



Siena College
Highlights of the Standish Library's
Special Collections



SIENA COLLEGE LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Special Collection at Siena College Library consists of about 2600 volumes, which are stored in wire mesh shelving in the Fleet Special Collections Center and the Reed Reading Room. Eighteenth, nineteenth and rare twentieth century journals are shelved in special cases located in the Siena College Alumni Association Current Periodicals Area. There are nearly 750 volumes in the special journals collection.

The Franciscan Friars, friends of the college and other libraries, donated most of the books in the Library's special collection over the years. Other special collection titles were gleaned from the library's regular book stacks.

Within this collection there are several subject concentrations including theology, British and Irish history, Classical literature and English literature. There are also many editions signed by famous authors.

Some of the volumes in the special collection have been restored by rare book specialists and conservators such as the Harcourt Bindery of Boston and the Bridgeport Bindery and the Northeast Document Conservation Center. However many of these works remain very fragile and must be handled with great care.

Books from this collection are used in academic research at Siena and in the local scholarly community. Titles from the special collection are periodically exhibited in the display cases in Friars' Rotunda, the Special Collections Reading Room and in the Taylor New Books Area.

The collection includes old and rear books, manuscripts, medieval and early modern documents and manuscript leaves, printed leaves from early books and facsimile editions. Some of the highlights from this collection are listed on the following pages.

Cover illustration:

Publishers mark and printer's device form:

Hall, Joseph. *The Works of Joseph Hall, Bishop of Exeter: with a table newly added to the whole work.* London: Printed by John Haviland, 1628.

I. Rare Books

1. Fox, John, 1516-1517. *Acts and monuments of matters most special and memorable happening in the church...* 9th edition. London, printed for the Company of Stationers, 1684. Popularly known as the *Book of Martyrs*. Covers the history of persecutions from early Christian times to the reign of Mary Tudor. The Library's copy is a folio edition in 3 bindings.



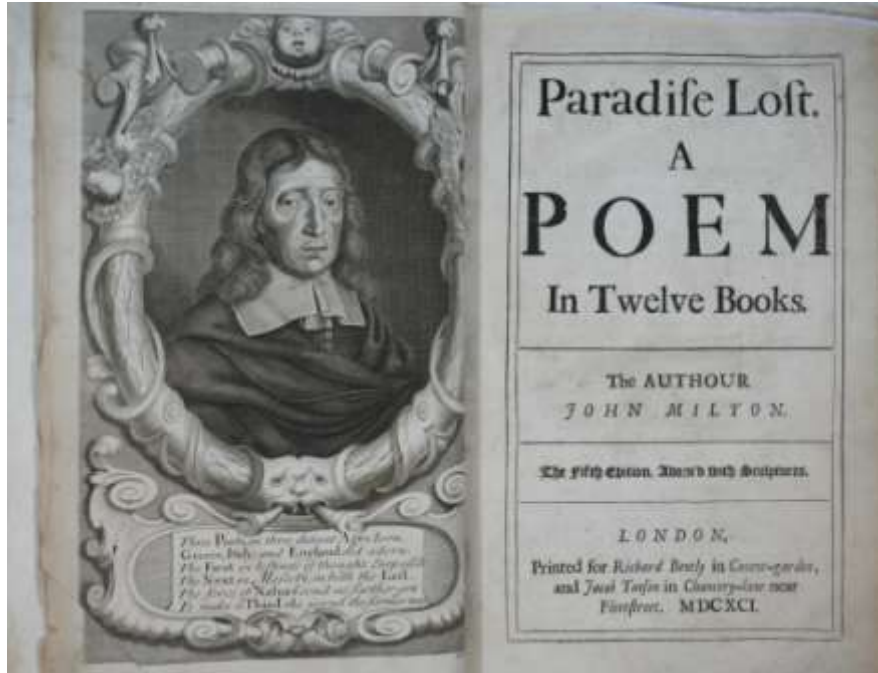
2. Erasmus, Desiderius, d. 1536. *Epistola nuncupatoria ad Carolum Caesarem: Exhortatio ad studium Evangelicae lectionis: Paraphrasis in Euangelio Matthaei*. Basil: Apud Io. Froben., 1522. Erasmus of Rotterdam's *Paraphrases on the Gospel of Matthew* together with a letter to Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V. Includes a scholar's letter and medieval book clasps.

3. Fuller, Thomas, 1608 - 1661. *The historie of the holy-warre*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Printed by R. Daniel for Thomas Buck..., 1640.
An account of the Medieval Crusades. Includes folded map of Palestine.



4. Josephus, Flavius. *Josephus de Antiquitabus ac de bello Judaico*. Venetiis, 1510.
Published in Venice on October 29, 1510 the book includes two of the ancient historian's most notable works, *Antiquities* and the *Jewish War*. The work was translated from the Greek into Latin by the theologian, Tytanius Rufinus of Aauileia, 345-410 A.D.

