

Mark Twain Circular

Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America
Published in Association with the *Mark Twain Journal*

James S. Leonard, Editor, *Mark Twain Circular*
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

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The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

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Annual Dinner Meeting

The Mark Twain Circle held its annual dinner meeting on Thursday, December 28, 1989 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Professor Louis J. Budd of Duke University addressed the group on the subject of "Mark Twain Ashore in Washington."

During the business portion of the meeting, Alan Gribben announced the new officers for 1990. Pascal Covici, Jr. will become president of the Circle, and David E. E. Sloane will assume duties as vice-president. James D. Wilson has one year remaining as executive coordinator. Alan Gribben and Susan K. Harris join Everett Emerson as members of the executive committee.

On behalf of the Circle membership, Professor Gribben thanked David Tomlinson for his efforts in arranging the 1989 dinner meeting at the Press Club.

Plans were announced for Circle activities in 1990. The next major event is planned for the annual meeting of the American Literature Association in San Diego, May 31-June 2. The Mark Twain Circle will sponsor three sessions of papers. Members interested in receiving more information about the conference should write Alfred Bendixen, Department of English, California State University,

L.A., Los Angeles, CA 90032. Susan Harris is arranging a session on the topic of "Mark Twain and Money" in conjunction with the MLA meeting in Chicago next December. Plans for the 1990 dinner meeting will be announced next fall in the *Mark Twain Circular*.

James D. Wilson gave a brief report. At present there are 297 members of the Circle. Our goal is to double that number in the coming year. Everett Emerson has agreed to continue efforts to secure for the Circle allied status from the MLA. Continued growth of the Circle is crucial to our efforts. Financially, we broke even in 1990. Increases in the cost of publishing and distributing the *Circular* may necessitate an increase in dues to \$6. Such an increase may be avoided if members pay their dues regularly, and if the group increases in number over the coming year.

James D. Wilson
Executive Coordinator, MTCA

More About No. 44

Louis J. Budd ("Another Stab at the Origin of No. 44 as a Name," *Mark*

Twain Circular 3.7/8 [July/August 1989]: 1-3) makes a good case for a possible Polish source for the "No. 44" name. But the English editor-translator who suggests the numerological Hebrew value of "Adam" as an equivalent is off by one: Adam in Hebrew equals 45 (M=40, D=4, A=1). But if memory serves, in one of the manuscripts M.T. did write "45" as a possibility; I wish I knew more about Mickiewicz and his motives for the curious name. Unless we find some hard evidence, Budd's speculations about Clemens, Leschetizky, and Jean's studies of Polish will forever remain in the realm of speculation: plausible context, but not a proof.

However, this may not really matter. There are two kinds of riddles: one kind carefully contrived to lead to a solution, another kind playfully presented for amusement and bemusement. *Perhaps* "44" is of the latter kind, in the spirit of Rabelais. Of course, this need not prevent us from wondering: why "44," and not some other number? The really important question is: what did Twain intend, artistically, by choosing that name for his "stranger"? It is a problem, in other words, not for source-hunting, but for literary-aesthetic analysis. The numerological-mystical contexts certainly contribute to a general atmosphere of "mystery."

As for a conference in Vienna (more seriously): what needs doing is (1) a study of "M.T. and Europe (including the Mediterranean and the Middle East)"--on the model of Baetzhöld. A panel of scholars could do it. Then (2) "M.T. and the World (including Australia, Asia-India, S. Africa)"--*Following the Equator*. C. Parsons has published some of his spade work. Further topics: (1) The Sciences; (2) Religions.

Sholom J. Kahn
Hebrew University

Circular Exchange

Dissertation in Progress: "Orality and Literacy in *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*"-- This study offers a reading of *Huckleberry Finn* which takes as its point of departure the growing body of work in the fields of orality and literacy. After situating Twain's novel over and against what has been generally described as the "literacy ideology" of its day, I argue that Twain breaks with the prevailing wisdom, of both his day and ours, that literacy is a neutral technology which serves the common good of all humanity. While neither decrying literacy as a positive evil nor positing orality as a state of grace, Twain consistently shows that the function of either mode of discourse is always wholly contingent upon the local circumstances in which it occurs. The conclusion outlines the implications of this reading for current debates over ethical criticism, curriculum reform, and definitions of orality and literacy.

David Barrow
Duke University

Collector's Column

BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF MARK TWAIN'S WORKS: An indispensable resource for collecting the works of any important author is bibliography--necessary for referencing and noting the variations and important points required to collect definitively.

The bible of the Mark Twain bibliographies is the *Bibliography of American Literature*, Volume Two. The following list describes this and other important bibliographies used by collectors and libraries with reference to Twain's works.

1. *Bibliography of American Literature*, Volume 2. Compiled by Jacob

Blanck. New Haven, CT: Yale UP, 1957. Contains books, articles, and speeches, both primary and reprint material.

2. *A Bibliography of the Works of Mark Twain*. Compiled by Merle Johnson (Mark Twain's official bibliographer). New York: Harper & Brothers, 1910. Contains first editions in book form, first printings in periodicals, and occasional publications of his varied literary activity.

3. *A Bibliography of the Works of Mark Twain, Revised and Enlarged Edition*. Compiled by Merle Johnson. Boston: Harper & Brothers, 1935.

4. *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide*. Compiled by Thomas Asa Tenney. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977. Contains listings of books, reviews, and articles concerning Mark Twain in the major bibliographies through 1974. Supplements have continued in *American Literary Realism* and, currently, the *Mark Twain Circular*.

5. *Mark Twain: A Bibliography of the Collections of the Mark Twain Memorial & the Stowe-Day Foundation*. Compiled by William M. McBride. Hartford, CT: McBride/Publisher, 1984. Lists books from the above collections, with the following: photographs of each cover, title page, and points of issue (where they occur). Includes works of criticism and biographies. Also includes letters owned by the Memorial and Foundation.

6. *Union Catalog of Clemens Letters*. Edited by Paul Machlis. A publication of the Mark Twain Project of The Bancroft Library. Berkeley, CA: U of California P, 1986. Contains a record of documents meeting three criteria: (1) written by or on behalf of Mark Twain, his immediate family, or Isabel V. Lyon (Mark Twain's secretary from 1904 to 1909), (2) written during Mark Twain's lifetime (i.e., before April 22, 1910), (3) at

least some fragment of the text having been found by the Mark Twain Project editors.

7. *Mark Twain International: A Bibliography and Interpretation of His Worldwide Popularity*. Edited and compiled by Robert M. Rodney. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1982. Contains listings for more than 5,000 editions of Mark Twain's single and collected works published internationally during more than a century following the appearance of Twain's first foreign edition in 1867.

8. *The Literary Reputation of Mark Twain--From 1910 to 1950*. Compiled by Roger Asselineau. Paris: Librairie Marcel Didier, 1954. Contains books by Mark Twain, biographies, books of criticisms, books about Twain, and periodical literature.

The above are considered the major current bibliographic sources, but there also are many varied smaller and/or specialized bibliographies.

Jules L. Merron
Dr. Louisa Seraydarian

Dates to Circle

May 31-June 2, 1990. The Mark Twain Circle will offer a three-session program for the second national conference of the American Literature Association. Program participants: Pascal Covici, Jr., Bruce Michelson, Laura Skandera, Jeffrey Steinbrink, David E. E. Sloane, Peter G. Beidler, David R. Sewell, James D. Wilson, Alan Gribben, Beverly R. David, M. Thomas Inge, Joel Porte. Bahia Hotel Resort, San Diego, CA. Registration fee: \$25.00. For information, contact Alfred Bendixen, California State Univ., Los Angeles, CA 90032.

NewsBrief

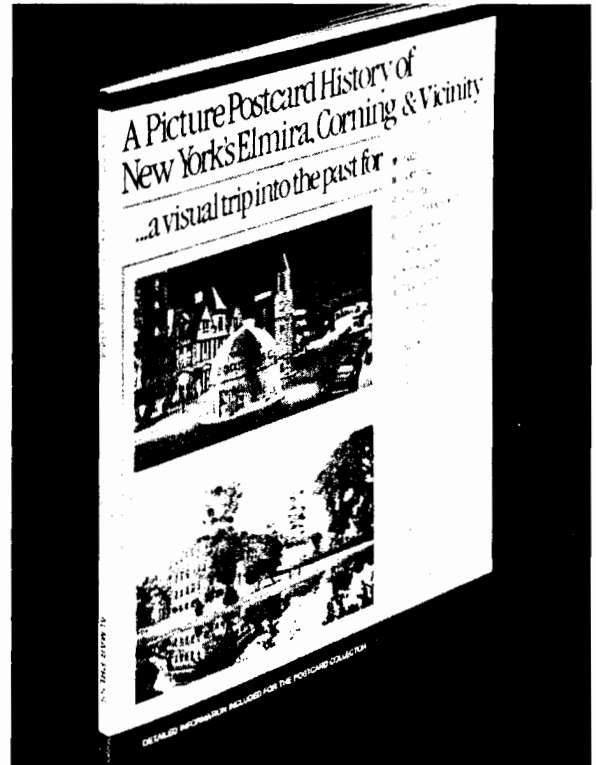
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NEW BOOK PROVIDES A VISUAL TRIP INTO THE PAST FOR ELMIRA, CORNING & VICINITY.

A PICTURE POSTCARD HISTORY OF NEW YORK'S ELMIRA, CORNING & VICINITY

by Alfred N. Weiner

is the title of a new book designed to provide a selected historical view of 13 communities located in Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties. The book has 195 illustrations of postcards dating from early 1900's to Mid-1930's. Each illustration has a caption which describes the scene shown on the postcard. Also included, where available, is historical information providing additional background details pertaining to the scene. The 13 communities include, BATH, CORNING, ELMIRA, HAMMONDSPORT, HAVANA GLEN, HORSEHEADS, KEUKA LAKE, MONTOUR FALLS, ODESSA, PAINTED POST, SAVONA, SENECA LAKE, AND WATKINS GLEN.



This unusual book is a representation of each locality based on the available postcards and considers each postcard as a snapshot or still picture in time. The postcard may represent a building, street, home, scenic wonder, specific event, or any other subject involving human endeavor at the moment when the picture was taken.

The text also includes reference information for the postcard collector (Deltiologist). The publisher and manufacturer of each postcard — when indicated on the postcard — is added to each caption. If, this information is not available on the postcard then this fact is also stated in the caption.

This 8-1/2 X 11 volume has an attractive two-color softcover. The 112 pages of text and black and white illustrations provide an entertaining and informative historical perspective of these communities.

The new book on New York's Elmira, Corning & Vicinity is available from ALMAR PRESS, 4105 Marietta Drive, Binghamton, New York 13903. \$9.95 per copy plus \$2.00 Postage & Handling. (New York State orders must include Sales Tax.)

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ABOUT MARK TWAIN

These bibliographic pages in each issue of the *Mark Twain Circular* continue the lists in my *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977) and supplements in *American Literary Realism* from 1977 to 1983. Cross-references to these will be given by the year-letter-number system used in the *Reference Guide* (e.g., 1862.B1 or 1975.B12), or by year and page to supplements in *American Literary Realism* (five of those are in issues for Autumn; the 1977 is Winter, and the 1982 is Spring).

Abbreviations for works by Mark Twain (MT) and the major bibliographic sources should be self-explanatory: AC (*The American Claimant*); CY (*A Connecticut Yankee*); FE (*Following the Equator*); GA (*The Gilded Age*); "Hadleyburg" ("The Man that Corrupted Hadleyburg"); HF (*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*--purists do not precede it with the article "The," as the first edition did not); IA (*The Innocents Abroad*); JA (*Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc*--again, not "The," since she is not the narrator); LOM (*Life on the Mississippi*); MS (*The Mysterious Stranger*, and also the fragments from which it was cobbled together after MT's death); P&P (*The Prince and the Pauper*); PW (*Pudd'nhead Wilson*); RI (*Roughing It*); TA (*A Tramp Abroad*); TS (*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*; also used as part of other titles, such as *TS Abroad* and *TS, Detective*).

OTHER SOURCES: It is generally well to use a number of bibliographies when possible, because even the best are outdated by the time they appear in print and each misses a significant amount of material which others list.

By far the fullest and most comprehensive is "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," appearing each year in the Spring issue of *Mississippi Quarterly* (MQ),

with nearly a hundred annotated listings. More selective is the survey in the annual volume *American Literary Scholarship* (ALS, Duke University Press), with brief, sound critical estimates. There are fewer Twain items listed in *Abstracts of English Studies* (AES), but annotations are very full and these sometimes appear ahead of others because of quarterly publication.

