Maggie Cameron: The Forgotten Daughter of Simon Cameron

By Laura Kuchmay

General Simon Cameron, one of the most famous men in Pennsylvania’s political history, served as United States Senator, Secretary of War for the Lincoln administration, and Minister to Russia. While much has been written about Cameron’s career, less is known about his personal life. The most well-known of Simon Cameron’s ten children was his son J. Donald Cameron. With the influence and negotiating power of his father, J. Donald was able to secure the post of Secretary of War under Rutherford B. Hayes and a seat in the Senate. One of Simon Cameron’s daughters, Margaretta or “Maggie,” wrote two diaries (now in Millersville University’s Archives & Special Collections) which bear witness to the political activities of her influential father from the shadows of a male-dominated society, which restricted its women to the background.

One diary was written during the summer of 1857 and another in the summer of 1862. The first chronicles Maggie Cameron’s travels throughout Europe. Maggie’s traveling companions included her sister-in-law Mary McCormick Cameron, Dr. and Mrs. McClintock, May Cummings, Mr. Cummings, and series of friends and acquaintances that they encountered during the trip. Maggie and her party traveled through England, Belgium, Holland, Germany, France, Ireland, and Scotland. Most of their time was spent sight-seeing, shopping, and visiting friends living or traveling in Europe.

Diaries and letters from the mid-nineteenth century can present challenges to current readers due to differences in spelling, grammar, and usage conventions. Maggie Cameron’s style is a good example of the word usage and grammar of literate young women and men of the mid-nineteenth century. While sight-seeing, Maggie used her diary to describe everything she saw in great detail. If the group traveled to a castle or visited a museum, Maggie would write about the history of the location and paintings or other museum objects. Maggie’s diary entries enable the reader to see Europe through the eyes and mind of a young woman from Pennsylvania.
While in England, Maggie seemed to be quite fond of the countryside, often observing similarities to America:

Left Liverpool Tuesday morning at half-past 9 o’clock for London. Passing over the London and Northwestern railway and arrived there after passing over 210 miles. We passed through Warrick, Stafford, Rugby, Stanford, Banberry, Harrow on the Hill, Camden, and others, and at half past four was at London. Some of the party wished to go in the second class cars and I, being the youngest of the party, had to submit. The cars are like our omnibuses though with out cushions—but the seats run sideways and five seats in each car—each holding 5 persons though but three can sit comfortable. Every jolt or move of the car is felt, [in every] joint of the passenger. The country is a garden as it were from Liverpool to London and worth while to cross the ocean (though sick the whole way) to see. (May 27, 1857)

Maggie’s personality emerges through her diary entries. Because she was not under the constraints of her father and mother and their agendas, Maggie was able to relax and visit the places she wanted to explore. In addition to in-depth descriptions of cities, palaces, and museums, Maggie’s commentaries display her own well-mannered upbringing and wonderful sense of humor. Maggie has a brilliant way of telling a story:

Arrived at Amsterdam-six o’clock. Staid at the Hotel Daee-lins-had delightful rooms. In the evening a Mr. Montgomery Wilkins called to see Mr. Cummings, he not being with us. Dr. McClintock sent word that Miss Cummings was of the party. The young man made his appearance-with the air and graces of a dancing master. Could stay but a few minutes, but stayed all evening. Spoke of his having so many Americans under his special care and how many princesses he had under his care at different times—and of his wearing the signal ring of the king, quite a man of importance. I think a fit subject for a mad house. (June 8, 1857)

By the end of the summer, Maggie and her traveling companions’ trip around Europe came to an end. In their last few days in England, a good amount of shopping was done and final letters home were sent. In her diary, Maggie announces her desire to go home.

When Gen. Simon Cameron resigned as Secretary of War in January, 1862, President Lincoln appointed him to fill the post of Minister to Russia, which had been left vacant by Cassius M. Clay. It was an important diplomatic mission to manage the relations between the United States and Russia’s Czar Alexander II. Gen. Simon Cameron left on the ship the “Persia” in early May of 1860, along with his wife, Mrs. Cameron, Maggie Cameron, Virginia “Jennie” Cameron, Simon Cameron Jr., and a manservant, Mr. S.C. Burnside; Bayard Taylor, Secretary of the Legation, and family; and M. Louis Geoffreay, Secretary of the French Legation. The party sailed to England, then France, and then traveled from Paris to St. Petersburg by rail.

