'Its presence there would have placed it not only at the heart of the proud community in

which she was born and raised, but would have brought full circle a Yorkshire story, a Northern story, a British story, a world story. It belongs in Haworth and we are bitterly disappointed that scholars and members of the public may now not have the opportunity to study and enjoy it as part of our public collection.'

Always a journey of a thousand pages...📖

Editor's Note: An early 'Microbibliophile' article about the sale of a Brontë miniature, by Gail Curry
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/588a47b46a49634f5992ee37/t/6042b447218e5428169206db/1614984271743/Microbib_2012_03_Final.pdf

**'THE BRONTË SISTERS',
Statue by Jocelyn Horner [1902-1973]
Brontë Parsonage Museum**



INTERESTING BOOK STUFF, TINY BOOKS BY THE BRONTË CHILDREN:

Editor's Note: The following pages represent a reprint from the following website
<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2014/06/the-genesis-of-genius/>
Reprinted text by Kate Kondayen, Harvard Library Communications, June 26, 2014

I have the same question/consideration as note on page 15.; would you rather read the text as a page of text in 'The Microbibliophile' or just reference the link and read it directly from the link? Your thoughts, please.



Nine-miniature manuscript books, six by Charlotte Brontë and three by Patrick Branwell Brontë, are part of the collections at Houghton Library. The library repaired, rehoused, and digitized the books, which are nearly 200 years old. "These tiny books help to evoke the whole experience of the Brontë children," says Houghton curator Leslie Morris.

Flames of childhood passion often die. How many astronauts and ballerinas are among us? Yet some talent is so profound that even early efforts signify genius. The tiny, hand-lettered, hand-bound books Charlotte and Branwell Brontë made as children surely qualify. Measuring about 2.5 by 5 centimeters, page after mini-page brims with poems, stories, songs, illustrations, maps, building plans, and dialogue. The books, lettered in minuscule, even script, tell of the "Glass Town Confederacy," a fictional world the siblings created for and around Branwell's toy soldiers, which were both the protagonists of and audience for the little books.

In 1829 and 1830, Charlotte and Branwell cobbled the pages together from printed waste and scrap paper, perhaps cut from margins of discarded pamphlets. They wrote with steel-nibbed pens, which tend to blot, yet the even script demonstrates their practiced hand.

Charlotte, who in adulthood wrote “Jane Eyre,” nested leaves together, then neatly sewed the spine with embroidery thread; it’s evident she constructed her book and planned its content before ever putting pen to paper. Branwell, who would become a painter and poet, stacked folded leaves together, which allowed him to add pages as he needed; clearly not as adept with needle and thread as his sister, he stab-sewed the leaves together with thicker linen yarn.

Children can be rough on their playthings — miniature books created by the younger Brontë siblings Emily and Anne did not survive — but Charlotte kept and stored the “Glass Town” adventures carefully. “They must have been very precious to them, as they are to us today,” said Priscilla Anderson of Harvard’s Weissman Preservation Center, who restored the volumes.

Only about 20 volumes of Brontë juvenilia are known to remain. Harvard holds nine, the Brontë Museum at the family home in England owns a few, and the remaining are scattered among museums and private collectors.

Until recently, juvenilia — works produced by an author or artist while still young — were viewed as oddities by scholars and collectors. Today they are understood to provide valuable and rare insight into an author’s development. In the case of the Brontës, experts might trace Gothic influences from the 13-year-old Charlotte’s stories, or identify Branwell’s growth as an artist by comparing his childhood illustrations and his later paintings. Perhaps even more importantly, the books provide a glimpse into the inner lives of children growing up in a society in which they were expected to be seen and not heard.

“What is extraordinary is the extent to which they imitated a professional publication, the variety of the content, and the perseverance it required,” said Anderson. “The ability to make these volumes from start to finish out of scraps is impressive.”

At nearly 200 years old, the books are delicate. Over time, the paper became increasingly fragile, the adhesive used to mount the volumes damaged the covers, and the tiny script was hard for scholars to read. To ensure that scholars today and tomorrow have access to these treasures, the library repaired, rehoused, and digitized the books. Their unusual size, age, and nature presented several challenges to Anderson and Debora Mayer, the Helen H. Glaser Conservator at Weissman.

“Perhaps children’s eyes and hands can read and manipulate these things, but for grownups they’re microscopic,” explained Anderson, who said she felt like she had giant’s hands when she worked on the books.

To repair tears, Anderson used fine surgical instruments, teasing out and pasting down individual fibers of kozo paper about the width of a human hair. (Kozo is a fine paper made from the inner bark of an Asian plant, and is regularly used to mend books.) All through the painstaking work, she knew even a small mistake would be magnified. “I held my breath, literally,” said Anderson, “to keep fragments of paper from blowing away.”

New binding exposed text in the gutters of Branwell’s volumes for the first time in 170 years, and the digital technology deployed provides clarity beyond that of the human eye. Technicians moved the camera very slightly on multiple takes and combined them into one image. Every millimeter is sharply focused.

Charlotte’s husband sold the volumes after her death to a collector, who gave them to poet and fellow collector Amy Lowell; she donated the set to Houghton Library in 1925. The digital copies of the Brontë juvenilia have largely met scholars’ needs, according to Houghton curator Leslie Morris. Yet the awe-inspiring physicality of the books as artifacts cannot be captured on screen.

“These tiny books help to evoke the whole experience of the Brontë children. Here they are, living in a somewhat isolated parsonage in Yorkshire, having only themselves as playmates and needing to entertain each other,” Morris said. “Seeing the physical object brings home the effort and intelligence it took to create them and why they created them. Having grown up with Brontë, it’s a way of connecting with the past through objects.”

The nine Brontë volumes held by Harvard referenced in this story are available in full, free, online:

By Charlotte Brontë:

Scenes on the great bridge, November 1829

The silver cup: a tale, October 1829

Blackwoods young mens magazine, August 1829

An interesting passage in the lives of some eminent personages of the present age, June 1830

The poetaster: a drama in two volumes, July 1830

The adventures of Mon. Edouard de Crack, February 1830

By Patrick Branwell Brontë:

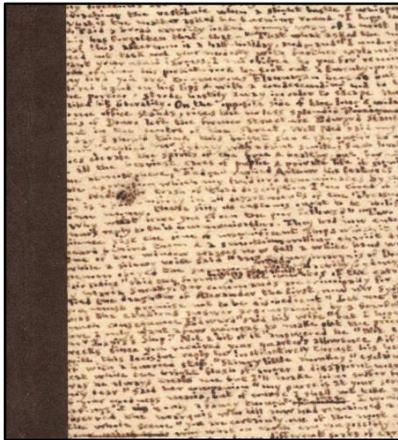
Magazine, January 1829

Branwells Blackwoods magazine, June 1829

Branwells Blackwoods magazine, July 1829

Interesting book stuff, for sure. 📖

THE SCALE of GENIUS, Charlotte Brontë's Miniature Archive, By Barbara Heritage:



The study of the Brontë juvenilia is an incredible journey for sure. The Miniature Book Society, in 2019, published *The Scale of Genius*, it was distributed exclusively to members of the society. The miniature is an in-depth source of information about the Brontë work.

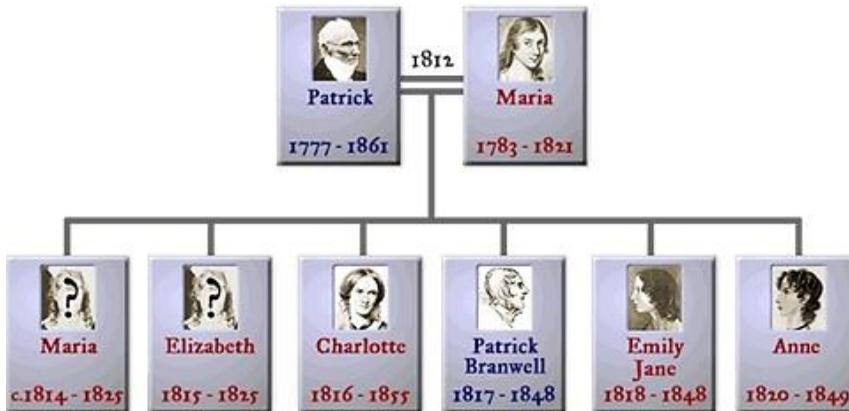
The author, Barbara Heritage provides a scholarly insight to the 'books and periodicals produced in either Glass Town or Angria during the period running from 1829 to 1835 by Charlotte, aged 11 to 19.'

