by James Negus and Brian J. Birch

London-born James William Negus (1927–2008) was awarded a BSc in Chemistry from the University of London and followed a professional career in technical information and scientific publishing. In 1966 he became Technical Editor with the large general publisher William Heinemann Ltd. of London, responsible for educational subjects, to which he naturally added Philately.

Jim began collecting stamps as a schoolboy aged seven, never lost his interest, and took to serious philately in 1948 after completing his National Service in the Royal Air Force. It remained his main hobby until he retired completely from collecting and all other philatelic activities in 2000.

His main fame was as a philatelic writer, editor, and bibliographer. In 1975 he was appointed Catalogue Editor for Stanley Gibbons, leaving the Company in 1981 to become a self-employed editor and writer. Over the years, he joined many societies including the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library, of which he remained a member until his retirement. He was an Associate Editor of the American Philatelic Research Library’s Philatelic Literature Review from 1969 to 1975, so it is entirely appropriate that this posthumous work should be published in that periodical.

When Jim retired as a professional philatelist, he passed over to me a number of his files containing bibliographic and biographical material. Among those, I found a document he had written with the above title but had never finished. Since it was an interesting and thorough review of the subject, I decided to bring it up-to-date and complete it, in his memory. Having worked on it in a desultory fashion for the past couple of years or so, I was spurred on to finishing it by Bonny Farmer’s article on the same subject in the 2nd Quarter 2012 Philatelic Literature Review.

Negus’ Original Foreword:

The present notes were inspired by reading the letter of February 15, 1888 from Tiffany to E. D. Bacon, discovered in the Royal Philatelic Society London Archives by my brother [Ron] in 1995. Tiffany refers at page [6] of his letter to being currently engaged in compiling the “reference list of all Stamp Journals,” also “(the American part is in press).” Thus, he had named it the Library Companion when published the following year; it was titled as a “Part I — US periodicals.” The particular appeal on
pages [5]–[6] of his letter to Bacon for help with English (i.e., British) publications appears to have been answered, as Tiffany produced a list in The Stamp News Annual for 1894\textsuperscript{1}, published by Theodor Buhl in London.

James Negus
3rd July 1995

The Relevance of Tiffany Manuscripts

John Kerr Tiffany (1842–1897) was a pioneer stamp collector and seems to have been introduced to the hobby while at school in Paris in the early 1860s. The library of the Royal Philatelic Society London holds a copy of a Berger-Levrault catalogue\textsuperscript{2} in which Tiffany has written John K. Tiffany, London, October. 16th ’67, showing that not only was he a stamp collector at that early date, but that he had begun to acquire the first volumes of what would become the finest and most complete philatelic library of its time.

Interestingly, this volume also carries a copy of what must have been Tiffany’s first bookplate, which I have never seen published before. This is a simple typescript design using printers’ rules and ornaments, quite unlike his later, well-known bookplate based on the St. Louis Bears stamp and produced by the same engraver as the original stamps. Similarly unpublished is the fact that Tiffany also had a rubber stamp made to resemble his second bookplate, that he could use on non-book items in his library such as letters and the like. Although his Saint Louis Bears bookplate can be found, however rarely, in books discarded from the library when a better copy was obtained,
the rubber stamp is only known on items retained in the library and can therefore only be found on items in the Crawford Library, which now reposes in the British Library in London.

It is interesting to speculate whether the number 9 added to the bookplate by hand indicated that this was the ninth book he purchased or simply the ninth book to which he had attached his bookplate. What is not in doubt is that it does not relate to its entry in Tiffany’s *The Philatelic Library*³, where this exact book is shown as number 404 on page 56.

Following his European education, he returned to the United States and became a prominent lawyer based in St. Louis. As a philatelist he is best known not only for his library (on which he based his first book³), and for being the author of the first important history of *United States Postage Stamps* (published in French in 1883 by J.-B. Moens⁴ of Brussels), but primarily as the first President of the American Philatelic Association (later the American Philatelic Society). It was said to have been Tiffany’s firm but fair guiding hand that led the Society through its early, turbulent years during which it could well have foundered under a lesser leader.⁵

Tiffany died on March 3, 1897 at the relatively early age of fifty-five. It was his wish that his library should grace some suitable institution in America that would undertake to care for it and keep it up-to-date. Unfortunately, no suitable and willing organization could be found, and in 1901 the library was purchased by Charles J. Phillips on behalf of the Earl of Crawford for $10,000 (then £2,500) and the library was moved to London.⁶

The *Earl of Crawford* (1847–1913)⁷ was a latecomer to philately; he nevertheless built up a magnificent collection written up on a scientific basis. He joined the Philatelic Society, London in 1900 and was largely instrumental in securing for it the prefix “Royal.” On his accession to the throne in 1910, King George V desired that the Earl be
The Earl of Crawford working in his library at Haigh Hall.

elected President of the Society, a role he fulfilled until his death three years later.

Like his father, the Earl was one of the greatest bibliophiles of his age, having a major library at his home, Haigh Hall, near Wigan with a staff of four librarians to look after it. However, Tiffany’s library was installed at his London residence at Cavendish Square and the Earl set about bringing it up to date and filling the gaps. To this end, he employed Edward Denny Bacon (1860–1938) as the curator of his library. Bacon was probably the finest British philatelist ever. He joined the [Royal] Philatelic Society, London in 1880 and by the time of his death, had held virtually every important office in the Society. It was Bacon who was responsible for producing the monumental catalogue of the Earl’s philatelic library.

