



JOHN MILLARD

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Monday,
10th, June 1985...

Robert B. Stephenson
Jaffrey Center, NH., 03454.....

Dear Rob,

Many thanks for yours of the 8th May 1985, it was nice to hear from you.

RE: The Huntington Library. I had some correspondence with Carey S. Bliss in 1982 regarding their copy of the 'AA', but it is helpful to have another view of it, particularly when you have seen other copies and are able to compare them.

I also had an exchange of letters with Walter C. Johnson, Associate Director of the Rosenbach Museum and Library, Philadelphia, in 1983. They do not have a copy of the 'AA', nor could they help me with any information regarding the Huntington copy. I specifically asked for any information that they might have on Miss Edith Shackleton, but they have nothing. To date, I haven't been able to place her, or her relationship to Sir Ernest. There are, of course, quite a few Shackletons around. Originally, they were from the Continent, and they settled in Yorkshire, some time later, a number of years, a part of that group moved to Ireland, Sir Ernest's father was from the Irish branch of the family. After some years as a farmer, he became a Homoeopathic Physician, and eventually developed a practice at Sydenham, near London. Sir Ernest was the second of 10 children, two boys and eight girls, none of the girls, to the best of my knowledge, were named Edith. So it's a bit of a puzzle at the moment. As a aside. Frank, Sir Ernest's brother, known as Francis, appears to have been the last born of the group. Dr Hugh Mill in his biography of Sir Ernest, makes no mention of him, while in the Fisher's biography, page 4, they just mention that he was born, along with 3 of his sisters after Dr. Shackleton had set-up practice at Sydenham. It seems that Francis became a bit of a rascal, and was accused and convicted of fraud, spent a number of years in prison, and after his release acquired an assumed name, under which he lived for the rest of his life. The whole story is told in a book entitled, "Vicious Circle", by Francis Banford and Viola Banks, pub'd by M. Parrish, London 1965. Quite an interesting story.

I also learnt a bit more about the David Davis Polar Library from Carey Bliss, and that he(Davis) had a copy of the extra title/cover sheet for "Struggle for the Broom", which he received in 1939, from Griffith Taylor. It was at that point that I realized Griffith Taylor had more than one copy of the title sheet, and that it was different from the one that was used in ^{the} regular collation. As I mentioned in a previous letter Davis's Polar Library is now in the National Archives in Washington. His correspondence file doesn't appear to have survived, which is unfortunate, because it may have contained some interesting information. That is one of the reasons why I tried to track it down. I can only assume that Davis's widow didn't know about the correspondence, or if she did, she may not have

realized it's importance to the collection, or perhaps it was mixed up with his Clothing Store business correspondence, and they probably didn't consider it worthwhile separating them.

The re-print edition of the 'AA'. I have been aware of this for quite some time. David Walton, who along with his wife, Sharon, operates Bluntisham Books, approached me in confidence, about doing a facsimile re-print, and wondered if I would be willing to do an Introduction for it. The original intention was to do a true facsimile, complete with wood covers and leather spine. Unfortunately, this required a lot of expensive hand labour, which would have resulted in a fairly high retail price, much too high for a re-print, and, no doubt, would have limited sales. It's now to be published in a case binding, using acid free paper, a quality cloth binding, with the title and the Two Penguins trade mark on the front cover, with a transparent dust jacket. Also, if David hasn't changed his mind, it will be available in loose signatures for those who might want to do their own facsimile binding, or have one done by a custom binding shop. The hope is to bring it out at £ 16.00, or less retail, and thereby be able to keep it in print for at least 5 years. Some people are inclined to think that a re-print edition will lower the value of the original copies, I don't think that is true. There is a demand for the original, even with the high price being asked. (Which I will get to in a moment.) I think it will help to publicize the book and help create a larger readership for it. There will be those who will see the re-print, but will not be happy until that have a copy of the original. I, also, think, that the re-print will be a big help to the survey, and I have decided that the re-print will now become the Standard Collation, to which all of the original can be compared, because eventually, a fairly large number of them will be available and easy to get at. The copy being used for the re-print is the Sir Raymond Priestley copy in the Library of Christ's College, Cambridge. This copy has an extra illustration title/cover sheet, "A Giant Tick was Investigating the Carcase.", but no illustration follows. So far, it doesn't appear in a small number of other copies that have been examined. Please check your collation for this copy and see if you have it listed. It should be toward the back of the book in Mawson's fantasy "Bathya". I completed the Introduction early in March, and if all goes well, the re-print should be available in September, or early October.

The Survey. To bring you up to date on the survey I have enclosed photo-copies of a descriptive outline that I put together sometime ago, even though it isn't complete, as far as, description is concerned. I just haven't gotten around to going through the vast amount of information that I have. All of the copies that been located are in this outline. I think the ones that will be new to you are as follows: Page 5, Private Collections #9 - 10 - 11 - 12. The other copy in Coll. #10 is now with Bob Finch, which he recently purchased from the owner.

#9 is owned by a U. K. citizen living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, but he keeps his copy in the U.K. He purchased it from Blackwells in 1976. From his description it appears to be the one sold at Sotheby's, 20th May 1969. No information regarding previous ownership is available.