The miniature is 2¹/₂" x 2¹/₄", hardbound, and utilizes a cover paper/image that is a reproduction of

the Charlotte Brontë miniature manuscript *The Secret*.

Barbara Heritage is the Associate Director & Curator of Collections at the Rare Book School, University of Virginia. 

'THE BRONTË FAMILY TREE':



THE BRONTE PRESS, Outstanding Miniature Books with a Focus on Brontë:

The Bronte Press was founded in 1977 by two sisters; Suzanne Pruchnicki [1929-2017] and Elmira Wilkey [1936]. Both sisters have written, illustrated, letterpress printed, hand colored, and bound more than 50 miniature books that covered a wide spectrum of life events. Many of the works center on various components of their lives and their published work.

Bradbury's 20th Century U.S. Miniature Books has an extensive list of the published work of the Bronte Press. Some of these outstanding miniatures are:

Brontë Castle Alphabet, 1981

Reminiscences of Charlotte Brontë by her friend, Ellen Nussey, 1985

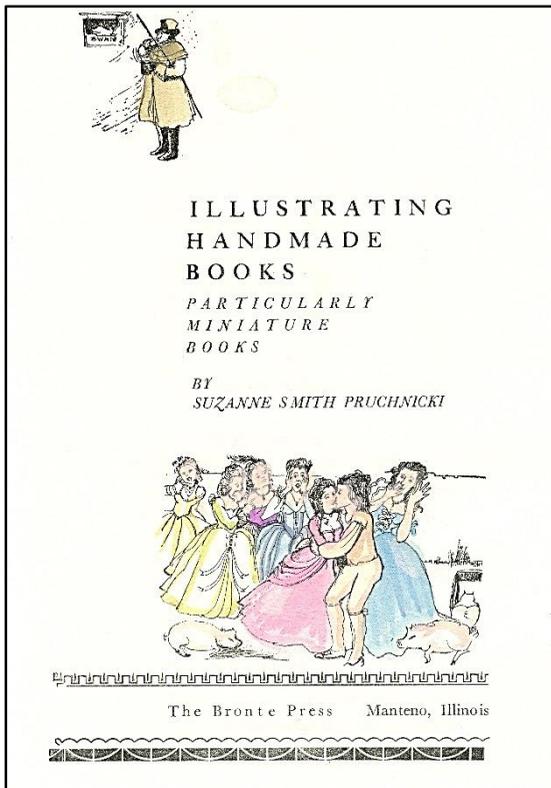
An American Visits Haworth 1861, 1989

Charlotte Brontë and Mary Taylor, Early Feminists, 1999

In addition to publishing many fine miniatures, Suzanne Pruchnicki also published a full sized volume titled *Illustrating Handmade Books, Particularly Miniature Books*. The large volume served as a 'book journey about the press', how various books were selected for publication, materials utilized, and most importantly the illustrations which brought the books to life.

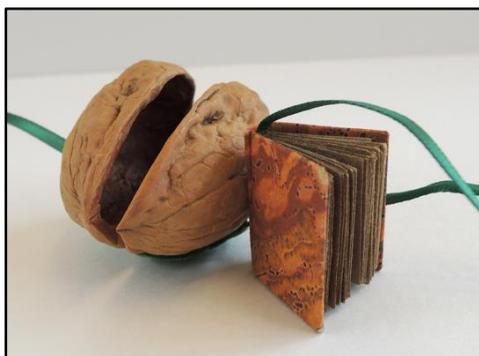
After returning home from an art show, in 1977, the sisters agreed that they would begin their own journey into the world of miniature books. They chose the press name of Bronte Press. "We agreed immediately on the name as we identified with the isolation of the Brontë's of Haworth in Yorkshire for they, too, had lived apart from the larger world of art and literature." "In retrospect, it seems that my love of books, illustrations, and printing, all, came together in the books printed at the Bronte Press."

Early on the sisters were resolved that a happy marriage between text and illustrations would be integral part of all Bronte Press books. Suzanne's interest in the Brontë's began in 1939 when she saw the film "Wuthering Heights" with Laurence Olivier as Heathcliff. The novel of impassioned lovers in a wild countryside caught her imagination and from there the story continued.



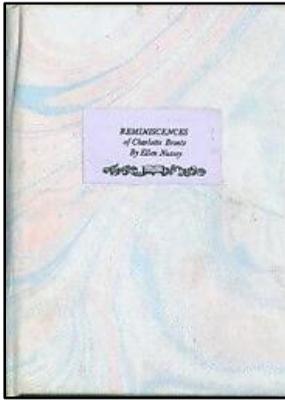
(left image)

The title page of the 12¹/₂" x 9" reference text, 100 copies, hand colored illustrations, many illustrations are tipped-in, letterpress printed in 12 pt. Garamond types on Arches Text Wove paper.



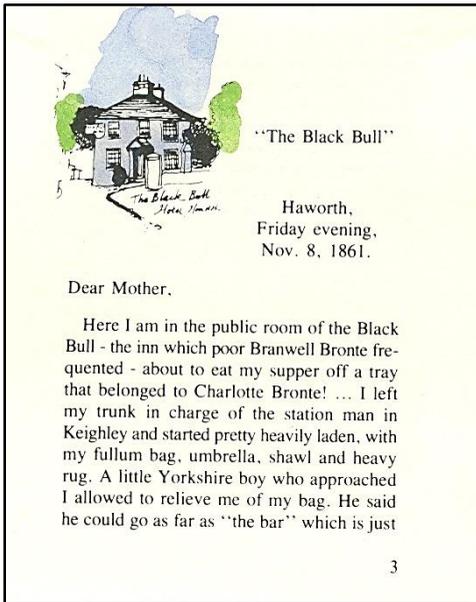
(left image)

Brontë Castle Alphabet 1¹/₁₆" x 1³/₁₆"
Image Cotsen Library, Princeton, NJ



(left image)

*Reminiscences of Charlotte Brontë by Her Friend,
Ellen Nussey, 2⁷/₈" x 2⁵/₁₆"*



American Visits Haworth, 1861 3" x 2³/₈"
'Text page'

"The evolution of the book is one of man's greatest achievements. It surely ranks with the discovery of fire and the invention of the wheel. For books inspire learning and learning civilizes man." Suzanne Smith Pruchnicki.

The journey continues... 

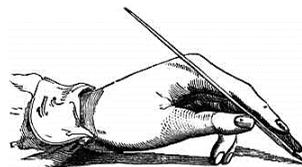
THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE, 2022 SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Believe it Not, there are still some subscribers who have not paid for their subscriptions. ... Please take notice that the subscription rate for the new digital format is only \$25.00 per year and now LATE. The details of how to submit your payment are on the rear cover. If anyone has a problem with posting their payment, please email me at; *hello@themicrobibliophile.com* so that I can get things in order for you. We are certainly looking forward to another exciting year of *The Microbibliophile*, since 1977. 📖

PLEASE CONSIDER WRITING AN ARTICLE FOR *THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE*:

Please consider sharing your thoughts and ideas. Your input is always welcome.

The Microbibliophile was conceived for the sharing of passion for all things related to miniature books and book arts. If you need help getting started contact the Editor or Publisher. We can brainstorm together! Composing, proofreading, and nudging always available. 📖



BOOKISH QUOTE, George R. R. Martin [1948]

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one.”

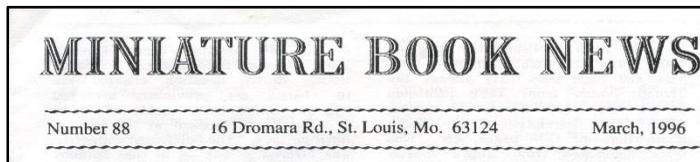
Editor's Note: also known as GRRM, is an American novelist, screenwriter, television producer, and short story writer. He is the author of the series of epic fantasy novels 'A Song of Ice and Fire', which was adapted into the Emmy Award-winning HBO series 'Game of Thrones' (2011–2019) 📖



(Image Britannica.com)

**THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS,
Number 14, December 1968, Number 15, March 1969
By Nina Mazzo:**

Editor's Note: 'The Miniature Book News' was an early publication [initial issue September 1965] that was edited and published by Julian I. Edison, beginning in 1965, consolidated into the MBS Newsletter and continued to be published thru 2017. Time to revisit, learn, share, enjoy, and reflect, once again. Thank you Nina for your continuing contribution to 'The Microbibliophile'.