Following the Earl’s death in 1913, the philatelic portion of his library was bequeathed to the British Museum. In 1973 the British Museum Library became the British Library, where the Crawford Library remains, kept quite separate from the rest of the holdings.

**Tiffany Manuscripts**

It would seem likely that if Tiffany had produced any unpublished manuscripts, they would have been sold with his library. That such is the case, at least in part, can be seen in columns 380 and 381 of the Crawford library catalogue where all of Tiffany’s works are listed. Among these will be found no fewer than three substantial, unpublished manuscripts:

1. *The Postal Cards of Alsace-Lorraine, Austria, Austro-Hungary, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Canada, Ceylon, Chili, Denmark, Dutch Indies, Finland, France, German Confed., German Empire, Great Britain, Guatemala, Heligoland, Helsingfors, Holland, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg,*
Newfoundland, New South Wales, Norway, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Shanghai, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, Uruguay, Turkey, Wurtemburg, A Catalog.

Dated June 1876, it is described by Bacon as a holograph manuscript of a work never published. At the end is an alphabetical list of the various magazine references for each variety of card. The height of the document is not given but I measured it as 10¼ inches (26cm). Similarly, there is no indication of the number of pages in the work but I counted 68 pages. Anyone wishing to consult this work in the British Library or order a copy online, can do so by using the call number Crawford 1461.

2. “Holograph manuscript of an unpublished work on the spirit and beer duty and licence stamps of the United States, with a chapter on cotton marks.”

Dated 1880 and consisting of 106 pages, 10½ inches (26cm) in height, it actually carried the title Spirits & Beer and carries the Roman numeral III as if to indicate that it was the third part of some series. Upon inspection, I found this to be written on a sewn pad of lined paper, the first and last leaves being backed with orange paper and the front cover lettered in pencil. The British Library’s call number for this work is Crawford 1462.

3. “Type-written manuscript of an unpublished work on the tobacco and cigar stamps of the United States.”

Dated 1884 and consisting of 173 leaves typed on one side only, 13 inches (34cm) in height, it actually carried the
It was surprising to find, during this investigation, that a second copy of this manuscript is held by the Free Library of Philadelphia. It is shown in its catalogue as: John Kerr Tiffany: *An historical reference list of the tobacco and liquor stamps of the United States issued under acts of Congress, 1862–1880*. The catalogue also notes that it was typed in 1900 from Tiffany’s manuscript and was made for Robert C. H. Brock of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and that the original manuscript was returned to Tiffany’s executors. It adds that the copy came from the philatelic library of Hiram Edmund Deats. The Free Library of Philadelphia’s call number for this work is S383 U5T4421.

In view of Deats’ obvious involvement in this work — he was stated to have returned the work to Tiffany’s executors, implying that he was the original borrower — and the note that this copy came from Deats’ library being typed contemporaneously, one wonders whether two copies were originally made. If this was the case, the implication is that Brock’s copy may still exist.

Apart from some ad hoc lists of German publications he required for
his library, these three are the only unpublished manuscripts by Tiffany that accompanied his library to the United Kingdom.

**The Missing Card Index**

Tantalizingly, when Phillips wrote to the Earl of Crawford from Detroit, Michigan on January 20, 1901, recounting his visit to St. Louis to discuss the Tiffany library, he noted that *In addition to the books, there is a Card Index which Mr. Tiffany has spent several years upon personally. It is a complete index under names of countries, stamps, etc., etc., of every article in every book in the library and is the most complete work of its kind in the World — they value this — I think justly — very highly and it would be a grand thing to have such a list and library in London in your hands.*

The existence of such an index is certainly surprising since it was only in 1888 that Tiffany wrote to Bacon, as Secretary of the Philatelic Society, London, on this subject. In the letter, he dealt in depth with the practical problems inherent in compiling such a comprehensive index and concluded *I fear the cost of any really thorough or valuable Index in time, labor and money would make it impractical to undertake....* Yet by the time of his death some nine years later, he had apparently spent several years attempting to produce just such an index.

There is no mention of the Card Index in the Crawford library catalogue. On enquiry, David Beech MBE, Curator of the British Library Philatelic Collections, confirmed that it was not in the British Library and that he had no knowledge of its whereabouts. Certainly, Bacon would have appreciated such an index, as he compiled his own card index to the periodical literature for many decades and would therefore have cherished it. Possibly the family valued it so highly that they retained it when the library was sold. An enquiry to Tiffany’s living relatives might answer this question.

**The Missing Manuscripts**

The existence of a further unpublished manuscript by Tiffany was first reported by William R. Ricketts in the *Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society* in 1915. Ricketts announced that he and Hiram E. Deats were planning to publish the manuscript: *A Catalogue of Philatelic Publications, Arranged by the Decimal System*, which dated from 1889. They intended to bring the document up to date and needed only fifty subscribers to ensure its publication.

The following year, Ricketts advised the Society that he had located Tiffany’s *A Reference List of Publications Relating to Postage-Stamps and their Collection, Compiled by Request for the Boston Public Library, 1871*. He added that the copy was still in the possession of the latter-named Library.

In the same note, he reported a further Tiffany manuscript: *Philatelic Index, Part 1: Giving all Passages in the Stamp Journals Referring to the Stamps of the United States*, dated 1880 and comprising 194 numbered pages. This manuscript was in Ricketts’ possession at this time.