The two standard annual literary bibliographies are those of the Modern Humanities Research Association (MHRA) and the Modern Language Association (MLA). In the past, about a quarter of the listings in each of these did not appear in the other. The MHRA also lists reviews and a certain number of pieces from out-of-the-way sources such as *Playboy* magazine, but is presently behind schedule in publication. Although the MLA bibliography is moving toward a useful computerized access, the number of Twain listings has been sharply reduced and the method of selection does not necessarily reflect their significance.

The most current listings are in *The Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* and the microfilm *Magazine Index*; the latter is more comprehensive but difficult to use and sometimes inaccurate. Readers with access to large university or public libraries can also consult the *Literary Criticism Register* (Stetson University) and *Current Contents / Arts & Humanities*. Because they strive to be timely, each of these four sources lists items not yet included in the others.

No slight is intended to the following, which have more restricted coverage or which largely (but never entirely) overlap the sources given above: *American Literature*, *Dissertation Abstracts International*, *America: History and Life*, *The Year's Work in English Studies*, *Essay and General Literature Index*, *Humanities Index*, *Western American Literature*,

and *Midamerica*. All of these in the past have included items not listed elsewhere, and several are considered major bibliographic sources. They are available in major college and university libraries, some as periodicals and some as reference volumes.

For additional information on Mark Twain bibliographies, see the "Collector's Column" in this issue of the *Mark Twain Circular*.

Thomas A. Tenney
The Citadel
(Editor, *MT Journal*)

CROSS, WILLIAM. "The Reports of My Death Are Greatly Exaggerated." *United* [flight magazine of United Airlines] 30 (Apr. 1985): 75-80; followed by the text of MT's "The McWilliamses and the Burglar Alarm," 87-97. A popular appreciation of MT and his Hannibal, Missouri, providing no new information and giving no offense.

DICKENSON, JAMES R. "Humbling Ourselves to Huck." *Washington Post* (26 March 1985): A17. Defends *HF* against charges of racism sensitively and thoughtfully, but without breaking new ground in the debate.

STANEK, LOU WILLETT. *A Teacher's Manual for Mark Twain, "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court."* Berkeley: U of California P, 1984.
---. *A Teacher's Manual for "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer."* Ibid.
---. *A Teacher's Manual for "No. 44, The Mysterious Stranger."* Ibid.
The first three in a series by the Education Consultant to The Mark Twain Library, University of California Press, Berkeley, these provide useful background and teaching material, including exercises, lists for vocabulary study, and ques-

tions for class discussion. Intended for use with the inexpensive but authoritative Mark Twain Library editions of MT's works published by the University of California Press, these manuals extend rather than duplicate the deliberately limited annotations in those volumes.

TWAIN, MARK. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: Text and Criticism.* Ed. S. B. Belov. Moscow: Raduga Publishers, 1984. A critical edition somewhat similar to the Norton (ed. Sculley Bradley et al.), this has merits of its own and if available would be useful to American undergraduates. The English-language text of *HF* is like what would be found in an ordinary American edition, and on pp. 231-311 there are 33 excerpts in English from criticism by Brander Matthews, Robert Bridges, Thomas Sergeant Perry, Andrew Lang, Frank R. Stockton, Walter Besant, Barrett Wendell, William Dean Howells, Archibald Henderson, Reuben Post Hallek, Albert Bigelow Paine, John Macy, H. L. Mencken, Waldo Frank, Van Wyck Brooks, Stuart P. Sherman, Vernon Louis Parrington, Stephen Leacock, V. F. Calverton, Bernard DeVoto, Theodore Dreiser, Sterling Brown, James T. Farrell, Ralph Ellison, Dixon Wechter, T. S. Eliot, W. H. Auden, Wright Morris, Philip Foner, Walter Blair, Henry Nash Smith, Maxwell Geismar, and an unsigned reviewer in *Atheneum* (27 Dec. 1884). The remainder of the book is in Russian. G. P. Zlobin's preface surveys MT criticism by the authors listed above and also by Upton Sinclair, Sinclair Lewis, Robert Spiller, Leo Marx, Ernest Hemingway, and Leslie Fiedler, showing little sympathy for any sort of psychological analysis and much sympathy for criticism which supports a view of MT as radical in his treatment of American capitalism (pp. 5-22). Zlobin also wrote explanatory notes on the criticism (pp. 351-63).

The explanatory notes and glossary for *HF* are by A. I. Poltoratsky (pp. 315-50).

WALSH, ELSA. "Watered-Down Texts Bore Educators. Books Are Boring, Critics Say." *Washington Post* (16 Oct. 1984): A1, A10. A general discussion of the gelding of school books in deference to pressure groups, and "dumbing-down" of vocabulary and sentences to meet readability formulas. "For example, when the chapter 'The Glorious Whitewasher' from Mark Twain's 'Tom Sawyer' was adapted in one sixth-grade reader [*Flights of Color*] used in Montgomery County, most references to boys or men were changed to children or people and the slang was replaced by grammatically correct language."

WALSH, KATHLEEN. "Rude Awakenings and Swift Recoveries: The Problem of Reality in Mark Twain's 'The Great Dark' and 'Three Thousand Years Among the Microbes.'" *American Literary Realism* 21.1 (Fall 1988): 19-28. In a search for literary merit in the late manuscripts, "we can begin to see Mark Twain's departure from his earlier modes of humor and realism not simply as evidence of failure, but as his means of coming to terms with certain profoundly disturbing contemporary ideas." Some of the late manuscripts "can be seen as strikingly modern developments in fiction which explore the aesthetic possibilities of a dawning sense of relativism." There are brief comparisons to Swift and Henry Adams.

WARREN, JOYCE W. "Old Ladies and Little Girls: Mark Twain," in *The American Narcissus: Individualism and Women in Nineteenth-Century American Fiction*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 1984. 149-85, 291-97. Strongly feminist in her approach, Warren is unoriginal in discussing MT's obses-

sion with womanly innocence (and quite conventional on Roxy in *PW*, and on Joan of Arc) but helpful in pointing out how Livy and the daughters were smothered by MT's overpowering ego; she concedes his love and tenderness. MT students will criticize Warren for unfamiliarity with the available scholarship, or for using her material selectively; she cites and quotes MT in the 1870s as evidence of life-long attitudes without regard for his growing enlightenment (and that of the nation) over the following decades on such topics as women's suffrage. Budd's *MT: Social Philosopher* (1962.A3), Foner's *MT: Social Critic* (1958.A4), and the Smith anthology *MT on the Damned Human Race* (1962.A16) are not mentioned by Warren, and all of them reveal devastating attacks by MT on inequality between the sexes.

WERGE, THOMAS. "Mark Twain and America's Soul." *Notre Dame Magazine* 13 (Summer 1984): 14-19. A perceptive account for general readers of an alumni magazine, this points to contradictions within MT and the America he revealed. "Twain was possessed by three haunting refrains. The first was the importance of a memory, a sense of the past, of our primal human nature in a culture relentlessly (and often recklessly) bent on the instantaneous conquest of the present and the future. The second was the apocalyptic struggle between America's promise and its reality, its capacity for goodness and for evil, its angelic and demonic potentials. The third was the need for love, forgiveness and communal redemption, without which individuality becomes pride and independence becomes isolation."

THE WORLD OF MARK TWAIN. *Cobblestone* (Cobblestone Publishing, 28 Main St., Peterborough, NH 03458) 5 (May 1984). A special MT issue of a children's magazine, with the following articles

and features: Burket, Mary Lou. "Born on the Tail of a Comet," 6-9. On MT's boyhood. Bledsoe, Helen Wieman. "Light Up the Sky for Mark Twain!" 10. On Halley's Comet. Little, Betty H. "Mark Twain Time Line," 11. Milestones in MT's life, by years. Blohm, Craig E. "The Great River," 12-14. Chiefly on the Mississippi, not MT. Trevathan, Mary Ann. "Storytelling Journalist," 15-17. On MT in Virginia City. Pollock, Brenda. "Steamboating in America," 20-22. Background; little on MT. Twain, Mark. "Perplexing Lessons," 23-25. Excerpted from *LOM*. Anon. "Did You Know?" 26-27. Facts in MT's life. Roop, Peter. "The Trouble Begins at Eight," 28-30. On MT's lectures. Schuman, Michael A. "The House in Hartford," 31-33. Damon, Duane C. "The Humorist and the General," 36-38. On MT and U.S. Grant. Grant, David. "David Grant Talks About Mark Twain," 39-41. The Director of the Mountain School Program, Milton Academy, has made a world tour, lecturing as MT. Here he answers questions on his tour and on MT. Anon. "Ebenezer's Teasers," 42. A quiz on MT. Russell, Gene H. "Mark Twain Just-Across Puzzle," 43. Like a crossword, but without the vertical component. Consulting Editors are Wynn Lee, then-Director of the Mark Twain Memorial, and Herbert A. Wisbey, Jr., then-Director, Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm. This issue is generously illustrated with MT photographs, including Alvin Langdon Coburn's color photograph of MT in his Oxford robe, on the front cover.

ZUCKERT, CATHERINE H. "Law and Nature in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*." *Proteus* 1.2 (1984): 27-35. *HF* "has thematic as much as literary unity. . . . Huck's return

to society is a necessary, even logical conclusion of his attempt to find freedom in nature. This return constitutes as important a part of Twain's realism as his careful presentation of the various dialects, because, as he shows, it is not possible to attain freedom through flight." Unlike a Cooper novel, *HF* has a clear structure and does not misrepresent the state of nature. Huck and Jim depend on civilization for their equipment and some of their food, Huck tries to protect his property from Pap through the law, and in the end it is through law and religion that Jim is freed. Tom and Huck are dangerously mistaken to "equate happiness and freedom with existence outside the law." Lawlessness is ugly, whether in the swindles of the King and the Duke, the murderous feud of the Grangerfords and Shepherdsons, or the cold-blooded shooting of old Boggs by Colonel Sherburn. Having withdrawn from the protection of law, Huck repeatedly appeals to the compassion of others, but such compassion is limited by fear, greed, convention, and the desire for distinction. It is only through law that life or property can be secure, but MT "clearly doubts that people like Huck will ever learn."

Thanks to student assistant Chris Starnes (The Citadel) for his work in helping to prepare this issue of the *Mark Twain Circular*.

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The *Mark Twain Circular* was launched by Thomas A. Tenney, Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*, in January 1987. Dr. Tenney edited the first issue, then passed the *Circular* baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle of America or subscribes to the *Mark Twain Journal*, or both, receives one subscription (six issues per year) to the *Circular*. The Mark Twain Circle of America and the *Mark Twain Journal* are independent organizations, but members of the Circle enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the *Journal* (see subscription forms below).

ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association conference in New York; The membership has since grown to approximately 300. Current officers are: President--Pascal Covici, Jr.; Vice President--David E. E. Sloane; Executive Coordinator--James D. Wilson; Executive Committee--Everett Emerson, Alan Gribben, and Susan K. Harris. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben. Past Executive Coordinator: Everett Emerson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the soon-to-appear 1988 issues rather than 1990. Prices are on the coupon below. Paid individual members of the Mark Twain Circle should note that fact and deduct \$5.00 per year from any subscriptions to the *Journal*. Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

To:
James D. Wilson
Executive Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle
University of Southwestern Louisiana
Lafayette, LA 70504

Please enroll me in the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA. I enclose a check for \$5.00 made out to the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA.

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**A Message from One of the
Circle Founders**

Members of the Mark Twain Circle can readily recognize that membership is a bargain for anyone interested in our author. Yet our present numbers do not match our expectations: we think that there are many people who do not know that we exist but who would very likely be delighted to be part of the Circle. YOU can help. Please consider giving a membership as a present to someone you think would enjoy membership. Just fill out the form below (or a photocopy) and send it with a check for \$5.00, made out to the Mark Twain Circle.
PLEASE!

Everett Emerson

To: Professor James D. Wilson
Mark Twain Circle of America
Department of English
Southwestern Louisiana University
Lafayette, LA 70504

YES, I'll give a membership in order to enlarge our Circle. Please add the following person to Circle membership.