#10. Bob Finch put me on to this one. It's owned by the owner of Gaston's Alpine Books. The Sheaf copy that he sold to Bob, he acquired from Sotheby's sale, 12th, June 1972. His present copy is a presentation copy given originally to Lt. Col George Alexander Maclean Buckley, the New Zealander, who did a great deal to help Shackleton's Expedition. You will find references to him in Heart of the Antarctic, and quite a bit more in the Fisher's biography of Shackleton. He purchased it through a third party from Buckley's granddaughter, about 1973. I did a lot of

research on this one, and I finally as able to get in touch with Buckley's granddaughter through her Step-mother. So now I have both sides of the story.

#11 is owned by a nephew of George Buckley's, who lives in France, but keeps his copy in Britain. Buckley's grand-daughter gave me the lead to this one. It originally belonged to Alfred Hutchison, who was Shackleton's Solicitor for the 1907-09 Expedition. It seems the present owner was a friend of Hutchison daughter, who gave him this copy, plus some other books by and about Shackleton. I first heard from him in July 1984, and he said, he would send me the details of his copy, after he made a visit to the U.K. in September, and chance to have a look at it. I haven't heard from him since, so I need to follow it up, which I plan to do shortly.

#12, has been a very elusive, but interesting chase. Originally the Waltons, put me on to this one, with owners permission, of course. I sent him a letter of inquiry, as soon as, I heard about it, but got no reply, sent a follow-up about 3 months later, but still no response. The Waltons then informed me that he is in the U.K. from June to November, then in the U.S.A. from November to June. He evidently produces films for T.V. and is a very busy person. In May of this year, I had a telephone conversation with a Book Dealer in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and during the conversation he mentioned having met this fellow at the recent New York Book Fair. He lives in Pond Ridge, N.Y., when he is in the U.S.A. I decided as he didn't seemed to want to respond to correspondence, perhaps I could get him by telephone, which I was able to do. It seems at one time he had two copies, but sold the other one sometime ago, he thinks he sent it to Sotheby's for auction, but he wasn't to sure. His present copy is also a presentation copy. It appears to be the copy that Frank Wild gave to a friend of his by the name of Charles W. Cooper. There is an inscription in it signed by Ernest Joyce. When I first got started on this survey, Harry King at the S.P.R.I. sent me a photo-copy of an excerpt from Cooper's memoir, in which he mentions his friendship with Frank Wild, and that he was given a copy of the 'AA'. I am, hopefully, that the present owner will respond with some additional information about his copy.

Finally, there is Private Collection #3, in New South Wales, on page 2. Sometime back you sent me some information from American Book Prices Current regarding a copy sold at auction by Christie's and Edmiston's, in Glasgow, for £ 1890, on the 20th, September 1982. This was a long merry chase, but I think I have it all together now, except for information regarding the previous ownership, prior to the auction. At the auction it was acquired by John Smith & Son Ltd., Glasgow, either for their own account, or as agents for Bruce Marshall of Ayrshire, Scotland. Marshall sold it to Bob Finch, and it was in Bob's Catalogue #16, Fall 1982, at \$ 6500.00. Bob sold it to Jake Zeitlin, of Zeitlin and Ver Brugge, in L.A., and Jake sold it to a customer of his in upstate New York for \$ 10,300.00. From this customer I got the full details on it. Later, I heard from a correspondent in Australia, that a copy sold in Glasgow in 1982 was recently sold in Sydney for \$A 20,000.00. This kind of puzzled me, as I didn't think there were two copies sold in Glasgow. I eventually, got in touch with a book dealer Derek McDonnell, and he confirmed the exchange, it seems that Jake's upstate New York Customer is a friend of Derek's, he acquired it from him and sold it to the present owner, who wishes to remain anonymous. As John Smith & Son Ltd, offered further assistance, I am going to send them this information, and see if by chance they know anything about the previous ownership. I think it's worth the effort, but I won't know unless I ask.

One lead that has given me a lot of difficulty is the copy from the Thomas Winthrop Streeter Sale, by Parke Bernet Galleries, in New York, the 21st, October 1969, Lot #4146, at \$ 500.00. I got an assist from Francis O. Mattson, Curator of Rare Books, New York Public Library, suggesting I write to Sotheby, Parke Bernet, which I did, and after two or three months I received a letter from them, saying that they were unable to contact the purchaser, so they were not able to forward my letter of inquiry.

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Meanwhile, I had also written to a couple of book delers^K, mentioned by Mr. Mattson, as being in attendance at the Streeter Sale. Evidently, this was mentioned in the AB, for 17th-24th November 1969. I eventually heard from Baily Bishop, of Goodspeeds. He said, "They attended the Streeter Sale, but did not pencil in a buyer's name under the price the book brought, indicating that the buyer's name was not announced, and that the final bid came from the desk". So now I am back at square one, with no other leads. I did send an inquiry to the AB, which they ran in April '84, and I received a couple of responses, but neither was very helpful. So if you have any ideas or suggestions, I could sure use them.

MaryP. Goodwin's address is 254 Bronwood Avenue, Los Angeles, California, 90049.

If after you have read all of this, and you have further questions, I would be pleased to answer them.

I am, with thanks,

yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'John', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Millard