It is interesting to consider what has happened to these manuscripts in the almost one hundred years since they were reported and where they may be located, if indeed they still exist.
Who Were Ricketts and Deats?

William Reynolds Ricketts (1869–1956) was born on July 29, 1869 into an affluent family in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. A graduate civil engineer, he later joined the family business of lumber, ice, coal, and farming. His 66,000-acre estate (nearly 27,000 hectares) was sold to the State and is now Ricketts Glen State Park. He joined the Philatelic Society, London in 1905, having been proposed by E. D. Bacon, and became a Fellow in 1907. He was among the first signatories of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1921. Ricketts died on October 14, 1956.

His interest in philatelic literature dated from September 1887 and he began to collect seriously in 1892. He bought complete libraries, including those of Leonidas W. Durbin, Eustace B. Power, John W. Scott, and the Leavy & Haines Company. By 1916 he had sold all of his stamp collections and concentrated on his literary activities. In the 1920s and 1930s he worked in the library of the Collectors Club of New York and gave them his foreign publications, promising the U.S. portion of his library once he had finished indexing it. However, after some disparaging comments from some of the Club officers over his bibliographic activities, he sold the remainder (weighing about 7,937 pounds) through Paul Bluss’ auctions in August 1945 and October 1946. Even after the sales, the Bluss stock contained much from Ricketts’ library. After Bluss’ death, his stock of literature was acquired by L. R. Stadtmiller and following his death, by George Albert Atkins, from whom I purchased many items from Ricketts’ library in the 1990s when he traded as Edenbridge Phil. Lit., from Eden, North Carolina.

Ricketts was the best-known American philatelic bibliographer and an inveterate indexer. He joined the
American Philatelic Society in 1908 and two years later was asked by Henry N. Mudge, the then-president, to take over the Philatelic Index Committee. In 1911 he began to produce *The American Philatelic Society Philatelic Index*\(^6\), an index of all English-language philatelic periodicals (plus two French journals) published between 1863 and 1910. It was published as a supplement to *The American Philatelist*, starting in 1911. Publication continued until 1926, when it was discontinued owing to dissatisfaction within the membership of how long it was taking to complete. By the time publication was discontinued, the index had only reached the letter “G” (Glydenloeve) and occupied 670 pages. The bibliographic references he came across while compiling his Index were published separately by Ricketts as *The Philatelic Literature Bibliography Index*\(^7\) from 1912 to 1917, reaching the letter L before publication was suspended owing to the wartime shortage of paper.

**Hiram Edmund Deats** (1870–1963)\(^8\) was born on May 20, 1870 in Flemington Junction, New Jersey. He was an only child and at the age of twelve moved with his family to a large farm in nearby Hunterdon County. The family fortune had been established by his grandfather, who held the patent on the Deats ploughshare. The agricultural business ran successfully for sixty years, during which time the family’s financial base was broadened to include real estate and banking. In 1887 his father died and he inherited the family business and farm.

Initially his interests were very widespread including archaeology, bookplates, genealogy, mineralogy, numismatics, and philately. However, by the 1890s these required so much time and space that he sold the coins and curios at auction to concentrate on stamps and philatelic literature alongside his historical and genealogical research.

Deats joined the American Philatelic Association, the forerunner of the American Philatelic Society, as a founding member in 1886.\(^5\) President from 1904 to 1905, he remained a member until his death some seventy-seven years later in 1963. He was a founder-shareholder and the first librarian of the Collectors Club of New York\(^9\), joined the Philatelic Society, London in 1893 and was made an Honorary Life Fellow in 1943. In 1933 he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Deats is best known within the philatelic community for the mass of philatelic literature he collected and it is generally acknowledged that his library was second only to that of Tiffany. He subscribed to almost every known American and many foreign stamp journals published since 1885, and his New Jersey farmhouse became the repository of the largest collection of philatelic literature ever assembled.

He began collecting philatelic literature in 1886 and attempted to obtain every philatelic publication on a worldwide basis. In 1892 he traveled to Chicago and bought all of the lots of literature offered in Schuyler B. Bradt’s eighth auction sale, purchased Philip M. Wolsieffer’s library and the complete stock of the Western Philatelic Publishing Company, of which Bradt
and Wolsieffer were the principals. This rash of purchases included some 50,000 copies of philatelic magazines and made his holdings the largest in the world, although it naturally contained many duplicates. He also purchased 22,900 philatelic publications from Ephraim B. Jones in 1895 and five years later he purchased J.-B. Moens’ private library, when the latter retired.

In 1946, tiring of collecting literature after sixty years and with failing eyesight, Deats began to dispose of his library and huge duplicate stocks seriously, through direct sales, auctions and by simply giving it away. Notwithstanding this, after his death, his son Charles T. Deats gave a further 2,000 volumes of philatelic literature and 150 boxes of old auction catalogues and periodicals to the Free Library of Philadelphia. Hiram Deats died on March 16, 1963, at the age of ninety-two.

**Their Collaboration**

Herbert A. Trenchard has given a thorough survey of Ricketts’ forty years of collecting and indexing philatelic literature. Although several others were named as being involved over the years, Deats is mentioned nowhere in this key article. It is therefore not certain why they had come into this particular collaboration by 1915.

Deats is not specially renowned as an author, which is not surprising considering his diverse business interests as well as his official duties on behalf of the American Philatelic Society and the Collectors Club. Accordingly, it is likely that their link would be that he was the possessor of a library far superior to that of Ricketts, who was the renowned indexer, and could therefore make any required material available to the latter.