(My Name)

(Name of Recipient of Gift Membership)

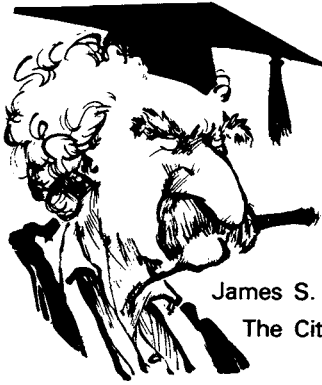
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Volume 4

March-April 1990

Numbers 3-4

To the Circle, from the President

Thank you for your hard work at the polls. Voting early and often, you made the spirit of our name-sake proud. I shall try to deserve the confidence that you have shown, as will the other members of your Executive Committee. David E. E. Sloane is our Vice-President; James D. Wilson continues to serve as Executive Coordinator; Alan Gribben, after an extremely busy and productive term as President, will serve on the Ex Comm and also chair our membership committee, assisted by James Leonard. Everett Emerson, one of our founders, continues to serve, and Susan K. Harris joins the Committee for her first year. All of us express gratitude to Louis J. Budd, not only for his exemplary service but also for his elegant, but by no means swan, performance at our annual dinner at the Washington Press Club.

But we dwell not in the past. Onward and upward. Already, Mr. Emerson has set in motion still one more effort at seeking "allied organization" status for the Circle with the Modern Language Association. We look ahead, also, to meeting with as many of you as possible at this spring's San Diego meeting of The American Literature Association.

Above all, now is the time not only for all members to bring in ever-greater throngs of Twainians (and general Circlers) to add to our numbers, but for those of you willing to assist in various capacities to drop me a note to that effect. *E.g.*, future programs will need not only papers--we'll keep you posted about that--but also volunteers to help decide on which proposals, or prospectuses, might best be combined into coherent sessions. We'll need volunteers to take membership-forms to various meetings, especially to regional ones. The Southern Humanities Conference, the various MLAs--Southwestern, Mid-Western, etc.--the various American Studies gatherings: the Circle ought to be attracting members from all of them. Who will help to do so? Jim Leonard will gladly send forms to whoever requests 'em. For future conferences--MLA, AmLA--we will need committees for the local dinners. In a more directly intellectual and literary vein, the Mark Twain Memorial in Hartford, under the new leadership of John Vincent Boyer, intends to sponsor scholarly conferences and other programs (see the "Call for Papers" in this *Circular* issue). Members of the Circle will have ample opportunity to participate as well as to consult.

Judging by the fine papers at the recent MLA meeting in Washington, and by those lined up for San Diego (May 31-June 2), interest, activity, and quality remain high. The Mark Twain Circle of America can offer not only a means for an exchange of ideas but also a platform from which to launch forth the fruits of research and writing. Our nominating committee--Tom Quirk, Robert Sattelmeyer, and Larry Berkove--is always looking for a few good people for the Executive Committee, but no one should hesitate to come forward with offers to serve in other capacities. We should all remember that deathless advice: "Never refuse to do a kindness unless the act would work great injury upon yourself, and never refuse to take a drink--under any circumstances." It is in this spirit that I gladly take up the duties of President, and in which I ask for your help.

Pascal Covici, Jr.
Southern Methodist Univ.

Sherburn and Boggs Revisited

[The following account is reprinted with permission of the Columbia (Mo.) *Daily Tribune*--where it appeared on October 2, 1989 under the title "Columbian steps into 'Huck Finn.'"]

The murder of Sam Smarr by Bill Owsley in 1845 might not rate very high on a list of historical homicides. It lacks the bone-chilling mystery of Jack the Ripper's spree and the sensationalism that surrounded the Lizzie Borden slayings.

It was, however, witnessed by a Hannibal boy named Sam Clemens, who later wrote of it in his autobiography and used it as the basis for a chapter in his novel "Huckleberry Finn."

That was enough to interest

Columbian Robert Smarr, great-great-grandson of the murdered man. A month ago, while in Hannibal with his wife, Jane, to visit the scene of the shooting, he met Bernard Owsley, great-grandson of the man who shot Sam Smarr.

"We went up to the information booth and asked, 'Any Owsleys still around?'" Smarr recalls. "The lady told us, 'Yes, there's Bernard. He just left for lunch. I'll call him up.' I said, 'Tell him not to bring his gun.'" The men shook hands and talked history on the same spot where their antagonistic ancestors had their fatal meeting 144 years ago.

Smarr, 69, first heard of the murder through his sister, Edith Douglas.

"She found out about it about 20 years ago. She needed something to do, so she started working on the Smarr genealogy and did all this leg-work."

In the course of researching her unfortunate forbear, Douglas discovered the original depositions about the killing. She copied records of the testimony presented before John Clemens, Hannibal justice of the peace and the father of young Sam Clemens.

All the accounts seem to agree that Owsley gunned down Smarr in cold blood. Witnesses said the victim was walking down the street when Bill Owsley approached, drew a pistol and said, "You, Sam Smarr." Smarr whirled and cried, "Don't shoot, Bill!" Owsley shot Smarr twice with a long pistol. The dying man was carried into Grant's Drug Store, where he soon died.

Sam Clemens had already become famous as Mark Twain when he recounted the killing in his autobiography:

"The shooting down of poor old Smarr in the main street at noonday supplied me with some more dreams, and in them, I always saw again the grotesque closing picture--the great family Bible spread open on the profane old man's chest by some

thoughtful idiot, rising and sinking to the labored breathing and adding the torture of its leaden weight to the dying struggle."

The Bible might have been a literary invention, for it is not mentioned in the depositions.

Clemens took more liberties with the incident in "Huckleberry Finn." Substituting the name Boggs for Smarr and Sherburn for Owsley, Clemens had Sherburn face down a lynch mob after the shooting. Not only was there no lynch mob in the Smarr-Owsley case, but Owsley was never convicted despite the eyewitness testimony against him.

"There must have been some kind of coercion somewhere," Robert Smarr says. "Owsley was in several court cases that showed people couldn't get along with him."

The original disagreement is still a matter of some dispute. Smarr, it is said, accused Owsley of stealing \$2,000 from Hannibal merchants. But Bernard Owsley says the shooting concerned a matter of honor. "The family story was that it was over slaves.

"My great-grandfather bought slaves and shipped them up to Iowa and turned them loose," Owsley explains. "There was this one slaver he owed some money to, and this Smarr fellow was going around saying he wasn't paying his debts, so he had to call him out. I believe the man was about to apologize, but he shot him first."

Robert Smarr suspects that alcohol was involved. "People did a lot of drinking back then, maybe more than they do now." As for great-grandfather Sam, "they say he took a drink, but he wasn't a bum. He had a nice farm, good-sized, and he raised the family after his wife died."

Although each man defends his ancestor, both have closed the book on the bitterness of their families' history.

"It was a little before our time," Owsley says with a laugh, and Smarr reflects philosophically:

"They'd've all been dead two or three times by now anyway."

Forrest Rose
Columbia (Mo.) *Daily Tribune*

Circular Exchange

Alan Gribben (Dept. of English, Univ. of Texas, Austin, TX 78712-1164) is studying literary and social contexts of Twain's *Tom Sawyer*, especially its relationship to the American Boy Book phenomenon. He will appreciate ideas and suggestions from the Circle membership.

Members of the Mark Twain Circle are invited to submit, for publication in the *Circular*, brief (about 1-4 sentences) descriptions of work-in-progress. Such descriptions appear as a regular feature under the title "Circular Exchange." Besides keeping *Circular* readers informed about current activities of Circle members, the Exchange serves contributors as a means of soliciting materials relevant to their projects. Send to: James S. Leonard, English Department, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409.

Call for Papers

The Mark Twain Memorial seeks proposals for papers or panels for "Mark Twain: New Perspectives," a symposium to be held November 3, 1990 at the Mark Twain Memorial, Hartford, CT. Research-in-progress and recently published material on any Twain-related topic are especially encouraged. Individual delivery time should be between 20 and 30 minutes. Please submit three copies of abstracts of no more than 500 words and curriculum vitae by June 1, 1990

to Elaine Cheesman, Director of Education, Mark Twain Memorial, 351 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105. Authors will be notified of acceptance by August 1, 1990. For more information, call (203) 247-0998.

Dates to Circle

May 31-June 2, 1990. The Mark Twain Circle will offer a three-session program for the second national conference of the American Literature Association.

Panel One:

Pascal Covici, Jr. (Chair)
Laura Skandera, "The Charmed Circle: Mark Twain, Women, and the Integration of Imagination"
Jeffrey Steinbrink, "The Roughest Part of *Roughing It*"
Bruce Michelson, "*Roughing It* and the Necessity of Madness"

Panel Two:

David E. E. Sloane (Chair)
Peter G. Beidler, "'Fawkes' Identified: A New Source for *Huckleberry Finn*"
David R. Sewell, "Mark Twain's Language of Argumentation"
James D. Wilson, "*Pudd'nhead Wilson*: The Failure of Rationalism"

Panel Three:

Alan Gribben (Chair)
Beverly R. David, "Mark Twain and the Matterhorn: The Illustrations in *A Tramp Abroad*"
M. Thomas Inge, "Dan Beard's Own *Connecticut Yankee: Moonblight*"
Joel Porte, "Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee*: Fragments of an Abortive Romance"
Bahia Hotel Resort, San Diego, CA.
Registration fee: \$25.00. Contact Alfred Bendixen, California State Univ., Los Angeles, CA 90032.

July 30-Aug. 3, 1990. Eighth International Humor Conference (International Society for Humor Studies); with "Conference on Contemporary

Legend." Sheffield, England. Registration fee: \$50.00. Contact Mark Glazer, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Texas at Pan American, Edinburg, TX 78539; ph: (512) 381-3551.

Nov. 3, 1990. "Mark Twain: New Perspectives" symposium at the Mark Twain Memorial, Hartford, CT (see "Call for Papers" above). For information, call (203) 247-0998.

Dec. 1990. Susan K. Harris is arranging a session on the topic of "Mark Twain and Money" in conjunction with the 1990 MLA conference in Chicago. Plans for a dinner meeting will be announced in a later issue of the *Circular*.

Circular Directory

A directory of members of the Mark Twain Circle will appear in the July/August issue of the *Circular*. If you have not notified us of a change of address, or if you were listed incorrectly in the most recent previous directory (March/April 1989), please send the needed changes to James S. Leonard, English Department, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. New members by May 15, 1990 will be included.

This issue of the *Circular* is being mailed, as an example of unavoidable (or at least unsolicited), Circularity, to members of the American Literature section of MLA.

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

ABOUT MARK TWAIN

Abbreviations used in this bibliographical series are listed in the January/February 1990 *Mark Twain Circular*. In addition, a combination of year, letter, and number refers to an entry in my *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977), and ALR refers to one of its supplements appearing in the journal *American Literary Realism*. Readers wishing to keep up to date on Twain scholarship may also wish to consult the list of other recommended bibliographic sources in the January/February *Circular*.

Thomas A. Tenney
The Citadel
(Editor, *MT Journal*)

Current Books

CLEMENS, SAMUEL L. *Mark Twain's Letters*, Vol. 2 (1867-1868). Ed. Harriet Eleanor Smith, Richard Bucci, and Lin Salamo. Berkeley: U of California P, 1990. [See May/June 1988 *Mark Twain Circular* for the first volume.] These 155 letters, many not published before, are fully annotated and indexed, and supplemented by facsimile reproductions of some letters, genealogical charts, the itinerary of the *Quaker City* tour and MT's lecture tour afterward, and contemporary photographs of family and friends. Also reproduced are such documents as the contract for *IA*, a lecture review, and the text of an incomplete play by MT on the *Quaker City* excursion. Twainers will break out the champagne to celebrate this second volume.

GILLMAN, SUSAN. *Dark Twins: Imposition and Identity in Mark Twain's America*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1989. With particular emphasis on *PW*, stories of ambiguity in sexual identity such as "Wapping Alice" and

"Hellfire Hotchkiss," and the dream writings, *Dark Twins* provides new perspectives on MT's interest in creativity, the law, gender, and race; Gillman carefully places MT in the context of his own time. Jennifer L. Rafferty (in *American Literature* 62.1 [March 1990]: 125-27) and Frederick Crews (in *The New York Review of Books* 36.12 [July 20, 1989]: 39-44) both call this "a landmark book," Rafferty praising it and suggesting that, like Van Wyck Brooks decades ago, Gillman has opened "a Pandora's box" for the critics. Crews is unsympathetic: "in the academic theory wars, Susan Gillman has joined the currently ascendant army." Louis J. Budd (in *American Literary Realism* 22.2 [Winter 1990]: 93-94) says *Dark Twins* will easily become part of the ongoing dialogue about MT "because of Susan Gillman's intelligence, analytical drive, and deep, confident acquaintance with Mark Twain resources," and "because it rides on original and wide research."