NUMBER 14:

A miniature book bracelet graces the cover of this issue of the Miniature Book News. The bracelet is gold with seven miniature books each contained in a gold case. W.R.Fletcher fashioned this bracelet for his wife and is quoted as saying, "...it is getting a bit heavy carrying a library around on her wrist, but it makes a wonderful subject at any bookseller's party." The books include a *Bijou Almanack*; a copy of *Galileo*, the smallest book printed with movable type; the *Rose Garden of Omar Khayyam*; *The Farewell Address of George Washington*; a copy of the *Koran* and the *Addresses of Abraham Lincoln*.

I enjoy book curiosities and attached is a photo of a lovely broach I received as a gift. The photos are miniature postcards from the Somerset area in England.

What wearable book curiosities linger in your collection?
One of my favorites (right image) . . .

In his section 'Recently Received Publications', Editor Julian Edison notes the following:

Miniature Books by Harry Lyman Koopman - produced by Dawson's in 1968. Book sells for \$10.



A mini collection of four 'Japanese Fables' is the contents of *Wedding of the Foxes* by the Hillside Press. Book sold for \$5.50.

The Eulogy To United States Senator Robert F. Kennedy by Edward Kennedy was offered by Achille J. St. Onge and priced at \$5. St. Onge was also offering *Historic American Flags* – U.S. postage stamps depicting the battle flags of the Revolutionary and 1812 Wars, priced at \$7.50.

NUMBER 15:

This issue has Julian exploring miniature bookcases and discussing how to display our miniature books to their full advantage. He notes there really is no rule involved – “everyone is on their own”. The following are some examples he shared with his readers. In the early 19th century, there were the traveling libraries, which carried about thirty to forty books. Percy Spielmann’s collection contained the ‘Jones Diamond Classics’ series of forty volumes in a specially built double opening leather covered case, resembling two thick book covers. In 1895, a small standing armoire about six inches tall covered in embroidered cloth housed ten paper covered French children’s storybooks. A black wooden lacquered box case about six inches high holds twenty-eight volumes of paper bound *Tales of Gengi* published about 1820 in Kyoto, Japan. A special two-tiered revolving bookcase was built for the forty-volume ‘Ellen Terry Shakespeare’ edition by David Bryce (c. 1900) with ten books on each of four sides. President Franklin D. Roosevelt had several miniature bookcases built and given to him by friends.

Julian writes “But what do us present mortals do about our collections... your editor expropriated his wife’s dining room breakfront...”

Included in the photo below is my favorite way to display my miniatures – using bamboo spice shelves. They are fully visible and I want visitors to be able to easily see, read, and enjoy the detailed workmanship.



Finally, Julian notes that the world famous Jules Charbneau collection of miniatura was to go on sale. Mr. Charbneau had amassed a collection of over 30,000 items of miniature! There was a photo of his daughter holding a Steinway grand piano complete in all details, played with a toothpick. It took four men six months to make. Another photo showed a set of dueling pistols made in England circa 1830.

Who has some interesting photos to share of their miniatures and how do you display your miniature books?

Well, once again I have learned a few more new things about the miniature book world. Stay curious.

“MICROBLIOPHILES, ONWARD!”

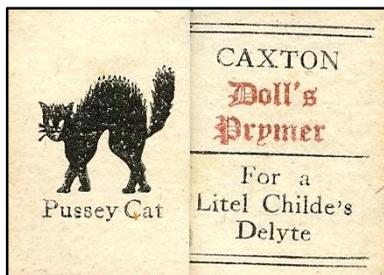
Always a joy. 📖

*Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648,
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com*

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 20,

Caxton's Doll Primer,

By William Lewis Washburn:



Title page with illustration

William Lewis Washburn was a miniature book publisher who worked most of his life as a commercial printer who was encouraged to publish miniature books by James D. Henderson, 'the Scrivener' of LXIVMOS fame. Washburn printed his books on a small hobby press in the basement of his Haddon Heights, NJ home. His books are some of the most reassured miniatures books in existence.

Caxton's Doll Primer, For a Litel Childe's Delyte is Washburn's fifteenth miniature book and was

published in 1939. Actually, he did produce two earlier books, as a teenager in 1879-1880, these are extremely rare items. The 'Doll Primer' is in itself a rare book, there since only 39 copies were published. All of Washburn's books, are letterpress printed, this book is a micro miniature, being on 1¹/₄" x 1⁵/₁₆" bound with pale ivory leather over paper boards, (no title on the cover or spine, 62pp.) There is a colophon note on the last page of the book noting the name: A. Oldach & Sons, Binders, Philadelphia.

The text of the book is printed with an upper case as well as lower case letter on the verso page and a corresponding word printed on the recto page. The text is printed with black ink with the exception of each lower case letter on the verso pages, which is printed in a red ink.

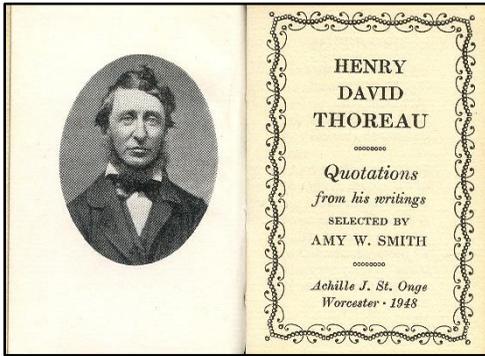
Another interesting item to mention is the Forward that is included with the book. It reads; "To the Reader Caxton probably never printed a children's book. So I humbly present in 1939 a book that might have been given us in 1439."

Copies of *Caxton's Doll Primer, For a Litel Childe's Delyte* are not easy to locate and tend to be a bit expensive. Do not let that dissuade you from looking for and acquiring a copy for your collection. However, once found, certainly, it will be fine addition to your library. 📖

Editor's Note: as part of our long running series 'Moments In Miniature Book History' 'The Microbibliophile' did feature an article about William Lewis Washburn in the Volume XXXI Nbr. 6 November 2012 issue. The link, if you would like to jump into the 'time machine' is;

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/588a47b46a49634f5992ee37/t/6042b32d8672681d6dfadb16/1614983993709/Microbib_2012_11_Final.pdf

BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 86,
Quotations from His Writings,
By Henry David Thoreau:



Henry David Thoreau [1817 -1862] is certainly a giant in the world of American literature. A. J. St. Onge published the miniature 'Quotations' in 1948. St. Onge produced some of the most beautiful miniature books ever to leave the bindery for sure. Bondy said of him, "With an uncanny instinct he chose texts which appealed and his standards of production were very high, reflecting his almost fanatical devotion to the world of minibibliophily."

'Quotations' is one of the examples of the fine work produced by St. Onge. The miniature was published in an edition of 750 copies. The 76 pp text was letterpress printed on Worthy Hand and Arrows paper by Merrymount Press. The binding is a fine gilt green cloth with the title gold stamped on the cover as well as the spine. The book measures 3¹/₈" x 2¹/₈", with all edges gilt, (AEG). The physical components of the book are certainly pleasing and distinguish the book as special and are fitting of Bondy's comments.

The text of the book is composed of many selected 'quotations' from Thoreau's writings. The quotations are not presented in any documented order or identified as being part of a particular work. The order of the text is somewhat like taking a 'walk in the woods' with Thoreau, something different in each direction with each 'blink of your eye'. (as printed in the text of the journal):

"Simplicity is the law of nature for men as well as flowers."

"October is the month for painted leaves...Now too, the first of October, or later, the Elms are at the height of their autumnal beauty, - great brownish yellow masses, warm from their September oven."

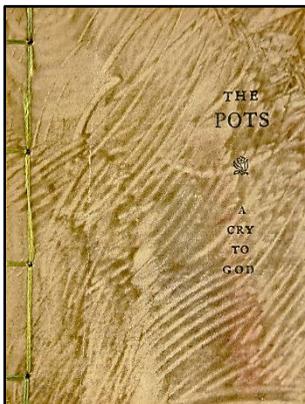
"The stars are the jewels of the night, and perchance surpass anything which day has to show."