That they were indeed collaborating on a wider basis at this time is demonstrated in the same issue of *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society* as Ricketts announced the first Tiffany manuscript. There, he also advised that he and Deats were issuing an index to *The Quaker City Philatelist*, of which they were intending to provide 100 copies to the Philatelic Literature Society for presentation to its members.

**Manuscript I**

*A Catalogue of Philatelic Publications, Arranged by the Decimal System by John K. Tiffany in 1889, Revised and Brought Up to Date by Hiram E. Deats and William R. Ricketts:*

The first manuscript mentioned by Ricketts in the *Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*...
Literature Society of 1915 was: A catalogue of philatelic publications, arranged by the decimal system by John K. Tiffany in 1889, revised and brought up to date by Hiram E. Deats and William R. Ricketts. In his note to the Society, Ricketts was appealing for subscribers, requiring fifty before the work could be published economically. It was intended that the publication be on fine quality paper with each copy being numbered and signed by the editors. With Europe in the middle of the Great War and the majority of the foreign members of the Society being unable to receive their copies of the Journal, it is not surprising that the catalogue did not attract the fifty subscribers required and is, as a consequence, not known as a published work.

This note by Ricketts raises several interesting speculations:

- What was the manuscript?
- How did the manuscript come into their hands?
- Where could the manuscript possibly be now?

What was the manuscript? The date 1889 in the title seems significant. Tiffany published *The Philatelic Library* in 1874 and updated it with *The Stamp Collector’s Library Companion* in 1889 and an *Addenda* in 1890. Thus, the date 1889 would seem to indicate that this catalogue was probably an extension of his *Library Companion* or the same data in a different (decimal system?) format, since the sub-title of the *Library Companion* specifically refers to a chronological listing.

Devised in 1876 by Melvil Dewey, the Dewey Decimal Classification (or Dewey Decimal System) had by 1890 only recently been introduced into libraries and it is conceivable that Tiffany was attempting to adapt it for philatelic use.

The final publication, as projected by Ricketts and Deats, would presumably have incorporated Tiffany’s own addenda to the *Library Companion* up to 1892, mentioned in the Note to reference 23. It would then have been updated to, probably, 1914 by Ricketts using the material in Deats’ remarkable library. This of course begs the question as to whether the updated manuscript was ever produced and if not, only the original Tiffany manuscript should be sought.

How did the manuscript come into their hands? Tiffany and Deats would have been well acquainted from as early as the founding of the American Philatelic Association in 1886. In 1894 Deats became Vice-President of the Association while Tiffany was still in office as (founding) President, so the two men were evidently closely associated. However, on Tiffany’s unexpected death in March 1897, Deats did not purchase his library, thinking it worth only $8,000 or $9,000, so that it was still available in 1901 to pass to the Earl of Crawford and thence to the British Museum.

The question once again is, what was happening between Tiffany and Deats in 1889, the date on the title of the manuscript? As mentioned, that was the year when Tiffany was having his *Library Companion* published by the Western Philatelic Publishing Company of Chicago. Interestingly, this publishing company was formed by a consortium of dealers that includ-
ed Schuyler B. Bradt, one of the founders and first secretary of the American Philatelic Association and therefore well-known to Tiffany.

Not long afterwards, the Western Philatelic Publishing Company was bought out by Deats, who was never an active dealer himself but was the financial backer of a number of dealers (notably E. B. Sterling) and other philatelic concerns. It may well be that this manuscript also had been submitted by Tiffany at about the same time as his Library Companion and was being held by the publishing company awaiting publication. It could well have come into Deats’ hands at that time. Given the extravagant purchases he made in Chicago at the same time as he acquired the Western Philatelic Publishing Company and its stock, the sheer bulk would have probably taken years to examine and sort into required library items and duplicates. It would not be surprising therefore, that it was some twenty years after its acquisition that Deats, realizing the manuscript’s importance, found an appropriate collaborator to do something with it.

Although it may seem strange to those of us whose libraries are numbered only in the hundreds of books, it must have been only too easy for items to be overlooked in Deats’ accumulation, numbering several hundred thousand items. For example, in 1992 Victor Short told Jim Negus that he had acquired a particularly important publication from the earliest days of philately. Its provenance was an American collector who had bought it in the 1970s from a private sale of some of the Deats stock. Bundled with other papers, the significance of the item had clearly escaped all who had handled it from Deats onward. It is defective, a back cover being absent, and this probably also contributed to its being overlooked. But it shows how easily things can be missed.

Where could the manuscript possibly be now? It is evident that Tiffany’s manuscript was in existence when Ricketts communicated with the Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society in 1915. It is unlikely that the updated version was ever produced, since it seems likely that Ricketts would have done something with it if he had completed the revised manuscript. After all, a duplicated typescript would have cost next to nothing to produce and would have served to distribute the document, a format he had already used for his Philatelic Literature Bibliography Index.17

What is of interest today is to try to deduce its present whereabouts. However, the answer to that would depend upon who owned the manuscript in 1915. If we consider the three manuscripts in the Crawford Library, those of 1876 and 1880 are holographic, whereas that of 1884 is typed. The first commercial typewriters were produced in the late 1860s25, and it would seem likely that Tiffany acquired one for his business a decade or two later and used it to produce his typewritten manuscript of 1884. The present manuscript, being dated five years later, would probably also have been typed. If it was typewritten, it is possible that a duplicate also was made (a carbon copy25) although this would almost certainly have been retained by Tiffany if he sent
the original to a publisher. However, in all likelihood it would have been kept in his working files rather than his library and would not, therefore, have been included in the library sale.