JANSSEN, DALE H., and JANICE J. BEATY. *Traveling West Mark Twain Style*. [P.O. Box 1601] Columbia, MO [65205]: Janssen Education Enterprise, 1989 [\$13.95 + \$2.00 postage]. An enthusiastic account of MT's travel as retraced by Janssen and Beaty in the summer of 1988. Apart from the travel account there is much padding in quotation from *RI*. Of the book's 232 pages, 24 are blank (one or two blank pages after each chapter), and 50 are uncaptioned photographs of historical markers, Janssen or Beaty standing in front of old stagecoaches in museums, etc.

Recent Articles, etc.

FUNK, PETER. "It Pays to Enrich Your Word Power." *Reader's Digest* 135 (Sept. 1989) 91-91. This month's vocabulary-building is devoted to

words from MT's works: *insipid, sovereign, singularly, inundation, husband (v), rude (as, primitive), trammels, yaw, unfettered, somnambulist, sound (v), remonstrate, farce, pretext, lagniappe, hobnob, finite, bogus, elision, and misnomer.*

GABLER-HOVER, JANET. "A Merely Enabling Mythology: A Review-Essay on Language in Nineteenth-Century American Fiction." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 31.2 (Summer 1989): 318-39. On pp. 322-25, praises David Sewell's *Mark Twain's Languages: Discourse, Dialogue, and Linguistic Variety* judiciously but glowingly, noting Sewell's "pellucid style," "masterful scholarship," "psychological penetration," and "magnificent reading of *Huckleberry Finn*."

LINDSKOOG, JOHN, and KATHRYN LINDSKOOG. *How to Grow a Young Reader: A Parent's Guide to Books for Kids*. Wheaton, IL: Harold Shaw, 1989. On pp. 51-52, praises *HF* as "one of American's greatest works of fiction. The symbolism of the Mississippi River has been overworked by some critics, and Twain's attack upon racism has been mistaken for racism by some poor readers who try to ban the book. Twain would no doubt make fun of both groups." Children prefer *TS*, an excellent but lesser book.

MAHL, GEORGE F. "Everyday Speech Disturbances in *Tom Sawyer*." In *Explorations in Nonverbal and Vocal Behavior*. Hillsboro, NJ: Erlbaum, 1987. 286-311. In his psychological investigation of speech disturbances (such as uncompleted sentences, changes in sentence form, repetition, stuttering, and insertion of "ah" sounds), Mahl examined and scored *TS*, finding that MT accurately used disturbances in the speech of individuals under stress; such use is far more evident in the earlier part of the book, written before MT found his mental well had run dry, pigeonholed his manuscript, and later returned to

it. Speech disturbances in *TS* are far less frequent than in actual human conversation, because MT's intention was artistic effect rather than literal transcription. [Offprint in Elmira College Library, together with other supporting material provided by Professor Mahl.]

MASON, ERNEST D. "Attraction and Repulsion: Huck Finn, 'Nigger' Jim, and Black Americans Revisited." *CLA Journal* (College Language Association) 33.1 (Sept. 1989): 36-48. Mason argues a much less sympathetic view of Huck toward Jim than other critics see, and does not suggest a growth and change in that view. "The full ambivalence of Twain's work cannot be measured unless we understand that Huck's relationship to Jim represents an interesting combination of revulsion and fascination, intimacy and remoteness, attraction and repulsion."

MITCHELL, LEE CLARK. "Verbally *Roughing It*: The West of Words." *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 44.1 (June 1989): 67-92. The heterogeneous text of *RI* (with a playful self-consciousness reminiscent of *Tristram Shandy* and *Moby-Dick*) shows a West of which "significant differences from the East are finally less physical than discursive." For MT, the West is a "state of mind . . . and that conceptual mode is best achieved by disrupting conventional discourse, by breaking links between everyday action and the language evoked to describe it."

NAGAWARA, MAKOTO. "'A True Story' and Its Manuscript: Mark Twain's Image of the American Black." *Poetica* ("An International Journal of Linguistic-Theory Studies," Tokyo) 29/30 (1989): 143-56. MT's 1874 *Atlantic Monthly* sketch about an elderly cook in Elmira, NY is his first use of a black central figure, here telling in her own voice about the separation of her family at the

auction-block, and her joyous reunion with her son Henry after the War. Nagawara describes the 29-page manuscript at the University of Virginia, and MT's revisions to improve phrasing, Aunt Rachel's dialect, and her strength as a dramatic narrator. [Copy deposited at Elmira College.]

SCHARNHORST, GARY. "Mark Twain and the Millerites: Notes on A Connecticut Yankee." *ATQ (The American Transcendental Quarterly)*, n.s. 3.3 (Sept. 1989): 297-304. MT was nine when Hannibal followers of William Miller put on their ascension robes and waited for the end of the world. The movement, with as many as a half-million adherents, was strongest in New England and furnished literary material for Hawthorne, Eggleston, and others. MT mentions the Millerites in a number of his works, and in *CY* seems to use their credulity as a model for crowds responding to Hank's several "miracles," while the concluding Battle of the Sand Belt is "a type of pre-millennialist Armageddon."

From the Backlog

BROWN, ROBERT B. "One Hundred Years of Huck Finn. It was a difficult birth, but it looks as if the child will live forever." *American Heritage* 35 (June/July 1984): 81-85. A brief popular account of the writing, publication, and vicissitudes of reputation of *HF*, with a list of 52 years in the period 1883-1983 in which events of greater or lesser interest occurred (sometimes a banning, sometimes only the publication of a translation into yet another foreign language). Somewhat squeamishly and vaguely describes the mutilation of the picture of Uncle Silas Phelps (someone added a penis on the printing plate), and briefly describes the objections of black readers to the depiction of Jim and

the use of the word "nigger." Illustrations of Huck from Dutch, French, German, Norwegian, and Russian editions are reproduced.

CHAMBERLAIN, BOBBY J. "Frontier Humor in *Huckleberry Finn* and Carvalho's *O Coronel e o Lobisomem*." [*The Colonel and the Werewolf*] *Comparative Literature Studies* 21 (Summer 1984): 201-15. The Brazilian frontier is still vast, and its humor, like that of the 19th-century American frontier, is based on backlands folk tradition. Chamberlain takes the two novels as representative, noting such common qualities as a deadpan narrator, trickery, and non-standard language (including coined words); however, his descriptions of Carvalho's novel suggests that it has less in common with *HF* than with the work of such authors as Johnson Jones Hooper, Thomas Bangs Thorpe, and George Washington Harris.

CLEMENS, SAMUEL L. *Plymouth Rock and the Pilgrims, and Other Salutary Opinions*. Edited with an introduction and commentary by Charles Neider. New York: Harper & Row, 1984. A collection of 82 MT speeches, one and part of another not previously reprinted from their original newspaper sources. "I have arranged the speeches in chronological order and have provided most of the titles. I have edited the text for consistency and, following Bernard DeVoto's practice in *Mark Twain in Eruption* (1940) as well as my own as long ago as *The Autobiography of Mark Twain* (1959), have modernized the punctuation by deleting countless commas, semicolons, dashes and ampersands. It is probably a pity to take liberties with Clemens's punctuation, but the practice in this instance is not without some justification. . . . In most cases it is impossible to discover what part of the punctuation is Clemens's and what part a newspaper reporter's, or a newspaper editor's, or a compositor's, or Paine's."

CLEMENS, SAMUEL L. *The Prince and the Pauper*. Foreword and notes by Victor Fischer and Michael B. Frank. Text established by Victor Fischer. A Publication of the Mark Twain Project of the Bancroft Library. Berkeley: U of California P, 1984. A reader's edition of the standard text, sparingly annotated, and with the illustrations of the first edition. This is the edition that should be in libraries for general circulation; for the general reader it is available as a \$3.95 paperback.

EMERSON, EVERETT. *The Authentic Mark Twain: A Literary Biography of Samuel L. Clemens*. Philadelphia: U of Pennsylvania P, 1984. Most Hannibal boys, most Mississippi River pilots, most western prospectors and miners did not become major authors, but it has been a common error to read MT's works as though he merely had the good fortune to live in a picturesque age. Combining biography with critical discussion of major and minor works by MT, both published and unpublished, Emerson gives a truer picture of the man who never let his public forget he was both Clemens and "Mark Twain," and observed a few months before his death: "To me, the most important feature of my life is its literary feature." Experienced scholars need to be reminded of this, and the beginner could hardly ask for a more sensible, perceptive introduction to MT's life as an author.

FIEDLER, LESLIE A. "Huckleberry Finn: The Book We Love to Hate." *Proteus* 1.2 (1984): 1-8. HF is under fire for supposed racism, but over the years has been condemned as immature, unstructured, coarse, and immoral, a poor model for children. "It was therefore predictable from the start that scarcely a year would pass during the century since its publication that has not seen Twain's book forbidden somewhere in the United States. . . . What is surprising . . . is that even as *Huckleberry Finn* has remained a banned book, it

has also become a required one." Its "persistent popularity . . . has in fact always troubled members of any elite, esthetic, moral, or political, whose members feel they know better than the unredeemed masses what is good for them."

FREEDMAN, SAMUEL N. "The First Edition of *Huckleberry Finn*: An Overview." *Proteus* 1.2 (1984): 36-40. A thin and derivative account, and somewhat inaccurate (as in explaining MT's books were sold by subscription because "bookshops were very limited in scope and were generally part of a stationery store"). This appears to be drawn largely from the familiar sources, but makes no mention of "Tak Sioui" [John Hacac], *Huckleberry Finn: More Molecules* (1962); Franklin J. Meine, "Some Notes on the First Editions of 'Huck Finn'" (1960); or Jacob Blanck, "In Re *Huckleberry Finn*" (1950), which attacks the two Irving S. Underhill articles Freedman did use as bad work which the old *Colophon* ought never to have accepted: "the bibliographical problem of *Huckleberry Finn* was rendered an appalling disservice by their publication."

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A consolidated index, through 1988, to supplements of Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide--from American Literary Realism* (1977-83) and the *Mark Twain Circular* (1987-88)--will be published in a series of installments beginning in the May/June *Circular*. The index has been prepared by Wesley Britton (Univ. of North Texas). A separate compilation for entries appearing in the 1989 and 1990 *Circular* will follow the initial series.

Thanks to student assistant Chris Starnes (The Citadel) for his help in preparing this issue of the *Mark Twain Circular*.

ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The *Mark Twain Circular* was launched by Thomas A. Tenney, Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*, in January 1987. Dr. Tenney edited the first issue, then passed the *Circular* baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle of America or subscribes to the *Mark Twain Journal*, or both, receives one subscription (six issues per year) to the *Circular*. The Mark Twain Circle of America and the *Mark Twain Journal* are independent organizations, but members of the Circle enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the *Journal* (see subscription forms below).

ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; the membership has since grown to approximately 300. Current officers are: President--Pascal Covici, Jr.; Vice President--David E. E. Sloane; Executive Coordinator--James D. Wilson; Executive Committee--Everett Emerson, Alan Gribben, and Susan K. Harris. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben. Past Executive Coordinator: Everett Emerson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the soon-to-appear 1988 issues rather than 1990. Prices are on the coupon below. Paid individual members of the Mark Twain Circle should note that fact and deduct \$5.00 per year from any subscriptions to the *Journal*. Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

<p>To: James D. Wilson Executive Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle University of Southwestern Louisiana Lafayette, LA 70504</p> <p>Please enroll me in the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA. I enclose a check for \$5.00 (\$6.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(printed name)</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(address)</p> <hr/>	<p>To: <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> Box 1834 Charleston, SC 29402</p> <p>Please enter my subscription to the <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> at \$12.00 for 1988, \$15.00 for 1989 or 1990. Individual members of the Mark Twain Circle of America should deduct \$5.00 per year.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(printed name)</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(address)</p> <hr/> <p>LIBRARIES: \$15.00/year, no discount (includes the <i>Circular</i>) FOREIGN: add \$1.00/year for postage</p>
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FULFILLMENT NOTICE: The Fall 1987 (25:2) issue of the *Mark Twain Journal* was mailed out to subscribers in February 1990. The next two issues (26:1,2) are moving along well, with several articles in corrected proof. We are recovering from Hurricane Hugo, which moved directly across Charleston.

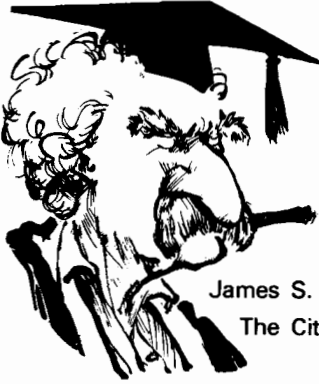
LIBRARIANS: Please note in your computer that the *Mark Twain Circular* every two months provides publication information on the *Mark Twain Journal*. This may help reduce avoidable claims.

