then & now

the public sphere

authors

dictionary

(law: legal information and the development of American law)
Justice Samuel Alito, in his comments at the same event, went on to complain about the role of the Internet in legal reporting. ... "It changes what it means to be a judge."
"the web is a global library produced by millions of people"
--Yochai Benkler
"The wild side of the Internet typified by blogs and fast-running rumors could be tempered by the heft of these libraries". 

San Francisco Chronicle

"Google's newest project .. will help fulfill the original intention of the Internet: to help people find solid background facts quickly".

Chicago Sun-Times

"Most of today's online content was 'born digital, thus cannot be verified. By contrast, library materials become available through Google originate from fully authoritative sources, and cover every conceivable topic since the advent of printing". 

Michigan Library Press Release
"the memory of mankind"
Goethe
"reserves against a spiritual winter"
Yourcenar

a bunch of books?
a little history

Mesopotamia

"libraries -- large reference collections of copies of the 'classical' literary and scientific works -- as institutions are more characteristic of the Babylonian and Assyrian civilisation of the later second and first millennia BC".

--Jeremy Black
Mesopotamia

**Ebla** (Syria) c 2250 bce

**Babylon** (Iraq) 15,000 tablets

**Nineveh** (Iraq) c. 650 bce

*Gilgamesh*
"I cannot help feeling, Phaedrus, that writing is unfortunately like painting; for the creations of the painter have the attitude of life, and yet if you ask them a question they preserve a solemn silence. And the same may be said of speeches. You would imagine that they had intelligence, but if you want to know anything and put a question to one of them, the speaker always gives one unvarying answer. And when they have been once written down they are tumbled about anywhere among those who may or may not understand them, and know not to whom they should reply, to whom not: and, if they are maltreated or abused, they have no parent to protect them; and they cannot protect or defend themselves." — Phaedrus
generational change

Plato 427-347 bce

Aristotle 384-322 bce

Theophrastus 372-287 bce
"From Scepsis came the Socratics Erastus and Koriskus and Neleus ... who received the library of Theophrastus, in which was the library of Aristotle ... ; he was the first we know of to have collected books and he taught the kings in Egypt the arrangement of a library. And Theophrastus gave it to Neleus; and he carrying it away to Scpesis ... and when they saw the eagerness of the Attalid kings ... in seeking books for the equipping of the library in Pergamum, they hid them ... then after a long time .... sold the books of Aristotle and Theophrastus for much money."

-- Strabo, 64 BCE - 23 CE
Pergamum

c 200 BCE

200,000 parchment scrolls
Alexandria

Ptolemyes

I (367/6-283/2 BCE)
II (308-246 BCE)

Zenodotus
alphabetical ordering

Callimachus
categories

Aristophanes & Aristarchus
scholarly versions
editorial commentary

Main: 490,000 volumes
"daughter: 42,000
papyrus
Alexandrias

royal library (est 290 bc)
hall of mouseion
daughter library(Serapeion) (Ptolemy II)
Caesarion
Claudius' library
Pergamum collection

"much historical confusion has been caused by what was a multiplicity of libraries" -- Jonathan Raven
incendiaries

Julius Caesar
Patriarch Theophilus
Caliph Omar
destructions

Caesar: Alexandrian War
48 bc (Plutarch, Cicero)

destruction of the Serapeion
Theodosius' decree, 391
(Gibbon)

conquest of Egypt
Amr, 642

"If what is written in them agrees with
the Book of God, they are not required:
if it disagrees, they are not desired"
--Caliph Omar
a book burning or a book sale?