Maggie chronicles the family’s experiences on the way to St. Petersburg and also their first month or so in the Empire. While in London, Maggie, her family, and friends spent many hours sight-seeing. Maggie details the places they visited, particularly the Tower of London:

We started for home but on our way I spied the Tower and we concluded to go there getting out of the carriage we were met by one of the wardens. Their dress is the same worn by them in Henry VIII time rather strange looking now. The honor of the appointment is bestowed on veterans who have distinguished themselves in their country’s service. He bought our tickets for Armory and the regalia, six pence each. There are 12 towers. Bloody Tower, Bell, Beauchamp: Devereux, Flint, Bowyer, Birch, Jewel, Constable, Broad Arrow, Salt, Record Towers. Dark shadows of the past enshroud the glooming fabric but they seem to throw into stronger relief. The justice, and the liberty the intelligence and the refinement which illuminate our day. We first came to the “Proctors gate.” How often have grandeur and lieu royalty passed through to exchange the dreams of honor and of glory, the brilliancy of courts for the realities of the prison. The torture room, the gated black, Tape, there next through the gateway of the Bloody Tower, which admitted us into the wirer ward, glanced around at the towers, those chill and lone lodgings, whose illustrious cassnes, have sighed out a lifetime. This tower is the traditionary scene of the murder of the Royal children of Edward 4 1483, two sons. The Brick Tower. Tradition assigns this as the prison of Lady Jane Gray. The Salt Tower, one of the most ancient buildings in the Fortress. He went into the Armory. This building 150 feet in length, and 34 in breadth. Sheral military trophies and emblems adorn the walls and ceiling the armor of the different reign’s helmet’s tilting lances, spears, in the White Tower, Armor now in Queen Elizabeth times saw the heading block. Heading axe, match look, all kinds of honorable things to destroy with saw the first of armor now by Henry 7th also the one now by Henry 8th. (May 22, 1862)
Maggie describes visits to Madame Tussaud’s to see the wax figures, the Thames Tunnel, British Museum, National Gallery, and Westminster Abbey. When the family traveled to Paris, Maggie found herself on a fast-paced tour of the city, visiting the Tuileries Gardens, Place de la Concorde, the Champs Elysées, and the Zoological Gardens. The family did a good amount of shopping while in Paris. It is believed that the mirrors that now hang in the John Harris/Simon Cameron House in Harrisburg were bought while the family toured Paris. In Germany, the family was joined by Mr. Clay. Maggie writes about the city of St. Petersburg and mentions the differences she notices between the United States and the countries of Eastern Europe. One thing in particular she points out was the weather and culture of the different classes, especially when they arrived in Russia:

*Weather cold like our November weather, a great deal of rain. Simon he arrived. Took a drive around the city; why Peter should have selected this side for his city as strangers placed almost on the verge of the arctic regions and at the very extremity of the Russian dominions also soul a marsh, its (?) to shall on to be made manageable for vessels. Larger sums said to the expended under ground than alone every building constructed upon piles such is the pedestal on which stands the citadel with all its walls, and seen the quays along the river side, the foot pavement and canals through the city, a necessity many of the drawbridges are particularly striking from the cluster of granite columns, neither which is arranged the machinery for raising and lowering the platform of the bridge there are some suspension bridges. Which are very handsome, and have a pleasing effect from the multitude of gilded stars with which the now supporting rods, as hell as the railing of the bridge are covered, the sheet are paved with wood, carriages one and his horses flying and “shivai, shivai” is the constant cry “faster, faster”. The Russians made of advertising is not only novel, but amusing. Among the lower class the reading public is somewhat limited and mislead of placards they adverse by pictorial illustrations of their craft or occupation, and from seemed and third stones may be sear pictures of flutes, fiddles, tarts sugar plums, sausages, smoked ham, coats, bonnets, shoes, and stockings etc.*

Maggie’s journal ends with the family setting up their home in St. Petersburg. As Minister to Russia, Gen. Simon Cameron helped gain support from the Czar for the Union, influencing Britain and France not to aid the Confederate government during the Civil War. In January, 1863, the Cameron family returned to America, so that Maggie’s father could seek election to the Senate from Pennsylvania. His bid for office was not successful. The family moved into a mansion on Front Street, in Harrisburg, which Maggie’s father changed to reflect fashions he witnessed while traveling in Europe.

