Exhibit: ACPA Library: In Celebration of the AICPA Centennial 1887-1997

Karen Hegge Neloms

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Library

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EXHIBIT

AICPA LIBRARY

IN CELEBRATION OF THE
AICPA CENTENNIAL 1887 – 1987

Prepared by

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New York NY 10036-8775
INTRODUCTION

The AICPA Library has a small collection of rare books which have been donated to the library over the years. The following pages list the 16 items in this centennial exhibit and include some illustrations.

An exhibit is being held at Columbia University, Butler Library, 6th Floor, until Nov. 18, 1987, in honor of the AICPA Centennial. Visitors to that exhibit will receive a copy of an accompanying monograph, Origins of a Great Profession by Peter McMickle and Richard Vangermeersch. (Academy of Accounting Historians, 1987, 144 pages)

An article on the history of the AICPA Library was published in the May 1987 issue of The Journal of Accountancy.

For a reading list on the history of the accounting profession please contact the Directory of Library Services, AICPA.

Item 1(b). Printed after the title page of Brown's book, a letter from Dr. Keill, Professor of Astronomy and Fellow of the Royal Society, dated August 1, 1718 states:

"I have perused your Decimal Tables, or your Arithmetica Infinita; and I think they are very well done, and may be of great use to all whose Business leads them to deal in numbers, And I am of the opinion, that they are so exceedingly advantageous to all Shop-keepers and Traders that none should be without them, because they make the Accounting part more easie than it was before."

Item 1(c). The last ten pages of this book contain tables of interest from one pound to nine and three quarters with halves and quarters.

The author indicates "decimal notes" with $L$. 

1.
### TABLES of INTEREST
Per Annum and Per Diem
At any Rate per Cent
From one Pound to Ten Pound, with Halves and Quarters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9% per Cent</th>
<th>9 1/2% per Cent</th>
<th>9 3/4% per Cent</th>
<th>9 5/8% per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>000,990,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>000,490,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>000,400,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>000,300,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>000,200,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>000,100,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>000,100,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>000,200,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>000,300,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
<td>000,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finis

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**From:** Brown, George. *Arithmetica Infinita or the Accurate Accomptant's Best Companion.* London: Printed for the Author, 1717/18. 126 + 10 pages.
Item 2. Photo of the first successful mechanical calculator.

This photograph was published in Arthur Young's 75th anniversary edition of the *Arthur Young Journal* (Spring-Summer 1969, p. 56)

The first simple adding machine invented by Blaise Pascal used geared wheels. In 1671 an improved mechanism for performing multiplication by the process of repeated addition was designed by Gottfried W. Von Leibniz. A machine using the Leibniz mechanism was the first to be produced successfully on a commercial scale: devised in 1820 by the Frenchman Charles X. Thomas, it could be used for adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing.

The accountant's friend—the first successful mechanical calculator—was invented by Blaise Pascal in 1642, and quickly became something of an international marvel. One of the few people to whom the word "genius" can be applied without the slightest hesitation.

Pascal was 19 years old, and had already acquired a substantial reputation as a scientist and mathematician, when he invented the adding machine.
Item 3. An early information retrieval system.

This illustration appeared on the cover of the March 1987 issue of the Journal of the American Society for Information Science and appeared through the courtesy of the New York Public Library.

A copy of the title page is shown.


This book is considered the first "serious" American text on the Italian method of double entry accounting.

In his introduction, the Reverend Lee states: "I have spared no application nor pains in my power to insure the highest object of publication, the benefit of my country... I have attempted... to... simplify the system of commercial arithmetic only.... Book-keeping is an art of daily use in life and of the highest importance in all commercial dealings."

Chauncey Lee was born in Coventry, Connecticut in 1768, and graduated Yale University with an A.M. degree in 1787. According to The Twentieth Century Biographical Dictionary of Notable Americans cited in The Origins of a Great Profession by Peter L. McMickle and Richard G. Vangermeersch, Chauncey Lee practiced law and was the pastor of various churches from 1790 to 1835. He authored several books including books on religion and arithmetic.

The American Accomptant covers arithmetic notation, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, weights and measures and decimals plus bookkeeping. Also included is a "proposed ... new method... called... The Farmer's Bookkeeping" which Lee recommended to farmers, mechanics and merchants "whose business and connections are not very extensive."