Saladin

"Ibn Al-Qifti included ... the fantastic story of Amr ordering the books of the ancient library of Alexandria to be used as fuel for heating the city baths, the implication being that it is less of a crime to sell books in an emergency than to put them to the fire". Mostafa El-Abbadi
religion & libraries

Islamic libraries
Jerusalem, Damascus, Cairo, Cordoba

monastic libraries
scripture & patristic texts
codex
state libraries

**Paris** (Charles V, 1338-1380): 1368

**Florence** (Cosimo Medici, 1389-1464): 1436

**Vatican** (15th century)

**Escorial** (1584)

**British Museum** (1754)

John Dees
collections management

Henry VII

Charles V

Joseph II ...
patrons

Duke Humphrey & Bodley

Mazarin & Naudé

"Come in, all you who desire to read"
public libraries

Grantham (1598)

British Museum (1753)
Panizzi

London Library
Mudie's library
the Alexandria fantasy

"universal access to all knowledge"
Brewster Kahle

Bibliotheca Universalis, sive Catalogus omnium scriptorum locupletissimus, in tribus linguis ... 
Conrad Gesner, 1545

"a Library arranged for the use of the public must be universal ... "
Avis pour dresser une Bibliothéque, Gabriel Naudé, 1627
"These Libraries in a few years, will be full and compleat, being furnished, not only with all the valuable and usefull Old Books in any Art of Science, but also with all the valuable New Books, so soon as every they are heard of or seen in the World"

An Overture for Founding and Maintaining of Bibliotecks in Every Paroch Throughout this Kingdom, James Kirkwood, 1699
"collections"

**selection**

Roman libraries: Latin - Greek

Islamic libraries: sacred - secular
exclusion

Christian libraries
profane literature

humanist libraries
ephemera
annotations
utility function

Joseph Glanvill
Plus Ultra 1668

Henry Stubbe
A Specimen of some Animadversions, 1670

Franklin
A Proposal for Promoting Useful Knowledge among the British Plantations of North America, 1743
"I have seen ... the British Museum ... I could wish the series of medals was connected, and the whole of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms completed, by adding to each at the public expense, those articles that are wanting .... by purchasing all the books of character that are not to be found already in the collection. They might be classed in centuries, according to the dates of their publication, and catalogues printed of them and the manuscripts .... a complete apparatus fo a course of mathematics, mechanics, and experimental philosophy".

Tobias Smollett, *Humphrey Clinker*, 1771
growing distinct

library
museum
archive
21st century: Alexandria again

Otlet, Bush ...

"an America where every child can stretch a hand across a keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, every symphony ever composed". Bill Clinton, 1966

"A young generation of entrepreneurs asked what if we could take all the information in a library and put it on a little chip the size of a fingernail? We did that and changed the world forever". John Kerry, 2004
Page & Brin "dreamed of making the incredible breadth of information that librarians so lovingly organize searchable online".

"By working with existing institutions and funding sources, and creating new ones, we can provide universal access to all human knowledge within the current worldwide library budget".

Brewster Kahle
library without walls

Cal. State Monterey

"[the British Library & the Bibliothèque National] were out of date on the day they were opened. They are, in large measure, sumptuous mausoleums". --George Steiner

U. C. Merced

U.C. Berkeley
"those addicted to tree flakes encased in dead cow" --Bill Mitchell
Berkeley has no fewer than four bureaucratic organizations that seem to be headed for the same place or at least overlapping places:

UC Berkeley School of Information,
UC Berkeley School of Journalism,
UC Berkeley Center for New Media,
UC Berkeley Mass Communications Master's Program.

Should all four of these be merged? Should we hire a new dean who could— if things develop in such a way—start an academic enterprise?

Any Text. Anytime. Anywhere. (Any Volunteers?)

The mechanics of a universal library are simple. The tricky part is maintaining the free labor.

And it's always available.

It's a best day in the stacks.

I got there for seven. Three books found, one that should be there but isn't, one recorded lost, and one checked out that will have to be recalled. The seventh is the one I really want: Q53A.D201.

Then's no copy on UC Berkeley's main Doe Library shelves; it's shelved in the Math Library. That fifth copy is not where it's supposed to be, but the catalog claims there are two copies on the shelves in Math. Then it's up. It will be five hours before I get another crack at tracking down Appendix E of Carl Sagan, ed., Communication WITH Extraterrestrial Intelligence.

