From the Chair

Mary Cooper Gilliam has resigned as the Chair of the Legal History and Rare Books SIS. She has given up her position at the University of Virginia in order to begin a second career as a dealer in rare books and manuscripts. We appreciate Mary's contributions to the Section and wish her great success. Anyone who would like to contact her may write to her at Franklin Gilliam Rare Books, 218 South Street, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902.

Various crises — including the lack of an editor — account for the delay in publishing this issue of the Newsletter. The second issue for the year should appear on schedule in June. Editing the Newsletter is thoroughly enjoyable; if you're interested in editing the 1995-96 issues, contact me at (313) 596-0240.

The Section's Secretary-Treasurer Gretchen Feltes is coordinating our program on judicial biography for the Pittsburgh meeting. The program will be held on Sunday, July 16, 1995, at 2:45 P.M. Details on the program will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.

The Section's business meeting in Pittsburgh will be held at 5:15 P.M. on Monday, July 16. We have two serious items to address — the amendments to the Section's bylaws and our programs for the 1996 annual meeting in Indianapolis. For the 1996 meeting, we will be guaranteed two program slots, so this is an excellent opportunity to revive some of our earlier programs that had been rejected by the Education Committee and to address the needs and interests of the Section's members. If you have any program ideas and can't attend the business meeting, be sure to contact me as soon as possible.

Byron Cooper, Chair
About This Newsletter

Despite its birth pains, this issue contains several interesting articles on a variety of topics. Joe Luttrell of Meyer Boswell Books is becoming our most proficient contributor. He has given us permission to reprint an article he has written on Thomas Paine, a topic of current interest with the appearance of two new biographies of Paine and a Library of America edition of his writings (see the review essay by Gordon Wood in the New York Review of Books, June 8, 1995, at 19).

Laura Orr provides an extremely useful guide to researching American history. While many of us have had substantial experience with researching legal history, we sometimes have trouble with questions about general American history and its sources. With Laura’s guide, we can now head for the nearest general research library with a good idea about where to begin.

Paul Prütt of the University of Alabama has contributed an interesting article on early legal education, made possible, we might note, because someone had the foresight to preserve the notebooks of some 19th century law students. If only we knew whether anyone in the 22nd century will want the notebooks of today’s law students! (And, if so, which ones?)

This issue also contains brief articles on legal history sites on the Internet and on the project to collect legal papers related to Abraham Lincoln. Hopefully everyone will find something of interest here.

I am very grateful to Patricia Allen of the University of Detroit Mercy Law Library for her desktop publishing expertise. Above all, this issue would not have been possible without the assistance of Charlotte Bynum, a University of Michigan field placement student who is working with me on law library issues, administration, legal history, and the design of a new research and writing program. In addition, she has found herself writing and editing contributions for this Newsletter and acting as advertising manager. Charlotte’s enthusiasm and good humor have been invaluable.

Finally, I hope that members will continue to support our advertisers, who have been very generous despite the irregular publication schedule. At the least, members interested in legal history or in collecting rare or out-of-print books should make sure that they or their libraries are receiving the catalogs of these advertisers. Be sure to contact them for any history-oriented, reprinted, rare, or out-of-print book needs.

Byron Cooper, Chair/Editor

LH & RB: The Newsletter of the Legal History and Rare Book SIS of the American Association of Law Libraries is published twice a year. Contributions, comments, news items, and advertising inquiries should be directed to the Chair:

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Page 2
The Rights of Man and the Trial of Thomas Paine
by Jordan D. Luttrell
Meyer Boswell Books, Inc.
(Reprinted with permission from AB Bookman's Weekly)

In late 1774, a 37-year-old Englishman toters off the ship bringing him to America, virtually dead from the scurvy he has contracted on the voyage over. A former staymaster, failed greengrocer, and recently dismissed customs officer, this unpromising and unknown person bears one asset worth having — a letter of recommendation from Benjamin Franklin.

Thus we meet Thomas Paine, whose writings in the next two decades will transform America, France, and England. It is from the last, his native land, that he will be tried and outlawed for writing The Rights of Man, the work which Paine's biographer, Sir Alfred Ayer, calls "the most impressive of all his writings." How could this happen?

Paine's power as a writer and publicist is soon evident, within a few months he has become the editor of the Pennsylvania Magazine, to which he contributes anonymously, increasing its subscribers two-and-a-half fold. In late 1775, the first article under his own name appears; it is a collaborative effort and not at all political, but rather reflects Paine's long-held scientific interests, describing a method for making saltpeter to be used for ammunition.

