

Burney Letter

Vol. 3 No. 2

The Burney Society

Fall 1997

SF meeting focuses on Burney studies

AN ADDRESS ON the rise of Burney studies in the 19th century and a short talk on James Burney will highlight the third annual general meeting of the Burney Society beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3.

The dinner meeting will be held in the Garden Room, a small dining room attached to the main dining room of the ANA Hotel, which is also the site of the annual general meeting of the Jane Austen Society of North America that weekend.

The Burney Society meeting will begin following the JASNA opening reception and costume exhibit to be held upstairs in the hotel, located at 50 Third St. in downtown San Francisco, two blocks from Union Square. The dinner will start an hour earlier than originally planned because the JASNA reception starts an hour earlier.

Dinner entree selections include

AGM registration form on Page 3

chicken breast with spinach and stuffing, vegetarian penne pasta or prime rib. The price of dinner includes salad, entree, dessert, tea or coffee, taxes and gratuities. Wine may be purchased separately.

The price for the meeting and dinner is \$40 (U.S.) per person for members who choose chicken or pasta as an entree and \$45 for those who want prime rib. Non-members will pay \$5 more. Register by filling out the form in this issue and returning it to Lucy Magruder by Sept. 24.

After dinner and a short business meeting, Prof. Peter Sabor, professor of Literature at Université Laval in Quebec,

will speak on "Annie Raine Ellis, Austin Dobson, and the Rise of Burney Studies."

In his talk, Prof. Sabor will maintain that it is thanks to Annie Raine Ellis (c. 1829-1901) and Austin Dobson (1840-1921) that Frances Burney was first recognized as an author worthy of serious critical attention.

Ellis's work as a Burney scholar consists of three editions: *Evelina* (1881), *Cecilia* (1882), and *The Early Diary of Frances Burney* (1889). Together they focused attention on Burney as both novelist and journal-writer at a time when little notice was being taken of her works. With their extensive introductions, appendixes, and annotations, they suggested, for the first time, that Burney was something more than just a minor woman writer, made

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Society pleads case with Abbey dean

By Jean Bowden

ON THE MORNING of Friday, May 2, I met fellow Burney Society Patron Susan McCartan at Alton Station and we caught a very early train to London for our 10 a.m. appointment with Dr. Wesley Carr, the new Dean of Westminster Abbey.

We had arranged to meet Lucy Magruder, Society secretary/treasurer, at the entrance to the Abbey. We duly met up with Lucy and her husband, Marshall, who was carrying around a large box — which we knew was full of books. We were surprised that security hadn't waylaid him!

The Abbey was very crowded and incredibly noisy, with tourists and groups being led around by guides. We sent a message to the Dean's secretary that we had arrived, and she came to meet us — a very tall, dignified, but sweet lady in a long skirt and high-necked blouse. She took us through a side door and immediately the babble of voices was shut out. We proceeded in a hushed silence up thickly carpeted stairs, along a corridor lined with oil paintings of previous Deans, and were ushered into the Dean's office.

We were greeted kindly by Dr. Carr, and the first surprise was how very young he was — I, at least, expected to

see a very elderly gentleman! He showed us to a group of comfortable chairs by the window, and we immediately felt at ease. Lucy presented him with a resume of Fanny Burney's life, a list of her works, diaries and letters, and a set of all the Burney Society's newsletters so far issued. She also presented a list of referees and supporters, compiled by our president, Paula Stepankowsky, which included their addresses, summaries of their careers and connections with Fanny Burney. The referees are Prof. Margaret Anne Doody, Prof. Peter Sabor, Prof. Janet Todd, Dr. Joyce Hemlow, Prof.

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Burney Society first appears at ALS

By Lucy Magruder

ENTERING THE GATHERING room for the Alliance for Literary Societies (ALS) annual meeting in Birmingham, England, was like stepping into an Anthology of English literature.

Clutching biscuits and tea, Lucy Magruder, the Burney Society representative, made her way by exhibit tables and talked with the friendly members eager to share information about their author and organization.

Since about a third of the Burney Society's members reside in the United Kingdom, and major goals we wish to accomplish must take place there, we joined the ALS shortly after we were formed. Sharing information is the main reason the ALS was founded about 10 years ago.

The ALS holds its annual meeting every year in April in a Unitarian church hall in Birmingham, a central England location so representatives can both travel and attend on the day from almost anywhere in England. The 38 member societies take turns sponsoring the event. There is an annual newsletter.

