
This study is an analysis of the Rare Book Collection’s holdings and desiderata list for the Ticknor and Fields’ collection and historical overview of the Ticknor and Fields publishing house. The purpose of this collection analysis is to assist the curator in collection development, to serve as a guide to researchers using the collection, and to assist librarians and catalogers who will continue to describe, catalog, and arrange the collection. This study is limited primarily to publications issued by Ticknor and Fields during the period of 1849 to 1853.

The paper contains information on methodology and results and findings. It contains an overview of high spots of the collection and list of desirable first editions and selected later editions of items not currently in the Ticknor and Fields collection of the Rare Book Collection.

Headings:

Ticknor & Fields

Collection development/College and university libraries--Rare books

Publishers and Publishing/History
A COLLECTION ANALYSIS OF THE TICKNOR AND FIELDS COLLECTION
OF THE RARE BOOK COLLECTION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

by
Ronald Laven Leach

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Approved by:

Charles B. McNamara
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Introduction

In 1987 the Rare Book Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (RBC) acquired a collection of books and other materials emanating from one of the premier publishing houses operating in mid-nineteenth century America--namely, the house known as Ticknor and Fields.¹ This was no ordinary collection from the publisher’s archives; it was rather the result of a lifetime of book collecting by John William Pye, who, after starting collecting books while a student in college, found that “the name of Ticknor, Reed, and Fields [had] cast a spell on me.” He goes on to describe his self-guided mission as follows:

After several years of being hopelessly engulfed in the pursuit of old books, I decided to specialize in the collecting of everything that had been published by the Boston firm of Ticknor and Fields, and their predecessors. This has been no small task, for besides publishing the majority of work of [Longfellow, Lowell, Emerson, Hawthorne and Whittier] the firm also published Henry David Thoreau, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Julia Ward Howe [of the Battle Hymn to the Republic fame], Oliver Wendell Holmes, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Charles Kingsley, Charles Dickens, Robert Browning, and Bert Harte. And these are only the well-known authors; my collection includes the likes of Forsythe Wilson, Jonathan Barrett, Mary Bartol…Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, and Theodore Winthrop.²

As a result of Pye’s collecting efforts, the RBC acquired approximately 7,850 volumes (based upon the estimate of the RBC cataloger who processed and cataloged the

¹ As will be discussed later, Ticknor and Fields, which began its existence in 1832 as Allen & Ticknor, went through seven name changes over the course of its existence; for purposes of this paper the firm will be primarily referred to as Ticknor and Fields, the name most commonly associated with the firm.

collection) consisting of approximately 2,600 titles, 190 pieces of ephemera (letters, manuscripts, broadsides, advertisements, royalty checks) and 54 bound volumes of periodicals (including the renowned Atlantic Monthly series, which Ticknor and Fields acquired in 1858 for the apparently bargain price of $10,000, for Fields had submitted this bid for $10,000 expecting it to be rejected as too low). Another 200 transfers from Davis Library enhanced RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection.

The RBC did not just acquire nearly the entire output of a representative nineteenth-century American publishing house. For the publishing house of Ticknor and Fields has been characterized in fact as “the most prestigious literary house in the United States during the mid-nineteenth century”; or in the words of the indefatigable scholar of the Ticknor and Fields house, Michael Winship, “the preeminent publisher of belles-letters, especially poetry, in the United States of the mid-nineteenth century…”

The RBC therefore has a veritable American treasure trove with its Ticknor and Fields collection. It has received prominence in part through a Hanes Lecture delivered by the afore-mentioned Ticknor and Fields scholar, Michael Winship, in which he examined the business practices of the firm. And with the increasing interest in the study of the history of the book in American society and culture, especially the study of literacy and of the book as a cultural and tangible object, along with book publishing history in general, the thoroughness and comprehensiveness of the RBC’s Ticknor and

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Field’s collection should serve as a major source for research into the reading habits, audiences, and interests (whether popular, juvenile, literary, political, religious, intellectual, all genres or modes of thought represented by the books published by the firm).

In an article entitled “Publishing in America,” Winship asserts the untapped need to pursue research in the subject of publishing history in America; in particular, to discover and identify publisher’s lists in advertisements, catalogues, and records and thereby compile imprint lists to use for further research into book history. “We must,” Winship notes, “complete the work of establishing the record of the published output of the American book trade for our period...This work will also involve discovering and identifying publications that have not yet been recorded or described but, are listed in publishers’ advertisements, catalogues, and records.”

In view of the wealth of advertisements inserted in many of the volumes published by Ticknor and Fields from as early as the late 1830s with their often effusive praises lavished on the books, the RBC’s collection offers the willing researcher a bountiful primary source “to interpret how the published output reacted to or affected a whole range of intellectual, political and cultural movements.” (emphasis added) And fortunately for the researcher the Ticknor and Fields collection is thoroughly cataloged with four shelf list drawers in call number order and in the online catalog at the RBC in main entry order.

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7 Ibid., 97.
Collection Analysis Project-Principles

Once a major collection such as the Ticknor and Fields collection has been acquired by a library, it becomes essential in time to appraise the collection from the standpoint of its completeness, potential deficiencies, its “high spots,” and other key elements of the collection. As a result of such analysis the current state of the collection can be determined and attention given to filling the holes, assessing what materials are present that may, in light of changing or evolving research interests, deserve special emphasis and promotion in scholarly literature and other promotional sites, such as the RBC’s web site, so as to communicate the mine of sources available for its exploitation by interested scholars.

Ultimately, collection analysis assists the librarian or curator who needs to be apprised of the lineaments of the collection in his or her constant effort to provide access to the collection through collection development and cataloguing. Though, as intimated so far, the Ticknor and Fields’ collection at the RBC is as nearly comprehensive a collection as can be gathered in one institution, there are a few gaps in the collection whose remedying will thereby improve the comprehensiveness of the collection and its value as a source for the study of the history of the book and book culture in mid-nineteenth century America.

Roderick Cave in his book, Rare Book Librarianship, sets out his view of collection analysis as one of the principal methods for pursuing collection development in a special collections arena:

A collection can be built up in [a] haphazard way provided time is not of importance and the material is not also being sought by other libraries or collectors, but a purposeful and coherent acquisitions policy will demand that other methods also be
employed. At the core of this policy must lie the desiderata list, the record of those books which the institution knows it needs for the systematic development of the collection. The list will be built up in a number of ways, of which the principal will be the examination of the present collection by the rare books librarian and other experts in the subject field…This review will be undertaken in terms of the general policy for its growth, to reveal those key books and editions…which are not yet in its stock, and are necessary to round it out.\(^8\) (emphasis added)

Cave pertinently focuses on the construction of a desiderata list--the record of those books or other materials needed for the comprehensive development of the collection as a key element of the library’s acquisitions policies. Where the desired goal of acquiring a collection is to acquire, ideally, the entire output of an author or in this case, the entire output of a major publishing house, the desiderata list becomes a central tool in assisting the curator to meet that goal. Such lists should identify in descending order the “musts” or “vitals” worthy of acquiring at any price, those items that are very desirable if the price is “right” and those useful items where monies are readily available such as unspent monies at the end of a budget year. These lists will then be furnished to appropriate book dealers to search on behalf of the library, or in the current Internet era, such lists can be used by in-house librarians charged with acquisitions to search directly the preeminent online rare book dealers’ web sites, such as Abebooks.com, Bookfinder.com, or the Antiquarian Booksellers’ Association of America’s (ABAA) web site, to name just a few. These online dealers enable the librarian to truly search the globe as web sites like Abebooks and Bookfinder are similar to electronic-based bibliographic utilities like OCLC by bringing together the catalogs or records of dealers from around the world into one searchable source--a major advancement in book

searching at least for conducting quick global searches at any moment and thus being able to retrieve a provisional answer to a desiderata search instantaneously.

