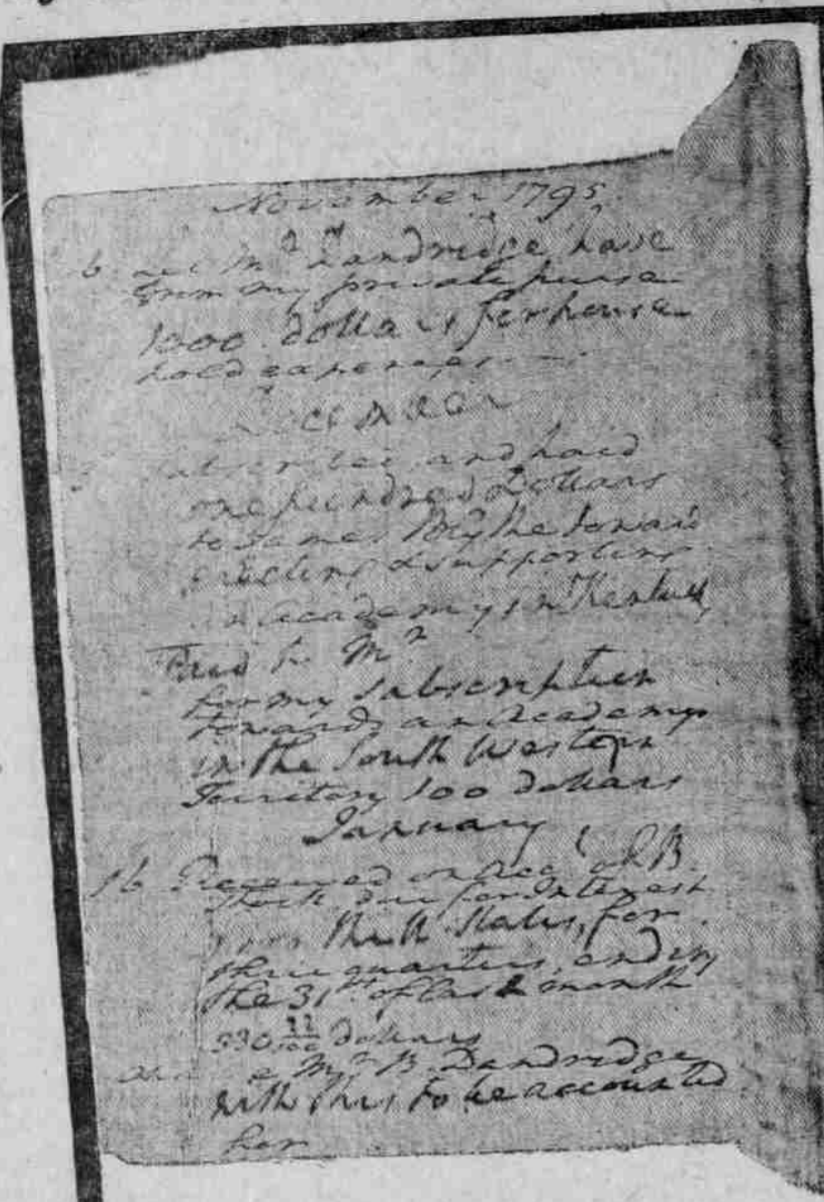


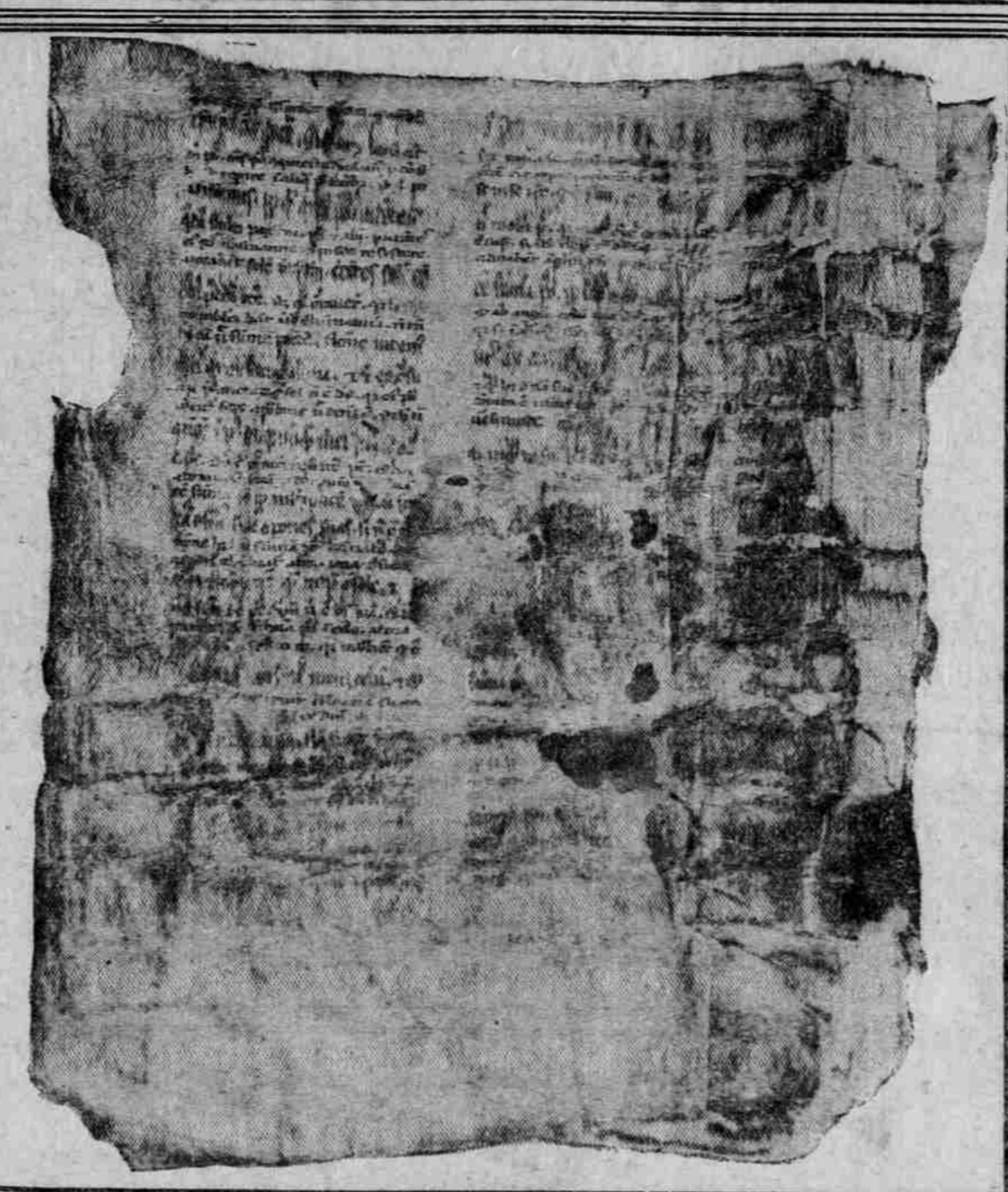
FOUND A GREAT HISTORICAL TREASURE

Columbus' Own Story of How He Discovered South America Bought by the John Carter Brown Library.



A PAGE FROM WASHINGTON'S CASH BOOK

A Most Methodical and Business-Like Man Was the Father of His Country, as Is Proved by a Series of His Note Books at Providence



THE LONG-BOUGHT LIBRETTO.

A Book Containing the Story of Columbus' Discovery of South America. Lately Found in Italy—Collectors Traveled Post Haste From Half Way Round the Globe to Get the Treasure, but John Carter Brown Library Secured It.

Brown University Now Owns the Most Valuable Collection of Original "Americana."



GAZETA DE LIMA

QUE CONTIENE LAS NOTICIAS de esta Capital desde el 1. de Enero hasta 8. de Febrero de 1745.

EXCELENTISSIMO SEÑOR VIREY GOZA DE PERFECCION para el mayor bien y consuelo del Pueblo. El 29. del mes pasado de Diciembre fubo del Puerto de el Callao para Panama el Navio la Batallona de D. Joseph Barrios, en el cargo de arca de D. y en el de el capitano el Alamo, Señor Doctor D. Juan de Calafiora Obispo de Panama.

HOW THEY PRINTED IN PERU.

