

1023-01-240 **Albert C. Lewis*** (alewis2@iupui.edu), Inst. for American Thought, ES0010, 902 W. New York St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5157. *Janos Bolyai's American supporter, G. B. Halsted*. Preliminary report.

The basic history of the discovery and reception of non-Euclidean geometry is well-known: its independent discovery by Lobachevsky, Bolyai, and Saccheri; the slow, posthumous recognition of their genius; and then the controversies over precedence. Today Bolyai is generally recognized as having been the first to publish but in the late nineteenth century the historical data was just being gathered and it was even proposed by some that Gauss should be thought of as preceding all of these. One of Bolyai's earliest champions was the Texas professor George Bruce Halsted who produced the first English translations of Bolyai, Lobachevsky, and Saccheri, and who traveled to Hungary in 1896 to study the papers of the Bolyais, father and son. (Received August 29, 2006)