

**CATALOGUE OF THE LIBRARY OF
JARED SPARKS: WITH A LIST OF THE
HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTED
BY HIM AND NOW DEPOSITED IN THE
LIBRARY OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

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Catalogue of the Library of Jared Sparks: With a List of the Historical Manuscripts Collected by Him and Now Deposited in the Library of Harvard University by Jared Sparks

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PREFACE.

THIS Catalogue is derived from the books in the library and from two imperfect but not unfaithful lists of titles. It is largely indebted to the laborious alterations; and to the attention, generously offered, of Mr. Cogswell, formerly of the Astor Library. Thanks are due to the unfailing kindness, the learning, and the counsels of Mr. Ezra Abbot, one of the librarians of Harvard University. Many suggestions from Mr. Henry Stevens, and some of the notes, should be acknowledged. The present form of the Catalogue, however, is due to the editor, Mr. Cutter, librarian of the Boston Athenæum, who has prepared the manuscript for and carried it through the press.

The library of Mr. Sparks possesses valuable, quaint, and unique volumes. There are also many not always easily found, which correspond to his expressed intention to "own every book he might wish to use." For its "Historical MSS." it has long been known. These papers were collected with intuitive skill and increasing ability during various tours, undertaken since 1819 for the purpose: first, in the thirteen original States; often elsewhere in his own enlarged country; three times in prolonged visits to Europe; by means also of his extensive correspondence during the years 1819-1866. These letters are arranged in sixty large volumes, with a daily index. The Journals of the tours point out the deposits of many unknown treasures; sketching scenes, characters, and incidents; thus preserving information, and reproducing reminiscences of a period far more remote.

The Bound Historical Manuscripts, now the property of his son, with a conditional reversion to Harvard University, were at once placed within their own oaken cabinet, in the library

of the University. Mr. Sparks, himself disabled from the fruition of so much preparation, by an accident which never ceased to affect his right arm, felt every suffering alleviated in the gratification which he could afford to others. He used these treasures with a lavish and cheerful bounty which told nothing of the patient endurance of the daily disappointment he could not always conceal from his familiar friends. Their effects are already to be traced in the many useful works which acknowledge these sources of information; perhaps, as has been said, in the more critical investigation, more enlarged interest, and more zealous research which have been stimulated in others. Through his foresight they must have an increasing influence upon historical literature in the development of that Good he sought, of that Truth to which his life was devoted.

I have thought it well to add to the Catalogue a list of these papers, which the editor has been enabled to prepare by the kindness of the officers of the University Library. Though necessarily brief, it may serve as a guide till a more complete calendar shall be published.

NOTE.

In the preparation of this Catalogue all exaggeration in describing the condition and value of the volumes has been studiously avoided. The epithets *scarce* and *rare* have been sparingly used; perhaps it would have been better to omit them altogether, since the collectors of American rarities may be supposed to know what books are rare, and the students of American history care more for the importance and authenticity than for the scarcity of the works they would buy; moreover, experience soon teaches the latter that publications of the sixteenth century relating to America weigh against gold; that American imprints of the seventeenth century require a long purse in their purchaser; that books and pamphlets on our Revolution are not to be found in every bookstore, nor even in every library, historical or general; and that many works relating to the early settlement of the West have excited an interest in readers fatal to their preservation either at the West or the East. To those who know these facts, a slight examination of the Catalogue will show that some of the books are extremely rare, that a very large proportion of the library is uncommon, and that nearly the whole of it is of decided historical value. Mr. Sparks selected his books very carefully; he had a keen eye for whatever could be of use to him in the great historical works which he performed or which he meditated; and he had both the will and many opportunities for procuring what he needed; in consequence, his library has attractions for both the bibliomaniacs and the scholars, — not that the two are always distinct classes.

The Catalogues put into my hands, have been revised as carefully as circumstances would permit. I have not in general been able to compare the titles with the books, and have therefore been obliged to leave some things which appeared to me of doubtful accuracy. A few titles of books which may not now belong to the library have been inserted from Mr. Sparks's list; these are generally to be known by the absence of any description of the binding. The notes signed *J. S.* are generally copied from memoranda written by M. Sparks on the fly-leaves of the volumes to which they refer.

C. A. G.

The Works in this Library are almost without exception marked with the autograph of Mr. Sparks. The following beautiful volumes constitute a nearly complete set of his works, prepared by himself for his son. They have been generally, perhaps entirely, omitted from the catalogue.