"What is perfectly New England sound is this voice of the crow."

Copies of 'Quotations' are easy to locate and affordable. 

ANTIQUARIAN DELIGHT

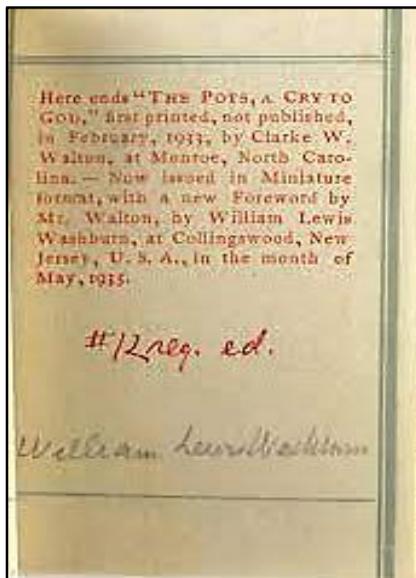
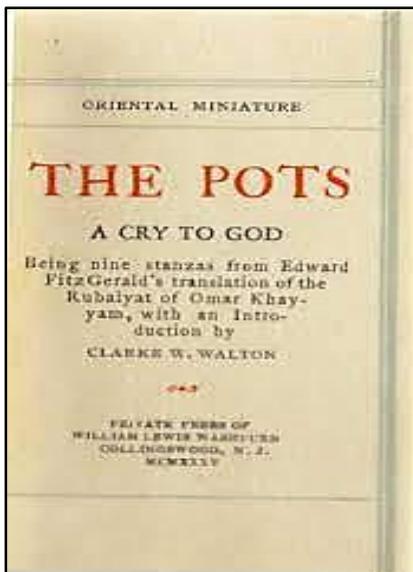
The Pots, A Cry To God,



*front cover showing
Japanese sewn binding*

The miniature *The Pots, A Cry To God* was published in 1935, by William Lewis Washburn from his private press in Collingswood, NJ, his fifth miniature book. The full title as printed on the title page is *The Pots, A Cry To God, Being Nine Stanzas From Edward Fitzgerald's Translation Of The Rubaiyat Of Omar Khayyam*. The book was printed as an edition of 64 copies with paperboards 40 pp, and 17 additional deluxe copies printed on vellum. The size of the volume is $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x $1\frac{7}{8}$ " bound with a traditional '4-hole' Japanese sewn binding with a soft paper cover. The text printed in black and red with blue borders on each page.

The text contains four literal translations of the Rubaiyat passage, plus Fitzgerald's longer, more fanciful version, as well as two comparable Biblical extracts, with a scholarly introduction by Clarke W. Walton.



Title page (left image) and closing remarks (right image) copy number 12 with author's signature

At one time, I thought that I had a good understanding of the poem but after reading the additional information provided by the translation in the Washburn book, I am now not certain about 'what I understand and what is now a question for investigation on another day.

The clay pots mentioned between the quatrains 82 and 90 of the Fitzgerald translation are very interesting to me.

quatrain 84;

*Whereat some one of the loquacious Lot —
I think a Suff pipkin — waxing hot —
“All this of Pot and Potter — Tell me then,
“Who is the Potter, pray, and who the Pot?”*

One interpretation states that the 'potter' represents God, and the 'clay pots' are God's creations according to a 'life plan'. I am sure that there are few of our readers who are better versed in the meanings associated with this poem than myself. However, the questions raised by the 'pots' are not trifling; to the contrary, these very questions have been debated by theologians from every religion throughout history.

Sometimes books raise more questions than those they may answer, this is certainly one of those books. To be continued...your comments and thoughts please, as you may wish. 📖

Editor's Note: Washburn miniatures are quite rare items, rarely seen for sale and as such generally command a high price tag. However, as gems of the world of miniature books, should you be presented with the opportunity to acquire a Washburn, you will not be disappointed, nor suffer 'buyer's remorse'.

BOOKISH QUOTE,
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow [1807-1882]

The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, and all the sweet serenity of books... 📖

MINIATURE BOOK RESEARCH AND INFORMATION, There Is Always Some Question To Be Answered, Research Books, An Updated List of Resources:

People are always asking, 'where can I find the answer to my question(s) about miniature books?' There is a treasure chest, a pirate's bootie, of resources that are available for the 'seasoned collector' as well as a novice or 'new collector'. Here is a list of some of the books that I typically use in my research as a collector and as the editor of *The Microbibliophile*. It contains many of the books that I suggest people refer to when questions come up. This list was included in the May 2021, Volume XL, Number 3 issue but having received a few updates since then I wanted to update the list and keep things current.

(Updates and additions noted with bold font)

BOOKS:

Antique United States Miniature Books 1690 – 1900, Robert C. Bradbury, 2001, published by The Microbibliophile, North Clarendon, Vermont

Twentieth Century United States Miniature Books, Robert C. Bradbury, 2000, published by The Microbibliophile, North Clarendon, Vermont

Catalogue of the Library of Miniature Books Collected by Percy Edwin Spielman, 1961, Edward Arnold, London, also available as a reprint, 1992, Maurizio Martino Publisher, Storrs-Manfield, CT

The History of Miniature Books, Doris V. Welsh, 1987, Fort Orange Press, Albany, NY

A Bibliography of Miniature Books, compiled by Doris Varner Welsh, 1989, published by Kathryn I. Rickard

ABC For Book Collectors, 9th edition, John Carter and Nicolas Barker, 2016, Oak Knoll Press, London

Miniature Books 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures, A. C. Bromer and J. I. Edison, 2007, published by Abrams, New York (available as a miniature as well as regular sized editions)

Miniature Books from the Collection of Julian I. Edison, Olin Library, 1965

Miniature Books, Louis W. Bondy, 1981 Sheppard Press, London

The Miniature Book Collector, 1960-1962, Achille J. St. Onge, Publisher, Ruth Adomeit, Editor Worcester, MA

Second Roster of Lilliputia Spewed Out By Robert Massmann As Ephemera , Not Previously Recorded, REM 1990

An Unusual Collection of Miniature Books Formed by A Lady, Foreword by Wilbur Macey Stone, American Art Association, 1928

The News-Letter of the LXIVMOS, 1927–1929, James D. Henderson, Brookline, MA

Forty Years Later, A Concise Review of the St. Onge Bibliomidgets, by Robert E. Massmann, 1976

The Bibliomidgets of Achille J. St. Onge, by Robert E. Massmann, 1979, 'REM Miniatures'

Encyclopedia of the Book, by Geoffrey Ashall, Oak Knoll Press, 1979

Principles of Bibliographical Description, by Fredson Bowers, Princeton University Press, 1949

The St. Onge Bibliography, Additional Titles, New Information, and Fascinating Conflicts, by Robert E. Massmann, *MBS Newsletter*, October 1993, *Miniature Book Society*

Essays By An Old Country Priest: Msgr. Francis J. Weber, Zamorano Club, Los Angeles, 2016

California, A Bibliography of it's Miniature Books, by Francis J. Weber, 1976

Collecting St. Onge Miniature Books, by Robert C. Bradbury, 'The Microbibliophile', Volume XXVI, Number 6

Who's Who In Miniature Books: Collectors & Publishers, by Robert F. Hanson, editor and compiler, 1991

Lilliputian Newspapers, James D. Henderson, Achille J. St. Onge, Worcester, MA, 1936

Weber's 101 and Counting, A Supplement to 'Weber's 100', by Darleen Cordova, published by the author, 2013

An Illustrated Bibliography of Miniature Books Published by David Bryce and Son, compiled by M. Garbett

Three Centuries of Thumb Bibles, A Checklist, by Ruth Elizabeth Adomeit, 1980

A Los Angeles Typewriter, William M. Cheney, A Bibliography of His Printed Work, by Mary Lutz Jones, 1981

Miniature Book Collection At The Huntington Library, by Lenora Schull 1996

Illustrating Handmade Books, Especially Miniature Books, by Suzanne Pruchnicki, Bronte Press 1992