Immense Treasures of Spanish American Literature of the Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries Have Been Gathered in North American Library—Lima was a Literary Center in the Old Days.

UP to a short time ago this little volume of 16 leaves, known as "The Libretto" and prized as one of the treasures of the San Marco Library, in Venice, was supposed to be unique. It was, in fact, very important as a document, because it contains practically all our knowledge of the third voyage of Christopher Columbus in which the great explorer first discovered the South American continent and followed its coast line for some hundreds of miles. As the only surviving copy, as it was believed, of a work printed at Venice in 1504 from material contained in some letters by Peter Martyr, one of the courtiers in attendance on the Spanish sovereign, it was valued as few books are.

though Mr. Francis W. Halsey, author of "The Delights of Books," has asserted that if it were put on sale it would bring at auction not less than a million dollars, and probably more. Its real value, of course, appears in its celebrity among the learned of all the earth, in the uses to which it can be put by students of American history.

Keen Fight for Possession. The bibliographer had judged wisely. A message was hastily wired back to Florence to accept the proposition that the Libretto become at once the property of the John Carter Brown Library, the authorities of which have the ambitious design of securing either a copy or a facsimile of everything printed in or about North or South America from Columbus' discovery through the year 1800.

Such an undertaking is a large one, as every one knows who has ever dipped into "Americana" and discovered how very busy the present press of early times were. They had no books which circulated into the hundreds of thousands, but of the making of little editions of a few hundred copies each there was almost no end.



A Building Housing the Most Important Collection of "Americana" in Existence, One Valued by a Literary Expert at More than a Million Dollars.

Along with the Columbus letters are original editions of the descriptions written by Amerigo Vesputius. You have often wondered perhaps just whence came the suggestion that the name of this Florentine navigator should be given to the new continents. In the John Carter Brown Library is a modest little work on geography, "The Cosmographia Introductio," printed at St. Die in the Vosges in 1507, in which appears for the first time the plea that henceforth the lands to the westward be known as "America."

George Washington's Notebook. Here, as is proper to a collection situated in Rhode Island, is a large group of works relating to Roger Williams, including his "Key to the Language of America," and many of controversial treatises. Clustering above all, around the great name of George Washington, is an immense mass of original literature of priceless worth. The visitor sees notebooks in which the methodical Father of His Country kept carefully every item of expense, whether it was his for a case of porter or 30 cents expended on a tip.

Beginnings of the Library. The beginnings of the John Carter Brown library date back into our early history. Members of the Brown family for whom the university was named were collectors of books in pre-revolutionary times. The gathering, however, of the present collection was due to John Carter Brown, born in 1797, and generally considered as the greatest connoisseur of Americana. He was immensely assisted in his undertaking by an eccentric, but capable, bibliophile, an American resident for many years in London, who usually described himself as "Henry Stevens, of Vermont, Bibliographer and lover of books. Fellow of (various learned societies), blackballled Athenaeum Club of London, also Patriarch of Skull and Bones of Yale, and member of (various historic societies), B. A. and M. A. of Yale College, as well as citizen of Noviomagus, etc."

permanently as a memorial to his father, and after his death, in 1906, a will to that effect was probated, assigning the two trustees, one of whom was his brother Harold, the duty of disposing of the collection. The younger brother died shortly after, and the trustees finally decided to give the library in trust to Brown University, where G. W. B. Matteson and Robert H. L. Goddard, of Providence, recently the commodious building in which the library is now housed was dedicated and thrown open to the public.

in a little pamphlet published by J. P. Bahington at Bowling Green, Va., there is given the story of the circumstances by which one woman became "a Blue Lodge Mason." This woman, we are told, is the only one of her sex who has gained the secrets of Masonry. In the town, where she was brought up, and the school which she attended occupied the first floor of a two-story frame building. The top floor had been originally designed for a church, but the plan for the church furniture had been installed, but later this plan was abandoned and the Masonic Lodge secured the place for their meetings. Under the amused pulpit, the architect had reserved a hidden compartment, an excellent hiding place when playing hide-and-seek. Later she utilized it during sessions of the lodge and gained many secrets of Masonry. Of her discovery and further adventures we read:

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ONLY WOMAN MASON

Katie Sweet, 17 Years Old, Compels Lodge to Receive Her.

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