On May 12, 1870, Maggie Cameron married Richard J. Haldeman, son of Jacob and Eliza Haldeman. As an 1870 graduate of Yale, Richard attended Heidelberg and Berlin Universities and was an attaché of the U.S. Legation at Paris and later at St. Petersburg and Vienna. He later served as a congressman from the Harrisburg district for two terms, and was editor and publisher of the Harrisburg Daily Patriot. Richard was an interesting choice of husband for Maggie, as his views on slavery were completely opposite of her father’s. Maggie and Richard had three children: Donald C., Eliza, and Richard C. A dutiful wife and mother, Maggie was also very active in Harrisburg society as well as the YWTCU (Young Women's Temperance Christian Union). When Gen. Simon Cameron died on June 26, 1889, of a stroke, he left the mansion on Front Street to Maggie. Maggie and her family lived there until she died on December 17, 1915.

Maggie’s writings offer glimpses into the family life of one of Pennsylvania’s most famous politicians, as well as fascinating impressions of European and Russian cultural heritage. The diaries of Maggie Cameron are an attractive feature of the Millersville University Archives and Special Collections; they bring to light the story of a daughter who lived in the shadow of her famous father.

**Sources:**

Beck, Herbert H. “The Camerons of Donegal” *Papers of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, 56 (4), 1952

Diaries of Maggie Cameron, 1857, 1862

Cameron Family Records, Dauphin County Historical Society

Laura Kuchmay is a history major in her senior year at Millersville. She plans to pursue a double degree in history and library science/archival studies in graduate school. Laura is a student assistant in Archives & Special Collections, where she recently completed transcribing Maggie Cameron’s diaries. An exhibit featuring Maggie Cameron is on display in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room (fourth floor, Ganser library).
Have you ever stopped to contemplate exactly what is buried underneath the ground you are walking on at Millersville? Well, if you are in the area of Ganser Library, Dutcher Hall, or Biemesderfer, chances are that you are standing on top of a series of underground tunnels that snake their way through the older parts of the campus. The thousands of feet of underground walkways that were dug under the campus in the early years of Millersville’s history are still in use today.

Millersville Board of Trustee minutes indicate that a new system of steam heat was installed at the Normal School in the 1890s. Sections of the tunnels in existence today were originally built in order to transport the steam used to heat Old Main and other buildings on campus. Eventually they became a way for students to walk back and forth to their classes to avoid the bad weather. That was not their only function, however; anyone attending Millersville in 1935 would tell you the highlight of their year was the legendary Halloween party the faculty threw for the students. The “Tour of the Devil’s Kingdom” began in Old Main and ran the entire length of the tunnel to a party at the end for the students. The whole of the passage was decorated as a haunted house with the faculty dressed to play the roles of the terrifying scenes they were acting out for the students; one of the most notable being Miss Spencer (faculty member in English, 1923-1959) lying in a coffin at the end of the trail.

Other Halloween parties were held in the tunnels over the next decade or so, but most of the students agreed that the subsequent ones never quite measured up to the one in 1935.
Today the tunnels are rarely used, unknown passages left over from another time. Because most of them ran to and from Old Main, there is only one left that can take a traveler from one building to another; it runs from Dilworth to where Old Main used to be but also connects to Biemesderfer, the old library. The tunnels themselves are simply underground hallways. The ones that the students used to go from class to class are just concrete walls with series of pipes and tubes running their entire length. They are not small cramped passages, rather they are about 7 ft. high and 5 ft. wide; more than enough room for two people to walk comfortably side by side. There are no skeletons, ghosts, or spirits of lost students wandering the tunnels, rather one finds layers of cobwebs with fossilized spiders still suspended in them. The floors are coated with dust and debris from the constant drilling of holes in the walls so that new pipelines and wires may be run through them. Even upon entering it is clear that very few now visit these once frequented structures.

Entrances to the tunnels can actually be found all over if one knows where to look. The entrance to the tunnel that runs from Dilworth to Old Main is easily visible upon entering Dilworth. When the old Science Building was renovated (located where Dilworth stands today), rather than closing off the entrance to the tunnel they simply built around it closing it off in a basement and locking the door above it. In the quad between Ganser Library and Dutcher Hall one need only to have the right keys to open the various manhole covers in the sidewalk in order to slip into Millersville's fabled tunnels.