Methodology

Following the principles delineated above, the task undertaken in this collections analysis project was to examine the RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection in order to determine what titles and selected editions were not present in the collection that should then form the basis of a desiderata list to be used going forward in filling out the collection. As will be touched upon in the survey of the history of the firm, Ticknor and Fields represents a publishing house of such paramount importance to the history of literary and, perhaps even popular, publishing in mid-nineteenth century America that it behooves a library like the RBC, which acquired the bulk of the output of the publishing house, to aim for as thorough and comprehensive a collection as possible.

And this collection effort means not only ensuring that its holdings include, as it in fact does, the most noteworthy of authors, of which the Ticknor and Fields’ stable of authors reads like a mid-nineteenth century Who’s Who of American belletrists. But recognizing that Ticknor and Fields published books and periodicals in numerous genres besides belles-lettres and poetry, such books on lower-brow subjects and authors of lesser renown or reputation need to be filled in as demonstrably as the first editions of the great American literati and their English cousins, who nonetheless do form the core of the Ticknor and Fields imprint. For besides being the publisher of Thoreau’s Walden, Hawthorne’s The Scarlet Letter and Tennyson’s In Memoriam, the firm published such prosaic literature as sermons, lectures, reports issued by various societies and associations, school textbooks (e.g., Bumstead’s Second and Third Primary School
Readers issued in many printings throughout the life of the firm), juvenilia, and significantly, medical and health-related works (e.g., Tardieu on Cholera published in 1849), an area of interest that the firm had specialized in from its beginnings in the 1830s, or works on popular topics of the day such as phrenology (Combe’s Constitution of Man, first published in 1833 and still being published in 1858). And these more mundane works, the school readers, the instructional reports, the health-related works, offer the researcher invaluable primary material to be used to uncover the social and cultural forces and movements emerging and evolving over the course of the nineteenth century in America, for which the firm’s years of existence parallel so much of that era. Thus attention must be paid to ensuring the completeness of the collection on a number of levels from “high spots” to the more prosaic or mundane text.

Given the magnitude of the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC—over 7850 volumes involving more than 2,600 titles, and time constraints, it was unfortunately not feasible to examine the entire collection. Hence a different mode of attack was adopted. And fortunately an invaluable reference tool is available to the bibliographer or researcher of the Ticknor and Fields publishing output. That is, The Cost Books of Ticknor and Fields and their Predecessors 1832-1858, edited by Messrs. Warren S. Tryon and William Charvat and published in 1949 (“Cost Books”).

The Cost Books contain book-manufacturing records for the first 26 years of the life of the firm, from 1832 through 1858. For that 26-year period they contain approximately 1300 separate entries providing detailed information about the production of books, pamphlets, covers produced for certain bindings, broadsides and advertisements.
(the so-called “shew-bills” or posters used to promote or advertise books), even information about the catalogues the firm published from time to time.

The records were meticulously prepared by the clerks of the firm and thus constitute primary records and sources for establishing its output. Thanks to the diligent efforts of the editors Cost Book A and Cost Book B, the only cost book manuscripts of eight in total that have been published, make available extensive information about the production, manufacturing, pricing, binding, and royalties paid of the books published by the firm. The Cost Book entries are in the words of Winship “mini-biographies” of the production life of a book from author to binder.

The format of the Cost Books is to identify an entry by a designation such as “A173a” for the first edition of Hawthorne’s The Scarlet Letter published in 1850 or “B15c” for the fifth edition of Longfellow’s Evangeline published in 1853. The “A” or “B” refers to which Cost Book the entry is located in; the numeral “72” or “15” refers to the page the entry is to be found in the particular volume; and the small letter “a” or “c” refers to the position of the entry on that page, “a” being the first entry on the page and “c” being the third entry on the page. These entry designations were devised by the editors to reflect the actual position of an individual entry in the original manuscript for the Cost Books, recognizing that it was not possible to keep the entries of the printed version on the same numerical page as that of the manuscript.

In general, a typical entry from the Cost Books contains the following information: a heading containing a brief identification of the work (author, title), the size of the printing, the name of the printer, and the number of pages in the volume and the

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number of the particular edition. Below the heading are recorded the date, details and cost of paper, composition, printing, binding, royalty payments (denominated as “copyright” or just “copr” in the Cost Books), and other illustrative details as appropriate. Finally the date of publication and production cost per copy are noted along with trade and retail prices (thus revealing the discount offered to the retailer).

A typical example of a Cost Book entry is the entry for The Scarlet Letter (A173a) reproduced as follows:

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Editions</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
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<th>Editions</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>The Scarlet Letter</td>
<td>Nathaniel Hawthorne</td>
<td>1850</td>
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<td>Cost Sheets 32.</td>
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<td>Published Mar. 1850.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Hawthorne, Nathaniel, The scarlet letter, a romance
1 vol. 16mo [iii]-iv,322pp. Copyrighted by N. Hawthorne, 1850. Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850.

The right-side figure of “2500” refers to the total number of volumes in an edition; the left-side figure of “2500” refers to the total number of sets in an edition. The two would differ only when the title is in two or more volumes. Metcalf & Co., printers to the University [Harvard], became a staple printer for Ticknor and Fields during the period from 1845-1858. The paper line refers first to the quantity (57 reams) used for the printing, the size of the paper (18 1/2 x 29), pounds per ream (33), cents per lb.(4.75) and
extended costs for the quantity of reams used. The “ems” line identifies the number of ems used in setting up the book for type, which number when multiplied by the cents per em, gives the $130.11 total recorded above. The editors of the Cost Books note that the presence or absence of the ems entry is significant as it may indicate that type was set up anew for a particular edition of a book. For the second edition of The Scarlet Letter (A179a) shows 303.930 ems, which reflects a different quantity from that used in composing the A173a copy set out above, even though the first edition was published only a month before the second. The reference to “Tokens” relates to the presswork; a token was 500 impressions from one form; and the product of the 115 tokens figure and 75 cents yields the $86.75 total. The term “Copt” or “copyright” was used for what today would be deemed royalties paid to the author; in this case paid only on 2400 of the 2500 copies printed, as the 100 copies for which royalties were not paid may have been review copies or extra copies provided to the author as royalties were paid only on copies actually sold. The cost of the binding for this edition can easily be computed by multiplying 2500 for the number of copies printed by the $10 figure to arrive at the $250 figure. Finally, it appears from the Trade Cost information that 25% discount was offered on a 75 cent trade price.