Lee's book is thought to be the first American publication to contain the dollar sign and Lee is considered to be the inventor of the dollar symbol. Page 260 shows an example of a Waste Book; page 261 gives an example journal page. The dollar sign is at the top of each column.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 13th</td>
<td>Rec'd of Jonathan Brewster in part</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec'd of George Gordon 130 Bushels Rye at .90 per Bushel in part</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sold Joel Kent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Puncheon Rum 148 1/2 gal. at 1.50 per gall.</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34 sides Sole Leather 45 1/2 lb. at .71 per lb.</td>
<td>95.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 Rolls Tobacco 180 lb. at 8 pr. lb. 81.60</td>
<td>308.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rec'd as follows in part</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash 70 Bushels at .90 per Bush.</td>
<td>115.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sold Derick Hough of Vermont pr. his order 1 gal. cask Sherry Wine, 30 gallons, at 1.50 per gallon.</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paid charges this month, including storehouse rent 6 months</td>
<td>137.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**From:** Lee, Chauncey. The American Accompantant; being a plain, practical and systematic compendium of Federal Arithmetic.... Lansingburth (N.Y.): William W. Wands, 1797. 297 plus 15 pages.
### BOOK-KEEPING

**JOURNAL**

**Lansingburgh, 1st September, 1797.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CASH for ready money</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rum 5 Puncheons 600 gallons at 1.25 per gallon</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tobacco 100 Rolls 1400 lb. at .14</td>
<td>196.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sole Leather 200 sides at .335 lb. at .18 per lb.</td>
<td>580.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Salt 1500 Bushels at .75</td>
<td>1125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sherry wine 4 casks 130 gallons at 1.12 per gallon</td>
<td>145.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Molasses 4 Hhds. 440 gallons at .60</td>
<td>264.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bills receivable for John Hamilton's note on demand</td>
<td>231.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>William Jones per acct.</td>
<td>97.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Benjamin Conner per do.</td>
<td>110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Stock Dr. to sundries</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>To Henry Bell per acct.</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>To John Farrow per do.</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To bills payable for my note to Joseph Redfield 15 days to run</td>
<td>375.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**END**

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The author dedicated his book to the "clerks, the future merchants of the United States, whose integrity and assiduity in the performance of their duties, have long been witnessed and admired by the author."

In his introduction, C.C. Marsh states: "Book-keeping by double entry is that method of conducting the records of business and monetary affairs so that they will balance or prove themselves beyond a reasonable doubt; this entitles the method to a place among the sciences." Marsh set out to provide an improved method of teaching the theory and practice of book-keeping. The diagram shows the relationship between the account books.
Item 6. This illustration is from 't Recht gebruyck van't Italiaens boeck-houden, by Henry Waningen, 1672. It was used for the jacket cover of Bywater's Historic Accounting Literature: a Companion Guide, Scolar Press, 1982.

William Webster, a noted writing master and accountant, was one of the earliest English writers to use the term "double-entry." He taught writing, arithmetic and "merchants accounts or the true Italian method of Book-keeping" in Orange Court near Leicester Square, London.

The first edition of his Essay on Book-keeping was published in 1719 in London and dedicated to Sir Charles Peers, a Commissioner of His Majesty's Customs. This seventh edition, Webster notes, contains a "complete Waste-Book, Journal and Leidger wherein is introduced a very great Variety of Instances; The Several Difficulties and Distinctions of which are all along remark'd and remov'd by particular Notes and Explanations."

Webster died in 1744.
AN ESSAY ON BOOK-KEEPING,
According to the True Italian Method of Debtor and Creditor, by Double Entry.

WHEREIN
The Theory of that Excellent Art is clearly laid down in a few plain Rules; and the Practice made evident and easy, by Variety of intelligible Examples.

The Whole in a Method New and Concise.

The Seventh Edition, Corrected and Improved.

By WILLIAM WEBSTER,
Writing-Master and Accountant.

LONDON:
Printed for D. BROWN, without Temple-Bar; and C. HITCH, in Pater-Noster-Rew. 1740.
[Price 1s. 6d.]
AN ESSAY ON BOOK-KEEPING.

BOOK-KEEPING is the Art of Stating our Accounts, so as rightly to represent the Condition of our Affairs; to which End, the Italian Manner of Debtor and Creditor, by Double Entry, is by Experience found most conducive; and therefore not only altogether practised by the Merchant, whose Business is most extensive, and comprehends the greatest Variety, but is also allow'd the best Method both for the Steward and Publick Accountant.