Peter and Donna Thomas: Bibliography 1974-2020, by Peter and Donna Thomas, 2021

Creating Miniature Books, by Tony Firman, Tony Firman Bookbinding, 2022

MAGAZINES, JOURNALS and NEWSLETTERS:

Fine Books and Collections Magazine

Biblio Magazine, printed between 1996 and 1999

Miniature Book News, Julian I. Edison, Editor, published as a standalone as well as with the 'Miniature Book Society Newsletter'

Miniature Book Society Newsletter (available online at www.mbs.org)

The Microbibliophile, (available online at www.themicrobibliophile.com)

Catalogue of the Library of Miniature Books, by Percy Edwin Spielman, published by Edward Arnold Ltd. London

Bibliography of Miniature Books, by Valentine J. Poska, Initial plus 15 supplements

EXHIBITION CATALOGUES and EPHEMERAL:

A Matter of Size, by Patricia J. Pistner and Jan Storm van Leeuwen, The Grolier Club, NY, NY 2019

The Poet of Them All, by Elisabeth R. Fairman, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, CT 2016

Always remember bookseller catalogues, as sometimes certain variants and special editions find their way into these catalogues and may not be mentioned elsewhere

Personal papers and ephemeral items of other book collectors

INTERNET ONLINE SOURCES and REFERENCES

<https://www.vialibri.net/>

<https://www.abebooks.com>

<https://www.worldcat.org>

<https://mbs.org>

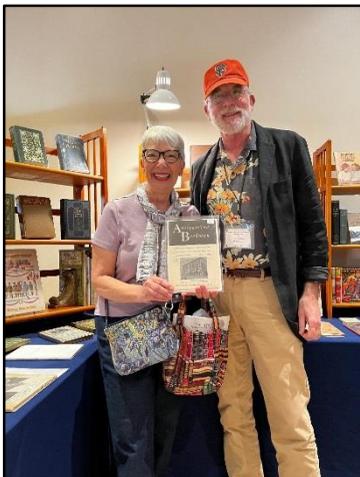
If you have a favorite research book or other source that has provided you with answers or if I have not listed it, please send me the title, publisher, and author. There is always a wealth of informational sources available to those willing to take the time to open the next closed door and look inside. 📖

**SACRAMENTO ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR,
If You Do Not Go, You May Miss A Treasure,
By Nina Mazzo:**

I recently attended the Sacramento Antiquarian Book Fair – yes in person! It was wonderful to meander around the many booksellers (over 50) and discover new treasures. Amongst the exhibitors, one could find rare and collectible books, maps, photos, postcards, ephemeral items, and miniature books. The Miniature Book Society's Treasurer Kim Herrick of the Book Lair attended.

I was able to acquire one more work by the amazing book artist – Emile Goozairow titled *Carousel of Miracles: Adventures in the Dream*. The construction is fascinating; the artistry beyond words and the story is a fantasy both strange and mysterious.

Kim introduced me to Vic Zoschak, Jr. of Tavistock Books who had been interviewed in the Spring issue of *Fine Books and Collections*.



Nina and Vic Zoschak Jr.



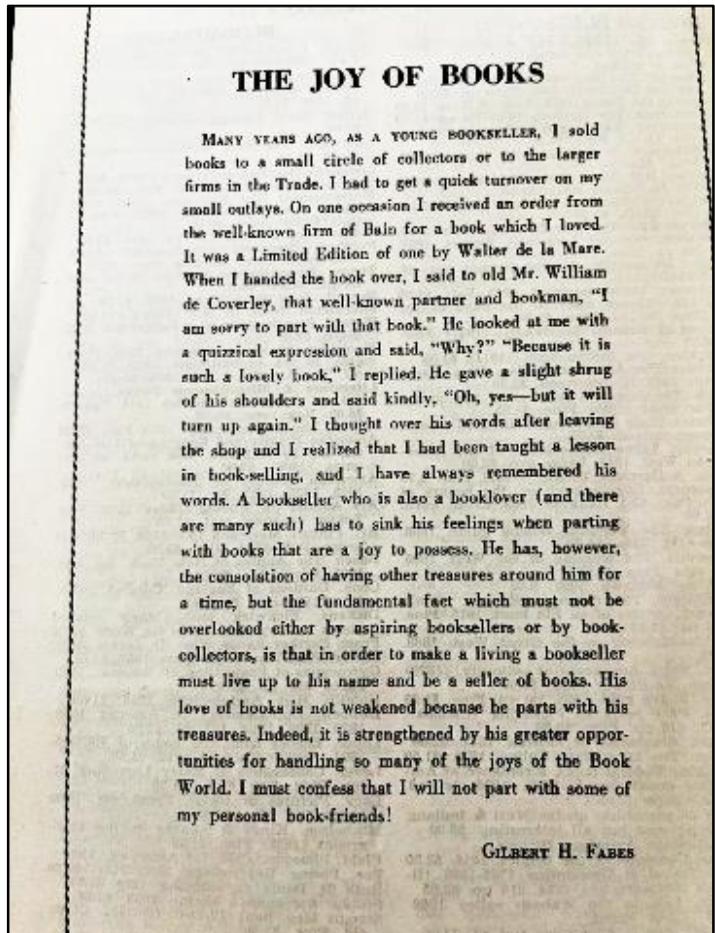
Kim Herrick

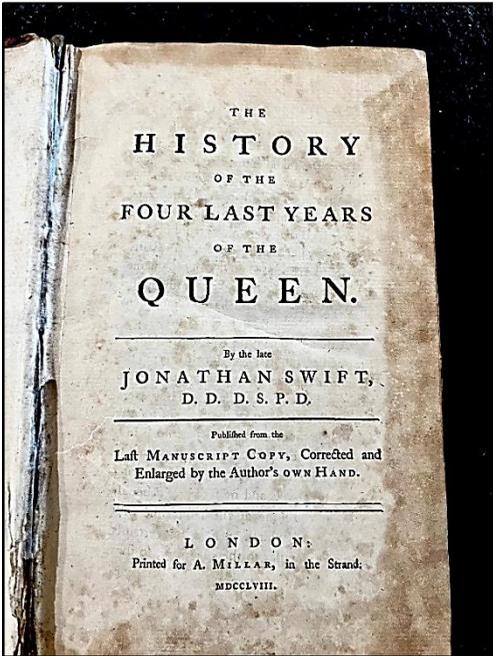
Vic Zoschak, Jr. founded Tavistock Books in 1989 while he was still serving in the U.S. Coast Guard. He became a member of the Association in 1995 and retired from the Coast Guard in 1997, thereby devoting all his time to antiquarian bookselling. Vic has served on the Board of Governors for a number of years and Chairs the Planning and RBMS Committees. The works of Charles Dickens have always been of personal interest to Vic, and his shop takes its name from Dickens' residence in the 1850s- Tavistock House on Tavistock Square. Tavistock Books is located in Alameda, CA and

specializes in Dickensiana, Wing books, English Literature, Books about Books, Vietnam Conflict Literature, and Children's Serial Fiction.

Kim Herrick got her start in the book trade by buying a large collection from an estate sale and then going to the Colorado Antiquarian Book Seminar to figure out what to do with it. Luckily, this turned into a passion for a new career. Kim went on to attend the Rare Book School several times and many trade shows with her new business, *The Book Lair*. A graduate of UC Berkeley, Kim has kept her roots in the Bay Area by joining the Book Club of California and regularly attending events there. One of her specialties is miniature books and she is a member of the Miniature Book Society.