The editors give a concise summary of the published record of the Ticknor and Fields house for the period of 1832 through 1858 covered by both Cost Books A that bears repeating: For the period covered by Cost Books A and B, approximately 550 new titles and 760 new editions were recorded; five new titles published under a double imprint and one such new edition are also recorded. The total number of new titles and new editions equals about 1,316 items. Additionally, the editors supplied 125 new titles
and 33 new titles with a double imprint from titles omitted from the Cost Books that the editors were able to nonetheless provide, for an additional total of 158 books. In sum, for the new titles and editions listed and those not listed but supplied by the editors, the grand total is about 1,474. And based upon running totals throughout the Cost Books relating to the number of volumes issued up to March 1854 the editors were able to compute a total number of volumes issued from 1832 to 1854 of 996,394 and the cost of publishing those volumes to be $205,027.61. These are fascinating details which the editors were able to reconstitute especially as they reveal the strengths and extent of reach of one of the great publishing houses in mid-nineteenth century America.

**Historical Overview of Ticknor and Fields**

From its founding in Boston in 1832 as the firm of Allen and Ticknor to its eventual merger into Houghton, Osgood & Company in 1878, the predecessor to the present-day Houghton Mifflin Company, Ticknor and Fields earned the reputation as the pre-eminent publisher of belles-lettres in mid-nineteenth century America. Their renown as publishers emerged because of the enormous energy and creativity of its partners, especially James T. Fields, who, in some respects, single-handedly helped to shape the modern day publishing industry. The creative marketing and promotion of books, the nurturing of strong professional and personal relationships with their authors, the somewhat novel notion of paying adequate royalties to its authors, even in cases, such as with its foreign authors, where none may have been required, and the respect it had for the quality of the book as a material object as well as for its content--these were the distinguishing attributes of the firm of Ticknor and Fields; and it was these qualities that led so many of its authors to recount how indebted they were to the
publishing efforts of the firm—as one of its notable authors, Ralph Waldo Emerson, was to say to Fields, it was “your brilliant advertising and arrangements which have made me so popular.”

William D. Ticknor (born in 1810 in Lebanon, New Hampshire and died in Philadelphia in 1864) and John Allen founded the firm in 1832 by acquiring the retail bookselling operations of Carter & Hendee and just as significant, by soon purchasing the Old Corner Bookstore at the corner of Washington and School Streets in Boston—their place of operations for over 30 thirty years and a landmark in American publishing history. In 1834, Allen left the firm and Ticknor carried on the business under his own name—William D. Ticknor. James T. Fields (born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire in 1817 and died in Boston in 1881), started as a junior clerk with Carter & Hendee, and continued with the firm after it was acquired by Ticknor. Recognizing the indispensable value of Fields’ literary savvy and keen eye in judging the literary worth of existing and budding authors, Ticknor made him a partner in 1843 at the youthful age of 26. Fields was to be critical to the success of the firm by steering it in the direction of publishing of fine literary works in addition to their retail bookseller operations. Initially the firm focused on publishing authors from England including, for example, various works by De Quincy and Tennyson. In 1843 Ticknor also reorganized the firm as William D. Ticknor & Company—the “Company” referring to Fields and another (silent) partner, John Reed.

It was during the 1840’s and 1850’s that the firm truly began to take off as a formidable literary publisher of English and presently American authors. Under the Ticknor, Reed, & Fields imprint (the name it took on in 1849), not only great English

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poets like Robert Browning and Lord Alfred Tennyson were being published but also eminent American poets like Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, John Greenleaf Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and James Russell Lowell. The firm’s real coup came in 1850 when Fields personally secured the rights to publish Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter*, which sold nearly five thousand copies within the six months of its publications.

With this astounding beginning in publishing the great authors of mid-nineteenth century America (and England), Ticknor and Fields, the name it finally assumed in 1854, was set to burnish its reputation as the most important publishing house for belles-lettres in mid nineteenth century America. In addition to Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter* and *The House of the Seven Gables*, the firm published many of the poetical works of Longfellow, including his *Song of Hiawatha*, Thoreau’s *Walden*, Horace Mann’s *Lectures*, and the poetry and prose of John G. Saxe as well as becoming Charles Dickens’s “authorized” publisher in America.

What was critical to the success of Ticknor and Fields was above all Fields’ creative efforts at promoting and distributing books nationwide in an industry or trade that had hitherto been dispersed and predominantly local-oriented. Fields’ tactics included securing book reviews of the firm’s books in newspapers around the East and Mid-West by inducing friends of the authors to write reviews or even writing them himself. By this network of promotion and distribution he developed, he contributed directly to the forging of a national marketplace and commerce both for Ticknor and Fields’ publications and indirectly for the book trade industry in general. And he
showed great foresight and prescience in knowing what to publish and in nurturing his ‘stable’ of authors so that they felt legitimately devoted to the firm.

One innovation the firm made was in the extensive use of descriptive catalogues that they inserted or tipped into their books. The practice began with Whittier’s *Lays of My Home* (1843, Cost Book A49b) when the author failed to send in enough material to fill up the last four blank pages and the firm decided to fill those pages with advertisements for the firm’s publications. This then turned into a major source of promoting the firm’s publications especially with their skilled and modern use of what the publishing industry now refers to as ‘blurbs.’ For example, note the following somewhat effusive examples of such blurbs promoting the sale of *The Scarlet Letter* that appeared in the expansive 48-page catalog appended to the 1850 edition of Tennyson’s *In Memoriam* (Cost Book A183b):

> In the deep tragedy of Hester Prynne’s experience, we are borne through the pages, as by an irresistible impulse…It is indeed a wonderful book, and we venture to predict that no one will put it down before he reaches the last page of it, unless it is forcibly taken out of his hands.—Salem Gazette

> Though we cannot do him justice, let us remember the name of Hawthorne, deserving a place second to none in that band of humorists whose beautiful depth of cheerful feeling is the poetry of mirth. in ease, grace, delicate sharpness of satire,—in a felicity of touch which often surpasses the felicity of Addison…The brilliant atoms flit, hover, and glance before our minds, but the remote sources of their ethereal light lie beyond our analysis… —E. P. Whipple

Ticknor died in 1864 and Fields succeeded as senior partner to direct and manage the operations of the firm, keeping the name of Ticknor and Fields as the firm’s imprint, but moving the firm from its historic home at the Old Corner Bookstore to more palatial surroundings uptown at 124 Tremont Street. Ticknor’s
son, Howard, entered the firm in 1864 as partner following his father’s death. Fields and Ticknor’s son never really got along and eventually the son was forced out in 1868. The firm then changed its name to Fields, Osgood and Company; Osgood being a “brilliant but unstable” editor and senior partner.