And that's after two hours doing very low grade work: looking up call numbers, wondering where to put books, trying to sort out between the compact movable stacks so I can get at the shelves without crushing giant students in the next aisle. Knowledge revolution, indeed.
Project Gutenberg

Michael Hart, 1971
Declaration of Independence

Distributed Proofreading, 2000

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2,000,000 monthly downloads

"large, well-organized ... comprehensive scholarly"
"We do not write for the reader who cares whether a certain phrase in Shakespeare has a ":" or a ";" between its clauses. We put our sights on a goal to release etexts that are 99.9% accurate in the eyes of the general reader".
TRISTRAM SHANDY: 
A COCK & BULL STORY

He's about to play the role of his life.
Project Gutenberg:

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman.

A work by Laurence Sterne

(two lines in Greek)

It is not things themselves, but people's opinions about things that upset people.
in coition all at once with Scorpio\(^1\) (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house, which the Arabians allotted to religion—it appeared that Martin Luther did not care one stiver about the matter—and that from the horoscope directed to the conjunction of Mars—they made it plain likewise he must die cursing and blaspheming—with the blast of which his soul (being steeped in guilt) sailed before the wind, into the lake of hell

\(^1\) Haec mira, satisque horrenda. Planetarum coitio sub Scorpio Asterismo in nona coeli statione, quam Arabes religioni deputabant, efficit Martinum Lutherum sacrilegum hereticum, christianae religionis hostem acerrimum atque prophanum, ex horoscopi directione ad Martis coitum, religiosissimus obiit, ejus Anima scelestissima ad infernos navigavit—ab Alecto, Tisiphone et Megara flagellis igneis cruciata perenniter.

---Lucas Gautericus in Tractatu astrologico de praeteritis multorum hominum accidentibus per genituras examinatis.
another aside

Ludovicus Sorbonensis makes this entirely an affair of the body (πνευμάτων προφητείας) as he calls it—but he is deceived: the soul and body are joint-sharers in every thing they get: A

(footnote in Greek Philo.)
Chapter 1.XLV.

"I wish, Dr. Slop," quoth my uncle Toby (repeating his wish for Dr. Slop a second time, and with a degree of more zeal and earnestness in his manner of wishing, than he had wished at first (Vide.))—"I wish, Dr. Slop," quoth my uncle Toby, "you had seen what prodigious armies we had in Flanders."

My uncle Toby's wish did Dr. Slop a disservice which his heart never intended any man,—Sir, it confounded him—and thereby putting his ideas first into confusion, and then to flight, he could not rally them again for the soul of him.

In all disputes,—male or female,—whether for honour, for profit, or for love,—it makes no difference in the case;—nothing is more dangerous, Madam, than a wish coming sideways in this unexpected manner upon a man: the safest way in general to take off the force of the wish, is for the party wished at, instantly to get upon his legs—and wish the wisher something in return, of pretty near the same value,—so balancing the account upon the spot, you stand as you were,—nay sometimes gain the advantage of the attack by it.

This will be fully illustrated to the world in my chapter of wishes.—

Dr. Slop did not understand the nature of this defence;—he was puzzled with it, and it put an entire stop to the dispute for four minutes and a half;—five had been fatal to it:—my father saw the danger—the dispute was one of the most interesting disputes in the world, 'Whether the child of his prayers and endeavours should be born without a head or with one;'—he waited to the last moment to allow Dr. Slop, in whose behalf the wish was made, his right of returning it; but perceiving, I say, that he was com-

necessary I should be born before I was christened.' Had my mother, Madam, been a Papist, that consequence did not follow.

1. The Romish Rituals direct the baptizing of the child, in cases of danger, before it is born;—but upon this proviso, That some part or other of the child’s body be seen by the baptizer:—But the Doctors of the Sorbonne, by a deliberation held amongst them, April 10, 1733,—have enlarged the powers of the midwives, by determining, That though no part of the child’s body should appear,—that baptism shall, nevertheless, be administered to it by injection,—par le moyen d’une petite canulle,—Anglice a squirt.—'Tis very strange that St Thomas Aquinas, who had so good a mechanical head, both for tying and untying the knots of school-divinity,—should, after so much pains bestowed upon this—give up the point at last as a second La chose impossible,—'Infantes in maternis uteris existentes (quoth St Thomas) baptizari possunt nullo modo.'—O Thomas! Thomas!