Very soon thereafter, in January 1776, Thomas Paine becomes a famous man, publishing Common Sense, a work which "turned the tide of American opinion in favour of independence" and which sold an unbelievable 150,000 copies in 56 editions within the year. Despite its containing many of the arguments which Paine later was to use in The Rights of Man, it was freely published, bought and sold in both America and England.

The Revolutionary War spurs Paine on; the first of his famous polemics later collectively published as The American Crisis begins "These are the times that try men's souls." In 1780, finally paid £1,700 in salary arrears, he subscribes £500 of it to Washington's hard-pressed army, a generous and essentially financially reckless gesture Paine was often to repeat throughout his life. The same year he drafts the preamble to the first act in this country to abolish slavery, emancipating Pennsylvania's 6,000 slaves.

The 1780's are, relatively speaking, politically quiet for Paine; certainly nothing he writes achieves the fame of Common Sense. During much of the decade, Paine once more pursues his scientific interests, perfecting (ultimately successfully) his design of a single arch iron bridge. Indeed, his first trip to France, in 1787, is to display the bridge's model to the French Academy of Sciences.

All this begins to change when, on July 14, 1789, the Bastille falls. At first, Paine remains silent, though it appears that it is then that he starts writing The Rights of Man; yet it is the appearance of Edmund Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France, excoriating the French and published in November, 1790, which finally pushes Paine to publish.

The first part (of two) of the Rights of Man, replying directly to Burke, appears in small edition in February 1791. Printed at the shop of Thomas Chapman, it is immediately suppressed by its fearful publisher, James Johnson, but its publication is quickly (and
bravely) taken up by J.S. Jordan. The work's success is enormous, an estimated 200,000-
250,000 copies of both parts thought to have been sold. Given England's then population of
ten million, today we would require a five million copy sale in this country alone to equal it.

Still, the authorities leave Paine alone, though Burke hints darkly that the work's proper
reputation should be "that of criminal justice." Events begin to pick up speed in France; in
June, 1791, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette attempt to flee, are captured, and forcibly re-
turned to Paris. Paine, a spectator in the crowd and failing to adorn himself with a Revolutionary
cockade, is mistaken for an aristocrat and barely escapes hanging.

Louis' attempt to escape apparently convinces Paine that the King's bona fides can no longer be
trusted. Paine co-founds a Republican Club which starts a journal (Le Républicain) destined to last only one
issue, but containing a letter from Paine making a point central to The
Rights of Man and his later trial—
that monarchy and hereditary succession cannot be reconciled with the
rights of man.

It is now late in the summer of
1791, and Paine returns to England. Living qui-
ety in London, he quickly writes the second
part of The Rights of Man, having it nearly
finished by September. Taking it to the shop of
Thomas Chapman, who had printed the first part,
Paine discovers that Chapman wishes to pur-
chase the second part outright, for 100 guineas.
When Paine refuses, Chapman offers 500 guin-
eas, then 1,000, lending credence to the later
surmise that the English government, through
Chapman, sought the work's purchase so as to
suppress it.

Facing Paine's continued refusal to sell,
Chapman agrees to print the second part; but by mid-January he has still not completed the
job, whereupon he informs Paine that he has
decided not to finish it. Taken over by J.S.
Jordan, the work finally appears on February
17, 1792. Paine, beginning to sense the danger
to be faced, assures Jordan by letter the pre-
ceding day that he is both the author and the
publisher.
Paine's protection of Jordan occurs none
too soon, for within two months a warrant is
sworn out for Jordan's arrest. Paine, in Kent,
returns to London to assume the cost of
Jordan's defense, but Jordan chooses to plead
guilty, turning over all his notes relating to Paine.
Three weeks later, England's attorney general
brings an information against Paine (thus avoid-
ing a grand jury) charging him with seditious
libel.

Seditious libel was a form of
criminal libel and serious business
in the late 18th century, conviction
could (and did) lead to transpor-
tation (banishment) and, as in
Paine's case, to outlawry. What
it actually was is not so easy to
tell, elastic and amorphous as its
contents were. But it is clear that
an author ridiculing or defaming the
government, particularly the King
or the Royal family, was taking a
real risk.

Here we find Paine has done precisely
this, having written that "[a]ll hereditary gov-
ernment is in its nature tyranny... [a]n heredit-
tary government is as inconsistent as an heredit-
ary author... monarchy always appears to
me a silly, contemptible thing."