If Deats owned and retained the manuscript, its present whereabouts would be very hard to trace. The disposal of his vast library and its huge quantity of duplicates has been clarified in the *Philatelic Literature Review* as:

- Donation by Salkind to the American Philatelic Research Library to join Deats’ prior gift of American Philatelic Association (later American Philatelic Society) historical records.
- Purchase from Salkind by Hal Turin, a California dealer (1973), offered for sale through advertisements in the *Philatelic Literature Review*. However, huge holdings from the latter source remained unsold when seen by Dr. Stanley Bierman in 1983.18

Inspection of Salkind’s auction catalogues revealed that he only sold periodicals, and therefore the material he sold to Hal Turin also was likely to be periodicals, a fact demonstrated by Turin’s price lists and Stan Bierman’s report of his viewing of the remainders. Evidently, neither these dealers nor Apfelbaum were the source of any manuscripts.

Owing to this widespread dispersal, perhaps the most likely place where a manuscript would be found is the Free Library of Philadelphia. However, Bonny Farmer of the APS Editorial department, reviewed the philatelic holdings of the Free Library in 200127, noting its treasures but not mentioning the missing manuscript. Fortunately, the Free Library’s catalogue is accessible online28 and a search brought forth a list all of Tiffany’s published works and the copy of the *Tobacco and Cigar Stamps* manuscripts held by the British Library, mentioned earlier, but not the missing manuscript sought.

However, there also seemed a remote chance that it could have been among the donations made to the American Philatelic Research Library. An enquiry placed with the American Philatelic Research Library’s Neil Cocker in 2011 was referred by him to Ken P. Martin, the Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society, the current APRL librarian Tara Murray and former librarian Gini Horn, with none of them having any knowledge of the missing manuscript.

Another possibility is that the unpublished manuscript remained with Ricketts after the abortive attempt to find subscribers. Trenchard14, in reporting on the disposal of Ricketts’ library noted that large portions of his library were donated to the Collectors Club of New York in his lifetime and the remainder promised later, so it might have found its way there. However, the Club’s library catalogue was published in 197429 and the missing manuscript.
manuscript is not to be found among the Tiffany entries.

As mentioned earlier, Ricketts’ disillusionment with the leadership of the Collectors Club caused him to renge on his promise and he sold the remainder of his library by auction through Paul Bluss, starting in 1945. At this time, George Turner, one of the greatest American philatelic bibliophiles, was becoming the major force in literature collecting and was the leading purchaser at the sale.30

George Townsend Turner Jr. (1906–1979) was born in River Forrest, Illinois. He was a chemist by profession, earning both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree from Cornell University. From 1931 he worked as a research chemist at a number of industrial companies until he was appointed Curator of the Division of Philately at the Smithsonian Institution in 1958.

In 1933 he joined the American Philatelic Society, eventually serving in various Board positions for well over a decade. He was a keen supporter of the Philatelic Literature Association (which later formed the basis of the American Philatelic Research Library) and was President from 1952 to 1963. He signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1978.

The greatest philatelic bibliophile of his day, he collected literature on a massive scale, attempting to obtain every English-language philatelic publication in existence and all important foreign-language literature. His first major acquisition was the library of William Carlos Stone in 1939, which weighed about two tons and was rich in early publications. Thereafter, he purchased many complete libraries, selling the large numbers of duplicates through Sylvester Colby auctions under the names of the former owners. He also sold duplicates privately and circulated lists of the items he had for sale. On his death on August 14, 1979, he bequeathed to the National Philatelic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution all of the items from his library that it did not have.30

According to Trenchard30, who was a close friend of Turner, the latter acquired all of the unpublished cards from Ricketts’ Index covering the United States, from the Bluss Sale. Turner then visited Ricketts to acquire any other parts of the index that existed. Although he got the cards relating to the United States Locals16 that had already been published, no other unpublished indexes were recovered. Although manuscripts were not specifically mentioned by Trenchard in
his overview of Turner’s library, such was the importance of Tiffany that it is likely that had he known that one or more had come into Turner’s hands, he would have mentioned it.

Since it is known that the lion’s share of the Turner library was bequeathed to the Smithsonian, this is an obvious place to look, just in case! Fortunately, the Smithsonian Library’s catalogue is also accessible online and a search brought forth a list all of Tiffany’s published works — but not this missing manuscript. However, the Smithsonian does hold a different Tiffany manuscript, of which more later.

In summary. The missing manuscript is not to be found in any of the logical repositories and remains at large — or so we hope.

**Manuscript II**

*Request for the Boston Public Library, 1871:*

In 1916 Ricketts publicized two more manuscripts in *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society.* The first manuscript was Tiffany’s earliest known entry into philatelic bibliography: *A Reference List of Publications relating to Postage-Stamps and their Collection, Compiled by request for the Boston Public Library, 1871.* He also provided the then location of the manuscript — in the Boston Public Library at whose request it had originally been compiled. As a bibliophile, he could have obtained this information as early as 1903, when the Boston Philatelic Society published a list of all of the philatelic works held by the Boston Public Library, a work that would undoubtedly have been in Ricketts’ own library. On page 22 of the list, this early bibliography is listed as a 38-page quarto-size manuscript. When displayed on my computer, the digitized document did indeed have thirty-eight unnumbered pages but was shown as 9.9 inches by 12.5 inches.