With the destruction of Old Main, the tunnels of Millersville began to fade from the knowledge of the students and faculty. When Old Main was torn down and Ganser Library built, there was simply nowhere for the tunnels to go anymore. The place where they had entered Old Main was cut off with brick walls and the tunnels became a series of long corridors that conclude with dead ends. The tunnels now allow for the traverse of students in a different way; they carry phone lines and wiring for telecommunications. They are the unseen, unknown couriers of information, still connecting students with the campus and with each other.

Sources:
Millersville Board of Trustees Minutes, 1891-1923
Touchstone Yearbook, 1936.

Mr. Kenneth Brent, University Architect, provided essential background information and campus maps for this article.

Kaelyn Considine is a senior at Millersville, majoring in history. She works as a student assistant in Archives and Special Collections.

Stop by the Reading Room on the fourth floor of Ganser library to view an exhibit featuring more information on the tunnels.

It is the “maintenance tunnels” that look like what most would envision. After climbing down a rusty old ladder one finds a rectangular room with circular tunnels running from it. Constructed almost entirely of brick, this section is riddled with pipes and tubes, most of which were to serve Old Main and are no longer in use. These are tunnels with dripping ceilings, cracking walls, and floors that could best be described as “spongy.” Traces of the 1960s and 70s are still there in the form of graffiti and asbestos.

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**Planned Giving Opportunities**

Consider including Millersville University in your estate planning. For more information on planned giving opportunities, including Ganser Library, Friends of the Library, or student scholarships, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.
Classes Make Use of Archives & Special Collections

Fall semester was busy in Archives & Special Collections! From September through December, 2005, we had over 1,030 student visits to our area. The following classes had instruction sessions, most requiring the use of primary source materials for research and writing projects:

EDFN 376 (Whose School Is It, Anyway?): Students in Dr. Cheryl Desmond’s class used archival materials to create the exhibit on display in the first floor reference area of Ganser Library: *Whose School is it Anyway? Students Research Millersville History in Archives & Special Collections.*

EDFN 601 (Research Methods): Students in Dr. Jeffrey Wimer’s graduate class analyzed and discussed the variety of historical primary source materials available for educational research.

ENG 110 (English Composition): Dr. Carla Rineer’s two classes investigated primary source materials as the basis for creative nonfiction essays. Students selected a wide variety of topics from the admission of women and rules governing their behavior at the Normal School to the experiences of Millersville students during the Civil War to the approach used by authors of early texts in the areas of science and hygiene.

HIST 105 (The Craft of History): Students in Dr. Ron Frankum’s two classes researched a specific year in Millersville’s history, using *The Snapper, Touchstone*, college catalogs, and other Millersville archival records for their research papers.

HIST 279 (Public History): Professor Monica Spiese’s students learned about the world of archives through hands-on projects. Each student processed an archival collection and created a summary of their approach. Newly processed records include athletics statistics, Hungarian Studies resources, and recipes from dining services.

Book Sale

Mark your calendars for the 28th Annual Used Book Sale sponsored by Friends of Ganser Library. The book sale will be held in Ganser Library lobby March 20–March 22. The preview sale is Sunday, March 19, from 6-7:30 p.m.

**Book Sale hours**
Monday and Tuesday, March 20-21: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Wednesday, March 22: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The three-day sale offers a great selection of high quality used books. We are always interested in receiving new volumes for the sale, particularly juvenile, art, music, and collectible books. Contact Leo Shelley (872-3610) if you would like to donate books for the sale, or to arrange for books to be picked up.
Spring Banquet

Dr. Hank Fischer, Director of the MU Center of Disaster Research and Education, is the featured speaker at the Spring Friends Banquet. Dr. Fischer will speak about the work of the center in responding to recent global disasters. The banquet will be held on April 11 in the Bolger Conference Center, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please join us for this highly informative evening.

Dr. Hank Fischer

From the President

Dear Friends,

The Friends of Ganser have been busy this academic year with a number of programs and initiatives. Ms. Barbara Johnson, past Vice President, coordinated a very well-attended fall lecture featuring Dr. William Smith, MU philosophy professor discussing his love of movies and recent book *From Plato to Popcorn* on September 13, 2005. Board member Mr. Phil Bishop, and his wife Sue, are to be congratulated in planning and implementing the Friends' sponsored bus trip to the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. on September 24, 2005. Two buses were filled with excited book lovers. The Friends are already planning for next year’s event.