If the reader has the curiosity to see the question upon baptism by injection, as presented to the Doctors of the Sorbonne, with their consultation thereupon, it is as follows.
I tell you before-hand, you had better
throw down the book at once; for
without much reading, by which your
reverence knows I mean much knowledge,
you will no more be able to penetrate
the moral of the next marbled page
(motley emblem of my work!) than the
world with all its sagacity has been
able to unravel the many opinions,
transactions, and truths which still
lie mystically hid under the dark veil
of the black one.
lost pages

[70]

incription serving both for his epitaph
and elegy.

Alas, poor YORICK!

Ten times a day has Yorick’s ghost the
consolation to hear his monumental inscrip-
tion read over with such a variety of plain-
tive tones, as denote a general pity and
esteem for him;—a footway crossing
the church-yard close by the side of his
gave,—not a passenger goes by without
stopping to cast a look upon it,—and
fighting as he walks on,

Alas, poor YORICK!

[71]
his trembling lips ready to depart as he uttered this:—yet still it was uttered with something of a Cervantick tone;—and as he spoke it, Eugenius could perceive a stream of lambent fire lighted up for a moment in his eyes;

Alas, poor YORICK!

Ten times a day has Yorick’s ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over with such a variety

of plaintive tones, as denote a general pity and esteem for him;—a foot-way crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,—not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,—and sighing as he walks on,

Alas, poor YORICK!

C H A P. XIII

It is so long since the reader of this rhapsodical work has been
And possibly, gentle reader, with such a temptation—so wouldst thou: for never did thy eyes behold, or thy concupiscence covet, any thing in this world more concupiscible than widow Wadman.

C H A P. XXXVIII.

To conceive this right—call for pen and ink—here's paper ready to your hand.—Sit down, Sir, paint her to your own mind—as like your mistress as you can—as unlike your wife as your conscience will let you—'tis all one to me—please but your own fancy in it.
divisions

Chapter 1.1

Chapter 4.LXXXI

blank chapter, torn out chapter, chapters on holes, sleep, sash windows, and even a "chapter on chapters".
And in this, Sir, I am of so nice and singular a humour, that if I thought you was able to form the least judgment or probable conjecture to yourself, of what was to come in the next page,--I would tear it out of my book.

Chapter 1.XXVI.

I have begun a new book, on purpose that I might have room enough to ...
Chapter 1.LII.
End of the first volume.

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gent.
Volume the Second
Multitudinis imperitae non formido judicia, meis tamen, rogo, parcant opusculis -- in quibus fuit propositi semper, a jocis ad seria, in seriis vicissim ad jocos transire. Joan. Saresberiensis, Episcopus Lugdun.

Chapter 2.I.
"Shall we for ever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another?"
"In the present era of text copying by electronic media, both new and old texts can potentially be produced and circulated at infinitesimal cost, but non-technological factors, notably private IP, have replicated some of the inhibiting effects on prices, access, and reading that were previously due to the technology as such"

--William St Clair

"errors in Tristram Shandy originate in some popular nineteenth-century editions"

--R.C. Bald
along came google

Where's My Access to the Universal Online Library of Humanity?