Despite Paine's precarious status, he re-
 mains in England through the summer; the prof-
its of some £1,000 which accrues to him as roy-
ties for The Rights of Man he characteristically
gives away, to the Society for Constitutional
Information. Then events alter significantly in
France, with the so-called September massa-
cres, the first manifestation of the Terror on a
large scale; over 1,100 persons are put to death.
On September 12, perhaps unwisely, Paine
speaks passionately before the Friends of Liberty.

That night, no less a personage than William Blake warns him “You must not go home or you are a dead man” — and Paine instantly flees for France, escaping on a vessel from Dover some 20 minutes before the officer bearing the warrant for his arrest arrives at the dock.

Paine reaches Paris on September 19, 1792, two days later, Louis XVI is deposed. The debate whether he should be tried or simply executed immediately begins. In England, Paine’s work gains far wider circulation, to the accompaniment of bread riots. Finally, on November 19, the French Convention decrees assistance to those revolting against their duly-constituted rulers.

In these circumstances, England’s Attorney General presses for Paine’s trial in December, one in absentia as then permitted under English law, and Paine’s friends begin hunting for a lawyer.

They are fortunate — they offer the case to Thomas Erskine, surely the greatest advocate of his day and conceivably the finest courtroom lawyer ever to practice English law, who accepts. The risk to Erskine is substantial, and in fact he loses his post as attorney general to the Prince of Wales following the trial.

The task facing Erskine becomes even more difficult when a “special jury” is chosen — one permitting the Crown to stack the deck; Paine then complicates his counsel’s case by, from all appearances, writing a letter to the Attorney General from Paris reaffirming his views, one whose inflammatory language is read in full to the jury over Erskine’s objection.

Yet Erskine still makes what remains as one of the strongest cases for freedom of the press ever offered — that the freedom is central to the “unalienable right of the people to reform ... their governments.” The power to persuade via the written word must be allowed its sway, Erskine maintains, though he concedes that the power to incite illegal action may be curbed.

Even the greatest lawyers cannot win impossible cases, and Erskine suffers the ignominy of the jury, without leaving its box, declaring Paine guilty; indeed it excuses the Attorney General from his closing speech, so made up is its mind, and Paine is outlawed.

The consequences to others than Paine are hardly better; the succeeding year, at least a half dozen individuals are fined and given jail terms for publishing or selling The Rights of Man. Matters are as bad in Scotland, where the barrister Thomas Muir is sentenced to fourteen years transportation for “feloniously and wickedly circulating and distributing” Paine’s work.
As late as 1819 Richard Carlile and his wife are fined £1,500 and £500 and imprisoned for three and two years, respectively, for publishing Paine's writings. Paine himself, an outlaw, is never able to return to England, dying in this country in 1809.

The proceedings of Paine's trial were printed almost instantly; there are several reports with a 1792 imprint, even though the trial began on December 18, and at least a half dozen more in 1793. I have not been able to assign any priority to the 1792 printings—perhaps a review of the periodical press would do that—but my own favorite is that published by J.S. Jordan, the printer courageous enough to print The Rights of Man under perilous circumstances, just over 100 pages in length, it is the shorthand report taken by E. Hodgson, and quite a full one. Yet the report issued by the Gurney family (sold by Martha Gurney and taken in shorthand by Joseph Gurney) may be its textual superior, approximating 200 pages.

It must be said that freedom of the press hardly won in Paine's case; yet hundreds of thousands of copies of his work were printed and circulated. The best lawyer of the day defended Paine and argued freedom's principles. Books are still banned, but their protectors flourish; they may be proud of those who have preceded them.


The most complete account of the trial which I have read appears in the five chapters devoted to it and to its surrounding circumstances on Lloyd Paul Stryker's biography of Thomas Erskine, For the Defense: Thomas

Erskine, The Most Enlightened Liberal of His Times, 1750-1823 (1947). A good, starting bibliography of Paine, including the trial, may be found in The Thomas Paine Collection at Thetford, an Analytical Catalogue, based on the collection at Thetford, Paine's birthplace, and published by the Norfolk County Library in Norwich in 1979.

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

On behalf of the AALL's Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the Chair, Nicholas Triffin, has recommended several changes in the Section's Bylaws. These amendments will be discussed and voted on at the Section's meeting in Pittsburgh on July 16, 1995, at 5:15 P.M.

Article II, Section 2: Delete the words “Constitution and”; the newly approved bylaws of the AALL have replaced the Constitution.