In the gathering room, which was full of tables and displays, exhibits were staffed by enthusiastic members. Jean Bowden, British Secretary/Treasurer of the Burney Society supplied copies of the

latest *Burney Letter* for the general information table. Perhaps, some year we can do more.

At annual meetings, the morning is devoted to business and the afternoon to the sponsoring society. Among the usual business items this year were important discussions about insurance and a wonderfully interesting time where representatives shared happenings within their societies. This year's stories were about events, such as how members worked through political or governmental bureaucracy. There was a particularly interesting explanation of how to get on the Internet through local government tourist agencies. The Cheshire County Council employee/ALS member had information about the town of Knutsford online, and, via that World Wide Web page, a way for browsers to read about Elizabeth Gaskell and the Gaskell Society. This is something the Burney Society could consider.

The ALS runs on a minuscule budget. Dues are five pounds a year, and the cost of attending the annual meeting was one pound. Powered by volunteers, the accomplishments could be mighty, we heard at the meeting.

Lucy Magruder was interviewed by a London Telegraph reporter and the Burney Society and Fanny Burney (Lucy only referred to her as Frances Burney)

did make it into the article. The report is written in a sportive tone, shall we say; Magruder answered the questions in the same tone. The reporter obviously was enjoying himself at the ALS meeting. Who wouldn't among such august authorial company.

Copies of the ALS newsletter and the Telegraph article will be available at the Burney Society meeting in San Francisco. If you are unable to attend and would like a copy of one or both, please write Lucy Magruder, P.O. Box 5424, Fullerton, CA 92635.

'Witlings' reading set for November

The Bare Boards Theatre Company will mount a staged reading of Fanny Burney's play *The Witlings* at the Tristan Bates Theatre in The Actors Centre, 1a Tower Street, London WC2H 9NP (tel. 0171-240-3940) at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 28, and Saturday, Nov. 29.

Karin Fernald, who gave the first talk to the British branch of the Burney Society, will take part.

Publisher credited Burney with writing another's novel

Booksellers often provide their catalog readers with interesting reading.

In his May 1997 catalog, "English Books 1630 - 1900," James Burmester of Bath, wrote some details pertinent to Burney studies.

Listed is a French edition of Agnes Maria Bennett's *Juvenile Indiscretions*.

The title page does not carry an author's name; instead it reads "par l'auteur de *Cecilia*."

Burmester writes, "The French booksellers' habit of encouraging sales by falsely attributing minor novels to well-known writers, in this case Fanny Burney, was quite common at this time." Apparently, the publishers of the French edition felt the title needed a boost.

Fanny Burney published *Cecilia* in 1782.

Usually referred to as Mrs. Bennett, and even Elizabeth Bennett, Agnes Maria Bennett, a contemporary of Burney's, was a Minerva Press regular. *Juvenile Indiscretions* appeared in 1786. Others were *Anna, or, Memoirs of a Welsh Heiress* in 1796 and the seven-volume *The Beggar Girl and Her Benefactors* 1807, probably Minerva Press's longest novel.

The title page of Burmester's French edition reads: "Les Imprudences de la Jeunesse, par l'auteur de *Cecilia*; traduit de l'anglois, par Madame la Baronne de Vasse . . . A Londres . . . Paris: Chez Buisson, Libraire, hotel de Coetlosquest; 1788.

Burney Letter

The semiannual newsletter of the Burney Society, which includes members in Canada, Great Britain and the United States.

President..... Paula L.Stepankowsky
Editor.....Catalina Hannan

Address correspondence regarding newsletter articles to Catalina Hannan, 216 Purchase Street, Rye, N.Y. 10580, USA

Membership in The Burney Society is available for \$10 (U.S.) annually in the United States and Canada, and £6 annually in Great Britain. To request membership information, or to notify the society of a change of address, write in the United States and Canada: Lucy Magruder, P.O. Box 5424, Fullerton, Calif., 92635. In Great Britain, write Jean Bowden, Primrose Cottage, Gracious Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, England, GU34 3JB.

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obsolete by the advent of Jane Austen, Prof. Sabor believes.

Austin Dobson also published three works on Burney in quick succession: an edition of *Evelina* in 1903, a biography in the same year, and a revised version of Charlotte Barrett's edition of Burney's *Diary and Letters* in 1904-1905. The edition of *Evelina* is notable more for its elegant illustrations by Hugh Thomson than for the brief introduction, and there is no editorial material. Dobson's biography, the most important of his three Burney publications, remained the standard life for over 50 years, until Joyce Hemlow's biography of 1958.

