

year. There are no 1776 letters in the collection; but fourteen were written during the Revolutionary period, while three of them, Lewis, Witherspoon, and Chase, were addressed to Washington. The set is not bound, nor illustrated.

XVI.—State Library, Albany, N. Y. This was the first and only complete set formed by Mr. Tefft; and after its purchase at \$625, by Mr. Griswold from Mr. Tefft's widow, in 1865, it was sold to the State of New York, with only twenty-seven full letters, for the moderate sum of \$800. Since it went into the possession of the State, a number of improvements have been made, by the care and good judgment of the librarian, Dr. Homes, in the substitution of better specimens, including eleven full letters. It now numbers thirty-eight A. L. S.; while Samuel Adams, Paine, Sherman, Hart, Stockton, McKean, Paca, Gwinnett, and Hall, are A. D. S.; Lewis and Livingston, L. S.; Thornton, Hopkins, Lewis Morris, Morton, Stone, and Middleton, D. S., and Lynch, a cut signature. Of the full letters, Clark and Smith were written in 1776, and fifteen others during the Revolutionary period. The rarities of the collection are the full letter of Heyward, and the fine A. D. S., of Gwinnett. The set is nicely bound in dark Turkey morocco, in quarto size, with thirty-four engraved likenesses, and engravings of the declaration; and in the volume are included letters or documents of R. R. Livingston, John Dickinson, and Thomas Willing, members of the Congress of 1776, but not signers, and of Charles Thomson, the secretary, together with one of Washington.

XVII.—Mrs. Wm. D. Ely, Providence, R. I. This collection was made by Mrs. Eliza H. Allen, a daughter of Welcome Arnold, of Providence, a descendant of the first Governor Green, of the colonial days of Rhode Island. She was born in Providence, October 5, 1796; and was united in marriage to Hon. Zachariah Allen, LL. D., of that city. Mrs. Allen inherited from childhood many old ancestral papers, which inspired an early love for autographs. She commenced her set of the signers about 1825, and by indefatigable industry she succeeded in securing her group of auto-