Article VI, Section 4: In the last sentence, change the word “notes” to “votes.” This is undoubtedly what was originally meant.

Article VI, Section 8: No preceding sections talk about tie votes or runoffs. When are runoffs required—for tie votes only or whenever candidates get pluralities but not majority votes? These problems could be corrected with the following:

Article VI, Section 7: Add the following at the end of the existing section: “The candidate receiving the largest number of votes for a position shall be declared elected to that position.”

Since there is no provision for handling a tie vote, we can renumber Article VI, Section 9, as Article VI, Section 10, and insert the following:

Article VI, Section 9: In case of a tie vote, the successful candidate shall be determined by lot conducted by the Section's Executive Committee.
Lincoln's Legal Papers
by Charlotte Bynum
Student, University of Michigan

The Lincoln Legal Papers Project in Springfield, Illinois, is within weeks of completing its collection of photocopies of court records in the last of the 88 out of 102 counties in Illinois in which cases handled by Abraham Lincoln or his three partners at the trial or appellate level were filed. Their historical researchers are now working in Lincoln's home county, Sangamon County, and will continue to go back to other counties to ensure that inadvertently omitted items or items that have come to the Project's attention since researchers have visited there are included in their collection.

Abraham Lincoln and his partners practiced law in Illinois from 1836-61, and the project has collected not only county court records, but also newspaper accounts, reminiscences of other attorneys, and other records relating to the cases, such as probate records. As a result of this broad collection focus, according to Martha L. Benner, Assistant Director of the Project, "we have given researchers a slice of not just legal but also social history" from that period which can be then looked at in greater detail.

The Project was inaugurated in 1985 and is now headed by Dr. Collum Davis, who is Director and Executive Editor of the Project. The first county search was undertaken in 1990.

Since that time, researchers have gone to each county with a photocopier and made copies of papers, including docket records, and have thereby amassed a collection of facsimiles. During this process, the project has aided in the identification and preservation of these important records.

Each county is informed of the existence of the records found by the Project, and is told that the Illinois State Archives will encapsulate the papers and give the county the option of the State Archives' keeping the record or returning them to the county. As a result, all of the original records so far identified have been kept by the State Archives, with ownership in them being retained by the counties.

In addition to its work in the county records, the Project in 1988 launched a massive mail survey in which it sent out 14,000 letters and questionnaires to collectors and historical repositories in North America. It has also searched footnotes in secondary sources to find citations to materials relating to Lincoln's legal career. Researchers were then sent to photocopy these materials and add them to the Project's collection of facsimiles.

The Project's two major publications, when completed, will prove of invaluable benefit to future researchers. The first, which is expected to come out in 1997, will be a CD-ROM containing facsimiles of every paper collected by the Project with an extensive electronic index allowing researchers to search, for example, for a particular person, a particular case, or a particular point of law. One fruitful
area of research might be to look at the cases in which Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas were on opposite sides, to give context to the famous Lincoln and Douglas debates. Because the photocopies themselves will be scanned, researchers will be able to see what the original documents really looked like, and not just see the text collected from them.

In contrast to the wealth of raw data collected and made accessible in the CD-ROM, the Project's second publication, the first two volumes of which will be published in 1998 or 1999, will be a book edition which will give a full, contextualized treatment of 70 to 100 of the most important cases, including factual background and the precedential value of each case, along with identifications of the people involved. Three additional volumes are expected to follow the first two.

Lincoln brought many of the lawyers he knew and worked with in Illinois to work in his administration in Washington, including David Davis, who was appointed by Lincoln to serve on the United States Supreme Court. Consequently, the value of the collection extends far beyond interest in Illinois history. The collection is open to researchers, but because of the ongoing work of the Project and its limited resources, researchers are urged to write or call in advance to see if their research interests can be adequately accommodated. The Project's address is Old State Capital, Springfield, IL 62701, and its phone number is (217) 785-9130. The Project is part of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and has received funding from the Abraham Lincoln Association, the College of Law of the University of Illinois, the Center for Legal Studies at Sangamon State University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and the Illinois Bar Foundation.

The Lincoln Scholar of the Illinois State Archives, Dr. Wayne Calhoun Temple, will be publishing a book on the role religion played in Lincoln's life and career. It will be released this fall by May Haven Publishing Co. (P.O. Box 557, Mahomet, IL 61853), and will be called *Abraham Lincoln: From Skeptic to Prophet*. Also of interest to Lincoln scholars is Elizabeth W. Matthews' *Lincoln as a Lawyer: An Annotated Bibliography*, which was published in 1991 by Southern Illinois University Press.