Prof. Sabor will examine the strengths and weaknesses of Ellis's and Dobson's work on Burney. The talk will show how their writings helped create an image of Burney that endured for much of the 20th century. He will also consider how recent Burney critics have reshaped that image.

Following Prof. Sabor's speech, Dr. John Wiltshire, reader in English at La Trobe University in Victoria, Australia, will speak briefly on James Burney.

Prof. Sabor is the editor of *The Complete Plays of Frances Burney*, published in 1995 by Pickering & Chatto and McGill-Queen's University Press. Along with Dr. Margaret Anne Doody, he edited Burney's *Cecilia* and *The Wanderer* for Oxford World's Classics. He edited and wrote an introduction to the forthcoming *Letter and Passages Restored from the Original Manuscripts of the History of Clarissa*, to be published by Pickering & Chatto. Also forthcoming is his edition of Sarah Fielding's novel, the *Adventures of David Simple*, to be published by the University Press of Kentucky. He has published many articles on 18th and early 19th-century English literature.

Dr. Wiltshire is the author of several books on 18th-century medicine, including *Samuel Johnson in the Medical World* and *Jane Austen and the Body: The Picture of Health*.

Anyone with questions about the San Francisco meeting at this point can call Paula Stepankowsky at 360-636-3763.

Essays sought for book on Women, French Revolution

The editors of a volume of essays on British women writers and the French Revolution are seeking contributions.

The collection evolved out of the panel on the same subject at the 1996 MLA Convention and will include all essays from the conference panel, said editors Adriana Craciun and Kari Lokke.

The editors said they are particularly interested in essays on non-canonical writers or works but welcome all relevant submissions. Frances Burney published an essay entitled *Brief Reflections Relative to the Emigrant French Clergy* in 1793, the year she married Gen. Alexandre D'Arblay, a refugee from the French Revolution.

Send papers of approximately 25 pages by Oct. 2, 1997 to: Prof. Kari Lokke, English Department, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

Please address e-mail queries to Adriana Craciun at aezac@unix.ccc.nottingham.ac.uk or Kari Lokke at kelokke@ucdavis.edu

San Francisco Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt. or House No.: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Friday, Oct. 3, dinner meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m., Garden Room, ANA Hotel.

Price for the meeting and dinner is \$40 members and \$45 non-members for those who would like chicken stuffed with spinach or vegetarian penne pasta as an entree; \$45 members and \$50 non-members for those who would like prime rib. All prices are in U.S. dollars.

Please check your desired dinner selection:

Chicken with spinach Vegetarian Penne Pasta Prime Rib

Total amount enclosed: _____

Please register for this event by filling out this form and mailing it, along with a check made out to The Burney Society in U.S. dollars, to Lucy Magruder, Secretary/Treasurer,

The Burney Society, P.O. Box 5424, Fullerton, Calif. 92830.

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Lars E. Troide, Prof. Judy Simons, Prof. Betty Rizzo, and Prof. Juliet McMaster.

Supporters were listed as Nigel Nicolson, the Rt Hon. (now Lord) Roy Hattersley, M.P., Brian Southam, Susan McCartan and Jean Bowden. We also gave the Dean a list of other officers and patrons of the Burney Society who support this campaign.

Dr. Carr explained that he would have to write to all the referees, and also to other independent referees to get their reasons as to why they think Fanny Burney deserves a memorial plaque in Poets' Corner in the Abbey. He added that there is a constant flow of applications to be examined, and that the author to be honoured should be deemed to have created an identifiable influence on later literary output rather than merely have contributed to it. This of course, will take time, and the Dean said that we shouldn't expect to hear anything for some while. He said the entire process usually takes between four and five years.

He then asked the three of us our own reasons for suggesting that Fanny Burney should be honoured in this way, and we endeavoured to do this to the best of our ability. The Dean had "done his homework," and knew all about Fanny Burney. He said he had to be noncommittal, as so much depended on the responses from all the referees, so

although he didn't say 'yes,' he didn't say 'no' either, which was quite encouraging.

The Dean explained that there was now no more room for another stone plaque, but that any memorial would take the form of a rondel in a stained glass window with Fanny Burney's name and dates on it, just like the one recently put in for Oscar Wilde. He also broke the news, gently, that we would have to raise £5,000, to cover the cost of making the stained glass rondel, inserting it into the window, and for its maintenance for ever after.