5. Milton, John. *Paradise Lost, a Poem in Twelve Books*. 5th edition. London: Printer for Richard Bently and J. Tonson, 1691. Rare edition of Milton's famous work.



6. Hall, Joseph, Bishop of Exeter, 1574-1665. *The Works of Joseph Hall, B. of Exeter: with a table newly added to the whole worke*. London: Printed by John Haviland, 1628. A collection of his sermons and theological treatises known for their wit and satire.

7. Raleigh, Sir Walter, 1552 - 1618. History of the world in five books. 11th edition to which is prefixed the life of the author newly compiled... London: Printed for G. Conyers, 1736. Originally published in 1614 the work is one of the 17th century's principle glories. It was written while Raleigh was imprisoned in the tower of London. Covers the history of the world up to 130 B.C.



8. Recueil d'estampes d'après les plus beaux tableaux et d'après les plus beaux desseins qui sont en France, dans le Cabinet du roy dans celui de Monseigneur le duc d'Orleans, & dans d'autres cabinets... Paris, de L'Imprimerie Royale, 1729; 1742. 2 volumes. Popularly known as the Cabinet Crozat, published in 1729 by the French financier and art collector Pierre Crozat. The catalog consists of illustrations taken from the major collections of art in 18th century France. Paintings owned by the King of France and Le Duc d'Orleans are among those included.

9. Rogers, Samuel. Italy, a poem. London: E. Moxon, 1836.
The unique feature of this book is a fore-edge painting depicting an Italian river scene. The covers are hand colored and the work is illustrated with engravings after Turner, Stothard and others.

10. The Gentleman's Magazine. London: Jefferies, 1731-1837.
This periodical, founded in 1731 by Edward Cave, was originally intended as a monthly reprint of topical news and essays. Under the influence of Dr. Samuel Johnson the magazine soon took on a more serious character, publishing parliamentary reports, maps, music and bibliographies. Siena College Library owns most of the volumes published between 1731 and 1837.

11. Johnson, Samuel. A Dictionary of the English language in which the words are deduced from their originals and illustrated in their different significations by examples from the best writers. London: W. Strahan for J. Knapton, 1755. A first edition of Johnson's famous dictionary of the English language rebound in 3 volumes in the style of its time.

12. Muro, Francesco. Francisci Mavri Hispellatis Minoridae Francisciados libri XIII. Florentiae: Carolum Pectinarium, 1571. The story of St. Francis of Assisi and his knights of Poverty, the Franciscans.

13. Calvin, Jean, 1509 – 1564. Calvini Noviodvnensis Opera Omnia; in Novem Tomos digesta. AmstelodamiIoannis: Apud J.J. Schipper, 1667-1671. Collected works of the famous 16th Century French theologian. Includes treatises in theology and biblical commentaries. 9 volume folio set.

14. Newcastle, Margaret Cavendish.
The Life of the Thrice Prince William Cavendishe...
London: B. Maxwell, 1675

15. St. Bonaventure, 1217-1274. Opuscolorum Theologicorum. 1611.
A seventeenth century edition of the theological works of the great Franciscan saint. Rebound in the style of its time.

16. Lewis, Samuel, d.1865. Lewis's Atlas Comprising the Counties of Ireland, and a general map of the kingdom. London: Lewis & Co., 1837.
Includes 3 map plates of the counties and a large folded map of Ireland.

17. Swammerdam, Johann, 1637-1680. *Bibel der natur, worinnen die insekten in gewisse classen vertheilt, sorgfältig beschrieben, zergliedert...* Leizig: in J.F. Gleditschens Buchhandlung, 1752. *The Book of Nature, or the History of Insects* by the Dutch Biologist, Johann Swammerdam, an early founder of modern entomology.

18. Voltaire, Francois Marie Arouet de, 1694-1778.
Oeuvres Complete de Voltaire. Kehl: Impr. de la societe
litterature typographique, 1785-1789.
92 volume edition of the works of Voltaire.
19. Scarlatini, Ottavio, 1623-1699. Homo et ejus partes figuratus & symbolicus anatomicus,
rationalis, mysticus, politicus & legalis...Augustae Vindelicorum : Sumptibus Joannis Caspari
Bencard, 1695.An early work on human anatomy, human symbolism and ethics.
20. Minsheu, John. Hegemon Eis Tas Glossas. Id est Ductor in Linguas. [Guide to the Tongues].
1617. An early polyglot dictionary of 11 languages including English/Welch, Gallic, Spanish,
Portugese, Italian, French, Low Dutch, High Dutch, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew.