The Books used in this Way of keeping Accounts are chiefly three, viz. Waste-Book, Journal, and Ledger; the distinct Service of each of which, and their Dependencies one upon another, with some little Appendages, is the whole Art of Book-keeping, and consequently the whole Subject of this Treatise.

### Balance

| To Cash remaining in my Hands | £     | 9960667½ |
| To Sherry rem. 6 Pipes, at 25 l. 10s. | 3 | 1515000 |
| To Tobacco rem. 10 Hds., at 10 l. | 3 | 1000000 |
| To Brandy rem. 20 Casks, at 15 l. | 5 | 3000000 |
| To Ship James, for ½ remaining | 3 | 8100000 |
| To A. Jones, per Note on Demand | 4 | 4100000 |
| To Port-Wine rem. 1 Pipe | 5 | 2700000 |
| To Sugar remaining, 3 Hds., at 10 l. 14s. | 6 | 1308000 |
| To Edward Ellis, on Demand | 6 | 8900000 |
| To A.B. Executors of Cousin Kind | 5 | 5000000 |
| To Muffin rem. 2 Bales, at 16 l. | 7 | 3200000 |
| To Holland rem. 7 Pieces, at 18 l. and 3 Pieces, at 8 l. | 6 | 1500000 |
| To Tho. Freeman | 7 | 1004000 |
| To Black Cloth rem. 19 Yards, at 18 l. | 7 | 1702000 |
| To John Neet, of Lichfield | 8 | 1000868½ |
| To Lottery 7 Tickets, for 10, at 9 l. 10s. | 8 | 950000 |
| To Bills receivable, as per Accompt | 4 | 900000 |
| To Edward Johnson and Company | 4 | 7000000 |
| To Indian Chines, for 5 Pieces | 10 | 781000 |
| To Cousin Kind's Accompt Current | 11 | 180500 |
| To Voyage to Marsilles in Company for my ½ remaining | 13 | 1500272 |

### Per Contare

| By John Smart, due to him on Demand | £     | 400000 |
| By Samuel Elys, on Demand | 4 | 100000 |
| By Simon Noble, due to him | 5 | 5000000 |
| By Sir Peter King, due to him | 3 | 2000000 |
| By James Long, due to him | 3 | 201100 |
| By David Williams, due to him | 8 | 178160 |
| By Peter Careful, due to him | 8 | 800000 |
| By F. F. Troupré's Accompt Current | 10 | 429954½ |
| By Ditty, his Account of Time | 10 | 7000000 |
| By S. Dwagoner's Accompt Current | 10 | 5000000 |
| By James Diffl's Accompt Current | 12 | 3000000 |
| By Stock, the Neat of my Estate | 11161607½ |

These Articles (except the last) are a Collection of the several Balances from the Dr. Side of every particular Accompt, (being the Debts you owe) and must all be made Creditors by Stock in your new Books.

The last Article on this Creditor Side, (or Balance of the Accompt) which is brought from Stock, is the Neat of your Estate, or your present Worth.

---

Item 8. Illustration from Heinrich Schreiber's Ayn new Kunstlich Buech... 1518.

The AICPA library has a facsmile copy of this title. Schreiber is the earliest German writer on book-keeping. He was a native of Erfurt, called himself Henricus Grammateus, and taught arithmetic in Vienna, according to David Murray in his 1930 book Chapters in the History of Bookkeeping, Accountancy and Commercial Arithmetic.
Item 9. Hatton, Edward. The Merchant's Magazine: or Trades Man's Treasury, containing I. Arithmetick... II. Merchants accompts... III. Book-keeping... IV. Maxims... V. The Post of Letters... VI. An Account of the Commodities produced by all countries... VII. A Merchant or Trader's Dictionary ... VIII. Precedents of Merchants Writings.... 6th impression.

In a note to the reader, the publisher states that upwards of 6,000 copies of the book had been printed in the first five editions.

The author notes in his preface: "The book keeping Part, I purposely abbreviated to prevent discouraging the Reader in his first Attempts to acquire the knowledge thereof.... I have therefore for the sake of such made the Examples few, and the Rules for Posting and Ballancing plain and easy to be apprehended." Chapter X, Book-keeping by Debtor and Creditor, covers pages 151 to 196.

The book is full of interesting items. For example, the dictionary includes a definition of a hair's breadth - 1/48 of an inch. On page 216 Hatton lists the chief products of America and giving the major towns and trading places from Hudson's Bay to "Chili." "This Part of the World, called America, is about 90 times as big as England," he states. The multiplication table, page 27, is embellished with fanciful sketches of birds.