Exactly a hundred years after receiving it, this manuscript was still held by the Boston Public Library and was included in the December 1971 *Exhibition of Postal History, Postage Stamps and Philatelic Literature* in their collections. That the Library recognized the importance of the document was made clear in the first paragraph of the introduction to the exhibition catalogue, where it is mentioned that the Librarian in 1871, Justin Winsor, called upon Tiffany as the leading authority of the day for guidance and counsel regarding the available philatelic literature. This
query, as we know, resulted in Tiffany producing the manuscript in question.

In the exhibition catalogue, the manuscript is listed as item 23 on page vi under the heading, America's first philatelic bibliography: 1871. The entry also records that Tiffany has elegantly written out the text in red and black. It follows that this is a holographic manuscript, which is what one would expect, considering its early date and the formats of the manuscripts in the Crawford Library mentioned earlier. To accompany the manuscript, the Library also displayed as item 24, copy number 1 of the 150 copies of the literature rarity Tiffany's The Philatetical Library of 1874, with the comment that it was a vastly expanded version of the earlier list of references in manuscript form. There is no doubt that this first effort on behalf of the Boston Public Library was the spur that led Tiffany to produce and publish his Philatetical Library three years later.

Coincidentally, just a month or so before I finished this article in October 2012, the Boston Public Library decided to digitize its manuscript and make it publically available in a number of useful formats at: http://archive.org/details/referencelistofp00tiff.

Although we have confirmed that this manuscript is still housed in the library for which it was compiled, that is not the end of the story. There is another copy in existence! When searching under John K. Tiffany in the Author Catalog of the published catalogue of the Collectors Club library, I came across a card for John H. Tiffany — obviously an error, made when typing up a manuscript entry. It read “John H. [sic.] Tiffany: A Reference List of Publications Relating to Postage Stamps and their Collection Compiled by Request of the Boston Public Library by John H. [sic.] Tiffany, Typescript, 1871, 25 pp.” Owing to the kindness of the Collectors Club, I now have a photocopy of this document. Although my copy has 25 pages, as shown in the Catalogue, it is evidently missing at least one page — that containing the French periodicals.

Upon examination, it is evident that this can be nothing less than a typed copy of the Boston Public Library manuscript. However, apart from the rubber stamp at the foot of the page proclaiming that it was the Property of The Collectors Club of New York, there was no other indication of its origin nor for (or by) whom it was copied. It is, however, interesting to speculate that, having discovered the original manu-

Typescript copy of Tiffany's Boston Public Library bibliography. Courtesy of the Collectors Club of New York.
script some time before 1916, Ricketts had a copy made that he donated to the Collectors Club when he worked in the library. Perhaps someone who has access to Ricketts’ handwriting can compare it with the words “By John K Tiffany,” added to the title by hand.

Manuscript III
Phila etic Index, Part 1: Giving All Passages in the Stamp Journals Referring to the Stamps of the United States:

The second unpublished Tiffany manuscript referred to by Ricketts in the Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society of 1916 was Philatetical Index, compiled by John K. Tiffany. Part I: Giving All Passages in the Stamp Journals Referring to the Stamps of the United States, St. Louis, January 1880.

This Index was, in fact, referred to by Tiffany in his letter to Bacon of 1888, in which he responded to a suggestion raised at a meeting of the [Royal] Philatelic Society, London, that he was about to embark on a comprehensive index to philatelic literature. While refuting the suggestion, he provided a detailed account of the background to his United States index using the difficulties encountered in the compilation of this relatively small index to explain why he thought that the projected comprehensive index was utterly impossible. The full text of the letter was published by Bonny Farmer in the Philatelic Literature Review in 2012.

By the time Tiffany had been systematically collecting the periodical literature for about ten years, he was asked by Moens to put together the information he had on the stamps of the United States, to be published as a handbook. It was in preparation for this publication that Tiffany compiled the above index, which he completed in 1880. The French edition of the United States handbook was subsequently published in Brussels in 1883, to be followed by an edition in English, published by Charles H. Mekeel in 1887.

Owned by Ricketts in 1916, the whereabouts of this index has not been in question since 1990 for it was given as one of the highlights of the National Philatelic Collection in its Newsletter. According to the Smithsonian Library’s catalogue, the manuscript has been “Mechanically reproduced (lithographed or mimeographed?) from a handwritten draft, with addenda and corrections (apparently by J. K. Tiffany) added in pencil.” It also notes that it has a stamp on its cover and front free endpaper: “Library of W. R. Ricketts, Forty-Fort, Pa.” Fortunately, the article in their Newsletter
goes further than this, noting that “The Index was obtained by E. B. Power after Tiffany’s death, and then found its way to the W. R. Ricketts, and ultimately to the George Turner library before being donated to the National Philatelic Collection.”

**Eustace Bertram Lepoer Power** (1872–1939) was born in England and emigrated to the United States in 1890. Three years later, he entered the stamp business with Julius C. Morgenthau as the Chicago Stamp & Coin Company and eventually branched out on his own. Realizing that he needed more capital than he could raise, he sold his stock to Stanley Gibbons Ltd. and then worked for them in their New York Branch. He eventually purchased the Branch, continuing it under the name of Stanley Gibbons Inc. Power built up a major library of works in the English language, which he sold in 1910 to Ricketts. Since Turner was the main purchaser at the auction of Ricketts’ library, it appeared easy to piece together the trail to the Smithsonian.