By 1871, Fields had had enough and retired after a 40 year career with the firm, having started as an apprentice with Carter and Hendee (the predecessor to the first incarnation of the firm as Allen and Ticknor) in 1831 at the incredible age of 14. With the retirement of Fields, Osgood became senior partner and for the first time the imprint no longer carried either original partner’s name; instead it was called James R. Osgood and Company. The Cost Books note, however, that the original names were not totally neglected as the title pages of this newly-named firm still added in parenthesis “late Fields, Osgood & Co., and Ticknor & Fields.” Osgood soon ran into financial difficulties not helped by the great Boston fire of 1872 or the Panic of 1873. Unable to meet certain financial commitments, he was forced to merge with Henry O. Houghton’s Riverside Press in Cambridge and its publishing subsidiary Hurd & Houghton. The new partnership known as Houghton, Osgood and Company managed this uneasy alliance for only two years when finally in 1880 Osgood was forced out. The firm then became the well-known Houghton, Mifflin and Company still in operation today. Houghton Mifflin even revived the Ticknor & Fields imprint in 1979 only to cease its use as an independent imprint in the early 1990s.

Besides their contributions to the flowering of American literary publishing in the nineteenth century, the firm was instrumental in fostering an image or a ‘house brand’ as we would say today, by developing uniform house styles of binding for their
publications. The first of the firm’s two classic styles of binding was the famous chocolate brown fine vertical-ribbed cloths binding whose covers were blind-stamped with a central, ornately stylized floral pattern and whose spine was divided into panels by blind-stamped double rules, with the title and author’s name gold-stamped in the second panel from the top. This cover design and binding came to suggest, in the words of one Ticknor and Fields scholar, Jeffrey Groves, “gravity, elegance, and good taste” and remained “eminently identifiable on a retailer’s shelf.” Its success is seen in its imitation by other contemporary publishers, including C. S. Francis & Co., several of whose publications reproduce certain elements of the brown cover style exactly and thereby attempting to endow its work with the status and quality associated with Ticknor and Fields’ prestigious house bindings and publications.

The other classic cover was the Blue and Gold series. Deep blue cloth, gilt edges, gold-stamped spine, wavy diagonal pattern for the cloth (instead of the fine-ribbed pattern of the brown cloth), these were pocket-sized editions with intricate floral designs framing the title and author’s name on the spine, and with an identifiable blind-stamped design on the front and back covers. This style was so successful that several of the firm’s own authors couldn’t resist singing its praises in poetic fashion. One example is from the poet George S. Hillard:

When your new Tennyson I hold, dear friend
Where blue and gold, like sky and sunbeam, blend,--
…I feel fresh truth in the old saying wise,
That greatest worth in smallest parcel lies.
…I The hand may clasp it, and the pocket hold;--
A casket small, but filled with perfect gold.

Perhaps Henry James should have the last words on this great firm and its commanding figure of James T. Fields. In a 1915 Atlantic Monthly article entitled
“Mr. and Mrs. James T. Fields,” James reminisces a year before his own death on his early encounter with Fields, the editor and publisher:

…not only had he [Fields] shone betimes with the reflected light of Longfellow and Emerson and Hawthorne and Whittier, but to meet him was, for an ingenuous young mind, to find that he was understood to return with interest any borrowed glory... He had a conception of possibilities of relation with his authors and contributors that I judge no other member of his body in all the land to have had; and one easily makes out for that matter that his firm was all but alone in improving, to this effect of amenity on the crude relation--crude, I mean, on the part of the author.¹¹

Collection Analysis Process

The process undertaken to examine the Ticknor and Fields collection involved first selecting an appropriate time period for review. A five-year period seemed appropriate from the number of books that would be required to be examined and as such period had to come within the period covered by the published Cost Books A and B, the five-year period from 1849 through 1853 was selected. These years were very productive for the firm as it shepherded into print such great works of American fiction as Hawthorne’s The Scarlet Letter (1850) and his The House of Seven Gables (1851).

The next stage was to survey the RBC catalog against the entries in the Cost Books for the period of 1849 through 1853. Based upon that review a list would be compiled identifying those books or other materials (such as pamphlets) recorded in the Cost Books that were in the RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection and those items not present in the collection. It is important to understand that, because only a random portion of the entire collection was surveyed, ultimately the results and findings of this analysis are not definitive regarding the entire collection, though I do propose to make some tentative extrapolations from the surveyed period to the entire collection. For, as

¹¹ Henry James, “Mr. and Mrs. James T. Fields.” The Atlantic Monthly 116 (1915), 23.
will be emphasized in the ensuing pages, given the minimal omission in actual titles published during the years surveyed for this paper and the substantial number of volumes in the Ticknor and Fields collection acquired by the RBC (over 7850), the conclusion can be safely drawn, I believe, that the RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection is, on the whole, a near comprehensive collection of this great publishing house’s output.

One caveat in the methodology followed for this analysis concerns an imperfection in the Cost Books as a tool for this collection development/analysis project. The Cost Books often record as separate entries or even as editions what appear to be frankly different runs or printings of identical text that may vary only in the name of the printer or stereotyper or dating of the title page or may have no changes at all but are recorded as a separate printing or sometimes as a new edition. Even the editors of the Cost Books make reference to this problem when they note that “The word ‘edition’ caused as much difficulty then as now. As used in the Cost Books, it is generally synonymous with ‘issues’ or ‘printing’.” (Cost Books, xxxv) So in attempting to ascertain that a book being examined from the RBC’s collection relates to a particular entry in the Cost Books or in searching descriptions of items from the online rare booksellers sites, it often becomes problematic to determine if one has found the particular issue or printing for a Cost Book entry containing such ambiguous or inexact printing data.

This imperfection in the Cost Books records may explain in fact why in many RBC catalog records for the Ticknor and Fields collection two Cost Book entries are given, often with a question mark, as indicating that no definitive determination can be made whether the book corresponds to one or the other of the Cost Book entries given.
For example, the RBC catalog record (#12) for Longfellow’s *Poems*, (new edition, 1852) specifically notes that the book may represent “Cost Books…A237a (possibly A245b).” (emphasis added) and record #23 for an 1855 copy of the *Poems* notes a similar ambiguity “B107a and B92a(?)” [emphasis added]. It is evident that this ambivalence or ambiguity of description regarding the printing or issue of a particular entry in the Cost Books has a direct impact in definitively determining the correspondence between a particular Cost Book entry and the actual copy of the book both for books in the RBC collection and for books being searched through the online booksellers sites. In fact it required a dialogue at times via email with booksellers in trying to hone down whether their copy in hand could be matched to the Cost Book entry—an exercise not always successful. The use of other bibliographic tools such as Blanck’s *Bibliography of American Literature* and specific author bibliographies such as Clark’s *Nathaniel Hawthorne A Descriptive Bibliography* or Currier’s *A Bibliography of John Greenleaf Whittier* offered additional help by providing in some cases details to more narrowly determine the particular printing or edition at hand. But as mentioned earlier, even the editors of the Cost Books were cognizant of the potential discrepancies and ambivalence in the differentiation of particular printings or issues or editions.