The Friends will be conducting the annual book sale held on March 19-22, 2006. Mark your calendars! The proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase items for the Special Collections area. Mr. Leo E. Shelley, Book Sale Chairperson, is the contact person if you would like to make a contribution of books for the sale. Mrs. Judy Carter, Vice President, is coordinating the spring banquet to be held at 6 p.m. on April 11 in the Bolger Conference Center. The speaker will be Dr. Hank Fischer, MU Director for the Center of Disaster Research and Education, presenting his findings on disasters and their effects. With the 2005 major weather events like the Tsunami in Asia, and Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and all the other hurricanes of 2005, and the major earthquake in Pakistan and Kashmir, his presentation will be very timely.

I invite you to join us at our upcoming events, the Book Sale and Spring Banquet.

My thanks and warm regards to all the members for your participation and support as true Friends of Ganser Library,

Michelle M. White, President

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Becoming a Friend

People become Friends of Ganser Library when they make a donation to Millersville University and request mailings from the Friends. Encourage your friends to become Friends of the Library through their support of Millersville University.

For more information, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.
During Fall semester 2005, students completed an exhibit in Dr. Cheryl Desmond’s course, EDFN 376 Whose School Is It, Anyway? The Struggle for Equity in American Schooling, an upper-level Perspectives course, cross-listed as a Women’s Studies course. Students investigated the historical development of the public school in the United States to determine why and for whom public schools were created. As they studied questions regarding equity in public schooling, they also sought to understand whose voices, both students and teachers, were/are heard. Whose voices were/are missing? And whose voices were/are silenced?

For the exhibit, students researched the history of Millersville University as a “place where many public school teachers were taught” by examining documents in Archives & Special Collections in Ganser Library. Each student selected an artifact that represented an aspect of the lives of faculty and students at Millersville, researched its significance, conducted a gender analysis of the artifact and contextualized it in university and national history. The exhibit begins in 1855 and ends in 1980. It leads the observer through the lives of past students and faculty through the perspective of current students.

The exhibit is on display through the mid-February on the first floor of Ganser Library. Janet Dotterer and student assistants in Archives & Special Collections assisted students with background research and scanning. Prof. Cheryl Lutz (Library) created the exhibit signs.

Each issue of the Folio lists acquisitions made possible through funding from the Friends of Ganser Library. Here are highlights of some of the new materials we have recently purchased or received through donations.

Several new additions highlight fascinating perspectives relating to health, moral issues, and family life in the 19th century in the United States.

Health & Hygiene

Dr. D. H. Jacques’ The Temperaments; or the Varieties of Physical Condition in Man, Considered in Their Relations to Mental Character and the Practical Affairs of Life was republished in 1888 (ten years after the first edition) following the death of the author. This small volume examines the temperament in all its forms of expression. Physiologists and phrenologists of the late 19th century used a variety of approaches to understanding physical and emotional differences between human beings. Included in Jacques’ discussion are temperaments viewed pathologically, anatomically, by color, age, sex, races, and nations. Readers might be interested to learn that George Washington and Jenny Lind are considered fine examples of well-balanced temperament.
Dr. Charles West's *Lectures on the Diseases of Infancy and Childhood* was already in its fourth American edition (from the fifth revised and enlarged English edition) when it was published by Henry C. Lea in Philadelphia in 1868. West drew the material for this volume from a series of lectures; he states:

*In 1848 these Lectures were published as a distinct book; founded on the notes of 600 cases and 180 post-mortem examinations, which I had observed at the dwellings of the poor in the district where I labored... The present edition embodies the results of 1200 records cases and of the nearly 400 post-mortem examinations, collected from between 30,000 and 40,000 children who, during the past twenty-six years, have come under my care, either in public or in private practice.*

West's lectures cover symptoms and treatment for health concerns such as convulsions, epilepsy, paralysis, night terrors, inflammation of the brain, diphtheria, whooping cough, pneumonia, jaundice, and small-pox.