Your cooperation is important. Our staff is very small, and we must allocate time between responding to claims and finishing the issues due on your subscription. Avoiding needless claims will help speed the publication of issues you need.

SERIAL LIBRARIANS: The *Mark Twain Circular* is entered selectively in the annual bibliographies of the Modern Language Association and the Modern Humanities Research Association, in the *Literary Criticism Register*, in *American Literary Scholarship*, and in "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," which appears annually in the *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring issues). The *Mark Twain Circular* contains ongoing annotated bibliography which began in Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G. K. Hall, 1977) and continued in seven issues of *American Literary Realism*, from 1977-1983. Please file and bind with your *Mark Twain Journal*.

Mark Twain Circular
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Charleston, SC 29409

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Published in Association with the **Mark Twain Journal**

James S. Leonard, Editor, **Mark Twain Circular**
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Thomas A. Tenney, Editor, **Mark Twain Journal**
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Volume 4

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Numbers 5-6

Dan De Quille Revives the "Traveling Stones" Hoax

One of the most famous hoaxes that Dan De Quille ever pulled off was his pseudo-scientific report of the "traveling stones" of the Pahrnagat mountains of Nevada. This miniature tall tale, in the tradition of "The Petrified Man" (by his friend and colleague Mark Twain), first appeared in the Virginia City (Nevada) *Territorial Enterprise* in 1865 or 1866. It purported to describe some stones, apparently with magnetic properties, which attracted each other so as to huddle together.

This tongue-in-cheek account was enormously successful, perhaps too successful. At the beginning of his career, De Quille was already a master of specious verisimilitude. His tale elicited serious inquiries from scientists in America and Europe who had been taken in by it, and even P. T. Barnum is said to have offered De Quille \$10,000 for some samples.¹ De Quille continued to receive letters about it for years, until he finally published a disclaimer in the *Enterprise* of November 11, 1879 in which he confessed that after fifteen years, "it is becoming a little monotonous. We are now growing old, and we want peace. We desire to throw up the sponge and acknowledge

the corn; therefore we solemnly affirm that we never saw or heard of any such diabolical cobbles as the traveling stones of Pahrnagat-- though we still think there ought to be something of the kind somewhere in the world. If this candid confession shall carry a pang to the heart of any true believer we shall be glad of it, as the true believers have panged it to us, right and left, quite long enough."

Nevertheless, De Quille revived the hoax near the end of his career. Perhaps protected from a guilty conscience by the qualification he cannily left in his disclaimer ("though we still think . . ."), he brought back the "traveling stones" in his Salt Lake City *Daily Tribune* column of March 6, 1892. The new hoax is one of De Quille's most skillful achievements in this genre, and certainly the most audacious. In classic form, De Quille sets up his readers by apparently adding difficulties to his task; he confesses that the original story was a fake and introduces an authority in the form of a professor who supports his renunciation of the false account. Having thus doubly warned his readers, De Quille proceeds to "sell" them the proposition he has just discredited.

He accomplishes this with tech-

niques he perfected long ago to make the incredible seem plausible. He affects candor in his narrative. Yes, he did lie before but now he is telling the truth. He makes copious use of "factual" detail. He boldly cites "corroborative" evidence in the testimonies of named individuals. De Quille had a talent for using facts as well as pseudo-facts to create fiction. Individual elements of his tall tales might be verifiable, but the whole work was nevertheless a "put-on."

In this piece, for example, Joseph E. Eckley and Captain S. T. Curtis were probably real people, and J. M. Woodworth and Professor W. F. Stewart fictitious. Notice, however, that Eckley no longer had any of the stones; they were "stolen." Professor Stewart never examined the stones and so never changed his mind about their fraudulence. And Capt. Curtis is used as a red herring. His only connection with the traveling stones is to authenticate the geodes they are said to resemble. Only one little detail gives away the absurdity of the account. How could a stone distinguish which was the last piece, so that it could jump "a foot or more" before it joined itself to the pile?

This latest--and last--version of the "Traveling Stones" constitutes yet one more piece of evidence confirming De Quille's continued vitality as a humorist and a writer after *The Big Bonanza* (1876).² It also attests to the living tradition of the American tall tale and, indeed, to the endless capacity of human nature for being gulled that both De Quille and Mark Twain exploited so frequently during their careers.

TRAVELING STONES

I once wrote an item about some stones supposed to have been found in Pahrana-gat that, when scattered about on a table, would run together and bunch up like a covey of quail. The stones were said to be rounded by the

action of water, and largely composed of magnetic iron. The item was merely put forth as a "feeler." I thought there might be such rounded pebbles of magnetic iron, as I had seen a lump of such ore pick up several fragments of the same weighing as much as four or five ounces. My object was to set the many prospectors then ranging the country to looking for such things.

My item was extensively copied, and finally it became the "Traveling Stones of Australia," some papers in our antipodes having localized it by using the name of some Australian mining region instead of Pahrana-gat. Meantime I was so bothered with letters from all kinds of people, that I at last came out and said my item was a mere "fake," that I had seen no such stones. Hundreds wanted sample lots of the stones--small nests of them. One man desired to become my partner in the deposit. We were to run a train of pack mules as freight trains to the nearest point on the railroad, and load several cars with the stones. When I had thus assisted in "pressing the button," he would do the rest. He would first supply the demand in all the museums of this country, and would then similarly favor the Old World. I had said that the stones traveled about "with comical celerity, and finally huddled together like eggs in a nest." This caught a man who said we would supply all the saloons in the world. He also wanted the stones by the car-load. Even women and children wrote for the "traveling stones."

THE TRAVELING STONES A REALITY.

Shortly after I denied the existence of the traveling stones, I began to receive assurances that such stones had really been found in central Nevada. Among others who had found and owned such stones were Joseph E. Eckley, present State Printer of Nevada. Mr. Eckley has several times told me of his having owned a lot of such stones while he was a citizen of Austin, Lander

county. He obtained them in Nye county on a hill that was filled and covered with geodes. Most of these geodes contain crystals of various colors. These are not the traveling kind. Those that appear to be endued with life are little nodules of iron. They are found on the hill among the geodes, and it was only by accident that Mr. Eckley discovered their traveling propensities. He had the stones he found for some months, and frequently exhibited them. This finally led to their being stolen, some one breaking open his cabinet and carrying them off. Mr. Eckley is a truthful man. He now resides in Carson City, and doubtless would be able to give further particulars in regard to the stones he discovered.

TRAVELING STONES IN HUMBOLDT.

The other day I received a letter about traveling stones which is self-explanatory:

Hailey, Ida., Feb. 12, 1892

Mr. Wright. Virginia City, Nev.:--DEAR SIR:--Some time in the sixties you wrote an article that was published in the *Enterprise* giving a description of some magnetic pebbles that had been discovered in the Pahranaagat country in Lincoln county. In 1877 you published another article stating that there was no truth in the article and that such a thing as a magnetic pebble had never been found. I was talking with Professor W. F. Stewart about it and he assured me that you were correct and that such specimens as you described would be one of the greatest geological curiosities.

I informed him that I had seen plenty of them, and we made an agreement to go and get some of them, but kept putting it off, and never went. They are in Humboldt county about sixty miles from the Central Pacific Railroad. If they are as rare as you and Professor Stewart seem to think, Nevada should have some of them at the World's Fair. They are from the size of No. 4 shot to quail eggs and

generally there will be one quite large and then several smaller ones in a depression in the rock. It seems to be a volcanic rock, with a large amount of iron in it. If they are taken away and thrown around promiscuously they will loose [sic] their magnetic quality in a few weeks, but if kept in a glass bottle will retain it indefinitely. Take a handful of them, throw them on the table or on a smooth floor and they will all run together in less than thirty seconds, and the last one getting there jumping a foot or more and sticking on the pile wherever it strikes.

They invariably gather around the largest stone. They will remind you of a lot of chickens running to an old hen when there is a hawk around. It will take three days with a team to go from the railroad and return. Yours truly,

J. M. Woodworth

This seems to settle the question of "traveling stones." These appear to be different from the stones found by Mr. Eckley, but act in the same manner. I have seen some of the geodes from the Nye county locality, but they were apparently of a quartzose nature and contained crystals. Captain S. T. Curtis, the well-known mining superintendent, gave me several such which he dug from the hill. As he was in search of such as appeared likely to contain crystals he probably ignored the iron nodules. Captain Curtis informed me that the geodes could be dug out like potatoes, the ground being filled with them in all sizes from those no larger than a pea to such as were as big as a man's head.

[From De Quille's article: "Undesirable Thriftiness," Salt Lake City *Daily Tribune*, Sunday, March 6, 1892.]

Notes

1. The best account of it is to be found in C. Grant Loomis, "The

Tall Tales of Dan Fe Quille," *California Folklore Quarterly*, 5 (January 1946): 31-33.

2. For further evidence, see Lawrence I. Berkove, "The Literary Journalism of Dan De Quille," *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* 28.4 (Winter 1985): 249-61, and Dan De Quille, *Dives and Lazarus*, ed. w/intro. by Lawrence I. Berkove (Ann Arbor: Ardis, 1988).

Lawrence I. Berkove
Univ. of Michigan--Dearborn

On the Premature Deaths of Mark Twain and Bertrand Russell

When Mark Twain encountered a report of his death, he replied that the report was an exaggeration. The same incident happened to the eminent philosopher Bertrand Russell. In his book *An Inquiry into Meaning and Truth*, he told his readers:

The newspapers, at one time, said I was dead, but after carefully examining the evidence I came to the conclusion that the statement was false. When the statement comes first and the evidence afterwards, there is a process called "verification" which involves confrontation of the statement with the evidence.

Louis Phillips
New York, NY

Dates to Circle

May 31-June 2, 1990. The Mark Twain Circle will offer a three-session program for the second national conference of the American Literature Association. Bahia Hotel Resort, San Diego, CA. Registration fee: \$25.00.

Contact Alfred Bendixen, California State Univ., Los Angeles, CA 90032.

July 30-Aug. 3, 1990. Eighth International Humor Conference (International Society for Humor Studies); with "Conference on Contemporary Legend." Sheffield, England. Registration fee: \$50.00. Contact Mark Glazer, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Pan American University, Edinburg, TX 78539; ph: (512) 381-3551.

October 13-14, 1990. "Mark Twain: New Perspectives" symposium at the Mark Twain Memorial, Hartford, CT. For information, call (203) 247-0998. Those interested in attending should note the change of date (previously announced as November 3).

Dec. 1990. Susan K. Harris is arranging a session on the topic of "Mark Twain and Money" in conjunction with the 1990 MLA conference in Chicago; proposed speakers: Susan Gillman ("Money and Race: Mark Twain, Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois"), Andrew Jay Hoffman ("The Unspendable Fortune: Mark Twain's 'The One-Million-Pound Banknote' and *Trading Places*"), Sherwood Cummings ("Mark Twain and Money: The Hannibal Innocent and the Hartford Plutocrat"). Plans for a dinner meeting will be announced in a later issue of the *Circular*.

Thanks to student assistant James Clabby (The Citadel) for his help in preparing this issue of the *Mark Twain Circular*.

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

Index to Mark Twain: A Reference Guide Updates

The purpose of this index is to assist researchers using:

1. The seven annual supplements to Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G. K. Hall, 1977),
2. The addenda on pages 397-408 of the *Reference Guide* (not indexed in that volume),
3. The first two volumes of the *Mark Twain Circular* (Jan. 1987-Dec. 1988).
4. The "About Mark Twain" section of these issues of the *Circular*. ("About Mark Twain" updates the annotated bibliography published in the earlier *Reference Guide* and Supplements.)

Using This Index

Supplements and Addenda

The seven supplements appeared in *American Literary Realism* in fall or spring issues from 1977 to 1983 (see list below) and are still invaluable sources for annotated listings of scholarship important to Twain studies. To further assist the researcher, the annotated Addenda published in the original guide on pages 397-408 are also indexed here for the first time.

The supplements were published in the same format as the original guide, using alphabetical and chronological listings of authors. The supplements, however, were not indexed for easy access. Items listed in the *Reference Guide* have code numbers for indexing, so users may quickly find any desired name or topic by scanning the index. To use the supplements, researchers had to scan all 452 pages of Tenney's comprehensive annotations to be sure of a thorough search. This index provides simplified, quick access to the listings and gives cross references to further aid the researcher.