**Results and Findings**

With this caveat understood, the paper will now review the results of the first stage of the analysis conducted. This stage consisted in comparing the cost book entries for the years 1849 through 1853 to determine as best as possible which items from the Cost Books were or were not in fact in the RBC collection (certain non-book items reflecting the firm’s retail stationery business, such as savings bank form books printed
for saving banks customers of the firm--e.g., Cost Book A144b--were not included in the count as not being relevant to the focus of the collection). The following table sets out the results of the Cost Book/RBC comparison:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Number of Cost Book Entries</th>
<th>Cost Book Entries in the RBC Ticknor and Fields Collection</th>
<th>Cost Book Entries not in the RBC Ticknor and Fields Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1849</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, the results show that 55% of the Cost Book entries are in the RBC holdings for the Ticknor Fields collection. The lop-sided count for 1853, which suggests that more books are not in the RBC’s collection than are present in the collection, is explained by the quite high count of that type of entry discussed earlier consisting of identical printings of the same text. For example, Alexander Smith’s Poems (Cost Book B24b, first printing, 1853) had five additional entries for six so-called editions during 1853 (Cost Book B29b; B32a; B33a; B34b; B49b). The RBC collection contains B24b for the first edition; B29b for the second edition, but did not contain B32a, which the Cost Books identify as the “3d & 4th Edns.,” B33a for the “5th Edn.” or B34b for the “6th Edn.” Yet
these are in fact identical printings just issued in so-called different editions at different times during the year 1853.

To further underscore the fact that the counts for books not in the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC reflect primarily the absence of those entries representing additional identical printings not, that is, the absence of actual titles themselves is that the actual count for titles not represented in the Ticknor and Fields Collection is minimal--for 1849, only nine titles are not in the RBC ‘s Ticknor and Fields collection; for 1850, only four titles are not in the Ticknor and Fields collection; for 1851 again only four titles are not in the collection; for 1852 only five titles are not in the collection; and for 1853, despite its being the year during the survey period with the highest number of books issued, only three titles were not represented in the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC.

The example of Alexander Smith’s entries for his Poems discussed above can be extrapolated to explain the fact that despite the total counts identified above for books not represented in the RBC holdings, i.e., 173 out 380 (for the 1849-1853 survey period), this count is misleading. A review of the 173 Cost Book entries discloses that as far as a particular title not being represented at all in the collection, as opposed to that category of additional printings, later issues, or genuine new editions of a title, only 25 titles during the survey period reflect titles not represented at all in the entire Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC.

For example, the eight separate titles of the works by the children’s author, Grace Greenwood (pseudonym for Sara J. Lippincott) are all represented in the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC; however, for the period surveyed, various printings may not
be in the RBC holdings. Greenwood’s *History of My Pets* (Cost BookA195b, 1850, first printing) went through seven editions from 1850 to 1858: the RBC has the first edition (A195b) but does not have the four other entries issued during the period surveyed (namely A216b for 1851 for the third edition; A234b for 1851 for the fourth edition; A260a for 1852 no edition given). This example of the *History of My Pets*, which is not isolated, corroborates my research into the collection and conclusion that very few titles themselves are not represented in the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC--said otherwise, the Ticknor and Fields collection contains the first editions or printings of most entries listed in the Cost Books (for the period surveyed and extrapolated to the overall collection); where there may be deficiencies are in later printings of such titles, though in many cases such additional printings may be nothing more than an additional issue or printing of a title published as early as a month or, in some cases, where demand was unanticipated, even less than a month before (as was the case with *The House of the Seven Gables*, where the first and second edition--A214a and A214b, respectively, were released on the same day and a third edition--A214c was ordered to be started the day before!).

And of course a decision or judgment would need to be made as to whether all such additional printings or so-called editions would be worth collecting. For certainly the frequency of additional printings of Greenwood’s *History of My Pets* during the survey period may lead one to the conclusion that perhaps not much would be gained by having copies of multiple printings of such a work by a less prominent author where the text has not really undergone any significant changes (though for purposes of this paper I include in the Desiderata List such additional printings of Greenwood’s work not in the
RBC collection as possibly having collection value in view of the contemporary popularity of this children’s author). On the other hand, having all additional printings or editions of key authors such as Hawthorne would be a desired goal of the collection, and in the case of Hawthorne is a goal well met.

My analysis of the Cost Book entries against the existing editions, states, issued, variant bindings in the Ticknor and Fields collection involved an examination of over 300 books. I also compared Pye’s 100 Most Significant Books by Ticknor and Fields and made an intensive review of the shelf lists to further familiarize myself with the collection. Based upon my broad examination of the collection, I believe that it can safely be said that the RBC acquired a nearly comprehensive collection of the output of Ticknor and Fields for the five-year period surveyed (i.e., insofar as first editions of titles are concerned). To the extent statistically allowable, I believe it is also safe to extrapolate this conclusion, given the magnitude of the collection (over 7850 items), and extend the conclusion made for the 1849-1853 period to the major period in which Ticknor and Fields operated and for which the RBC has holdings—namely, from 1832 to 1878.

For, as will be seen in the Desiderata List to be compiled of those first editions, later editions or printings that are not in the RBC collection, at least insofar as first editions (new titles) are concerned, I detected only a meager number of Cost Book entries for first printings during the survey period that were not in the collection. Certainly not all later printings or impressions are in the collection, recalling the caveat about that ambiguity or ambivalence in the Cost Books’ listing of entries as separate entries and sometimes as editions when they appear to be simply later printings or issues of the same
text; but as for first printings it will be observed that those not present in the collection are, as one might anticipate, the more obscure types of publications issued by Ticknor and Fields.