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**Social Movements & Society of Friends**

*Walks of Usefulness among the Sinning and the Sorrowing, or Reminiscences of the Life-Work of Margaret Prior*, a biography of reformer Margaret Prior, was first published by Sarah Ingraham a year after Prior's death in 1843. Prior was actively involved in the New York Female Moral Reform Society, which promoted sexual abstinence and temperance. The Society eventually became the American Female Reform Society, one of the first social movements in the United States organized by women.

The second American edition of John Stuart Mill's *The Subjection of Women*, was published in yellow printed wrappers by D. Appleton and Company in 1870. This classic text outlining the basic rights of women in society was published late in Mill's life (1806-1873). Mill begins with the following observation: "The principle which regulates the existing social relations between the two sexes—the legal subordination of one sex to the other—is wrong in itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human improvement...it ought to be replaced by a principle of perfect equality, admitting no power or privilege on the one side, nor disability on the other."

The *Rules of Discipline of the Yearly Meeting of Friends, for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the Eastern Parts of Maryland: Revised and Adopted by the Said Meeting, Held in Philadelphia, by Adjournments from the 21st of the fourth month, to the 26th of the same, inclusive, 1834*, was printed by Joseph Rakestraw in Philadelphia. It contains decisions of the Yearly Meeting including appeals, arbitrations, discipline, views on slavery, education, taverns, war, and wills.
Massachusetts in 1899. Sargeant discusses all aspects of home life, including music, education, amusements, home hygiene and sanitation, and contentment. In his chapter on Education of Our Girls, Sargeant states that girls’ “education should be as carried and perfect as possible, if for no other reason, to enable her properly to educate and rear her own children...Who cannot tell by the looks of a little boy whether his mother was educated or not? The child of the educated mother will have a finer grained organism; he will be handsomer, will have more regular features than the child of the ignorant parent...” (p. 137).

The Ladies’ Garland was published by John Libby in Philadelphia from 1837-1846. The first 17 issues, bound together, cover the dates April 15, 1837-June 1838. A compilation of poetry, articles, travel accounts, editorials and illustrations, the journal is described as “devoted to literature, amusement, and instruction, containing original essays, female biography, historical narratives, sketches of society, topographical descriptions, morals tales, anecdotes...”

John Fraser’s Youth’s Golden Cycle, or Round the Globe in Sixty Chapters, or How to Get on in the World was published by W.M. Patterson & Co., in Philadelphia in 1886. Fraser includes the following subjects: “Hints on Success in Life; Examples of Successful Men; The Blessings of Loving Mothers; Careful Housewives, Clean Cozy Homes...” Several pages of testimonials (including two by former Pennsylvania governors Hoyt and Hartranft) complete the 439 page book, originally available through subscription only.

Our Home or Influences Emanating from the Hearthstone, by Charles Sargeant, was published by the King-Richardson Co. of Springfield, Massachusetts in 1900.
The collection contains over 300 books, journals and note-books on basketry, cooking, costumes, decorative arts, dyes, folk art, handicrafts, handweaving, lace making, looms, metalwork, needlework, painting, pottery, quilts, rug making, spinning, textile design and woodwork, dating from 1845 to 1953. The Page and Normal Literary Societies bought a majority of this collection in 1953 after the death of Mrs. Davison and it was a part of the general collection until the early 1980s when it was transferred to Special Collections. Some of the pieces are fragile and so we have removed them from the shelf and placed them in folders and boxes to better protect the pieces. Here are a few highlights from this fascinating collection:

Mrs. Davison had a keen interest in Native American artistry and Scandinavian weaving. An example of the some of the native work is Indian basketry: studies in a textile art without machinery by Otis Mason, published in 1905 by W. Heine-man. An example of Scandinavian weaving is Kutokaa itse kankaanne, signed by author Ester Perheentupa, published in 1948 by W. Soderstrom.

Mrs. Davison signed many of her books to show ownership. Most of the materials we have were signed by her after she married and moved to Pennsylvania. The following book is of interest because it is one of the few signed “Marguerite Porter, Berea, Kentucky”: More baskets and how to make them by Mary White, published in 1913 by Doubleday.

At some point, Mrs. Davison bought the book collection of Mrs. Laura M. Allen of Rochester, NY. An example of a work owned by Mrs. Allen is Hand-loom weaving, plain & ornamental, by Luther Hooper, published in 1910 by John Hogg.

To find out more about this wonderful collection, please visit us on the 4th floor of Ganser Library.
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