Vic and I discussed my interest in 'books about books' and I was pleased to discover Vic has several. We chatted about a few of the additional avenues I could follow as I continue to delve into the world of books on books and related materials. Those related materials included a copy of the 'Antiquarian Bookman' – a weekly magazine issued by Publishers Weekly and dated 1948. The photo (right image) titled 'The Joy of Books' is from that issue and is written by Gilbert H. Fabes who has written my most cherished book about books – *The Autobiography of a Book!*





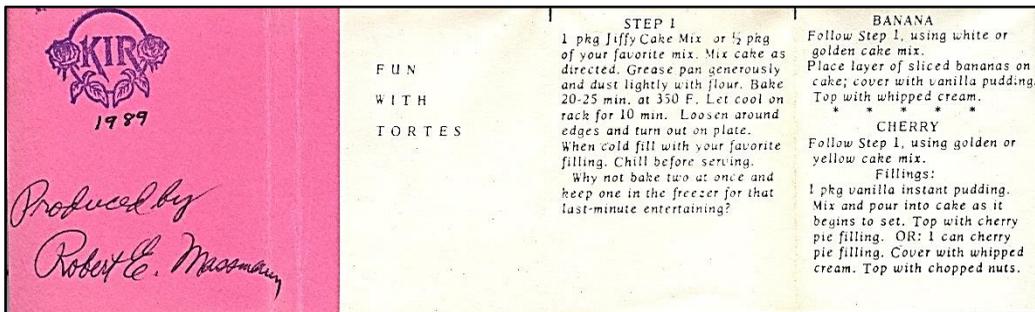
Before leaving the book fair, I was drawn to an area in the lobby where a bookseller had mounds of stacked books in no apparent order – so of course it beckoned to me. As I moved and shifted books, I came across one a bit tattered and taped. The title as seen in photo to the left is *The History of the Four Last Years of the Queen* by Jonathan Swift. Printed in 1758 for A. Millar in the Strand, London.

Now I am off on a journey to discover the backstory because I turned the page and read ...”this book is at length brought to light, in spight (spite) of all attempts to suppress it!” Whoa – I feel I am off on an adventure – to be continued.... Always a joy. 📖

Contact information: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648,
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

FUN WITH TORTES, By REM:

Bob Massman was a man whose mind never slept, always dreaming about a new book, how to play some fun with everyone. *Fun With Tortes* is but a short (10 pp) recipe book, one box of Jiffy mix and 7 short recipes for a quick and delicious after dinner treat. . . 📖



FOR THE JOY OF READING:



'The Fairy Tale' by Sir Walter Firl



The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, and all the sweet serenity of books... 📖

**EPHEMERA,
Micro-Tome Chase, 1987
Milwaukee, WI**

Another interesting look back in time. I have no idea who the proprietor of this shop was, however, 'Item AA' on page 1 is rather interesting. I did not know that the variant existed; I wonder where it is today. Take note of the hours of operation....

There you have it. 📖



Micro-Tome Chase
4212 No. 52nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53216

1987 ✓

VOLUME II, NO. 2

Book List

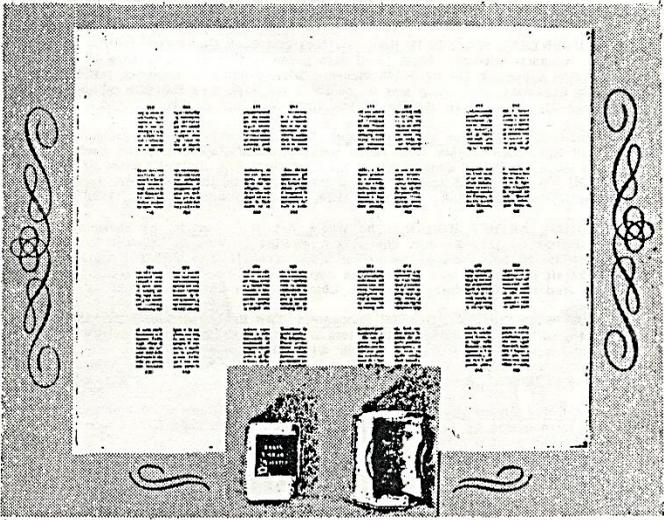
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S **GALILEO...in pigskin** *S*



AA. Galileo a Madama Christina de Lorena (1615). 206 pp. White pigskin with a gilt-stamped maroon leather label on spine. Original front wrapper bound in. Portrait frontispiece. Matching pigskin slipcase. 3/4 by 1/2 of an inch. Printed in the famous "fly's eye" type which was cut by Antonio Farina in 1834. The text is taken from a letter by Galileo to his friend and patron in which he puts forth an eloquent plea for harmony of religion and science. This is a very attractive, well-bound copy of probably the most famous of miniature books. (Bondy pages 95-96.) Padua: Tipogr. Salmin, 1896. \$1,550.00

BB. Galileo a Madama Christina de Lorena (1615). An original Press Sheet printed on both sides in its uncut and unfolded state as when pulled from the press. With the type described above, there are 32 pages printed on each side. Each page has ten lines using about 130 letters per page. This sheet is still in very good condition. A facsimile printed on one side on heavier stock will also be included with this item. Padua: Tipogr. Salmin, 1896. \$275.00

FRIENDSHIP, AN ESSAY, By Ralph Waldo Emerson:

Emerson [1803 – 1882] was an American essayist, lecturer, philosopher, and abolitionist who led the transcendentalist movement of the mid-19th century. Emerson's essay 'Friendship' was originally published in 1841. It provides the reader with several insights about friendship that the author learned throughout his life. In Emerson's opinion, friends must treat one another with both a sense of detachment and closeness, such that each person may maintain their individual oneness while simultaneously revering the other as a spiritual partner. The St. Onge miniature was reviewed as part of the Bradbury 100 series in the December 2021 issue of *The Microbibliophile*;

https://www.themicrobibliophile.com/s/Microbib_2021_11_Final.pdf

St. Onge published the essay *Friendship*, in 1939, as the second book from his press after *Noel*. My inquiring mind is asking the question, "what drew St Onge to select 'Friendship' for the subject of his second miniature book?"

Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau both seem, by their writings, to be overly preoccupied with the topic of friendship. Both men shared their love of nature and spent many hours walking in the woods around Concord, Massachusetts. In many cases, it is hard to differentiate between the individual ideas of the two men while reading their respective journals. This deep friendship between the two literary titans is explored by Jeffrey S. Cramer in his work *Solid Seasons*.

Friendships are things that we have all experienced; some brief, some casual, some life long, some very endearing, some not so much. I thought it would be interesting to provide the text for Emerson's essay. It is a philosophical essay about the most ideal form of interaction. Some friendships are superficial while some become a much more meaningful connection that endures across time and even death. It is an interesting read and I hope that it brings a certain amount of thought to your minds and joy to your hearts.

St. Onge must have been very moved by the essay to select it for publication. I look forward to hearing your comments.

FRIENDSHIP

A RUDDY drop of manly blood
The surging sea outweighs;
The world uncertain comes and goes,
The lover rooted stays.
I fancied he was fled,
And, after many a year,
Glowed unexhausted kindness
Like daily sunrise there.
My careful heart was free again,—
O friend, my bosom said,
Through thee alone the sky is arched,
Through thee the rose is red,
All things through thee take nobler form
And look beyond the earth,
The mill-round of our fate appears
A sun-path in thy worth.
Me too thy nobleness has taught
To master my despair;
The fountains of my hidden life
Are through thy friendship fair.

The full text of the essay as printed in the miniature Friendship can be read at the following link <https://www.owleyes.org/text/friendship>. Included at the link is an analysis section as well as a study guide.

Certainly a lot to think about. If you would like to read more, especially some academic criticisms about 'Friendship', the following list was prepared by the American Transcendentalism Web;

<https://archive.vcu.edu/english/engweb/transcendentalism/authors/emerson/essays/friendship.html>

- McNulty, John Bard. "Emerson's Friends and the Essay on Friendship." *New England Quarterly* 19 (Sept 1946): 390-94.
- Rucker, Mary E. "Emerson's 'Friendship' as Process." *ESQ* 18 (4 Quarter 1962): 234-48.
- Yarbrough, Stephen R. "From the Vice of Intimacy to the Vice of Habit: The Theories of Friendship of Emerson and Thoreau." *Thoreau Journal Quarterly*, 8 (July-Oct 1981): 63-73.
- Baldwin, David. "The Emerson-Ward Friendship: Ideals and Realities." In *Studies in the American Renaissance* 1984, pp. 299-324. Charlottesville: UP of VA, 1984.
- Sebouhian, George. "A Dialogue with Death: An Examination of Emerson's 'Friendship'." *Studies in the American Renaissance*, 1989, pp. 219-239. Charlottesville: UP of VA, 1989.
- Newfield, Christopher J. "Loving Bondage: Emerson's Ideal Relationships." *ATQ* 5 (1991): 183-93.

A lot of words and a lot to think about, from a miniature book. 

GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

Let us kiss the cold winds of winter good-bye and look forward to the sweet breezes of spring and summer to warm our hearts and give us some renewed inspiration. With the coming of new season there is always a long list of things, be they chores or activities that we somehow did not get to last year. Between all those things, we need to make sure we have time for the world of miniature books. Maybe it is a book related to a particular hobby or a place you have wanted to visit that appeals to you. I am always amazed that it is more than a coincidence that I read at a miniature book and learn something new about something that I thought I knew all about. Something old may really be

something new in the world of miniature books; we will continue the journey in the next issue with the following:

- Nina Mazzo, more news and her insights into the *Miniature Book News*
- *English Water Colors*, published by Plum Park Press
- For sure... something new and exciting from Bo Press!
- Maybe an article by Gail Curry about a 1980's miniature book publisher
- Maybe something special about Borrowers Press
- Booksby Press, another new book...
- Another 'Bradbury 100', Number 87, *Nicodemus Dodge, by Mark Twain*
- Another 'Bradbury 100', Number 96, *One Day In the Life of A Papermaker, by James Weygand*
- In addition, and most importantly, hopefully a story or article written by you!

Lastly, I would really appreciate your help with any additional books on the Bradbury list. So far, the following books (numbers) have been reviewed from the Bradbury list:

14, 20, 24, 32, 33, 38, 42, 43, 51, 55, 56, 64, 73, 76, 80, 83, 85, 86, 87, 89, 95, 99, and 100.

If you have a copy of one of the books, not yet reviewed, and would like to write a short 'review/article' please drop me a message. If you have the book and need help with the article or might loan it to me for my review, we can work through the details.

Please keep us posted on what is happening at your press, what you are reading, your discoveries, your 'wishes', and what you have on your favorite list. Anticipation and searching is the joy of collecting. We all enjoy reading the adventures, such as Nina's article about her trip and discoveries at the Sacramento Book Club Fair. If you visit a book fair or a bookshop or find an interesting article on books, please consider sharing your story in a future issue. Thanks! 📖

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'HEADBAND':

Headband refers to a decorative band usually made of a silk or cotton cloth material. It can be plain or colored or of a fancy pattern which is then fastened inside the top and maybe the bottom of the back of the book as part of the binding process. The



headband provided the spine with additional support and fills the space on the back of the text block that was lower than the board edges.

If it were not for the headband, the headcap (the shaped cover turn-in at the head and tail of the spine) could become crushed after the book was pulled from the shelf a few times. Headbands are sewn into the leaves of the text block and sometimes into the boards. Since the introduction of the 'kettle-stich' into western bindings, headbands have been technically unnecessary as a structural reinforcement, but are certainly a welcomed decorative addition to a bound book.

Additional resources, to learn and understand more about headbands, can be found at the following internet locations:

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/library/special/exhibitions/cover-to-cover/headbands/>

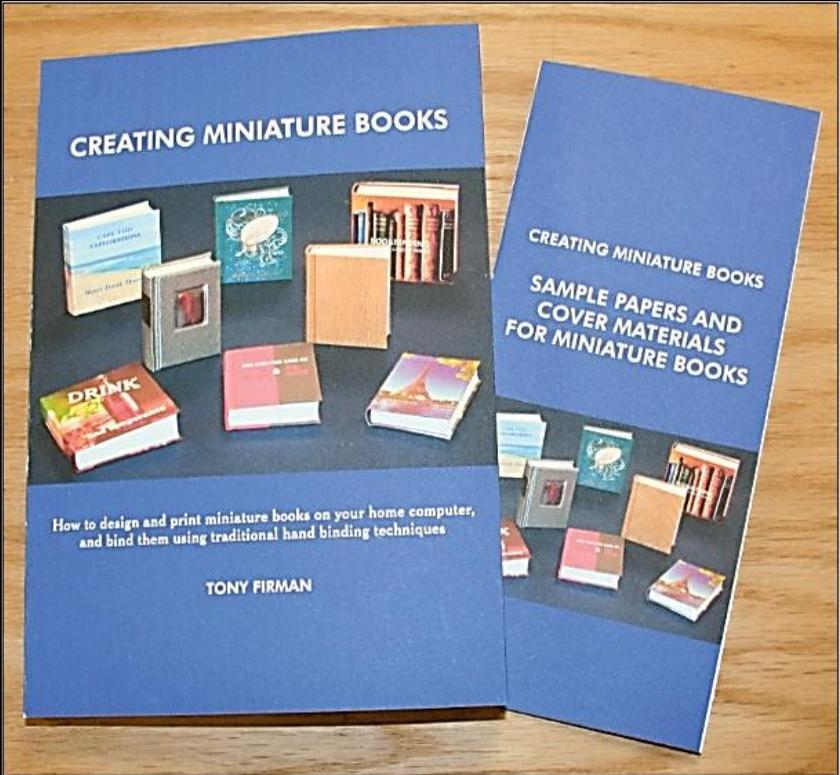
<https://www.ibookbinding.com/blog/galleries/headband-examples-gallery-book-binding/>

<http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com/Making-mini-books.html>

As is the case with many definitions and classifications of materials today the 'blending of words' sometimes may create a definition that is not 100% representative of the current use. Be sure to validate your materials as you look to purchase or define a book material.

The term for the next issue will be '**author's binding**', want to give it a try? 📖

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BEAUTIFUL LIBRARIES, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Editor's Note: I have the same question/consideration as note on page 15.; would you rather read the text as a page of text in 'The Microbibliophile' or just reference the link and read it directly from the link? Your thoughts, please.

The MBS held its annual Grand Conclave in Dublin in 2011. I do not know for sure but I will say it would be a good bet to believe that ever participant visited the Trinity College Library. The library was founded in 1592 by the reigning Queen Elizabeth. As such the library has seen a lot of us over the years and it is time for some 'due diligence' upgrades for the ongoing safety and preservation of the library and its collections. In 2020, the plan to renovate the library was approved. An update on the progress was published on January 7, 2022.

Article source:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jan/07/trinity-college-dublin-begins-90m-project-to-relocate-vulnerable-books>

It is known as Ireland's "front room", where esteemed visitors including the Queen, Joe Biden, Emmanuel Macron and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex have been taken to get a sense of the "land of saints and scholars".

Biden, vice-president at the time, was so moved by the atmospheric in the dimly lit, barrel-vaulted hall when he visited Trinity College Dublin (TCD) in 2016 that he came back a year later to contemplate the history of its old library, known as the Long Room.

But if he makes a third visit, he may not be so lucky. Three hundred years after the first foundation stone was laid, the 250,000 ancient books and manuscripts – including the ornately decorated ninth-century Book of Kells – printed on vellum, paper or silk are to be moved one by one, along with 500,000 others, to make way for the restoration of the building.

It is a monumental task that will take the best part of five years and cost €90m (£75m).

"Moving 750,000 vulnerable books is quite an undertaking, so we are having to pilot everything to see what is involved," says TCD's librarian and archivist Helen Shenton, who is leading the daunting project involving a 50-strong team.

Some of the books in the alcoves that line the 65-metre hall are so delicate they are joined together with fabric ties. The accumulation of exhaust fume particles from the roads surrounding the building can accelerate the deterioration, while human detritus from nearly 1 million annual visitors pre-pandemic, ranging from clothing fibers and human hair, reaches 1 cm in parts.

Each book has to be examined, dusted, carefully hoovered, and repaired if necessary. In a normal maintenance and preservation cycle “it takes us five years alone to clean all the books”, Shenton explains.

The restoration project is currently in an “enabling” phase that will last two years because of the fragility of the books. It will determine the logistics of the move and the equal challenge of keeping the collection of books open to students and visiting scholars.

The physical preservation of the books is the driving force behind the project. Recent fires at Notre Dame, the national museum in Brazil and the Mackintosh building at the Glasgow School of Art have shown the risks to historic and cultural buildings.

“We do not want to join that litany,” says Shenton. “We need to conserve the building and the collection for its fourth century,” she said.

Even the distinctive smell that Shenton says many visitors remark on when they enter is evidence of deterioration. According to a book on the library by Harry Cory Wright, the sweet scent is “the smell coming from ageing cellulose in paper, similar to the smell of almonds, which contain the same chemical.”