Merchant's Magazine ends with an advertisement for Hatton's Index to Interest which showed "Interest for 4 Rates" and included a "Table for the Valuation of Church or College Leases."
Hatton, Edward. The Merchant's Magazine: or Trades Man's Treasury, containing I. Arithmetick... II. Merchants accompts... III. Book-keeping... IV. Maxims... V. The Post of Letters... VI. An Account of the Commodities produced by all countries... VII. A Merchant or Trader's Dictionary... VIII. Precedents of Merchants Writings.... 6th impression. London: Printed by J.H. for Chr. Coningsby and Dan. Midwinter, 1712. 270 p.
### Multiplication Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 Times</th>
<th>4 Times</th>
<th>5 Times</th>
<th>6 Times</th>
<th>7 Times</th>
<th>8 Times</th>
<th>9 Times</th>
<th>12 Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
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<td>20</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>144</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>180</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chap. 4.**

### Hatton, Edward. The Merchant's Magazine: or Trades Man's Treasury, containing I. Arithmetick... II. Merchants accompts... III. Book-keeping... IV. Maxims... V. The Post of Letters... VI. An Account of the Commodities produced by all countries... VII. A Merchant or Trader's Dictionary... VIII. Precedents of Merchants Writings.... 6th impression. London: Printed by J.H. for Chr. Coningsby and Dan. Midwinter, 1712. 270 p.

The book is open at the page which shows how to make debit and credit ledger entries. According to Albert Newgarden in the Arthur Young 75th Anniversary edition of the Arthur Young Journal:

"Although the art of double-entry bookkeeping was well developed by the early fifteenth century, its use was the exception, rather than the rule. It was not until Fra Luca Pacioli wrote the first treatise on bookkeeping in 1494 that the "Venice method," as it came to be known, began to spread, not only throughout the trading centers of Italy, but to England, Germany, and elsewhere in Europe as well.

"Fra Luca Pacioli was one of the brilliant "all-purpose" men for whom the Renaissance is noted. A friend of the artists Piero della Francesca and Leonaro da Vinci (who illustrated one of Pacioli's works), the Franciscan monk was highly esteemed in his time as a writer, a teacher, and an expert in such diverse fields as mathematics, theology, architecture, sports and games, military strategy, and the world of commerce. Although most of Pacioli's writings are on the subjects of arithmetic and geometry (in the Barbari portrait he appears to be explaining a theorem from Euclid), he is best remembered today for his treatise on double-entry bookkeeping, published in his Summa de Arithmetica....Most of the accounting methods described in this treatise are considered to be as applicable today as they were in the fifteenth century, as are Pacioli's many practical hints on "how to succeed in business."
Lilli che accede mettere al rebussa del mercante.

Item 11. Portrait of Fra Luca Pacioli.

The original portrait hangs in the Galeria Nazionale in Naples. The student on the right is probably the young Duke Guidobaldo of Urbino. The portrait was probably painted by Jacopo de Barbari of Venice, around 1495.

This reproduction was published in Arthur Young's 75th Anniversary issue of the *Arthur Young Journal*. 

![Portrait of Fra Luca Pacioli](image)

The first edition of Pacioli's Summa is open at the first page (left) of Section nine, Treatise XI, Particulars of Reckonings and their Recording (Particularis de Coputis et Scripturis).

Pacioli (1445-1509) was born in Sancti Sepulchri, south west of Urbino. He was 50 when he wrote his treatise on bookkeeping.

Scholars dispute whether or not Pacioli actually wrote the bookkeeping treatise. In a letter to Perry Mason dated November 27, 1954, Professor Raymond de Roover states: "I am almost sure that Pacioli took a manuscript treatise that was circulating in the schools of Venice and incorporated it into his great work on Mathematics. The style is not the same as that of other parts of his work: Pacioli was a Tuscan, and the treatise on bookkeeping, according to Italian experts, is written in Venetian dialect, which seems to indicate that he did not write it himself."


"Both Summas were published using loose metal type which had been in use for only about thirty years when the 1494 edition was published. Gutenburg, the famous German printer, perfected this technique in the 1460's..."