It's heeerrrrreee! Actually, it's not here yet. But it's coming:

Google Print Search: brad delong:

"Economic Puppetmasters: Lessons from the Halls of Power by Lawrence B. Lindsey - Page 18
As Brad delong, former Clinton aide, now a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said in a Wall Street ... [ More results from this book ]

Human Dignity and Contemporary Liberalism by Brad Stetson - Page 41

Money Changes Everything: How Global Prosperity Is Reshaping Our Needs, Values, and Lifestyles by Peter Marber - Page 24
As economist Brad delong points out: Today the average American possesses a degree of material comfort that in many ways outstrips the reach of even the ... [ More results from this book ]

Explorations in Classical Sociological Theory: Seeing the Social World by Kenneth Allan - Page 100
... berkeley.edu/Economists/smith.html (Site maintained by Brad delong, Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley; brief biography ... [ More results from this book ]

Death of Distance: How the Communications Revolution Will Change Our Lives by Frances Cairncross - Page 4
... in the way mass production raised the efficiency and quality of manufacturing. As Brad delong, an economist at the University of California at Berkeley ...
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Laurence Sterne

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by Anita Loos, Sverre (TRN) Lyngstad, Knut Hamsun - 1998 - 160 pages
... Hamsun ... Pan ...
Limited preview - Table of Contents - First page - About this book

Pan - Page 3
by W. W. Worster, Knut Hamsun - 2004 - 132 pages
The truth, however, is that Hamsun stands today where he has always stood. ... Problems do not enter into the novels of Hamsun in the same manner as they ...
Limited preview - Table of Contents - First page - About this book
"shall we forever ... ?

Project Gutenberg *Pan*:

Translated from the Norwegian of Knut Hamsun by W. W. Worster With an Introduction by Edwin Bjørkman New York Alfred A. Knopf 1927 Published July, 1921
shall we forever ...?

Penguin *Pan*:

the first version by W.W. Worster (Knopf, 1921), was bowdlerized, all the expressly erotic elements, however innocuous, having been deleted".
And when she comes, my heart knows all, and no longer beats like a heart, but rings as a bell. I lay my hand on her. "Tie my shoe-string," she says, with flushed cheeks.
"And when she comes my heart understands, and it no longer beats, it peals. And she is naked under her dress from head to foot. I lay my hand on her.

"Tie my shoelace," she says with flaming cheeks. And a little later she whispers directly against my mouth, against my lips, Oh, you're not tying my shoelace, sweetheart, you're not tying ... not tying my ..."
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the perfect text

"copy ... the actual manuscript that the compositor followed ... or text to which the Stationer could claim to possess some right ....A copy in the second sense could then be represented as properly comprising all that the work in question should be, as well as all that a particular manuscript copy was". Joseph Loewenstein
meta data

gatekeepers

"in libraries, the catalog, that beastly database that contains surrogate records to all library resources is a sacred object and there has always been a fine history of gatekeeping catalogers"

the matthew effect?
what is google doing?

order is elsewhere

Page & Brin "dreamed of making the incredible breadth of information that librarians so lovingly organize searchable online".

order is ours

"Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful".

order and disorder

Archie, WAIS, Yahoo, but Google?
Google and Michigan's Library

Google books is an astonishing, epochal development. But I am tired of journalists who write about it ignoring the fact that the core of the digitized collection is the 7 million volumes at the University of Michigan. It is always mentioned that Harvard and Oxford are participating. Last I knew, Oxford offered them access to 40,000 volumes.. But U-M President Mary Sue Coleman offered Google access everything we have, and has been good at giving the project an intellectual rationale. Google is going through the shelves and running optical character recognition on every book they encounter, in every language.

One problem: I am already finding poorly done books, where every other page is blurred beyond reading. This is very bad because I don't know when it would ever be corrected, and no one would have an incentive to carry out this sort of project once Google has.

I hope Google will tighten its quality control, and will commit to redoing flawed scanning jobs. For many research projects, only if everything is

posted by Juan @ 9/01/2006 06:33:00 AM 7 comments
what is Michigan doing?

Nov. 3, 2005

**U-M public domain works now online and searchable through Google Print**

what is google doing?

quality is elsewhere
Quand Google défie l'Europe

"... d'aller chercher dans les seules bases de données anglaises ou américaines un récit et une interprétation qui y étaient biaisés de multiples façons... Foulon, le vaillant aristocrate britannique triomphant des jacobins sanguinaires, la guillotine occultant les droits de l'homme et les intuitions fulgurantes de la Convention".

Jean-Noël Jeannenay, *Le Monde* 2005