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Alabama's Litchfield Notebook
by Paul M. Pruitt, Jr.
University of Alabama

The University of Alabama Law Library's Special Collections Department has a fair collection of lawyers' notebooks, most dating from the turn of the century and compiled by small town attorneys.¹ The school's archives, however, are lucky to have an even older manuscript book, a student notebook once the property of George Josiah Sturges Walker—a native of Georgia who in 1826 journeyed far from his home to study at the Litchfield Law School in Connecticut.²

Founded in 1784 by lawyer and jurist Tapping Reeve, the Litchfield Law School was the nation's first well-developed institution of legal education. The school quickly established an excellent reputation and survived until 1833. In the nineteenth century, duties were increasingly carried out by Judge James Gould, Reeve's pupil, and his partner from 1798.³ Reeve and Gould taught primarily by lecture, though they also made use of a student (or "moot") court, a practice that linked Litchfield both to the English Inns of Court and to modern law schools. Students were required to use the school's fine library, another link between Litchfield and today's university-based legal education.⁴ Enrollment fluctuated between twenty and fifty pupils who came from all over the nation as well as from Canada.⁵

Despite political differences between North and South, Southern accents were fairly common at Litchfield. John C. Calhoun (class of 1805) was perhaps the school's most distinguished graduate. During his attendance he was an ardent Jeffersonian surrounded by Federalists; yet he considered Reeve and Gould to be excellent teachers.⁶ At a time when legal education generally consisted of "reading law", the training Litchfield had to offer was considered so valuable that Southerners flocked to hear

Reeve and Gould. Georgia and South Carolina furnished more students than any other states except Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York.⁷

By the time George J.S. Walker knew him, Judge Gould was a grey-haired man who conducted his morning classes from a low platform (and sipped iced brandy in the afternoons). To his mind, law was a science, and in this view he was typical of many of the institutional legal educators who would follow him.⁸ Influenced by Blackstone, Judge Gould had divided the common law into subject groupings, or "Titles" of his own devising; a full course of lectures covered forty-eight such topics. An hour and a half in length, his daily lectures embraced "principles and rules... supported by numerous authorities, and generally accompanied with familiar illustrations." As he went along, Gould discussed conflicting authorities, citing opposing arguments and concluding with his own opinions.⁹ In short, he

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was teaching his students to think like lawyers. The impersonal nature of his presentations, together with the balance of his manner, may have softened the political sting that some of his opinions carried. Walker, for example, heard from him that "The Common Law clearly does not recognize any species of private slavery"—and that slavery was legal, if at all, under "local laws." 10

After lectures, students were given time to rewrite their rough notes and to consult authorities in the library. Written out, Gould's lectures filled several volumes (depending on the note-taker's skills).11 Like Reeve before him, Gould regarded his methods and organizations as a trade secret and was careful not to publish his system. Students circulated handwritten copies anyway, just as law students share course "summaries" today. The final product—handwritten and often annotated notebooks—were so much prized by their owners that more than three dozen examples have survived. 12

Of George J.S. Walker little is known. He was an 1825 graduate of the University of Georgia, which may indicate that he came from background of "good family." After spending a year at Litchfield he returned to practice law in Richmond County. In 1828 he served in the Georgia House of Representatives, another step up the ladder for an ambitious young man.13 At that point, however, he vanishes, turning up next in 1850 at Cahaba, Alabama. There he delivered an oration on the life and virtues of the recently deceased John C. Calhoun. Walker never held a major political office in Alabama; the print text of his Calhoun eulogy does not show whether he was practicing law.14 Evidently his was a fairly typical nineteenth-century life, migratory and a bit disjointed. Yet like so many of his classmates he held on to his lecture notes.

The notebook is bound in brown leather, with "Gould's Lectures, Vol. 1" and "G.J.S.W." stamped in gold upon the spine. The text is written in a beautiful period hand, employing various abbreviations—"C.L." for Common Law, "Bl." for Blackstone, "St." for Statute, and so forth, as well as "y" for "ye." The text of the notes is uniformly ruled, and is generally written on the recto of each leaf, though many leaves have brief notes or comments written on the verso. Probably Walker worked from rough drafts, or more likely, from a set of notes then in circulation; the verso notes may represent off-the-cuff comments made by Judge Gould or by members of the class. Walker seems to have copied the lectures into a number of smaller notebooks or folds of ordinary notebook paper, which were then trimmed before being bound together.