"Pacioli's Summa, especially the second edition, is considered to be one of the most beautiful examples of the printer's art of that era. Therefore, in addition to being collected by scholars of mathematics and accounting, the Summa is sought after by bibliophiles interested in the history and development of printing. Ninety-nine copies of the 1494 Summa and thirty-six of the 1523 edition are known to exist."
distinctio nona. tractatus xi°. de scripturis

Commo le debbano saldare tute le partie del quaderno veblone le ebbe per che e de la si
ma fumaria del bane e celaverse ultimo sconcro del bilancia.
ca. 14

Del modo e ordine a saper tener le scrutatione menute comò sono scrutati et manoscritta
ri potete, pasti: listrietere e del registro de l'etere iuxta,
ca. 15

Epilogo o vero fumaria recolta de tutto el presente trattato: acio con benei substanti a se ha
bis mandare a membra le cose dette.
ca. 16

Distinctio nona. Tractatus xi°. peculiari de cipius et scrupuris.

De quelle cose che sono necessarie al uso mercantile e de loodine a sake be tener vn qu.
derno cos suo giornale: vinagre e anco e quinterno luogo.

Lapicolo primo.

I trattenem subsidi et un. d. S. Magnanimo. d' acio a pieno
et tutoloodine mercaetemico babilone il bignon: veblonei (colle
e le cose inanze il gia n'o goa diere) ancoa particolare trattato
grandemente necessario copiare. E in ditto solo lo isto: p che
che a omnibusoro occurrente il pius ero li posse scrivere. Si del ino
so a conti e scrupurere: comò de ragion. E per esso intendo var
li nomi sufficiente et bastante in tener ordinatamente tuitar conti e libro.
Per chc. (comò lo sai) cose maxime sono oporteno: che cia uole con debita vigilanza mercaetare.
De lo Jillapone
sima e la pecunia numerata et ogni altra faculta et speciale.
Jus
tera illud phy et an contri necessario et substantia. Se gia el cui
suffragio mai si po et manegio traferente ocredente.
Buve: che
molti gia nudi cos bona fede commentando: de grà facete habba faro. E mediante lo credito
vedale scrutato il magno richiogo sono permutato. Che alsi p volta discurrero habbiamo
tognoscoa. E gia gia necé grà repudicere non si noreua dire: che la fede del bon mercanta
re. E a quella stefanea lo giuramento: vedele. A la se de real mercante. E cito no quel
lere adoratione: che la fede cariticamente ognuno si halte: se n'usa et sia impossibile
facere a mio. La fudac e cosa che si recerche al debito tratico: che sia buon ragionere e

dimpro cipuntia. E p quello collocure. (disposto come se veduto) dal principio aline;
bivemo iduato regole e canoni a ciascuna opareione requiri.
In modo che da se ogni obliga
tete lectore tuo potra ipendere. E chi di questa prev non possi bene armato: la quegtere in un
no li ferrebbe. La: et ultima cosa opoterna se: che cò bello oedere ture fia facete debita
mente depogna: acio con beuia: posse di cipuia bauer notoria: quanto allo: debito et anco
credito: che verso altra non facete el trafero. E gia per fra laire et alloo unlimite: che lo
fascede allarmare reggere: ferria impossibile: fag debito oedine de scrupurere. E gia aliu repolo la
lo: madre tempere staria in gran tavaglie. E po acio con laire gia posso bauer. el picete tra
stare odiuno. Del se da el mio a ture fonti de scrupurere: ca p ca. pecedato. E be che no
si posso extespore tutto il bignon scrivere. No dibuemo p al che se gira. El pegromo iggesa
aclicinato lapicura.

Ferivamo el esso el mio de vinagre: che certamente fra gliarle et molto
da comedere: mediante qello i ogni altro se potra guidare. E qito visiderno la se pin
capi. Luna chiamavemo iutario. E laire vespone. Er p de luna: e poi de laire fucinella
mener se dava teto lodide e la sposta tavola contenuto. Per la gi facilmente el lectore porto la
occurrente trovare secondo il numero de suoi capitoli et carti.

