

An Unexpected Bookplate Discovery

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Abstract:

Mark Schumacher shares a bookplate of interest found by happenstance.

Keywords: bookplates | special collections | bookbinding

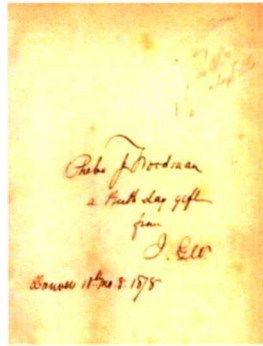
Article:

***Note: Full text of article below

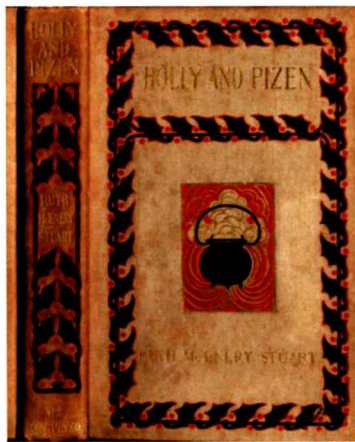
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Mark Schumacher

I spend a lot of time hunting for books that can be added to our Special Collections Department at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Primarily for the "American Trade Bindings" collection or the "Girls Books in Series" collection. Every now and then, I come across something special. One book I bought "happened to have" this 1878 inscription in it, a birthday note from poet John Greenleaf Whittier to his protégé!



More recently, I came across a book with a cover design by Blanche McManus (monogram in the lower right corner of the design) for our bindings collection:



Inside, I found this striking bookplate, showing Ben Franklin presumably at his printing press (very accurately drawn), apparently from the library M. H. De Young, an important San Francisco journalist and businessman, for whom a fine arts museum in Golden Gate Park is named. Not being an expert on bookplates, except for those done by Boston artist and book designer Amy Sacker

(https://libres.uncg.edu/ir/uncg/f/M_Schumacher_Second_2014.pdf, a 2014 piece from *Ex Libris Chronicle*), I do not recognize the names/initials that appear below the central image, but I imagine that others may well know who they are. Discoveries like this are always wonderful!