- I. SPARKS, Jared. An Account of the Manuscript Papers of George Washington, which were left by him at Mount Vernon. With a Plan for their Publication. *Half morocco.*
8° Boston, 1827
- II. ——— A Collection of Essays and Tracts on Theology from Various Authors, with biographical and critical Notices. With a Plan for their Publication. Original Prospectus. *Calf.* 6 vols. 12° Boston-London, 1823-26
- III. ——— Lives of various Persons, published in the "Theological Essays and Tracts." Turretin Abauzit, Blackburne, Hoadley, Whitby, Hare, Newton, Robinson, Cogan, Penn, Emlyn, Hales, Foster, Taylor. *Half turkey.*
12° Boston, London, 1823-26
- IV. ——— Correspondence of the American Revolution. Being the letters of Eminent Men to George Washington. Edited from the original Manuscripts. *Calf, gilt.*
4 vols. 8° Boston, 1853
- V. ——— The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution. Published conformably to a Resolution of Congress. *Calf.* 12 vols. 8° Boston, 1829-30
- VI. ——— Familiar Letters and Miscellaneous Papers of Benjamin Franklin. *Calf.* 12° London, 1823
- VII. ——— A Historical Outline of the American Colonization Society, with Remarks on the advantages and practicability of colonizing in Africa the free people of color in the United States. From the North American Review for January. 12° Boston, 1824
- VIII. ——— Leben des berühmten Americanischen Reisenden John Ledyard. Aus dem Englischen von D. C. Michaelis. *Half morocco.* 12° Leipzig, 1829
- IX. Leben und Brief wechsel Georg Washington nach dem Englischen des Jared Sparks im Auszuge bearbeitet. Herausgegeben von Friederich von Raumer. *Half calf.*
2 vols. 8° Leipzig, 1839
- X. ——— Letters on the Ministry. Ritual and Doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church. *Calf.* 8° Baltimore, 1820
- XI. ——— Library of American Biography. *Calf.*
10 vols. 16° Boston-London, 1834-38
- XII. ——— *Same.* Second Series. Uniform as 25 vols. *Calf.*
15 vols. 16° Boston, 1844-48

- XIII. — The Works of Benjamin Franklin. With Notes, and a Life of the Author. *Calf.* 10 vols. Large 8° 1836-40
- XIV. — The Life of Benjamin Franklin, containing the Autobiography, with Notes, and a Continuation. *Calf.* 1 vol. Large 8° Boston, 1844
- XV. — The Life of Benjamin Franklin. Printed by Mr. Sparks' permission from his Life of Franklin. *Calf.* Dessau; Katz Brothers. Berlin, Hamburg, Vienna, Amsterdam, Paris, Trieste, Venice, Verona, Turin, 1854
- XVI. — The Writings of George Washington, being his Correspondence, Addresses, Messages, and other papers, official and private. Selected and published from the original Manuscripts, with a Life of the Author. Notes and Illustrations. *Calf.* 12 vols. Large 8° Boston, 1834-37
- XVII. — Life of Washington. His Diaries and Speeches, and Various Miscellaneous Papers. *Calf.* 2 vols. London, 1839
- XVIII. — Life of George Washington. *Calf.* 8° Boston, 1839
- XIX. — Another. 17th Edition. *Cloth.* 8° Boston, 1866
- XX. — Life of George Washington. Abridged by the Author. *Calf.* 2 vols. Boston, 1840
- XXI. — Vie, Correspondence, et écrits de Washington. Publiées d'après l'édition Américaine, et précédées d'une Introduction sur l'influence et le caractère de Washington dans la Revolution des Etats Unis. Par M. Guizot. *Half calf.* 6 vols. Paris, 1840
- The folio Map contains a note by Mr. Sparks. "This volume accompanies Guizot's Translation of Sparks's Edition of Washington's Writings. The plans and drawings are all copied from that Work" with no acknowledgment.
- XXII. — Life of Gouverneur Morris, with Selections from his Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers, detailing events in the American Revolution, the French Revolution, and in the political History of the United States. *Calf.* 3 vols. 8° Boston, 1832
- XXIII. — Mémorial de Gouverneur Morris, Ministre Plénipotentiaire des Etats-Unis en France, Suivi d'Extraits de sa Correspondence, et de ses papiers. Traduit de l'Anglais de Jared Sparks, Auteur de la Vie de Washington, de Franklin, etc. Par Augustin Gaudais. *Half calf.* 2 vols. 8° Paris, 1842
- XXIV. — The Life of John Ledyard, the American Traveller, comprising Selections from his Journals and Correspondence. *Calf.* 8° Cambridge, 1828

Note by Mr. Sparks, from Henry Seymour, a relation of Ledyard. "He was above the middle stature, not tall, nor corpulent; athletic, firm, robust; light hair, aquiline nose, broad shoulders, and full chest." No work of Mr. Sparks was more a labor of love than this. To explore Africa, under the