The actual count for first editions that are not in the RBC collection for the survey period of 1849 through 1853 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Editions in the RBC Ticknor and Fields Collection</th>
<th>First Editions not in the RBC Ticknor and Fields Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1849</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1852</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based upon the above table, the ratio of first editions in the RBC collection to first editions not in the collection goes from a low of 2.5:1 for 1852 to nearly 5:1 for 1851. This is further corroboration of the depth of the Ticknor and Fields collection especially insofar as the collection holdings for first editions are concerned. And as will be further discussed in the Desiderata List section, the first editions not present in the collection represent to a significant degree the more obscure types of publications, such as annual reports from various societies and institutes that the firm’s partners may have been associated with, such as the Massachusetts Baptist Convention or the American Institute of Instruction, whose annual reports or lecture series delivered were consistently published by the firm.
What highlights or “high spots” are represented in the RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection in the five years surveyed? Hawthorne’s The Scarlet Letter (Cost Book A173a, 1850) in the first edition, first printing with its title, as suggested by Hawthorne himself to Fields, printed in an ominous red and black. Besides the first edition, the RBC collection includes three other copies of the first edition representing the two states of gathering “a” and “b” as noted by Clark in his bibliography of Hawthorne (Clark A16.2). Also in the collection are three copies of a second edition, first printing also with the title in red and black. In addition to these 1850 first and second editions, the collection includes the third edition, second printing (Cost BookA219a, and Clark A16.3b, 1851), and editions from 1852 (Clark A16.3), 1853 (Clark A16.3), 1854 (Clark A16.3.i), 1855 (Cost Book B127b; Clark A16.3.j), 1856 (Clark A16.3k), 1858 (Clark A16.3.l), 1860 (Clark A16.3n), 1864 (Clark A16.3p), and a second edition from 1865 (Clark B.1.6). As each of these editions contains advertisements of varying dates, each copy also is a source to show the emerging catalog and inventory of works it sought to publicize in such a major belles-lettres work as The Scarlet Letter.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose earliest work for the firm, a translation from Spanish of a poem entitled Coplas de Don Jorge Manrique, dates back to 1833 when the firm was still known as Allen and Ticknor (Cost Book A8e, 1833) was by the time of the survey period, the firm’s most popular author. Winship has calculated that over 165,000 copies of Longfellow’s works were published by the firm (representing 119 printings of 15 titles) during the period 1840 through 1859.¹²

¹² Winship, American Literary Publishing 56. The listing provided on this page 56 of Winship’s work is the source for all subsequent references in this paper to the ranking of an author’s popularity.
And during the survey period for this paper, such works as Longfellow’s poem *Evangeline* and the two-volume edition of his *Poems* were first published. Both works are represented in great depth in the RBC’s Ticknor and Fields collection. There are two exquisite copies of the 1850 first complete collection of his *Poems*, one in half-calf and the other in the firm’s classic purplish-brown gilt edge edition. This edition was kept complete by continuing to include additional material of the poet’s later work in some 26 printings by 1864. In addition to the first editions of 1850, the RBC has editions from 1855 (B107a/B92a), 1856 (B199b), 1857 (B191a), 1858 (B235b), and editions from 1860 through 1864.

Or take, for example, Longfellow’s *Evangeline*, first published in 1847 (A115a) of which the RBC has an extremely rich collection: two copies of the 1847 first edition; from 1848 two copies of the second edition (A117b), a fourth edition (A121a), a fifth edition (A124b), two copies of the sixth edition and one rare large paper format of sheets printed from the sixth edition which had an apparent run of only 50 copies, the copy in the RBC being a presentation copy inscribed by Longfellow to Hans Christian Andersen! (A128b); from 1850 an edition on imported London sheets (A186a), a seventh edition (A158a); from 1854 a ninth edition (B15c); from 1857 an eleventh edition (B163b); and from 1860 a thirteenth edition; from 1861 a fourteenth edition; from 1864 an eighteenth; and from 1866 a twentieth edition; and even later editions from 1867, 1869, and one from 1875 when the firm had by then changed to J.R. Osgood & Co. The listing of these numerous entries for just this one work clearly illustrates the extraordinary breadth of the collection.
But what makes the Ticknor and Fields collection so compelling is that it not only embraces the great belles-lettres works of its most prominent authors such as Hawthorne, Emerson, Longfellow, Thoreau, Whittier, etc., but contains books and materials in a variety of genres and disciplines that truly enable one to traverse all levels of American society and culture during the time period from the 1830s to the late 1870s (the span of the firm’s life) when America was evolving from its predominantly rural roots to the urban, industrialized society it was to become, along with all the turmoil and conflict (civil and otherwise) that unfolded during that period of great growth and unrest.

What children and young adults were reading both in school and for pleasure can be gauged by the extraordinary depth of juvenilia and textbooks and readers published by the firm and represented in the collection at the RBC. The Jonas and Rollo series by Jacob Abbott, considered one of the most famous series of juvenilia produced in the early nineteenth century, went through numerous editions and is listed as fifteenth out of twenty-five in Winship’s earlier-cited listing of the most popular authors of the firm with over 23,620 copies published consisting of 35 printings of four titles during the period 1840-1859. The RBC collection has the 1839 first edition of the Jonas’s Stories and various others from the Jonas and Rollo series including ones from 1840, 1842, 1843, 1845, and 1851. Also the children works of Grace Greenwood, pseudonym for the earlier mentioned Sara J. Lippincott, listed on Winship’s table as the eighth most popular author of the firm with over 56,120 copies published in 44 printings of 17 titles are represented in the collection (e.g. her History of My Pets, A195b, 1851); or the juvenile works of Peter Parley and Lambert Lilly, pseudonyms for Samuel G. Goodrich (twenty-third on Winship’s list of the most popular authors of the firm with 11,873 copies published...
consisting of 43 printings of six titles), whose Peter Parley's Stories numbered eight titles and whose five volume history of the United States for children is in the RBC Ticknor and Fields collection and in the North Carolina Collection (A12b, History of the Western States, 1835; B79a, Story of the American Revolution, 1854; Early History of the Southern States, 1852; A64c, History of the Middle States and History of the New England States, 1844).

With regard to school primers or textbooks, Ticknor and Fields published in 1843 the Second Reading Book in the Primary School and the Third Reading Book in the Primary School by Josiah Bumstead (A54a). The Cost Books list over 30 entries for the Second Reader and over 20 entries for the Third and the firm was publishing these two texts throughout the period from 1840 to 1859. Bumstead occupies the number two spot just under Longfellow on Winship’s list of the most popular authors with over 153,400 copies published consisting of 63 printings of two titles. Bumstead actually represents one author whose many editions are not well represented in the RBC collection: no first edition but a second edition of the Second Reader from 1843 (A62a) and two copies of the Third Reader, one from 1854 (B70c) and one from 1856 (B150a) with this edition’s preface signed by the author.

One other popular textbook that became a very steady seller was Thomas H. Palmer’s The Moral Instructor, Parts I-IV (A89b, A92a, A135a), first published in 1846 and still being published in 1857. Palmer is listed as seventeenth on Winship’s list of the firm’s most popular authors with over 29,400 copies published in 34 printings of four titles. Even more lamentable than the few copies in the RBC collection of the popular
Bumstead Readers is that no copy at all of the Moral Instructor resides in the Ticknor and Fields collection at the RBC.

