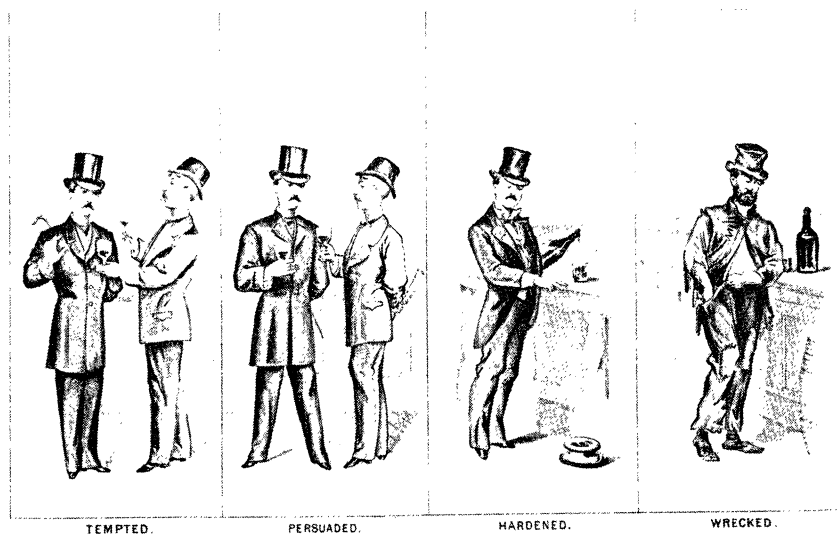
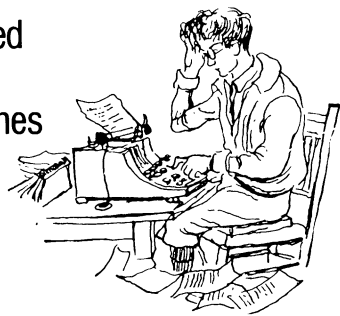


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
David J. Jones



THE PROGRESS OF INTEMPERANCE.

## A whole world of libraries

I don't know if you've ever had to find an information centre in Hungary specialising in mycology. Or a wine institute in Spain. Or libraries concentrating on cables, canals, candy or catalysis. Somewhere in the world. The *World guide to special libraries* (Saur, 1983) may help, but to track down elusive information centres and database producers in science and technology, there is now another Saur directory to help. *Libraries, information centers and databases in science and technology* contains the names and address, and brief information, on 10,500 such special libraries with collections of over 3,000 volumes in 139 countries, plus 350 information and documentation centres, and almost 200 producers of 360 online databases. Entries are arranged by country, and there are full name and subject indexes. Judging by the Australian entries, utter comprehensiveness is not achieved, which is perhaps small wonder. For countries where adequate directories of special libraries and relevant databases exist, those should remain your first port of call. Elsewhere, this work begins to come into its own. Its not insubstantial price tag will destine it for the shelves of very substantial reference collections.

*Libraries, information centres and databases in science and technology: a world guide* was published by Saur in 1984 and will appear about every two years. It costs DM 240.00, and my review copy was supplied by James Bennett Pty Ltd. (ISBN 3 598 10533 9; ISSN 0176-7593)

## The Currier and Ives phenomenon

Few parlours of Middle America in the mid to late 1800s, we are led to believe, would have been without their fashionable lithograph on some patriotic or moral theme, produced, as like as not, by the firm of Currier and Ives.

Depending on the tone of the home, it might be 'The Rocky Mountains: emigrants crossing the plains', or 'The progress of Intemperance', or perhaps 'Abraham Lincoln: the Nation's Martyr'. There were certainly plenty of Currier and Ives prints to choose from: a list of their productions published in 1930 numbered 5735 titles, and many others have been documented since. A recent addition to the not-so-slender bibliography of Currier and Ives has been made by Gale Research in the form of a 1000-page catalogue raisonné providing details of more than 7000 prints. Typical entries provide C & I stock numbers, size, coloration, description, artist and lithographer's names, compiler's notes, date, and the names of institutions where the print is available for public view. Indexes provide access to prints by site depicted, date, title, subject, and artist/lithographer, and there is a concordance linking this work with previously published checklists.

*Currier and Ives: a catalogue raisonné* was published last year by Gale Research and costs US\$250.00 for the two-volume set. (ISBN 0 8103 1638 2)

## Childbirth without tears

Acting on the assumption that the principle that 'any fool can go to the library, read a book and learn how to do it' holds as good for childbirth as it does for silk screen printing, Janet Isaacs Ashford exhausted the resources of her local library, her community college library (this was in the United States) and then milked the inter-library loan network. Then she bought alternative birth books from her local progressive bookstore. After the (home) birth of her child, she stayed interested, and kept abreast of the literature. The result is *The whole birth catalog*, a substantial sourcebook on childbirth choices, published in 1983 by the Crossing Press. This 313-page work contains extensive assessments of publications on various approaches to childbirth, addresses of relevant (U.S.) organisations and self-help groups, descriptions and sources of alternative baby products. There are helpful introductory notes on all of the vital topics, including the contentious ones, such as circumcision, caesareans, high-tech versus home birthstyles. It's all well indexed, well-illustrated, snappily-written.

Janet Isaacs Asford's *The whole birth catalog*, published by the Crossing Press in 1983, is available locally from the Second Back Row Press, PO Box 43, Leura, NSW 2781. The paperback edition costs \$19.95. (ISBN 0 89594 107 4 (paper); ISBN 0 89594 108 2 (hardback))

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