Supplement Listings in this Index. Since no code system was used in the supplements, this index is based on a simple item, supplement year, and page number system. For example, the name "Grant, Ulysses S." is followed by the last two digits of the supplement year in parentheses (77). This number is then followed by a list of all pages on which the topic is mentioned. When a new supplement's listings begin, a semicolon precedes the supplement's year, again in parentheses, and so on.

The user should scan every item on any cited page for specific mentions of his topic because in many cases the subject will appear in more than one listing. In some cases, several pages can include related material, as in pages 162-64 of the 1981 supplement, which lists many items on *The Territorial Enterprise*.

Items listed include all names of people associated with Mark Twain, names of prominent authors and artists who discuss Twain, names of noted Twain scholars, subject listings (motifs, themes and techniques in Twain's work), titles of works, including some lectures by MT, and many place names associated with Twain. All discussions of translations, adaptations, and illustrations of MT's work are indexed, many under the language of original publication. Because of the great variety of annotated topics, the user should look over the index to see what topics appear and see how cross references can help in finding related subjects.

Not every author name is indexed; authors who have some significance to scholarship--names such as Paine, DeVoto, Gribben, Budd, and many others--are indexed. Others are listed when no specific subject could be listed, or when the item appeared in a scholarly journal. If the item appeared in a general interest publication, the subject may be indexed instead of the author.

Tenney's listings include every general study of Twain published that

came to his attention, and many of these he describes as "general," "with no new information" or "for the younger reader." These items were not indexed if the annotation indicates the item presents nothing useful for the scholar.

Note: The user should be aware of the abbreviations used in the supplement, shorthand references to Twain's works such as *AC* for *An American Claimant* or *HF* for *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. These abbreviations are listed before each annual supplement in *American Literary Realism* and in the April 1987 and each subsequent January/February issue of the *Mark Twain Circular*.

Addenda Listings (Ad.). Items listed as (Ad.) followed by a page number refer to items in the Addenda (pages 397-408) in the original *Reference Guide*. These items were compiled after the *Guide* had been indexed, and are indexed here for the first time. All author names and subjects in the Addenda are indexed; again, the user should be aware that many topics appear in more than one item on a listed page.

Mark Twain Circular (CIRC), "About Mark Twain" (AMT)

The *Mark Twain Circular* is the monthly (1987) or bimonthly (since 1987) newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America. It regularly features:

1. News about Mark Twain Circle business and conference and paper announcements. This information has not been included in the following index. Commercial advertisements for Twainiana, included in many issues, are also not indexed here.

2. Short articles on Twain or related authors. These articles usually appear in the first four pages of the *Circular* and are typically quite brief. Because these items are not fully indexed elsewhere, those published in volumes 1 and 2 are indexed here, including the author, subject, and many subtopics discussed. An updated index for each

year hereafter is planned, and will appear annually in the *Circular*.

3. "About Mark Twain" is a regular section of each issue in which Thomas Tenney updates the annotated bibliography of the *Reference Guide* and Supplements. To assist the researcher and simplify the index format, "About Mark Twain" listings, including authors, subjects, and subtopics, are indexed here separately from the *Circular* articles.

"About Mark Twain" Listings (AMT). "About Mark Twain" listings follow any Supplement and Addenda listings. After the last Supplement page number, the letters AMT follow a semicolon. Then the month and last two digits of the year (87 or 88) are listed. (For example, "Hagood, J. Huxley AMT Sept. 87"). If the item appears in more than one issue, a comma will precede each new listing (May 87, Jan. 88, Sept. 88). Because each AMT section is short, typically 2-4 pages, page numbers are not included in this index. The user simply needs to identify the appropriate issue and find the "About Mark Twain" section in that issue. (Each one is clearly labeled at the top of the beginning page). Again, the reader should look over the entire section to insure finding all mentions of the topic.

Circular Listings (CIRC). Articles in the *Mark Twain Circular* are indexed last in a listing to keep them separate from AMT listings, and because there are fewer of them than any other category in this index. An author or topic appearing in the *Circular* is listed as follows:

1. CIRC follows a semicolon, followed by the month and year number of the issue involved, as for the AMT listings.

2. The page number(s) of that item follow after a comma, then a p. or pp. to indicate page numbers (CIRC Oct. 88, pp. 1-3).

Note: To help keep the *Circular* listings distinct from the Supplements and Addenda, the CIRC and AMT keys are not in parentheses. 1988

issues (see list below) are bimonthly: September-October, November-December, etc. Only the first month is listed in the index.

2.5-6 (May-June 1988) [AMT pp. 5-8.]
2.7-8 (July-Aug. 1988) [AMT pp. 5-6.]
2.9-10 (Sept.-Oct. 1988) [AMT pp. 5-8.]
2.11-12 (Nov.-Dec. 1988) [AMT p. 5.]

The following list of Supplements, Addenda, and *Mark Twain Circular* publications should assist in locating the desired issues or page numbers.

Wesley Britton
Univ. of North Texas

American Literary Realism Supplements to *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide*

10.4 (Autumn 1977): 327-412
11.2 (Autumn 1978): 157-218
12.2 (Autumn 1979): 175-276
13.2 (Autumn 1980): 161-224
14.2 (Autumn 1981): 157-194
15.1 (Spring 1982): 1-46
16.2 (Autumn 1983): 163-222

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Adam's Diary (see *Excerpts from Adam's Diary*)

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Addenda (*Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* [G. K. Hall, 1977]. 397-408.)

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (see *Huckleberry Finn*)

***Mark Twain Circular*, Vols. 1-2 (including "About Mark Twain" page numbers)**

Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The (see *Tom Sawyer*)

1.1 (Jan. 1987) [No AMT this issue.]
1.2 (Feb. 1987) [P. 5 is a list of useful sources; p. 6 is devoted to criticism of *Huckleberry Finn*.]
1.3 (Mar. 1987) [No AMT this issue.]
1.4 (Apr. 1987) [AMT pp. 3-4; see note to 1.5.]
1.5 (May 1987) [AMT pp. 3-6. The "About Mark Twain" page from 1.4 was repeated in 1.5 due to a printing error. In this index, 1.4 items are listed as such; in some copies of 1.5, these items are repeated.]

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1.8 (Aug. 1987) [AMT pp. 3-4.]
1.9 (Sept. 1987) [AMT pp. 3-4, 7-8.]
1.10 (Oct. 1987) [AMT pp. 3-4.]
1.11 (Nov. 1987) [pp. Louis J. Budd's annotated bibliography on "Mark Twain and the West"; AMT is on pp. 5-6.]
1.12 (Dec. 1987) [AMT pp. 5-6.]
2.1-2 (Jan.-Feb. 1988) [AMT pp. 7-10.]
2.3-4 (Mar.-Apr. 1988) [AMT pp. 5-7.]

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ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The *Mark Twain Circular* was launched by Thomas A. Tenney, Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*, in January 1987. Dr. Tenney edited the first issue, then passed the *Circular* baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle of America or subscribes to the *Mark Twain Journal*, or both, receives one subscription (six issues per year) to the *Circular*. The Mark Twain Circle of America and the *Mark Twain Journal* are independent organizations, but members of the Circle enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the *Journal* (see subscription forms below).

ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; the membership has since grown to approximately 300. Current officers are: President--Pascal Covici, Jr.; Vice President--David E. E. Sloane; Executive Coordinator--James D. Wilson; Executive Committee--Everett Emerson, Alan Gribben, and Susan K. Harris. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben. Past Executive Coordinator: Everett Emerson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the soon-to-appear 1988 issues rather than 1990. Prices are on the coupon below. Paid individual members of the Mark Twain Circle should note that fact and deduct \$5.00 per year from any subscriptions to the *Journal*. Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

To:
James D. Wilson
Executive Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle
University of Southwestern Louisiana
Lafayette, LA 70504

Please enroll me in the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA. I enclose a check for \$5.00 (\$6.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA.

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Charleston, SC 29402

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LIBRARIES: \$15.00/year, no discount
(includes the *Circular*)
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FULFILLMENT NOTICE: The Fall 1987 (25:2) issue of the *Mark Twain Journal* was mailed out to subscribers in February 1990. The next two issues (26:1,2) are moving along well, with several articles in corrected proof. We are recovering from Hurricane Hugo, which moved directly across Charleston.

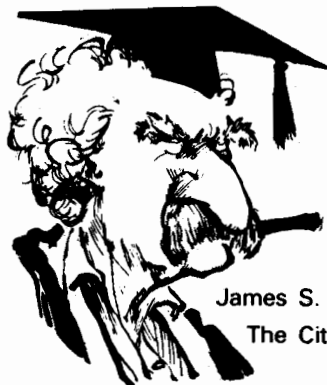
LIBRARIANS: Please note in your computer that the *Mark Twain Circular* every two months provides publication information on the *Mark Twain Journal*. This may help reduce avoidable claims.

Your cooperation is important. Our staff is very small, and we must allocate time between responding to claims and finishing the issues due on your subscription. Avoiding needless claims will help speed the publication of issues you need.

SERIAL LIBRARIANS: The *Mark Twain Circular* is entered selectively in the annual bibliographies of the Modern Language Association and the Modern Humanities Research Association, in the *Literary Criticism Register*, in *American Literary Scholarship*, and in "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," which appears annually in the *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring issues). The *Mark Twain Circular* contains ongoing annotated bibliography which began in Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G. K. Hall, 1977) and continued in seven issues of *American Literary Realism*, from 1977-1983. Please file and bind with your *Mark Twain Journal*.

Mark Twain Circular
J. S. Leonard, Editor
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409

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Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America
Published in Association with the **Mark Twain Journal**

James S. Leonard, Editor, **Mark Twain Circular**
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Thomas A. Tenney, Editor, **Mark Twain Journal**
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Volume 4

July-September 1990

Numbers 7-9

The Circle at San Diego: The American Literature Conference, May 31-June 2, 1990

Meeting where Clara Clemens Samossoud once lived--the Bahia Resort Hotel was then merely a "hotel," with far less panache--members of the Circle disported themselves in an industriously dignified and totally enjoyable manner. The conference itself offered variety and quality, the Circle's own Jim Wilson delivering what was probably the showstopper of the whole conference, "Puddinhead (sic) Wilson: The Failure of Rationalism." (I say "probably" because one cannot speak authoritatively about the papers that one did not hear.) Next year, the Conference leaves the Bahia--many of us hope for a return in 1992--for Washington, D.C., of which more later. This year, the Circle organized three sessions on Mark Twain, featuring (in order of program listing) Laura Skandera, Jeffrey Steinbrink, Bruce Michelson, Peter G. Beidler, David R. Sewell, James D. Wilson, Beverly R. David, M. Thomas Inge, and Joel Porte. David E. E. Sloane and My Humble Self served as Chairs; Alan Gribben, scheduled to chair Saturday afternoon, had to leave for a family emergency that worked out very well, thanks to his

prompt action.

Except for Everett Emerson, recovering from a quadruple heart bypass, your tireless Executive Committee met to discuss a number of issues. Denied allied status with the MLA on a technicality--I have not yet seen the formal letter of refusal--we shall press on at least one more time. Meanwhile, we have decided not to have a formal dinner-meeting in Chicago this year. With deep gratitude to Howard Kerr for his hard and successful work at finding us a place to dine, we will instead plan a breakfast-meeting at our Washington hotel at next spring's American Literature Association Conference. Once we gain allied status with the MLA, we can anticipate MLA dinners and ALA breakfasts.

The *Mark Twain Circular* will become a quarterly beginning with this issue; the annual dues are raised to \$7.00 (\$8.00 for foreign mailing address)--still, in our modest view, a terrific bargain. For this winter's MLA, Laura Skandera is organizing a session on Mark Twain and Women; Susan K. Harris has organized one on Mark Twain and Money, to be billed on the program as offered by the Circle, under the auspices of the American Humor Studies Association. For next spring in Washington, we shall want six Mark

Twain papers on topics presently occupying the minds of the would-be presenters. (Please notice the "call" elsewhere in this issue.) Although we want to offer the maximum opportunity for younger scholars just starting out, we intend to maintain a leavening of seasoned talent, too.

Finally, we began to discuss the matter of recognizing distinguished work in the vast field that is Mark Twain studies. We all agreed that we want to do this. The next step will be for us to work out the precise form of recognition, to say nothing of the process of choosing those to be recognized. Helpful suggestions from members will be most welcome.