Though the firm’s members steered clear of engaging too directly in the politics of the time, it is thanks to Ticknor and Fields that some of the first abolitionist literature was published. In fact Lydia M. Child’s An Appeal in Favor of that Class of Americans called Africans (O9) was published by the firm in 1833 and represents one of the first books published in the United States devoted completely to the abolition of slavery. Remarkably, 33 years later and with the Civil War ended, Ticknor and Fields published an anthology Childs edited, entitled The Freedman’s Book (1865), in which she compiled writings of African Americans such as Douglass and the former slave Mingo, along with the writings of abolitionists such as William Lloyd Garrison and J.G. Whittier. Both the first edition of Child’s Appeal and The Freedman’s Book are in the RBC collection. I feel compelled to quote the following lengthy passage from her preface to The Freedman’s Book in which she sets out with heartfelt conviction why she has prepared this book:

I have prepared this book expressly for you, with the hope that those of you who can read will read it aloud to others, and that all of you will derive fresh strength and courage from this true record of what colored men have accomplished, under great disadvantage …I take nothing for my services, and this book is sold to you at the cost of paper, printing, and binding. Whatever money you pay for any of the volumes will be immediately invested in other volumes to be sent to freedmen in various parts of the country, on the same terms, and what money remains in my hands, when the book ceases to sell will be given to the Freedmen’s Association to be expended in schools for you or your children.

Besides juvenilia, abolitionist literature, school textbooks, sermons and lectures, the firm had a longtime history of publishing medical and health-related books. Authors
such as Oliver Wendell Holmes, who not only contributed to the firm’s belles-lettres list through the many editions of his poetry published by the firm, but contributed to the professional side of the firm’s publishing business with his medical texts the firm published, such as his *Homeopathy* (A43b 1842) and his *Introductory Medical Lecture* delivered at the Massachusetts Medical College in 1847 (A118a), both represented in the Ticknor and Fields collection. Or Richard Piper’s *Operative Surgery Illustrated* (A249, 1852) with its graphic illustrations of amputations and used intensively in hospitals during the Civil War to treat soldiers and with its blood stains on several of the pages of the copy in the RBC collection! And James Paxton’s standard two-volume *Introduction to the Study of Human Anatomy* (A14a, 1835) is also represented in the RBC collection.

As mentioned earlier, the firm also published periodically reports of various charitable institutions and other voluntary organizations such as the Boston Fatherless and Widows’ Society, Massachusetts Baptist Convention and numerous lectures delivered by the American Institute of Instruction. Also addresses delivered before the Boston Mercantile Library Association of which the RBC has nine examples including, among others, James T. Fields’ own *Anniversary Poem*, which he originally delivered at a meeting of the Boston Mercantile Library Association held in 1838 and which the firm subsequently published (A23b, 1838), as Fields’ first published work; other Boston Mercantile addresses in the RBC include an address by Horace Mann (A169b, 1850), Holmes (A93b, 1846), two addresses by Charles Sumner (A106a, 1847), and one delivered in 1838 by Edward Everett (famous as the orator who spoke for three or more hours on the same podium with Lincoln whose three minute Gettysburg Address followed Everett’s interminably long speech). And the reports and lectures from these
sundry organizations and associations are valuable sources for insight into that strain of voluntarism and community that was prominent in American culture during the early to mid-nineteenth century as De Tocqueville notably observed in his *Democracy in America*.

And mundane topics like domestic economy and cookbooks as represented by Mrs. Putnam’s *Receipt Book; and Young Housekeeper’s Assistant*, of which the RBC has the first edition (A145a, 1849) and two later editions, one published in 1854 (B43d, sixth edition), and the other in 1856 (B145c, ninth edition or B181d, tenth edition—the RBC catalog notes both Cost Book entries as possibly applying), and an 1858 edition (B250a, 12th edition) would appear to be great sources for research into the popular culture of the period.

Finally, mention should be made of several interesting discoveries made in the course of examining the Ticknor and Fields collection. The Cost Books’ entry for the *The Desert Home, or the Adventures of a Lost Family in the Wilderness* by the children’s author Mayne Reid (A244b, 1852), states “No copy of this edition…has been found. The earliest seen, which is in the library of Brown University, had the date 1853.” My examination of *The Desert Home* edition in the RBC collection revealed that the RBC’s copy is indeed the first edition referred to by the Cost Books as not having been found. Similarly the Cost Books entry for *The Story of an Apple*, by Lady Pamela Campbell (B26a 1853) notes that the only copy known by the editors is in the library of W.S. Tryon (one of the editors). The RBC collection also contains the first and only edition of this work.
Desiderata List-Principles

The final section of this paper addresses the practical exercise of compiling a Desiderata List of works not in the Ticknor and Fields collection that should be acquired over time and as available so as to complete the collection’s holdings. The Desiderata List will consist of those titles, in essence, first editions, that were published by the firm during the survey period of 1849 through 1853 and not acquired by the RBC through the acquisition from John W. Pye’s library or otherwise. In other words, this category represents titles not represented in any edition in the collection, i.e., no first edition or later printings or editions. Then a selected list of later printings for titles issued during the surveyed period for which first editions are represented in the Ticknor and Fields collection but for which such later printings or editions are not in the collection will be compiled.

Also for any entry for which I was able to locate a match through one of the online book dealer web sites used (Abebooks.com, Bookfinder.com, Addall.com) a verbatim transcript of the description and price information provided by the book dealer’s record will be included in the reference to the particular title. For these online search results provide insight into the current value of Ticknor and Fields titles as well as the kinds of works issued by the firm that tend to be available or unavailable for sale, the latter condition depending not least perhaps on the actual number of copies published by the firm. One caveat: the searches were done throughout the project and there is obviously no guarantee that any titles recorded below will still be available in any future search—but conducting such searches was a valuable exercise in rare book collection
development and the results are included as examples of what one may find at any particular time a search is undertaken.

The Cost Books’ recording of the “Total number of volumes in an edition” for most entries listed provide an excellent tool for gauging at least how abundant or scarce an edition or printing was and thus the potential likelihood of any such copies being available in the rare book market. I include this ‘volumes number’ for each of the entries on the Desiderata List. Private printings, limited printings of sermons or addresses, the annual and other reports from those various voluntary associations and organization that the firm published are examples of the kinds of works not particularly likely to be found in the rare book market in the searches conducted for this project. Also included is the correct name of the firm’s imprint for the particular time period of the publication listed (rather than just the generic use of the name Ticknor and Fields as has been done throughout this paper) since that is necessary information in any searches conducted in the future and the name of the printer when available.
Desiderata List

Ticknor and Fields First Editions Not Represented in the RBC for the period 1849-1853


5. A165a, *The Lectures delivered before the American Institute of Instruction at Montpelier, VT, August, 1849.* 12mo [iii]-xi, 1232pp. [500 copies] Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850.


[via Abebooks.com: Boston Ticknor, Reed, and Fields 1850. 359p., steel-engraved frontis portrait, first edition 7 x 4.5 inch cloth boards much improved with pictorial designs in gilt, all edges gilt. Somewhat shelfworn and rubbed, head and tail of spine show tiny nicks to the board beneath, a stain to top edge has affected some leaves to a depth of about one quarter of an inch; otherwise a sound copy. Price: US$ 50.00 Bolerium Books, San Francisco, CA Bookseller Inventory #64465]

[via Abebooks.com: Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850. (CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY) First American, from the Second English Edition. 8vo. 64 pages. Disbound, stitchmarks. Some light soiling, pencil marks, stain along gutter, else a very good copy[?]. Price: $50.00 Bookseller: James Cummins, ABAA, New York, NY Bookseller Inventory #22999]


10. A196b, Forty-Eight Annual Report of the Massachusetts Baptist Convention, presented by the Board of Directors at the anniversary in Pittsfield, October 30, 1850. 8vo [5]-52pp. [500 copies] Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850.