The 250th anniversary of Fanny Burney's birth falls on June 13, 2002, so that gives the Burney Society five years in which to raise the £5,000 — a not impossible task, we hope.

We said goodbye to the Dean, thanking him for giving us his time and for listening to us, and came away feeling quite hopeful. The Dean's secretary took us back into the turmoil of the Abbey, and Lucy, Susan and I went our separate ways. As I had not seen Poets' Corner since a childhood visit, I took the opportunity to go and see it, and to find the window where the proposed rondel would be, and also to find Fanny's father's plaque, which is described in a story on Page 5.

Susan McCartan contributed to this story.

Chaucer first poet honored in Abbey

Poets' Corner, in the South Transept of Westminster Abbey, was not intended as a burial place for writers, playwrights, poets and musicians.

However, Geoffrey Chaucer was buried here, not because he was a poet, but because he had been Clerk of Works at the palace of Westminster, although the inscription does mention that he was a poet.

During the 16th century, when there was a great flowering of English literature, a more magnificent tomb was erected to Chaucer's memory, and in 1599, Edmund Spenser was buried nearby. These two tombs started a tradition that has developed over the centuries.

Commemoration in the Abbey did not often occur at the time of death, and many of those whose monuments are in Poets' Corner had to wait a number of years for recognition. We of the Burney Society, hope that Fanny Burney's name will appear amongst the many distinguished writers who have memorials in Poets' Corner but are buried elsewhere, including Jane Austen, the Bronte sisters, Sir Walter Scott, Oliver Goldsmith, Keats, Shelley, Milton, Wordsworth and many, many more.

Juniper watercolor

In the Spring 1996 *Burney Letter*, we promised membership postcards that were purchased at Juniper Hall. Instead, and in honor of the 200th anniversary of *Camilla's* publication, we substituted a postcard copy of the title page of Burney's novel.

This year, we are using the postcard reproduction of a watercolor held in the collection at Juniper Hall, where the novelist met her future husband. No one knows the painter or the date. It shows Juniper Hall about the time Burney visited. One of the people seated at the table, a woman in the big hat, is certainly intended to be Burney, Juniper Hall officials say.

Those who have renewed should have their cards by now.

New book pays Burney tribute

Jane Austen's World, The Life and Times of England's Most Popular Author (Carlton Books, 1996) by the Burney Society's United Kingdom Vice President Maggie Lane contains a tribute to one of Austen's favorite writers, Fanny Burney. In a section about novels available in Austen's time, one reads:

"Between Smollett and Jane Austen, the most important novelist was probably Fanny Burney. Her novel *Evelina* was published in 1778, when she was 26, and was an immediate, huge success. The tale of a young lady's entrance into the world, it is still readable today for its high spirits and gallery of fools and rogues.

Burney's next two novels, *Cecilia* of 1782 and *Camilla* of 1796, are more laboured, but still the nearest thing to

pictures of true life and female tribulations in the real world until Jane Austen herself. Jane Austen certainly read, enjoyed and learned from Fanny Burney, and quoted from her, or alluded to her characters, more often than she did of any other novelist."

Lane points out that *Camilla* was written and sold by subscription in order to make enough money for a house for her new husband and herself. "Miss J. Austen of Steventon" is listed in the printed subscribers' list in the front

of Volume I of the five-volume novel. Austen read in Burney's *Cecilia* about "pride and prejudice" a phrase Burney used several times in that book.

Abbey already honors one Burney

By Jean Bowden

THE ABBEY MEMORIAL plaque to Dr. Charles Burney, Fanny Burney's father, is in the third bay of the north choir aisle, in the middle bay of the arcade of the north wall, beneath the monument to John Blow. It is a rectangular white marble tablet, with an edging of grey, above which is a painted representation of a lyre. The inscription is in incised Roman capitals, painted black.

As it is very hard to read, I made my way to the Westminster Abbey Library, and the Librarian very kindly gave me a photocopy of the inscription, and permission to put it in the *Burney Letter*.

An account of the Burney family's efforts to get a memorial to their father put into the Abbey is given in Joyce Hemlow's *The History of Fanny Burney* published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, in 1958. She tells how Fanny and her sister Esther (Hetty) corresponded on a 'sacred business,' a memorial or monument to their father. Their brother, James, disappointed in their father's will, had withdrawn from the executorship, and so the onus fell upon their brother, Charles. To their delight, Charles discovered that it might be possible to place a memorial in Westminster Abbey.