The volume contains the text of lectures on "Master and Servant," "Contracts," "Bailments," and "Executors and Administrators." Obviously these do not represent Gould's complete course. Did Walker write out other volumes of notes, and if so what happened to them? How did he use these notes in his practice?

As an object both rare and old, the Walker notebook points us toward these and other little mysteries. What, for example, was the nature of Walker's career in Alabama? At present we do not know. Yet even as it stands, his notebook—like those of other Litchfield men—can tell us a great deal about what has changed, and what hasn't, in legal education.

NOTES

The author would like to thank Timothy Heff for encouragement and assistance.


2. See George Josiah S[urges] W[alker], Notes on Lectures Presented by Judge James
Gould at Litchfield Law School (unpublished manuscript in the Special Collections Department, University of Alabama School of Law Library). See also authenticating note from Charles C. Goetsch, November 14, 1979, accompanying Walker Notes.


5. See table in Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 151.

6. For an account of Calhoun’s education at Yale and Litchfield, see Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 124-135, 158.

7. See tables in Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 145; 1 Warren Grice, The Georgia Bench and Bar 351-54 (1931) (discussing Litchfield’s place in early Southern legal education).

8. Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 108, 120, 166-172. For the beginning of the academic tendency to regard law as a science, see Robert Stevens, Law School: Legal Education In America From The 1850’s To The 1980’s 51-56 (1983).


10. Walker Notes, supra note 2, at leaves 4, 5; Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 158.

11. Marian C. McKenna, supra note 3, at 167.

12. Id. at 119, 171-172, 183-186.


15. Text in the section on “Contracts” is written on both sides of the leaves.
Legal History on the
World Wide Web
by Charlotte Bynum
Student, University of Michigan

Several sites on the Internet may be of interest to our readers or the researchers with whom they work. A good reference book on the Internet is Ed Krol’s The Whole Internet: User’s Guide and Catalog, 2nd edition, 1994. The following are among the more interesting legal history resources on the Internet.

Robert C. Palmer, Professor of History at the University of Houston and well-known for his work on the influence of the Black Death on legal and social institutions, has placed his teaching materials for the part of his English Legal History Course covering 1176 to 1215 on the web, as well as exercises for learning the common law estates in land and future interests, at URL: http://vi.uh.edu/pages/bob.html. Further segments of teaching materials for his legal history course will be added if there is sufficient interest.


Thomas Rüffner, a student at the University of Tübingen, has set up a “Roman law in the WWW” home page at URL: http://www.jura.uni-sb.de/Rechtsgeschichte/Ius.Romanum/english.html. He has placed parts of the Digest with corresponding parts of Justinian’s glosses on the page, together with biographical information on Papinian, Ulpian, and Accursius. The texts are in Latin, and volunteer efforts are solicited to put up more of the Corpus Iuris. Those readers who wish to participate should e-mail Rüffner directly at his address given on the home page.

Brice Dickson, Professor of Law at the University of Ulster, has made available on the net his third edition of “The Legal System of Northern Ireland,” which takes a historical approach. It is located at URL: http://143.117.33.25/1legal1.htm.

H-Net is an international initiative which operates over 50 scholarly moderated lists, including H-Law, which has as the scope of its discussion legal and constitutional history. To subscribe to H-Law, e-mail a message to: LISTSERV@MSU.EDU (put nothing on the subject line). For the text of the message, write SUBSCRIBE H-LAW YOUR NAME YOUR INSTITUTION. If you would like information on the other history-related lists, send a message to LISTSERV@UICVM.UIC.EDU, again with no text on the subject line, and put as your text GET H-NET ANNOUNCE.

H-Net’s Executive Director is Richard Jensen, Professor of History at the University of Illinois - Chicago, (phone 615-552-9923, fax 615-572-1024, e-mail Richard.Jensen@uicvm.uic.edu). The H-Net gopher at the University of Illinois-Chicago gopher is located at URL: gopher://gopher.uic.edu/11/research/history/hnetxx. The Winter 1995 newsletter of the American Society for Legal History is placed there at /40227008/5030200.

Program Ideas for Indianapolis?

If you have any suggestions for the Section’s programs for the 1996 annual meeting, bring them to our business meeting in Pittsburgh on July 16, 1995, at 5:15 p.m., or contact Byron Cooper at (313) 596-0240 or COOPERBD@UDMERCY.EDU.
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*Essay and General Literature Index.* New York: H. W. Wilson, 1900-. (Also available through Wilsonline).

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