Pascal Covici, Jr.
President, MTCA

Call for Papers

For next spring's American Literature Association Conference--at present scheduled for Washington, D.C., over the Memorial Day weekend, at a downtown hotel four blocks from the White House--please send a one-page proposal for a paper (limited to twenty minutes of reading time) on any aspect of Mark Twain's thought and work. Proposals must arrive by October 15th. Please send yours to Pascal Covici, Jr., Department of English, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275.

Circle Directory

The following is a current (as of May 1990) list of members of the Mark Twain Circle of America:

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If your name or address is listed
 incorrectly, please send corrections
 to the *Circular* editor (Jim Leonard).

Twainiana in Iowa

Here is an item that came to my
 attention last week: a papercover
 book in the Lincoln Collection here
 at Iowa, provenance unknown. The
 book is *Anecdotes of Abraham Lincoln
 and Lincoln's Stories*, ed. J. B.
 McClure. Chicago: Rhodes & McClure,
 1879. On the title page, at the top,
 is the inscription in black ink: "S.
 L. Clemens | Mark Twain." There are
 no marginalia within the book. There
 is no question of authenticity in the
 handwriting, believe me.

The book consists of short anec-
 dotes about Lincoln and versions of
 humorous stories associated with Lin-
 coln.

Paul Baender
 Univ. of Iowa

Circular Exchange

GEORGE WASHINGTON HARRIS: Mss.
 requested for a critical anthology
 under consideration by University
 Press of Mississippi. Topics are
 open. Inquiries and submissions
 (*Chicago Manual of Style*) to James
 Caron, English Dept., Univ. of
 Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822 or Thomas
 Inge, Randolph-Macon College,
 Ashland, VA 23005. Deadline--1
 August 1991.

Best of the Bad

The Julia-Moore Poetry Competition is now accepting examples of *good bad* poetry. Like the Bulwer-Lytton Prose Competition, the Julia-Moore Poetry Competition is not looking for "bad" bad writing, but is instead looking for "good" bad writing. Here are some guidelines that will help you distinguish between *good bad* poetry, and *bad bad* poetry. Your submission has to be *poetic* (powerful schemes, tropes, rhetorical devices, and such); it must be *dramatic*; and it must be *short* (250 words maximum). We're especially looking for poetry that dramatically utilizes the master tropes--metaphor, irony, and/or metonymy. For samples, please write to Don Nilsen. First prize is \$100, publication of your entry in *Humor: International Journal of Humor Research*, and a great feeling of achievement. Send to Don L. F. Nilson, Executive Secretary, International Society for Humor Studies, English Department, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-0302.

Dates to Circle

Fall 1990. The Center for Mark Twain Studies will sponsor the following lectures at Quarry Farm during September and October: Sherwood Cummings, "Mark Twain's Moveable Farm and the Evasion in *Huckleberry Finn*" (Sept. 26); Stanley Brodwin, "Mark Twain: The Presbyterian Connection" (Oct. 10); David Sewell, "Mark Twain as Liar" (Oct. 24).

October 13-14, 1990. "Mark Twain: New Perspectives" symposium at the

Mark Twain Memorial, Hartford, CT. For information, call (203) 247-0998. Those interested in attending should note the change of date (previously announced as November 3).

Dec. 1990. Susan K. Harris has arranged a session on the topic of "Mark Twain and Money" for the 1990 MLA conference in Chicago; speakers: Susan Gillman ("Money and Race: Mark Twain, Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois"), Andrew Jay Hoffman ("The Unspendable Fortune: Mark Twain's 'The One-Million-Pound Banknote' and *Trading Places*"), Sherwood Cummings ("Mark Twain and Money: The Hannibal Innocent and the Hartford Plutocrat"). The program will be sponsored by the Mark Twain Circle in conjunction with the American Humor Studies Association.

Laura Skandera is organizing an additional Twain session on "Mark Twain and Women."

A Word of Appreciation

Thanks to William S. Linn for his kind donations to the *Mark Twain Journal* and the *Mark Twain Circular* in memory of "Mark Twain Himself," Bill McLinn.

Wesley Britton's index to updates of Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* will continue in the October-December *Circular*.

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

ABOUT THE CIRCULAR. The *Mark Twain Circular* was launched in January 1987 by Thomas A. Tenney (Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*), who edited the first issue, then passed the *Circular* baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle of America or subscribes to the *Mark Twain Journal*, or both, receives one subscription (four issues per year) to the *Circular*. The Mark Twain Circle and the *Mark Twain Journal* are independent entities, but members of the Circle enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the *Journal* (see subscription forms below).

ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; The membership has since grown to more than 300. Current officers are: President--Pascal Covici, Jr.; Vice President--David E. E. Sloane; Executive Coordinator--James D. Wilson; Executive Committee--Everett Emerson, Alan Gribben, and Susan K. Harris. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben. Past Executive Coordinator: Everett Emerson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the 1988 issues rather than 1990. Prices are on the coupon below. Paid individual members of the Mark Twain Circle should note that fact and deduct \$5.00 per year from any subscriptions to the *Journal*. Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

<p>To: James D. Wilson Executive Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle University of Southwestern Louisiana Lafayette, LA 70504</p>	<p>To: <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> Box 1834 Charleston, SC 29402</p>
<p>Please enroll me in the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA. I enclose a check for \$7.00 (\$8.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA.</p>	<p>Please enter my subscription to the <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> at \$12.00 for 1988, \$15.00 for 1989 or 1990. Individual members of the Mark Twain Circle of America should deduct \$5.00 per year.</p>
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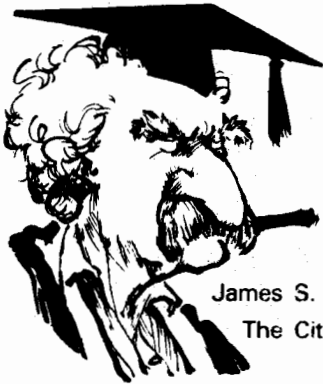
FULFILLMENT NOTICE: The Spring 1988 (26:1) issue of the *Mark Twain Journal* was mailed out to subscribers in July 1990. The next issue (26:2) is moving along well, with material in corrected proof.

LIBRARIANS: Please note in your computer that the *Mark Twain Circular* every three months provides publication information on the delayed *Mark Twain Journal*. This may help reduce avoidable claims. Your cooperation is important. Our staff is very small, and we must allocate time between responding to claims and finishing the issues due on your subscription. Avoiding needless claims will help speed the publication of issues you need.

SERIAL LIBRARIANS: The *Mark Twain Circular* is entered selectively in the annual bibliographies of the Modern Language Association and the Modern Humanities Research Association, in the *Literary Criticism Register*, in *American Literary Scholarship*, and in "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," appearing annually in the *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring issues). The *Mark Twain Circular* contains ongoing annotated bibliography which began in *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G.K. Hall, 1977) and continued in seven issues of *American Literary Realism*, from 1977-1983. Please file and bind with your *Mark Twain Journal*.

Mark Twain Circular
J. S. Leonard, Editor
The Citadel
Charleston, SC 29409

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Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America
Published in Association with the *Mark Twain Journal*

James S. Leonard, Editor, *Mark Twain Circular*
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Thomas A. Tenney, Editor, *Mark Twain Journal*
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Volume 4

October-December 1990

Numbers 10-12

Mark Twain Meets (at) MLA

The 1990 MLA Convention in Chicago, Illinois will feature not-one-but two Mark Twain sessions, one of which will include a meeting of the Mark Twain Circle. The Circle, in conjunction with the *Mark Twain Journal*, will also provide a hospitality suite where Twainians can gather informally.

Susan K. Harris has arranged and will preside over a session on the topic of "Mark Twain and Money." Speakers will be Susan K. Gillman ("Money and Race: Mark Twain, Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois"), Andrew Jay Hoffman ("The Unspendable Fortune: Mark Twain's 'The One-Million-Pound Banknote' and *Trading Places*"), Sherwood Cummings ("Mark Twain and Money: The Hannibal Innocent and the Hartford Plutocrat"). The session (no. 679) is scheduled for the Buckingham Room, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1:45-3:00 p.m., on Sunday, December 30. A brief but important meeting of the Mark Twain Circle will be held at the beginning of the session, preceding the presentation of papers; members are urged to attend. (Note: Although the MLA Convention Program states that the session was "arranged by the American Humor Studies Association," it was actually initiated by the Mark

Twain Circle. Since a technicality of MLA rules banished the Circle from mention in this year's program, the American Humor Studies Association is filling in as official sponsor.)

Laura E. Skandera has arranged a special session under the title "Mark Twain's Female Coterie: New Perspectives in Twain Biography." Besides serving as moderator, Professor Skandera will present a paper titled "'I Am Woman's Rights': Olivia Langdon Clemens and Her Feminist Circle." Other presenters will be Sherwood Cummings ("The Commanding Presence of Rachael Cord"), John D. Stahl ("Samuel Clemens and 'Mother' Fairbanks"), and Michael J. Kiskis ("'A Man's House Burns Down': Father-Daughter Collaboration in Mark Twain's Autobiography"). The session (no. 156) will take place in the Water Tower Room, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 12:00 noon-1:15 p.m., on Friday, December 28.

The hospitality suite, located at the Executive House (71 E. Wacker Drive), will be available for members of the Circle--and for those who are not (yet) members but are interested in Mark Twain--to gather for informal conversation and light refreshment. Visitors are welcome to bring other refreshments as well. The suite will be open throughout the convention; it will be registered in the names of

Pascal Covici, Jr. and Thomas A. Tenney. Please stop by to meet with others who share your interest in Mark Twain.

James S. Leonard, Editor
Mark Twain Circular

From Quarry Farm

Dr. Darryl Baskin, Director of the Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm, recently announced the appointment of Howard G. Baetzhold as the Center's first John S. Tuckey Memorial Research Fellow and the award of a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition for Distinguished Service to the Field of Mark Twain Studies to Thomas A. Tenney. The appointment and the award were made in recognition of the important contributions both scholars have made to the development of the Center and to scholarship in the field. Twain scholars are well aware of the lasting contributions of Professors Baetzhold and Tenney to our understanding and appreciation of Mark Twain. Both have played leading roles as well in the development of the growing reference collections at the Center for use by research fellows-in-residence at Quarry Farm. Professor Baetzhold most recently served as the guest editor of number two of the Center's series of *Quarry Farm Papers*. Professor Tenney has served since its inception as a member of the Center's National Committee of Academic Advisers.

Dates to Circle

Dec. 27-30, 1990. The Modern Language Association Convention will include two Mark Twain sessions ("Mark Twain and Money" and "Mark Twain's Female Coterie: New Perspectives in Twain Biography"), and there will be a hospitality suite co-

sponsored by the Mark Twain Circle and the *Mark Twain Journal*. See "Mark Twain Meets (at) MLA" above for details.

May 24-26, 1991. The Mark Twain Circle will offer two sessions (three papers each) at the 1991 American Literature Association meeting in Washington. The selection committee appreciates the enthusiastic response to its call for papers (July-September 1990 *Circular*).

June 26-30, 1991. The Ninth International Humor Conference, at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. Call-for-papers deadline: January 15, 1991. Tentative program available: March 1, 1991. Contact Ann Marie Guilmette, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1.

Index to Mark Twain: A Reference Guide Updates

The following listings continue Wesley Britton's index (begun in the May-June issue) to the supplements, through 1988, of Thomas A. Tenney's 1977 *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide*. The indexed material includes addenda contained (but not indexed) in the *Reference Guide* itself, annual supplements in *American Literary Realism* (1977-83), supplements in the "About Mark Twain" section of the *Mark Twain Circular* (1987-88), and other material (not necessarily relating to the *Reference Guide*) in the 1987 and 1988 volumes of the *Circular*. See Britton's instructions ("Using This Index") in the May-June 1990 *Circular* for explanation of abbreviations and other details of notation.