He offered to pay one third of the 'abbey extraction.' There followed so much family discussion and correspondence that Fanny had to sit 'like a clerk in office' before she could calculate

the expenses. These came to about £20 each, and Charles then paid 'that Cormorant', the Abbey, as he put it! Probably that was about as much as the £5000 we hope to raise.

Fanny wanted a harp to be included in the design, and that the inscription should be in Latin and written by Charles. However,

Charles said that epigraphic etiquette would preclude Latin in his father's case, as he had attended neither Oxford nor Cambridge universities, and that he was eminent not as a classics scholar, but as an historian. Charles thought that the inscription should be written by Fanny in English. Fanny replied: "I must do the best I can; which, also, shall be the simplest."

Inevitably, when the epitaph was shown to the family, few of them approved of it. They mostly thought that some of the lines about him were too worldly, and that some prayerful sentiment about the future life would be more fitting than fulsome praise of his powers of conversation. Fanny pointed out that the inscription was not for a tombstone over his mortal remains, where religious sentiments would be correct, but that it was for a memorial plaque in the Abbey to record his claims to worldly fame, rather than his hopes for heaven. Fanny cited Dr. Johnson's acceptance of "the

omission of the sacred termination" in Pope's memorial in the Abbey. The family's criticisms did, at least, effect the omission of the phrase about Dr. Burney's conversational powers. Fanny's final version is now writ in stone.

*Sacred to the memory of
Charles Burney Mus.D., F.R.S.
who, full of years, and full of virtues,
the pride of his family, the delight of Society,
the unrivalled Chief, and Scientific
Historian of his tuneful art,
beloved, revered, regretted,
breathed, in Chelsea College, his last sigh!
leaving to posterity a fame unblemished,
raised on the noble basis of intellectual
attainments,
high principles and pure benevolence,
goodness with gaiety, talents with taste,
were of his gifted mind the blended attributes;
while the genial hilarity of his airy spirits
animated or softened his every earthly toil;
and a conscience without reproach prepared,
in the whole tenour of his mortal life,
through the mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
his soul for Heaven, Amen.
Born April 7th, O.S. 1726. Died April 12th, 1814.*

OP on tap for early 1998

Burney Society members will notice that this issue of the *Burney Letter* does not contain the text of the speech given by Prof. Judy Simons at the annual meeting of the British branch in June.

The society has decided to begin publication of Burney *Occasional Papers*, which will, we hope, contain the texts of the talks given at the British and North American meetings yearly, as well as longer articles members submit. We hope an editor will be named shortly. The first issue should appear early in 1998.

Moving publication of the texts of annual addresses to *Occasional Papers* will free up space in the newsletter.

We have received many suggestions for future stories in the newsletter, and we will pursue them in the future as space permits.

Suggested topics include an analysis of the names that appear on the subscription list to the first edition of *Camilla*, an update on activities of the Burney Project at McGill University, more information about the people Fanny Burney knew, a history of Juniper Hall, and the increasing price of Burney first editions.

Anyone who would like to write a short article on these or other topics should contact Catalina Hannan, 216 Purchase St., Rye, N.Y., 10580, or Paula Stepankowsky, 1407 24th Ave., Longview, Wash. 98632.

Books forthcoming

Burney Society members are active on the publishing front, with a number of members either working on books or seeing them through the press.

Among them are Barbara Darby, who expects to see her book titled *Frances Burney: Dramatist* published by the University Press of Kentucky, and Peter Sabor and Geoffrey Sill, who will see their version of Burney's *The Witlings* and *The Woman-Hater* published in October by Pickering & Chatto.

Mary Jane Curry writes us that she is working on a book on pastoral motifs in Jane Austen's fiction and that in one chapter, she contrasts theh pastoral in Burney and Austen.

British members told of society's growth

By Jean Bowden

MEMBERS WERE welcomed at Juniper Hall on June 8 to the third annual meeting of the British branch of the Burney Society by Secretary/Treasurer Jean Bowden, who passed on greetings from absent friends and read out letters received from our President, Paula Stepankowsky, and Charles Burney.

