

afflicted with insomnia and dyspepsia. The interaction of the two diseases gradually broke down his nervous system, until finally, in his own words, "the indescribable mental strain consequent on physical-nervous collapse reached the breaking point, and out of the resulting nervous-mental crises emerged, meteor-like, the terrible and villainous 'Black Bart' of popular conception." Thus it was not dime novels, for the nearest thing to a dime novel that he had ever read was a German version of Cooper's "Leather Stocking Tales," but merely his abnormal mental condition that had made him a criminal. In concluding his story the convict explained that he had now become his normal law-abiding self. Considering that he had never received formal instruction in English and had spent his adult life in lumber camps, the composition of the article is certainly remarkable.

In "Black Bart's" letters to Peter White the quality of the criminal's mind is again emphasized. Commenting on the board of pardons, the prisoner states, "It wouldn't matter so much if the board was a lover of abstract justice and independent judgement, but it is an undeniable fact that one voice proclaiming against a prisoner's release will carry more weight in influencing its decision, than would a whole chorus in his favor." Peter White's efforts did not bring about the hoped-for pardon. In his final letter "Black Bart" bitterly reviles the board for its action but thanks Peter White for his efforts.

Peter White was a leader of the Democratic party in his section of the State, and in 1876 he stumped the State in behalf of Tilden for President. Four years later he carried on similar activities for Grover Cleveland. In the personal letters of the collection is a letter from Cleveland thanking White for a fan given to Mrs. Cleveland. The papers of the White collection cover approximately a half century of business development in the upper peninsula of Michigan and reveal information on a variety of subjects.

Rare Acquisitions

IN COLLECTING historical material, a society such as ours counts itself fortunate if from time to time the inflow of material, valuable because of its prospective use, is sweetened by the appearance of items valuable because of their scarcity — and so usually valuable in a monetary sense. Recently William Butler of Newton, Massa-

chusetts, gave the Society a copy of "The Additions and Corrections to the First and Second Editions of 'Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations'" by Adam Smith. The edition of this supplementary material was probably small; at all events few copies are known to be in existence. It is believed that ours is one of two copies on this side of the Atlantic.

The publication is seventy-nine pages long and covers additions and corrections ranging from a few sentences to an entire new chapter. The new chapter is entitled "The Conclusion of the Mercantile System" and is inserted in Book 4. Although the changes made in the two previous editions are of little importance, judged from this distance, and indeed do not alter the chief tenets of the volume, the acquisition of this pamphlet is notable by reason of the rarity of the item.

The first edition of Adam Smith's book came out in 1776, and the second was released approximately four years later. The publication date of the "Additions and Corrections" is not shown on the document, but it is believed that it was published in 1784 at the time when "The Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations" went into its third edition.

WORKINGMAN'S ADVOCATE

Among the rare periodicals in the Baker Library is a file of the "Workingman's Advocate," a labor magazine published in Washington, D. C., during the presidential campaign of 1840. The file contains eight issues in volume one of this periodical; and with the exception of three issues possessed by the American Antiquarian Society of Worcester, it is thought that no other library in the country has specimens of the magazine.

No mention is made of the magazine in any periodical bibliographies, but mention is made of two publications of the same name. The first of these was published in New York between 1829 and 1844; and the second was published in Chicago between 1864 and 1877. Apparently there is no connection between the "Workingman's Advocate" published in "Washington City" and its two namesakes.

There is no information on the length of time that the periodical persisted, but it is believed that it was not published long after the January, 1841 issue, the last in the Baker Library file. Although the "Workingman's Advocate" is called a monthly magazine, it ap-

**THE
WORKINGMAN'S ADVOCATE,**
A MONTHLY PUBLICATION,

Devoted to the Political and Social Advancement of the Masses.

VOL. 1. WASHINGTON CITY, OCTOBER 15, 1840. No. 5.



**An English Trap to decoy American
Voters!**

This device is used by the British, or miscalled Whig Party, in the place of great principles. The present Administration is in favor of a rigid construction of the Federal Constitution; the opposition of Log Cabins and Hard Cider. The Democratic Party repose perfect confidence in the intelligence and virtue of the people; the British Whig Party, on the other hand, would insult and degrade them by ministering to the basest passions of our nature, and the most brutal and demoralizing of all our desires.

“WORKINGMAN’S ADVOCATE” ATTACKS WILLIAM H. HARRISON AND HIS
“HARD CIDER” CAMPAIGN

pears to have been issued somewhat irregularly. In the month preceding the presidential election, it was published weekly. Furthermore, in the period covered by the file, three extra editions were brought forth.

Despite the implication of sympathy with labor carried in the title, the magazine was in reality a political organ aimed, it seems, at attracting the labor vote to the Democratic candidate, Martin Van Buren, who was running for re-election. William Harrison, the opposing Whig candidate, was bitterly denounced in the various issues of the magazine. The presidential campaign of 1840 is well known for the use of catch phrases, especially by the Whig party, and it is against these phrases that the "Workingman's Advocate" directed a large portion of its attack. "General Harrison has his 'log cabins' and 'hard cider' to lift him into office; Mr. Van Buren the strength of his glorious principles. It appears to me that with weapons so frail, the former will find it very difficult to overthrow a party fully identified with popular rights, and withal so old a favorite of the people." But Harrison did overthrow the favorite of the people, and the Whig party did come into power with the aid of, or perhaps in spite of, such campaign phrases as "Tippecanoe and Tyler too."

Slaves on a Federal Project

AN INTERESTING sidelight on the attitude of white laborers toward potential competition from slaves in the pre-Civil War period is found in the Baker Library's Baldwin collection. In constructing a dry dock for the Navy at Norfolk, Virginia, in 1830, Loammi Baldwin, the engineer, wished to determine the relative effectiveness of negroes and whites as stone cutters. Accordingly he secured a crew of negro workers from the slaveholders of the State. The masters were paid seventy-two cents a day for each slave; ten cents of this amount was turned over to the slave.

A group of unemployed stone cutters, incensed by Baldwin's action, sent a protest to the United States Navy Department charging that the negroes, who were being hired by the year, were incompetent for the job, and thus federal funds were being wasted. The letter states: "We the undersigned who are men of families and placed in the peculiar circumstances in which we stand, view this engagement of the negroes as a most grievous imposition, detri-