Volume 5 is on its way. . .

. . .but Christmas will beat it

Volume 5 of Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees won’t make it to the Christmas buying season. It is at the printer now, and if all goes well will make its appearance in January. If we are any judge, though, volume 5 is our best and most enthralling yet and will be well worth the wait.

And yes, have your hankie handy for the tearjerker ending.

Volume 5 opens in 1817 as peace has returned following the War of 1812 in America and the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. Without approval of the State of Georgia, the United States government agrees to Cherokee ownership of the land “in fee simple.” Encouraged, the Cherokees set about building a national capital, a “permanent seat of government” at Newtown, soon to be called New Echota, and the Moravians’ “apostle to the Cherokees,” Br. Abraham Steiner, is invited to consecrate the council house.

Meanwhile, the Moravians’ mission at Springplace flourishes with new members and new church. The need for more mission is so great that a second missionary couple, Johann
Vault visitors #1:
A love of maps

An enthusiastic group of map lovers and connoisseurs flocked to Salem on November 9 to attend the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts' seminar "Mapping the Early South III: New Insights."

Margaret Pritchard, maps curator of Colonial Williamsburg, moderated the program of three featured speakers.

New York map dealer Henry Taliaferro presented the Fry-Jefferson maps of Virginia as a political maneuver to claim Ohio for the English over the French. Chapel Hill map scholar Jay Lester gave a lively account of who the Henry Mouzon and "others" were behind the 1775 Mouzon map of North and South Carolina. And MESDA's own collections curator, Johanna Metzger Brown, introduced seminar participants, who had come from as far as Texas and Florida, to the Moravians' map maker-surveyor, Christian Gottlieb Reuter.

Highlight of the seminar was a visit to the vault of the Archie K. Davis Center to view maps in the collection of the Moravian Archives including
- The 1773 Cook maps of South Carolina, one in black-and-white, one in color;
- the 1751 dated Fry-Jefferson map of Virginia, which Mr. Taliaferro noted is one of only five copies known to exist;
- Reuter's "Great Map" of Wachovia, showing the land the Moravians purchased in 1753, in four sections totaling more than 60 square feet.

Detail of the cartouche of the Moravian Archives' 1751 dated Fry-Jefferson map of Virginia. The handwritten "Most" updates it to the map's second "state" or printing, implying that other Virginians also lived in the region that is now Ohio.
Vault visitor #2: Yech!

Intruder alert! Intruder alert! And in the sacred vault of Moravian Archives (and Moravian Music Foundation), no less. Oh, what to do, what to do? NO! we are not going to pick him — it? — up by his tail and escort him out.

Cute and cuddly?!? What ilk of Brethren’s beer have you been quaffing? Looky! He’s curling, coiling up! Right beneath the Northern Province Moravian weekly newspaper.

Why does that sound so apt?

OK, Gen’l. Sherman or whatever your name is. Before you slither into further mischief, the jig is up. We’ve called on Mark Leinbach, Salem Congregation’s super snake sleuth, to sweep you up into a proper serpent-proof corral — does he look comfy, Nola Knouse? Sing him a dirge as we give him a final send-off to the great outdoors. Begone! Vamoose!!! (Hope Northern Province doesn’t hear of this invasion.)
Volume 5

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The Springplace school also prospers, and Sr. Gambold sees four of her scholars sent to Cornwall in Connecticut for further education to become the next generation of leaders of the Cherokee Nation.

But then tragedy strikes when Sr. Gambold is “called home” in “Farewell to Sister Gambold,” the concluding volume of “The Anna Rosina Years.” What John Gambold’s next step will be is told in future volumes of Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees, as Removal and the Trail of Tears loom down the road.

At 656 pages, volume 5 is an impressive addition to the Records of the Moravians among the Cherokees. Volume 5 also contains:

- a catalog of scholars at Springplace, 1804-1821, complete with parents listed as well (when known);
- Abraham Steiner’s “Little Vocabulary,” published in its entirety, giving Cherokee words and their English equivalent;
- the memoir of Sr. Margaret Ann Crutchfield, long sought, recently found;

University of Oklahoma Press is marketing the Records: Cherokees nationally at $50.00 each plus shipping and handling. But for a limited time with a limited supply Moravian Archives is offering all five volumes at $40.00 each plus $5.00 shipping and handling. Cash or check only (no credit card) can be made to Moravian Archives, 457 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101. Please specify which volume(s) you are purchasing.