Unfortunately, having been through every lot in the Ricketts sale catalogue twice, I have been unable to find any lots that included either the American Philatelic Society card index, said to have been purchased by Turner from the sale, or any other manuscript items. It may well have been that Turner purchased the card index directly from Bluss or perhaps all of the cards came from Ricketts as a result of Turner’s visit and were never consigned to Bluss. In all probability, the Tiffany Index must have been acquired from Ricketts at this time.

That it was indeed in Turner’s possession was largely confirmed when he published an article on the great philatelic bibliophiles and their bookplates in 1954. In his brief biography of Tiffany that accompanies his St. Louis Bears bookplate, Turner records the existence of the manuscript Index, although he dates it 1881, and does not mention that it is in his possession.

Notwithstanding the grey area regarding how the Tiffany Index actually came into Turner’s hands, it must have done so to have been part of his bequest to the Smithsonian. Though unpublished manuscripts are not specifically mentioned by Trenchard in his article on the dispersal of the Turner library, it seems certain that this Index would have been among the entire collection of philatelic bibliography acquired by the National Philatelic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution under Turner’s Will.

*****
Conclusion

This work started out looking for three manuscripts written by John K. Tiffany but never published. Their existence had been brought to the attention of the philatelic public by William R. Ricketts by means of notes in 1915 and 1916 in a very specialized and small-circulation periodical, The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society. During the search, three additional manuscripts have been identified and evidence was found that Tiffany may well have left a Card Index to posterity.

Today, the whereabouts of no less than five of the six Tiffany manuscripts is known, although the final manuscript and the Card Index still elude us. In addition, more or less contemporaneous, copies of two of the five manuscripts also have been located.

Endnotes

   Notes: This is an attempt to list all of the monthly periodicals published in England to date, as well as those for which a prospectus or advertisement was produced but which seem never to have appeared.
   This list is essentially the hitherto unpublished English Part of his Stamp Collector’s Library Companion, brought up to 1894.

   Note: The book is signed and dated October 1867 by Tiffany and the number 9 has been added to the attached bookplate by hand.

   Notes: Only 150 numbered copies were printed, which he seem to have distributed freely to his friends and correspondents over many years. This is now one of the great bibliographic rarities in philately.
   Bacon provides a critique of The Philatelic Library at column 921 of the Crawford Catalogue.

   *Tiffany had been elected an Honorary Member on November 28, 1885. He enclosed a copy of the book with his acceptance letter of January 7, 1886. The book he presented is number 98 and is still among the Library’s treasures. The Smithsonian’s copy (number 37) of this book has been digitized and can be downloaded in a variety of formats from: http://archive.org/details/philatelicallibr00tiff, October 15, 2012.

   Note: Although the notation “To be continued” appears at the end of the last part listed above, a search through all of the subsequent issues of the magazine by the American Philatelic Research Library’s Neil Coker, failed to turn up any additional parts.

6. Some of the original correspondence from Charles J. Phillips (1863–1940) to the Earl of Crawford relating to the purchase of Tiffany’s Library is still in existence.
and is held in the Archives of the Royal Philatelic Society London. Phillips had by this date been the owner of Stanley Gibbons Limited for just over a decade and would have been an important supplier of stamps to the Earl. His company was subsequently tasked with bringing the Earl's library up to date and acquiring items it lacked.

The file comprises the following letters:

Manuscript letter from Detroit (January 20, 1901) providing details of Phillips' visit to see Tiffany's brother Dexter in St. Louis and open the negotiations regarding library.

Letter from the U.K. (date obscured) acknowledging the Earl's cheque to cover carriage of the library to the U.K., with the American Express Way Bill covering the library attached.

Letter from Stanley Gibbons Ltd. (June 29, 1901) advising the Earl of the arrival of the library at his London home and debiting his account with the cost of carriage.

Letter from American Express advising Phillips of a refund on the carriage, owing to an error in the rate charged.


Notes: This was the seventh part of the Earl's massive project of producing a definitive catalogue of his library, which was called Bibliotheca Lindesiana after his family name Lindsay. The printed volumes were donated to important private and public libraries.

The Catalogue is rather unusual in being numbered by columns rather than by page, there being two columns on each page.


An addendum to the Supplement was published as: Sir Edward D. Bacon, Addenda to the “Supplement to the Catalogue of the Philatelic Library of the Earl of Crawford, K.T.” (U.K.: Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1938), 8pp. [Issued as a supplement to The London Philatelist, March 1938.]

Bacon's working copy of Volume VII, now owned by the British Library, together with the Supplement and Addenda, were reprinted as: Edward Denny Bacon, Catalogue of the Crawford Library of Philatelic Literature at the British Library (Fishkill, NY: The Printer's Stone, 1991), paginated in sections as indicated above.


Notes: The original letter is held in the archives of the Royal Philatelic Society London and a copy is held by the American Philatelic Research Library. It was the finding of this letter by the late archivist, Ron Negus and bringing it to the attention of his brother James that caused this article to be prepared — see Negus' Original Foreword.

This letter also provoked a search for Tiffany manuscripts by the American Philatelic Research Library, the results of which were published as: Bonny Farmer, “The Tiffany Index Mystery,” Philatelic Literature Review, Vol. 61, No. 2 (2nd Quarter 2012): 132–137. A photograph of its first page and a full transcript of the above letter were included in this work.