II. Manuscripts

1. Breviarium Franciscanum ad usum Provinciae Tusciae,
scriptum certo ante 1450: deest festum S. Bernardini
Senensis, canonisati a 1450.
Manuscript breviary produced in Italy about the year 1425.
The provenance of this item indicates that this prayer book
belonged to Franciscan communities in Tuscany during the
lifetime of Saint Bernardine of Siena.
2. Illuminated patent of Nobility. Manuscript on Vellum.
Valladolid, 13 August 1605-1607.
Illuminated patent of nobility, issued to Diego Belarde de
Aguilar on his own account and on behalf of his brother,
Juan, reciting the patent granted by Charles V and the
services of their father, Captain Rodrigo Belarde de Aguilar,
the patent opening with a finely-illuminated miniature of the
Virgin within a red and blue decorative border, and with a
full page illuminated coat of arms, with illuminated hands
and gilt borders throughout, notarial seals and later docketts
at the end, vellum, 25 pages,
3. Luetgens, August.A Treatise on Insects apparently copied by August Luetgens.
The manuscript was found among his papers at his death without
any clue as to its origin: It is all in his handwriting. Copy
produced prior to 1910.
An original manuscript on insects (probably written during the 19th
Century). Includes 75 figures and 20 plates mostly colored. Part II
is titled *The Anatomy and Physiology of the Blow – Fly... a
Monograph.*

III. Manuscript Leaves and Documents

1. Koran page(Arabic)
Handwritten large manuscript leaf of fine quality. Imposing example from Persia circa 1553.
2. Antiphoner or Choir Missal (Latin) circa Spain 1650. This leaf is on extremely heavy vellum. Text is in rounded Gothic hand. The six lines of music and verse are on a stave formed of five lines.
3. Breviary (German).Leaf from 15th century northern German monastery. German Gothic script in black ink on vellum. The first line exhibits a wonderful example of a flourished letter ascender. Text is from St. Bonaventure's Opera and possibly his sermons.
4. Book of Hours (Latin)/Leaf dates from France, 1450-1475. Twelve lines of Gothic text in Latin on vellum. Verso has one initial "C" in highly burnished gold on a multicolor ground. Recto has twelve lines of Gothic text with rubricating on the last line.
5. Summa de Casibus of Bartolomeo da San Concordio (1261-1347 (Latin).
Leaf from 1424-1450 Southern Germany or Austria. From encyclopedia of canon law.
6. *Grant by John Baker*. #1536. Dated 1468/7. Thirteen lines black on Vellum with seal and translation.
7. Charter by which William Heyne of Risscheton gives his son, John, a grange near Rushton. Vellum, dated 1387. England. 11 lines of text in brown ink,
8. *Papal Bull of Innocent IV*. Document on Vellum, Rome, 20 June 1244 Church document approving the Breviary of the Friars Minor.
9. Norman Charter of Arden Abby. Document on Vellum. Normandy, vicinity of Caen, ca. 1200. A charter of Walter de Agnell conveying to Renardus de Villa Tierri lands which he holds from Ardenne Abbey.
10. Leaf from Legal Manuscript, Seville, Spain, 1602 Legal document on vellum related to family lineage. Partly written in Seville, 1602. Completed in Mexico City in 1641. The page contains a large illuminated E and elaborate bordering, with initials in gold leaf.

11. Letter signed by Ferdinand (Yo el Rey) to Captin Pedro Fajaro. Madrid, 2 January 1503. Advises Captin Fajaro of the arrival of the Galician Squadron and orders the loading of goods. Address on verso.



IV. Printed Leaves

1. Nuremberg Chronicle (Latin edition)1493. Three leaves and a fragment of an illustrated page. Richest illustrated incanable, published in the year Columbus returned from the America. Pages include woodcuts by Michael Wolgemut and Albrecht Durer. Chronicles the history of the world from creation to the 15th century. Printed by Anton Koberger.
2. *Postilla Super Epistolas et Evangelista* by William of Paris. Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, 1493. Quarto size. Latin text in black letter type indouble columns. Rubrication throughout text and initials, all hand painted in bright red ink. Original leaf.
3. *King James Bible*. London: Robert Barker, 1611. A page from the first edition of the King James Bible. The page includes verses from St. Paul's *Letter to the Romans*.
4. Leaf from the first printed translation of the Bible's Old Testament into the Irish language, 1685. Translation made by William Bedel, Bishop of Kilmore.
5. Page from the *First Folio Edition of Shakespeare's Plays*, 1623. The leaf is from the *Tragedy of Cymbeline*.

v. Facsimile Editions

1. Chronicle of the World, 1493: the complete and annotated Nuremberg Chronicle of 1493 (Liber Chronicarum). German edition by Schedel Hartmann, 1440-1514. Taschen, 2001.



2. Book of Hours (*Offizium der Madonna*). Zurich: Belser Verlag, 1984. A reproduction of a late 15th century manuscript and prayer book.
3. Gutenberg Bible. Brussel & Brussel, 1968. A facsimile edition in 3 volumes of the famous Latin Bible printed 1454-55.
4. Geoffrey Chaucer. *The Canterbury Tales*. The new Ellesmere Chaucer monochromatic facsimile, The Huntington Library, 1997. A reproduction of the famous Chaucer manuscript owned by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA.

5. *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer: a facsimile of the William Morris Kelmscott Chaucer* produced by William Morris and Edward Burne-Jones. World Pub. Co., 1958. A reproduction of a famous publication from the Arts and Crafts printing and book production era.