Eh lo debito oedire che falsoteca vol sap be tener vn aderno co lo suo giorna
le e q che qui direa con vigilrenia fiia a teto. E acio be sunfetee el perso fisare
me o rapo yno che mo vinuoo comee a traferere comò p oedire deba procedere
netentere foi conti et scrupurere: acio et fustamente ogni caso posso rituovere posa
al suoluogu p che no altenndando le caso debittere a si suoluoghi eederei i grandiimia tra
uaglie e coflusio de ture fia facete. Fura che dicçt ybi nes a odo la et coluono. E pero p
Seco documento vogna mercante de tutto noo perso e ameno co il sopra e ditto. 2. pel
principal. Legi aramare il seguente ciascritterone: acio fructe salutore fadi ipendere. E pois
dimonorando ch dita dita in iutoso et e moda fusa far. E de p p che principale de qito trattato
etra iutario. E che dita fia iutario e comero mercante fasia far. ca. 10

Laiunie
adone p tete: piu spumonere et imaginario che ogni ope et molto salline. E p ootto qito
debittere colere la omen suoluxo nel suo perso. when el fule de cipuie traferente e de
estuire licente et cipgente guadagio p fia substentare. E po temere con lo nome de meta
In the course of his speech on June 15, 1775 accepting the Continental Congress' unanimous election of George Washington to General and Commander-in-Chief, he said "... I will keep an exact account of my expenses. Those, I doubt not, they [Congress] will discharge, and that is all I desire."

John Fitzpatrick notes that George Washington kept his accounts in duplicate. One he transmitted to the Board of Treasury of the Continental Congress to be audited. The other he kept, and that copy is now in the Library of Congress.

The accounts were translated where necessary into "Lawful" or coin currency value. The rate of exchange varied with locality and also throughout the war and so computation of the exchange, according to Fitzpatrick, was "ever an exasperating task."

The Comptroller of the Treasury, James Milligan congratulated George Washington for the precision with which he kept his records. In his letter of January 13, 1784 he wrote:

"As all accounts when liquidated are regularly entered in the Treasury Books, and the original papers carefully filed, it is not deemed necessary, for Accountants to receive any official papers, unless a Warrant for the balance, if any due; But your Excellency having in your Accounts, clearly displayed that degree of Candor & truth, and that attention you have constantly paid to every denomination of Civil Establishments, which invariably distinguish all your actions. I could not resist the inclination I felt, of transmitting you these papers, in hopes it may prove a matter of some satisfaction to you."

This is a close up photo of the keys on a Comptometer manufactured by Felt & Tarrant, Chicago who had patents dated July 18, 1887 through November 2, 1920. The photo, by Peter Kane, appeared in the May 1987 issue of the Journal of Accountancy, p. 263. The comptometer was donated to the AICPA Library by Paul Miranti.

American inventor Frank S. Buldwin in the late 19th century devised a more compact machine than the Lubniz mechanism of 1671. Later the machine was redesigned by Baldwin and Jay R. Monroe. Charles Babbage, an English mathematician and William S. Burroughs, an American inventor, also made important contributions to the development of the calculating machine.

Item 15. Abacus.

An apparatus of pebbles or other movable counters was known in antiquity to the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans and Chinese.

On last two pages of this account, signed by George Washington on July 1, 1783, his footnote, transcribed below, explains charges defrayed from his "private purse."

"Altho' I kept memos of these expenditures I did not introduce them into my Public accounts as they occurred - the reason was, it appeared at first view, in the commencement of them, to have the complexon of a private charge I had my doubts therefore of the propriety of making it - But the peculiar circumstances attending my command, and the embarrased situation of our Public Affairs which obliged me [to the no small detriment of my private interest] to postpone the visit I every year contemplated to make my family between the close of one campaign and opening of another - and as this expense was incidental thereto, and consequently of my self denial I have, as of right (?) I think I ought, upon due consideration, adjusted the charge as just with respect to the Public as it is convenient with respect to myself; and I make it with less reluctance as I find upon the final adjustment of these accounts (which have, as will appear been long unsettled). That I am a considerable loser - my disbursements having a good deal less (?) of my receipts, and the money I had upon hand of my own - For besides the sum I carried with me to Cambridge in 1775 (and which exceeded the aforementioned Balance of L 599-19-11.) I received monies afterwards on private acct. in 1777 and since which, except small sums that I had occasion now and then to apply to private uses, were expended in the Public Service - and thro' hurry, I suppose, the perplexity of business (for I knew not how else to account for the deficiency) I have omitted to charge whilst every debit against me is here credited."
My disbursements having a good deal
short of my receipts, the money I had upon
hand of my own. For besides what I
carried with me to Cambridge in 1775; and
which exceeded the aforementioned bill of
£399.19.11. I received money afterwards at
Boston, which, except small items
that I had occasion to spend for private
dress, were also expended in the public
service — and this service, I suppose, of
the necessity of business (for there was
no one else to suit), for the deficiency I have
omitted to charge, whilst every debit
against me is here credited.

July 1, 1783.

S. Washington