painting, which Steele considered “the most distinctive form of American art” (p. 142), was of prime interest to him. With his Brown County studio so close to Bloomington the painter had long enjoyed a close relationship with Indiana University, where he had earlier been presented with an honorary degree, the Doctor of Laws. He had also painted portraits of many of its presidents and faculty members. In 1922 he accepted an invitation to become an honorary professor of art, and much of the last four years of his life was spent on campus as a resident artist.

The final section of the book—“The Work”—is a critique by the late Wilbur D. Peat, for many years director of the John Herron Art Museum of Indianapolis. Peat also assisted in selecting the many paintings that are well-reproduced in this volume.

Brown County, Indiana


The collections, ranging from the papers of jurist Charles L. Aarons to journalist Helen Zotos, are alphabetically arranged and described in terms of subject matter content. The manuscripts, some as early as the seventeenth century, may be organized chronologically, topically, or alphabetically. The over eight hundred entries vary in size from a few lines to several pages. The size, types of documents, whether photocopies (with the location of the original manuscripts designated), any restrictions on use, see also references to other entries including those the present ones may be supplementing in the previous guides, and other pertinent data are included. Since quarterly accession reports appearing in the Wisconsin Magazine of History as soon as the manuscript acquisitions are available for use include the provenance of each collection, that information is not repeated here. Also not listed are manuscripts on deposit only, small groups which contain fewer than ten items, and certain genealogical and local history sketches. An ample subject and name index facilitates the use of the guide.

In Wisconsin, since 1962, a decentralization program has established area research centers at seven of the state universities' libraries. Miss Harper describes all manuscripts which have been organized and catalogued for placement at these centers and notes their locations. This arrangement does not necessarily hinder visiting scholars, however, because the dispersed collections can be brought back to Madison for use if sufficient notice is given.
The present guide reflects the special collecting interests of the state historical society over the last decade and the systematic way in which it is concerned with many facets of the contemporary scene as well as the past. One of the emphases has been on the papers of organizations with direct or indirect concern for some aspect of education (e.g., the Methodist Church, the United World Federalists), as well as the personal papers of educators themselves. The role of mass communications in modern America has been another emphasis. This has resulted in many significant additions in such fields as public relations and advertising, radio and television, and stage and screen (e.g., papers of H. V. Kaltenborn, records of the National Broadcasting Company). Another major concern has been to augment the already sizable holdings on labor, as with the papers of the Textile Workers Union of America and of the American Federation of Labor.

The range of interest is clearly not confined to Wisconsin or Wisconsin-related subjects. Historians have long recognized the holdings of the Wisconsin society as significant to the study of many facets of American history. Those whose primary interest is Indiana history will find much of importance in the acquisitions of the last decade. For example, in the territorial period are records of the Continental Congress and the papers of Arthur St. Clair and William Henry Harrison. Correspondence of mid-nineteenth century Indiana congressman John Givan Davis and the papers of Benjamin Harrison are included. The manuscripts of Bradley R. Taylor contain his correspondence of 1952-1957 on behalf of the memorial section of the American Legion Library in Indianapolis.

This guide and its two predecessors give a complete picture of the holdings of the Wisconsin historical society. Together they are an indispensable reference tool for research.

Miami University

Dwight L. Smith


Merton Dillon has surveyed the extant writings of Benjamin Lundy and produced this well-written, lively drama, the first full-length biography of the pioneer abolitionist. Little is known of Lundy's rural New Jersey upbringing; but about 1809 the small, slender youth became a saddler in Wheeling, western Virginia, where, after flirting briefly with worldly amusements, he rededicated himself to Quakerism. The sight of slave traders herding chained Negroes down city streets caused him to vow to God to “break at least one link of that ponderous chain of oppression” (p. 7).

In 1821 Lundy established the Genius of Universal Emancipation, the only abolition newspaper to function throughout the twenties. It was first located in small towns in Ohio, then in Greeneville, Tennessee, and later in Baltimore and Washington. Envisioning that Negro colonization would dispel the southern fear of troublesome freedmen and would prove his argument that free Negro labor could outproduce