Notes: This recounts how the Bacon index came into the hands of the Royal Philatelic Society London and details its “loss” and subsequent reappearance. This Index has recently been digitized by the present author and is accessible both in hard copy in the Royal’s Library and through the RPSL Catalogue. Although the RPSL Catalogue was originally intended for members only, a reciprocal agreement with the American Philatelic Research Library means that it is also accessible through any computer in the latter’s Library.


Note: A brief biography of Ricketts, complete with the photograph shown, is to be found in the first, named sale catalogue. Although the second sale does not name Ricketts in the title, the literature it contained was comprised mainly of items from his library.


Notes: Following its discontinuance, the Society compiled the published pages of the Index and issued them as a bound Volume.

The United States Locals section of the Index was published by the United Stamp Company “Herald” in 1912 as pages 106–175 of its reprint of Charles H. Coster’s nineteenth-century work on U.S. Locals. This section of the Index was reprinted in the Philatelic Literature Review in 1990 (Vol. 39, No. 2, pp. 90–116 and No. 3, pp. 172–214).


In 2008 Gini Horn of the American Philatelic Research Library reported that in spite of her diligent efforts, even going so far as to contact one of Ricketts’ daughters, no further parts of the Index had been located. Gini Horn, “A Look Back at the Ricketts Index,” Philatelic Literature Review, Vol. 56, No. 4 (4th quarter 2008): 316–319. However, Stan Bierman reported having obtained photocopies of the pages covering the letters H through J from the Smithsonian Institution. Stanley M. Bierman, “A List of Handbooks, Periodicals and Auction Catalogues in the Bierman Philatelic Library, Second revised edition (Los Angeles, CA: Stanley M. Bierman, 1993), p. 20, Item number 198. Notwithstanding the letter to Stan from the late Nancy Pope who was at the time (June 4, 1995) Librarian of the National Philatelic collection, which had accompanied the copy of the pages and advised him of the above, on examination the pages turned out to be from Ricketts’ Bibliography Index — See reference 17.


Note: It was published in forty parts of ten pages each. Page 401 appears to have been
found among Rickett's papers and was included by Edenbridge Phil. Lit. in the sets they sold.


By 1952, Deats was the only remaining Charter Member of the American Philatelic Society, a fact that was celebrated at the Society's convention in September of that year. His portrait in later years can be found in Philip H. Ward Jr., "Hiram E. Deats: Oldest Member of A. P. S.," National Philatelic Museum, Vol. 4, No. 2 (1952): 9–10.


Note: The Index was eventually distributed to the members with the issue of The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society for July/October 1918 (Volume 11, No. 3/4). In the event, this turned out to be the last ever issue of the Journal.


Note: This list was extended to December 1891 by John K. Tiffany, "An Addendum to the Stamp Collector's Library Companion' [sic]," The American Philatelist, Vol. 6, No. 5 (May 1892): 72–75.


Note: Melville Louis Kossuth Dewey (1851–1931) created his decimal classification system in 1876. It was intended to be used by libraries to classify their books in place of the existing complicated alphanumerical systems. It organized all knowledge into ten main classes. Each class is subdivided into ten divisions, and each division into ten sections, giving ten main classes, 100 divisions, and 1000 sections. It is still widely used today. Generally known as Melvil Dewey, additional biographical data can be found at Melvil Dewey, Wikipedia website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melvil_Dewey, July 20, 2012.


Note: It is interesting to note that the invention of carbon paper dates from the first decade of the nineteenth century and therefore pre-dates the invention of the typewriter. See Kevin M. Laurence, The Exciting History of Carbon Paper!, www.kevinlaurence.net/essays/cc.php, October 12, 2012.


Note: This report was a compilation of data received from George Turner, Sol Salkind, and Geoffrey Wilson of the Free Library of Philadelphia.


Note: At the end of the listings for John K.


Note: According to Trenchard, Turner’s philatelic executor, the Smithsonian probably took about 50 percent of the library by volume and about 80 percent by value. In spite of this, the remainder and duplicates, weighing some twelve tons, still constituted the major named sale held by Roger Koerber (The George T. Turner Philatelic Library, Roger Koerber, Southfield, MI, USA, 1st & 2nd May 1981, 3311 lots).


Note: A second edition under the same title was published by the same publisher in 1893 but with 320pp.


Notes: The article illustrates the Title Page and one of the handwritten index pages. It also reproduces Tiffany’s Introductory passage in full.

The National Philatelic Collection of the Smithsonian Institution was established in 1886 and predates the National Postal Museum, of which it now forms a part, by more than a hundred years. See the Smithsonian Institution website: www.si.edu/Exhibitions/Details/Collecting-History-125-Years-of-the-National-Philatelic-Collection-909, October 5, 2012.


Notes: Of the twenty-seven owners of bookplates and library stamps mentioned in the article, nearly all of which are illustrated, the following are included, all of whom played a part, however small, in this story:

Edward Denny Bacon, London, UK
Boston Philatelic Society, Boston, MA
Collectors Club, New York, NY
Hiram Edmund Deats, Flemington, NJ
James Ludovic Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, London, UK
Charles J. Phillips, London, UK
[Royal] Philatelic Society, London, UK
William Reynolds Ricketts, Forty Fort, PA
John Kerr Tiffany, St. Louis, MO

About the Cover

The APRL book collection includes many books from the libraries of prominent philatelists. Their provenance can be traced, in part, by the bookplates inside the covers.