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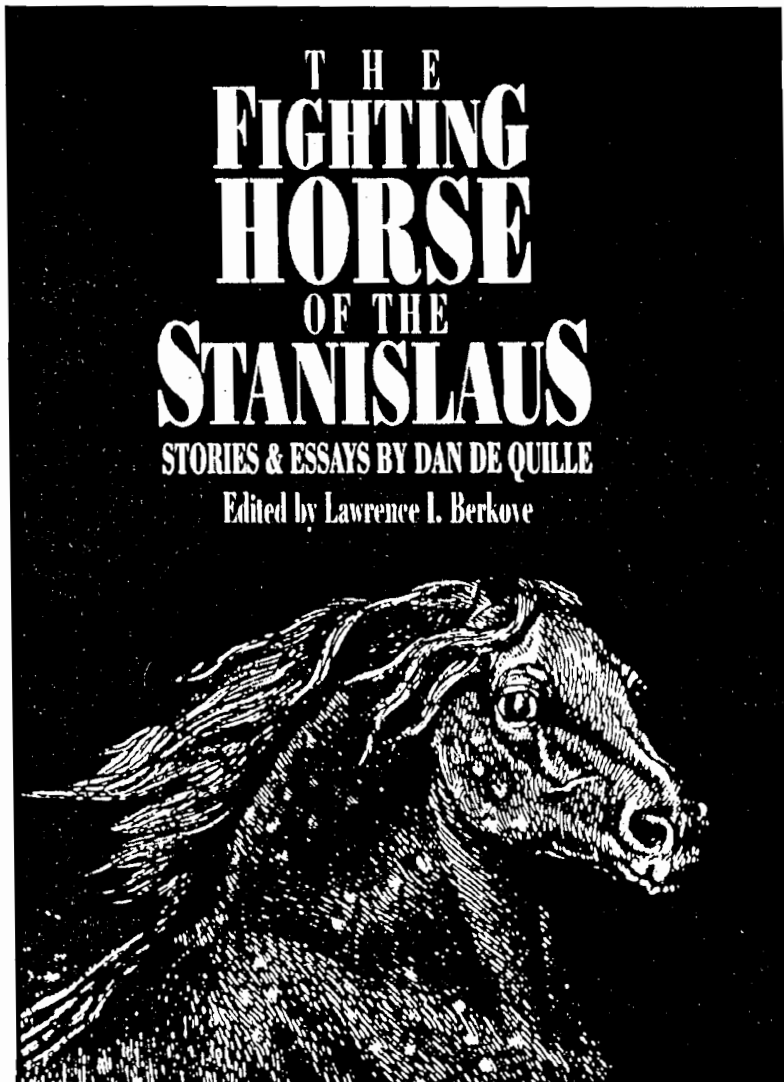
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[Wesley Britton's index to updates of *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* will continue in the January-March 1991 *Circular*.]

Thanks to student assistant Mark Little (The Citadel) for his help in preparing this issue of the *Circular*.

 Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

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ABOUT MARK TWAIN

Abbreviations used in this bibliographical series are listed in the January/February 1990 *Mark Twain Circular*. In addition, a combination of year, letter, and number refers to an entry in my *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977), and *ALR* refers to one of its supplements appearing in the journal *American Literary Realism*. Readers wishing to keep up to date on Twain scholarship may also wish to consult the list of other recommended bibliographic sources in the January/February *Circular*.

Thomas A. Tenney
The Citadel
(Editor, *MT Journal*)

Current Books

GILLMAN, SUSAN, and FORREST G. ROBINSON (eds.). *Mark Twain's Pudd'nhead Wilson: Race, Conflict, and Culture*. Durham: Duke UP, 1990. An outgrowth of the March 1987 conference on *PW* at the University of California, Santa Cruz, this collection generally interprets "the incoherence in Twain's narrative not as aesthetic failure but as political symptom"; "most of the essays in this volume are subtextual studies which seize upon the text's inconsistencies and contradictions as windows on the world of late nineteenth-century American culture," especially on issues of race, class, and gender. Although Schaar's concluding essay argues "that the book is all but unreadable, that sense cannot be made out of it," and the editors concede that *PW* "is a 'mess,'" the cumulative effect is to urge canonical status for *PW* "while emphatically abandoning the notion of the canonical as culturally transcendent. Contents:

Susan Gillman and Forrest G. Robinson, "Introduction"; James M. Cox, "*Pudd'nhead Wilson* Revisited"; Forrest G. Robinson, "The Sense of Disorder in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*"; Eric J. Sundquist, "Mark Twain and Homer Plessy" [of the landmark *Plessy vs. Ferguson* "separate but equal" Supreme Court decision]; Michael Rogin, "Francis Galton and Mark Twain: The Natal Autograph in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*" [Galton's book *Finger Prints* was published the year *MT* began *PW*]; Susan Gillman, "'Sure Identifiers': Race, Science, and the Law in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*"; Myra Jehlen, "The Ties That Bind: Race and Sex in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*"; Carolyn Porter, "Roxana's Plot"; John Carlos Rowe, "Fatal Speculations: Murder, Money, and Manners in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*"; Michael Cowan, "'By Right of White Election': Political Theology and Theological Politics in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*"; Wilson Carey McWilliams, "*Pudd'nhead Wilson* on Democratic Governance"; George E. Marcus, "'What did he reckon would become of the other half if he killed his half?': Doubled, Divided, and Crossed Selves in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*; or, Mark Twain as Cultural Critic in His Own Times and in Ours"; John H. Schaar, "Some of the Ways of Freedom in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*."

MAROTTI, MARIA ORNELLA. *The Duplicating Imagination: Twain and the Twain Papers*. University Park: Pennsylvania State UP, 1990. Treats the often fragmentary and experimental writings of the late years, only recently published by the U of California P, as belonging to what would today be considered the modern or postmodern. The approach is structuralist and semiotic, considering the writings generically in chapters on "Experiment," "Fantasy," "Romance," and "Myth." This marks a fresh and important new direction in critical study of *MT*.

Recent Articles, etc.

BIRD, JOHN. "The Chains of Time: Temporality in *Huckleberry Finn*." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, 32.2 (Summer 1990): 262-76. "By examining three aspects of time in *Huckleberry Finn*--clocks, Huck's temporal narration, and Huck's subjective consciousness of time--I hope to show not only that a concern with time pervades the book, but also that we can read the whole novel as Huck's failed attempt to escape the confinement of time's pervasiveness."

GRIBBEN, ALAN. "*Huckleberry Finn* in a New Generation: An Introduction." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, 32.2 (Summer 1990): 259-61. An introduction to articles on *HF* by John Bird and Keith Opdahl in this issue.

JEHLEN, MYRA. "Gender," in Lentricchia and McLaughlin, 263-73. Arguing that "culture, society, history define gender, not nature" (263, n), uses *HF* as an example (265-73): "this man's book about a boy" takes Huck "into a limbo of gender." When he races back to the raft, telling Jim "They're after us," "they" are literally after Jim, not Huck, who is by race one of "them," but identifies with Jim in his situation as fugitive.

LENTRICCHIA, FRANK, and THOMAS McLAUGHLIN (eds.). *Critical Terms for Literary Study*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1990. Articles by Jehlen, Mailloux, Renza, and Sollors (qqv.) deal in part or largely with MT.

MAILLOUX, STEVEN. "Interpretation," in Lentricchia and McLaughlin, 121-34. On the question of to whom an interpretation must be acceptable, uses the "trash" episode in ch. 15 of *HF* as one example of how "interpretation takes place in a political context, and each interpretive act relates directly to the power relations (whether of nation, family,

gender, class, or race) involved in that context."

OPDAHL, KEITH. "'The Rest Is Just Cheating': When Feelings Go Bad in *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, 32.2 (Summer 1990): 277-93. In the concluding Phelps Farm chapters the story moves outside of Huck, and "he describes not his private sensations but external events." There is no confrontation of good and evil persons on the farm, but "everyone tenses, . . . so that the air crackles with an edgy and aggressive hostility."

RENZA, LOUIS A. "Influence," in Lentricchia and McLaughlin, 186-202. On p. 190, treats the tragic incident in *LOM* in which a "Captain Poe" accidentally killed his wife with an axe as a regionalist reduction of "The Black Cat."

SMITH, HENRY NASH. *How True Are Dreams? The Theme of Fantasy in Mark Twain's Later Work*. Elmira, NY: Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm, 1989. (Quarry Farm Papers, No. 1). With a prefatory tribute to Smith by Alan Gribben. Attributes the writing block of MT's late years to his preoccupation with dreams and "the close connection which prevalent literary theory asserted between dreaming and all aesthetic experience, whether of the artist or of his audience." "My lecture . . . must end with a paradox: Mark Twain's deepest view was that dreams are both true and false. They are our only access to truth, but we can not know what this truth is. We do not know how to read them because we do not know how to read ourselves." [Originally delivered as a lecture at Elmira College in 1989; for ordering information, see Tuckey, 1990.]

---. "Mark Twain, Ritual Clown," in Voloshin, 235-54. In a lecture written in the year of his death and not

delivered, Smith takes an anthropological view of the figure known as the Trickster, or Ritual Clown, whose function was to violate taboos in behalf of the rest of the tribe; his reward was their abuse and gratitude, "even veneration." Smith quotes a number of contemporary newspaper reviews of *IA* (many indirectly, from Robert Hirst's dissertation), many of which simply praise his freshness; but some criticize him for irreverence. "He was a moralist and social critic as well as a buffoon, a prime actor in the upheaval that ended the dominance of nineteenth-century culture in the English-speaking world. He was able to perform this literally heroic feat because the autonomous self which, as he claimed, operated largely without the control of his conscious mind violated literary and intellectual conventions that had become harmful constraints on the language of fiction and therefore on the thought and feeling that could be expressed in it."

SOLLORS, WERNER. "Ethnicity," in Lentricchia and McLaughlin, 288-305. Grouping "ethnic, racial, or national identifications" as based on contrast, uses *CY* (on 290-304) as a useful example "because of its apparent distance from any immediate ethnic sensibilities" while treating such topics as politics, social justice, and slavery.

TUCKEY, JOHN S. *Mark Twain: The Youth Who Lived on in the Sage*. Elmira, NY: Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm, 1990 (Quarry Farm Papers, No. 2). With a prefatory tribute to John Tuckey by Howard Baetzhold. For all the sorrows of his late years, MT in his work was far from morbid despair; often "the apparently serious themes are undercut--or subtly modified--by comic incongruities and submerged

ironies." The three *MS* manuscripts (made to seem darker by the tampering by Paine and Duneka) each portray a transcendent character, at once boyish and "extremely senior in his knowledge and perspectives." [This article was originally delivered as a lecture, in October 1985; the text is followed by questions, and Tuckey's responses, on MT's literary use of childhood, his science fiction, his coping with Livy's death, and his emotional resiliency.] Quarry Farm Papers Numbers 1 (Smith) and 2 (Tuckey) may be ordered at \$5.00 each, postpaid, from the Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm, Elmira College, Elmira, NY 14901.

VOLOSHIN, BEVERLY R. (ed.). *American Literature, Culture, and Ideology: Essays in Memory of Henry Nash Smith*. New York, Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1990. Sixteen essays on various topics, including two on Smith's career, essays by Lorne Fienberg and Susan Gillman previously published, and new essays by Smith (a lecture written in his last year) and Larzer Ziff on MT.

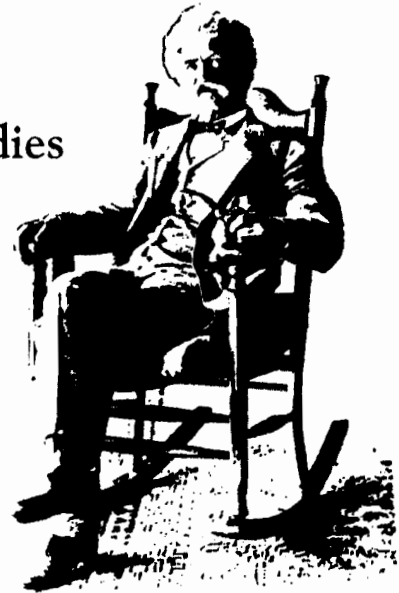
ZIFF, LARZER. "Literature and Politics: 1884," in Voloshin, 219-33. In 1884 *HF* moved toward publication, MT turned Mugwump (the term, from Natick Indian dialect, originally meant *sachem*) to support Cleveland, and Helen Hunt Jackson published *Ramona*. Her protest against treatment of California Indians for years was more popular than *HF*, with which it shared many parallels, both books representing America "as an intolerant and intolerable society." Defying Matthew Arnold's elitism, MT in *HF* "delivered effects previously believed to be accessible only to literary English and . . . the average emerged . . . as the generator of its own culture."



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ABOUT THE CIRCLE. The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; The membership has since grown to more than 300. Current officers are: President--Pascal Covici, Jr.; Vice President--David E. E. Sloane; Executive Coordinator--James D. Wilson; Executive Committee--Everett Emerson, Alan Gribben, and Susan K. Harris. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben. Past Executive Coordinator: Everett Emerson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

ABOUT THE JOURNAL. Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the 1988 issues rather than 1990. Prices are on the coupon below. Paid individual members of the Mark Twain Circle should note that fact and deduct \$5.00 per year from any subscriptions to the *Journal*. Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

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