

## INTRODUCTION

THIS NUMBER OF the *Bookman* contains descriptions of four manuscript collections in the Lilly Library, Indiana University. These collections represent the recorded residue of the lifetime activities of William Polke, 1775-1843; John Barron Niles, 1808-1879; Emmet Hoyt Scott, 1842-1924; and Edward Aloysius Rumely, 1882-1964. The collections contain a total of 194,029 items, ranging from fragmentary scraps to lengthy letters, diaries, expositions and memoirs. They cover the period, roughly, from 1809 to 1960.

The manuscripts are described together in this issue of the *Bookman* because they derive from the same source and are, in some respects, a family collection,—not because they are unitary inherently. The Polke, Niles, Scott collections came from Mrs. Edward A. (Fanny Scott) Rumely and the Rumely papers came from her husband, Edward. Fanny Scott Rumely is the great-granddaughter of William Polke, the grand-daughter of John Barron Niles, and the daughter of Emmett Hoyt Scott.

Fanny Scott Rumely, a centenarian, was in fact the conservator, historian and coadjutor for the Polke-Niles-Scott-Rumely families. Her appreciation for the past and love of family characterized her activities for more than three quarters of a century.

The manuscripts were given to the Lilly Library by Mrs. Rumely and Rumely heirs between 1949 and 1973, and the time is appropriate for giving an account to our patrons of these unique resources.

THE EDITORS