Shenton says: “Books are organic artefacts and what you are smelling is deteriorating leather, deteriorating paper, and the thing we can do to slow that down is to have better environmental conditions. Not only do we need temperature and humidity control, we also need to protect against particle pollution that is coming through the windows.”

The restoration has been on the cards for years, and cataloguing each book was finally finished during the pandemic with a team of 50 working from home, completing what was a 40-year project.



To future-proof the collection for study, Shenton is also creating the first online catalogue of Trinity's collection. Each book will be fitted with a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag to enable scholars to be able to target their reads from the comfort of their desks.

Once all the books have been removed, the library will close for about three years, during which time the building, under the plans of Heneghan Peng architects, will undergo a complete makeover.

In what will be a shock to many previous visitors, the ground floor will be returned to the open arcade of the original building, which was designed to protect the books on the first floor against damp.

At the same time, there will be "a completely reimagined exhibition" that will position treasures such as the Book of Kells in an international context, exploring for example "what was happening on the Silk Road at the same time".

And finally, the male-only series of busts, remarked upon by Meghan, that stand at each of the alcoves in the Long Room is also going.

It was one of the first things Shenton noticed when she took the job and, after a competition, four new busts by four different artists will be commissioned, of the mathematician Ada Lovelace; the Abbey Theatre co-founder, Lady Gregory; the writer Mary Wollstonecraft; and Rosalind Franklin, the biophysicist who made critical contributions to the identification of the double helix structure of DNA and related RNA.

IF YOU CAN BELIEVE YOUR EYES. 

SPECIAL BOOKS ABOUT SPECIAL OCCASIONS,

By Todd Sommerfeld:

On October 15th, 2021 my granddaughter was born 220 miles away from my home. As I was planning to make the drive to see her, I began thinking about babies and miniature books. I remembered two miniature book birth announcements that Bob Massmann made in the early 1970s. After looking at them I decided I needed to make one for my Elliana. I made the four hour drive the next day and met my granddaughter at the hospital. When I returned home, I began designing the book for Elliana, *A Grand Entrance*. Within a week it was in production, the fastest I had ever created a book. At this point I wondered what other special occasion books I could find on my shelves. I found one other birth announcement, a wedding announcement, and one slightly larger book about a two-year-old daughter.

The Massmann books are, *New Girl in Town*, announcing the arrival of Achilles St. Onge's granddaughter in 1970, and *What Every Mother Knows (or will know) About Blessed Eventing*; announcing the new son of Frank and Sharon Gagliardi in 1971. Both books are accordion fold books measuring 2" x 1³/₄", 'New Girl' contains a charming poem written by father, Vincent while 'What Every Mother Knows' tells the story entirely in pictures. The third birth announcement was made by Rebecca Bingham in 1991 upon the birth of her daughter, and contains an excerpt from Mark Twain's book, *Adam's Diary*. *Before I Forget* is a facetious book written by Norman Forgue of the Black Cat Press from the perspective of his two-year-old daughter. At 4³/₄" inches it is too big to be a miniature, but it is such a charming book that I just had to include it (besides, Forgue is one of the six publishers responsible for the 1960s miniature book renaissance).

The final book I found is *The Marriage of Murphy and Sam*. This was produced in 1991 by Dick Flemming under his Flying Coffin imprint, and contains a poem written by Dick commemorating his daughter's wedding.



I am sure there are many more special occasion miniature books out there but, unfortunately, because of their personal nature, they do not present themselves often, so if you have any birth, wedding, or other special occasion miniature books, please let me know about them, and maybe I will compile a list of them.

As always, questions, comments, and criticisms welcome at contratodd@gmail.com

HOME PRINTING OPTIONS FOR THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE:

I continue to receive favorable reader feedback about the conversion of *The Microbibliophile* to a digital distribution format. Readers like the format and the fact that they can see everything in full color and take advantage of the 'hot links' for additional information.

Understandably, some readers asked how they would print *The Microbibliophile* in a booklet format. The PDF that is distributed is sourced as a regular Microsoft Word file in a regular single PDF column, none booklet format. The page size is formatted at 7" wide and 8 ½" tall, so the original size booklets can be printed on 8 ½" x 14" paper stock. A total of four 'booklet pages' will print on one piece of paper, using a duplex printing format.

The basic PDF 'booklet' printing instructions from Adobe are:

<https://helpx.adobe.com/acrobat/kb/print-booklets-acrobat-reader.html>

1. Be sure your printer can do duplex printing
2. Choose **File > Print**
3. Select your printer from the dialog box
4. In the Pages to Print area, select the pages you want to print in the booklet (**All**)
5. Under the selection for Page sizing & Handling, choose **Booklet**
6. In the Booklet Subset pop-up select **Both Sides**, Orientation should be set to **Portrait**, and be sure to check **'auto-rotate'**
7. Leave the 'numbers' in the **Sheets From** boxes as they are presented
8. Ready to Print....(be sure to select your choice 'color', 'gray', or B & W)

You could also just print the PDF with one page single sided if you want to, just use the standard **Print** command single or double sided.

Good luck! You should be an expert with a few clicks. Adobe has a very helpful and easy to follow set of instruction as **HELP Guides** as well. 

Proposed Frontispiece, Volume XLI, Nbr. 4 Issue 238 July-August 2022:

Once again, as we do with each issue, we are offering you the opportunity to write a book tale for the next issue of *The Microbibliophile*. Either fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner self to spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/book memory or even a dream about tomorrow. Storytelling can be very rewarding, even magical!

How has the pandemic affected your 'book life'? Have you discovered a lost treasure among your collection? Did "Zoom" bring you some new friends? How about revisiting a special book place or book subject, or a glimpse into the life and work of a famous author?

Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration will ignite your imagination or touch your spirit to share. Whether a fanciful yarn, a serious conversation about books, the wish to embark on a true-life adventure; your contribution will bring you a feeling of accomplishment, enhance the next issue, and delight our readers, young and old.

A memory image or aroma from the kitchen can evoke a long afternoon of stories - *"The rain pounded on my bedroom window and the blowing wind made the shutter slam with a bang. I heard a faint cry outside my window, I got up, out of bed, to see if I could see anything, and when I looked through the darkness, to my surprise..." (YOUR TURN).*

How about bit of history from one of these famous authors:

Jules Vern
Hemingway,
Faulkner,
Hawthorne,
Dickenson,
Thoreau,

and so many more.

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue will be June 15, 2022, electronic or paper, either way, the choice is yours.

Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com or send via snail mail to our world headquarters campus at the confluence of the North & South Branches of the Raritan River, address on rear cover. 📖

CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

Buy, Sell, or Trade:

PLEASE NOTE: Each “want ad” must be submitted for each issue. This is to insure the accuracy and “freshness” of the information presented. Thank you for understanding and participation.

As a feature for subscribers, *The Microbibliophile* offers a classified listing service with each issue. Each message should be no more than 250 characters. Send your information to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Kathy Roberts is looking for any Shannon Mitchell miniatures. Shannon was an illuminator and calligrapher publishing as Shannon’s Miniature Manuscripts in Vancouver, Washington in the 1980’s and 1990’s

Pat Pistner is looking for 28 Raheb books (Mudlark Miniatures and Littlest Library) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published.
Contact information: E-mail: Pistner@me.com

Todd Sommerfeld is looking for two Pairault et Cie titles, *Ali Baba*, and *La Fontaine* to complete his La Gracieuse.
Contact information: E-mail: contratodd@gmail.com or 216-965-7490.

Caroline Brandt is looking for the following miniatures:
Westminster Abbey, III, published by Boreman
Young Sportsman’s Instructor, London ca. 1700
The Famous History of Valentine and Orson, by Snagg, London, 1801
L’Orange Geslagt, by H. Spoomaker, 1749
The Smoker’s Text Book, by J. Hamer, 1863
Smallest complete Hebrew Bible, (M. M. Scholtz publication
Short Account of the First Rise and Progress of Printing, by T. Parker, 1763
Contact information: telephone 804-200-1260

Jim Brogan is looking for a tome, *The 70th Academy Awards*, by Gloria Stuart.
Contact information: E-mail: jbrogan1@verizon.net For sale: *The Inaugural Address of Thomas Jefferson*, published by A. J. St. Onge, \$1500, inquire with editor....

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