We were pleased that Elizabeth (Burney) Parker was with us to represent the Burney family, and that three of our British Patrons joined us — Maggie Lane (Vice President, British Branch), Susan McCartan and Nigel Nicolson. A specially warm welcome was extended to Joan Drexler, a member from Washington, D.C.

Judy Simons, Professor of English at Sheffield Hallam University and author of several books and numerous articles on Fanny Burney, then gave a talk entitled "Miss Somebody: The Diary of Fanny Burney." We are grateful that Prof. Simons will allow the text of her talk to be reproduced in the first issue of the society's *Occasional Papers*, scheduled for publication early in 1998.

Rosemary Wisbey, who runs courses on Fanny Burney at the University of Surrey, echoed the feelings of everyone present in her enthusiastic vote of thanks to Judy.

After a delicious tea, which we consumed indoors because of a sudden downpour on an otherwise sunny day, we started the business meeting.

Apologies for absence were read out (a

distressingly long list of illness). A review of present membership numbers revealed that we have 50 paid up members in the British Branch (40 single members at £6 each and 10 members at £10 for two members at the same address). We also have four honorary members, three of them past speakers, including Karin Fernald, Alan Coveney and Judy Simons, as well as Charles Burney, who is present head of the Burney family. We now have our first Italian member, Francesca Saggini, who is studying Fanny Burney's plays.

Members were given a statement of accounts. Our excess of income over expenditure this year was £99.55, and we have assets of £349.72, less the cost of this meeting (about £125). Our largest expenditure this year was £237.15, which was our share of the cost of producing the *Burney Letter* over the last two years. This covered typesetting and proof-reading, all done in America, and included printed stationery. Thanks were given to the Jane Austen Memorial Trust for allowing Jean free photocopying facilities and letting her order the rather nice cream copy-paper at cost price. The cost to members attending meetings was discussed (£5 each) and it was thought that this may have to be raised, but we hope to manage for one more year at the same price.

Members were in agreement that it would be possible to produce *Occasional Papers*, which could include the two talks given each year, in Britain and in North America, and other articles by members, perhaps in A5 size with a ring binder and stiff covers.

An account was given of the meeting with the Dean of Westminster Abbey regarding the possibility of a memorial to Fanny Burney being placed in the Abbey. Details are given elsewhere in this *Burney Letter*.

We then heard members' news items. A review of Karin Fernald's talk, which she gave in Kyoto, Japan, was placed on display — she was congratulated, in her absence, on being a wonderful ambassador for Fanny Burney. Kate Chisholm told the meeting of her forthcoming visit to Nova Scotia, where she will meet Joyce Hemlow. The meeting asked her to pass on greetings from the Burney Society. Gladys Block told of her efforts to get her play on Fanny Burney produced. John Comyn sent a copy of an article in *The British Long-Bow Society Journal* — he says "Fanny does turn up in the most extraordinary places!"

Our speaker for 1998, Maggie Lane, is to talk on "Fanny Burney and Bath," and it was suggested that we might hold that meeting somewhere near Bath. It was decided to approach one of our members, Bill Fraser, who has a Hotel at Petty France, near Bath. He has since very kindly agreed to accommodate the meeting, which will be held on Sunday, June 14, at 2 p.m.

At the end of the meeting, Joan Drexler gave us postcards of the portrait "Napoleon in his Study, 1812," by Jacques-Louis David, which is in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Fanny Burney saw this portrait in 1812 and she described it at great length in her diaries.

British branch dues notice sent

British members are reminded that subscriptions to the Burney Society for the year June 13 1997 -1998 are now due.

We hope very much that you will renew your membership, which is £6 for single membership and £10 for two members at the same address.

Cheques, made out to The Burney Society, should be sent to Jean Bowden, Primrose Cottage, Gracious Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire GU34 3JB

Bath is site of 1998 Burney meeting in Britain

The next meeting of the British branch of the Burney Society will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 14, at the Petty France Hotel, near Badminton, in Gloucestershire.

The speaker will be Maggie Lane, author, Burney Society Patron and vice president for Great Britain, who has kindly agreed to talk on "Fanny Burney and Bath."

The hotel is situated on the A46 road, 14 miles north of Bath.

British members will be sent an application form with this *Burney Letter*. A sketch map will be sent with tickets. Other members who may wish to attend will be very welcome (please apply to Jean Bowden).

Tickets, to include refreshments, will cost £5. Cheques should be made out to The Burney Society and sent with the form to Jean Bowden, Primrose Cottage, Gracious Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire GU34 3JB.