

of the world of taste and scholarship is something of which Americans may rightly be proud.

That these enlightened ideas, and others like them, were expressed in a journal with the wide readership (mostly nonbibliographical) of *Publishers' Weekly* was fortunate; and one cannot help regretting that Carter's voice was not much heard there after the rare-book department was ceded to the *Antiquarian Bookman* in 1948.

Two other publications of the 1940s deserve mention. In 1941, Carter and Brooke Crutchley (of Cambridge University Press) produced a revised edition of Harry G. Aldis's 1916 *The Printed Book*. Although their edition is now superseded, it is significant for the role it played for a decade or two. Their contribution was to provide up-to-date coverage of the nineteenth-century revolution in book production, especially the introduction of publishers' binding and new methods of printing and illustration. The book was one more element in Carter's ongoing effort to promote the study of nineteenth-century books. And since it sold well (with reprintings occurring in 1947 and 1951), it served that purpose effectively. At the other end of the decade, in 1948, another of Carter's perennial concerns was represented in *The Firm of Charles Ottley, Landon & Co.* (the title-page authorship credited to Carter "with Graham Pollard"). As the subtitle indicated, it was a "footnote to *An Enquiry*," proving four more pamphlets fraudulent and serving as the first interim report on the continuing investigation of the Wise-Forman forgeries.

THE 1950S

The next decade was one of dramatic change in Carter's life. In early 1953 Scribner's closed most of its London operations, thus ending Carter's quarter-century association with the firm (during which time he had made thirty-six Atlantic crossings). And in October of 1955 he happily joined Sotheby's book department as a half-time associate, with special responsibility for being the American representative (a particularly appropriate appointment since he already knew the American scene so well); this arrangement left him free to engage at the same time in independent consulting for collectors and librarians, an activity that extended the influence of his ideas.

During the two and a half years in between (from April 1953 to October 1955), he was based at the British Embassy in Washington as the personal assistant (with the rank of Counsellor) to the British ambassador, Sir Roger Makins (a service for which he was later named Commander of the Order of the British Empire). He was a perfect choice, with his wide knowledge of the United States and his elegance in manner and dress as