11. A197a, Holmes, Oliver W., *The Benefactors of the Medical School of Harvard University; with a biographical sketch of the late Dr. George Parkman. An Introductory Lecture delivered at the Massachusetts Medical College, November 7, 1850*. 8vo [5]-37pp. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [1450 copies] Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1850.


[via Abebooks.com: Boston: Ticknor, Reed, & Fields, 1851. 40pp., 12mo. Original printed green wrappers, small inkstamp on upper cover (which serves as the pamphlets title page), backstrip split at hinge, but still attached. Still a nice fresh copy. First edition. "If you speak ungrammatically... if you are unseemly, careless, clownish in your dress, address, and general demeanor, - do you not know that your pupils will use your authority and example for being so too?" Price: $30.00 Bookseller: Stuart Bennett Rare Books, Mill Valley, CA Bookseller Inventory #4843]


16. A236a, Forty-Ninth Annual Report of the Massachusetts Baptist Convention, presented by the Board of Directors at the Anniversary in Fall River, October 29, 1851. 8vo [5]-79pp. [500 copies] Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1851.


[via Abebooks.com: Boston: Ticknor, Reed and Fields, 1852, 287pp. 1st American edition. 4pp. printed publisher’s review prior to front fly-leaf. Water-stain top margins, much of it faded; otherwise a very good tight copy. Price: $45.00 Parnassus Book Service, Yarmouth, MA, Bookseller Inventory #A154]


[via Abebooks.com: Ticknor, Reed & Fields. Boston 1853 HC VG in boards. Rubbing wear and stains on boards. No Dust Jacket Moisture stains and usual yellowing to pages. Price: $115.00 Book Baron eShop, Long Beach, CA Bookseller Inventory #019821]


26. B38b, Cowan’s Discourse on Webster. [The Cost Books note that no copy of this pamphlet has ever been found.


**Ticknor and Fields Selected Later Printings or Editions Not Represented in the RBC for the period 1849-1853**

1. Longfellow, Henry W

Hyperion: A Romance
--A180a, 8th Edn., [500 copies] 1850
--A237a, Metcalf & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1852
--A257a, [500 copies] 1853
--B21a, Metcalf & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1853

Kavanagh
--A193b, [500 copies] 1850

Evangeline
--A175b, 8th Edn., [500 copies] 1850

Outre-Mer
--A225b, Metcalf & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1851
2. Tennyson, Alfred

*In Memoriam*
--A257b, Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1852
--B43b, Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1853

3. Hawthorne, Nathaniel

*House of the Seven Gables*
--A258c, Damrell & Moore printer, [1000 copies] 1852
--B40c, 6th Edn, Damrell & Moore printer [1,000 copies] 1853
--B223a, T.R. Marvin printer, [500 copies] 1857

*Twice Told Tales*
--A265c, first stereotyped edition, Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [1,000 copies] 1852

4. Judson, Emily

*Alderbrook: A Collection of Fanny Forester’s Village Sketches, Poems, etc.*
--A155b, 8th Edn., Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1849
--A168b, 9th Edn., [500 copies] 1850
--A188a, 10th Edn., Wier & White printer, [500 copies] 1850
--A204b, 11th Edn., Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [1,100 copies] 1851
--A241a, [1,000 copies] 1852 According to the Cost Books after the 11th Edn. Of 1851, the number of the edition printed on the title-page is “meaningless.”

5. Greenwood, Grace (pseudonym for Sara J. Lippincott)

*History of My Pets*
--A200b, 2nd Edn., 1850 [1,200 copies]
--A216b, 3rd Edn., 1851 [1,000 copies]
--A234b, 4th Edn., 1851 [1,100 copies]
--B46a, 6th Edn., 1853 [1,000 copies]

--A171b, 2nd Edn. Rand & Co. printer, [1,500 copies] 1850
--A207b, 3rd Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [2,000 copies] 1851
--B24a, 4th Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [2,000 copies] 1853
--B39b, Second Series, 2nd Edn. [2,000 copies] 1853
Recollections of My Childhood
--A237b, 2nd Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [1,000 copies] 1851
--A260b, Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [600 copies] 1852
--B46b, 4th Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [1,000 copies] 1853

6. Holmes, Oliver W

Astraea: The Balance of Illusions. A Poem Delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Yale College, August 14, 1850.
--A189c, 2nd Edn., Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [2000 copies] October, 1850
The Cost Books indicate that this second edition, “probably identical with the first” appeared the month following the publication of the first edition (A189b, Sept. 1850, 2500 copies).

7. Saxe, John

Poems
--A173b, 2nd Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co printer, [1,000 copies] 1850

Douglas N. Harding Rare Books, Wells, ME Bookseller Inventory #003287]

--B72c, 6th Edn. Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [680 copies] 1854
--B88b, 7th Edn. [580 copies] 1854

8. Putnam, Eliza H.

Mrs. Putnam’s Receipt Book and Young Housekeeper’s Assistant
--A159b, Bolles & Houghton [2,000 copies] 1849
--A233b, Thurston, Torry & Co. printer, [500 copies] 1851
--A253c, C. Hickling printer, [500 copies] 1852

[via Abebooks.com: Ticknor, Reed & Fields Boston 1852 Poor 12mo = 7-9” No DJ 136pp Also includes several pages of advertisements for other books by the publisher. Front cover and spine are misg, back cover is held on very loosely by a few threads. Front endpaper is torn on bottom edge. Previous owner’s name in pencil on front endpaper. Some brown spots and foxing throughout. New and enlarged edition. Price: $50.00 Heritage Books, Southampton, MA, Bookseller Inventory #NF16361]

--B15b, T. R. Marvin printer, [500 copies] 1853
9. Abbott, Jacob

Jonas on a Farm in Winter
--A218c, [2120 copies for four separate volumes] 1851

[via Abebooks.com: Boston: Ticknor, Reed & Fields, 1851. good cond. hardcover. Original brown blindstamped boards, gilt spine lettering still bright. A fairly early printing of this children’s by the author of the Rollo books. **This is totally incorrect as the first printing was actually in 1841-A42a** Fraying to top and bottom of spine, rear inner hinge broken, exterior hinges are ok. Illustrated. **Price: $18.00** Peninsula Books, Traverse City, MI Bookseller Inventory #015144]

Jonas a Judge: Or Law Among the Boys
--A218c, [2120 copies for four separate volumes] 1851

[via Abebooks.com: Ticknor, Reed, Boston 1851. (orig. 1840). 6’ x 4’ 179pp. chipped cloth, foxed, bkplte. Fair. **Price: $15.00** Harry Alter Books, Wilkinsburg, PA Bookseller Inventory #28763]
Bibliography


