

BULLETIN OF
THE JOHN RYLANDS
LIBRARY
MANCHESTER

VOL. 2

OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1915

No. 4

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS.

THE third list of contributions to the new library for the University of Louvain, which we print elsewhere in the present issue, furnishes fresh

LOUVAIN
LIBRARY
SCHEME.

and unmistakable evidence of the generous and widespread interest which our appeal on behalf of the crippled university has called forth.

Already upwards of five thousand volumes have been either received or definitely promised, and there are other equally generous promises of help which have yet to materialize. This is an excellent beginning, but, as we pointed out in our last issue, very much more remains to be done if the work of replacement which we have inaugurated is to be accomplished.

It is with the utmost confidence, therefore, that we renew and emphasize our appeal for help.

We are glad to be able to announce that three of the publications of the library which have been for several years in an active state of preparation, are now actually in circulation, and may be obtained from the publishers whose names appear on the cover of the "Bulletin," or through any bookseller. The most important of the three is:—

CATALOGUE
OF GREEK
PAPYRI.

CATALOGUE OF GREEK PAPYRI in the JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY. By A. S. Hunt, Litt.D., J. de M. Johnson, M.A., and Victor Martin, D. ès L. Volume 2: "Documents of the Ptolemaic and Roman Periods". (Nos. 62-456). 4to, pp. xx, 487, with twenty-three plates of facsimiles. (Price one guinea, net.)

This volume is the result of more than five years of persistent labour on the part of Dr. Hunt and his two associate editors. The volume, which runs to upwards of 500 pages, deals with nearly 400 papyri, consisting mainly of non-literary documents of an official or legal character, extending from the Ptolemaic to the Roman period, as dis-

tinguished from the literary documents, forming the subject-matter of the first volume, which appeared in 1911.

The chief interest centres in the description of the collection of carbonized papyri of Thmûis. These papyri were found, says Dr. Hunt, as well as others of the same group in various European collections, without doubt in the ruined buildings of Thmûis (Tell Timai), partly excavated by the expedition of the Egypt Exploration Fund during the season 1892-3, whose chambers were found choked by a medley of decayed rolls, and it is interesting to learn that the documents printed in this volume form the largest body yet published from this source.

For the student of New Testament Greek the volume contains much that is of interest. Professor J. H. Moulton, by carefully sifting the material as the sheets passed through the press, succeeded in obtaining many new words for his forthcoming "Vocabulary of the Greek Testament". The student of the history of the period covered by this group of documents, especially in relation to law, economics, and taxation in Egypt during the Roman occupation, will also find a mass of extremely useful information, not only in the documents themselves, but in the exhaustive and illuminating notes by which they are accompanied. Whilst to the palæographical student the excellent facsimiles with the typographical transliterations should prove of great service.

The texts which are printed *in extenso* are accompanied by translations, extensive notes and commentaries, twenty-three plates of facsimiles in collotype of forty-five of the documents, and most elaborate indexes.

It may not be out of place, whilst calling attention to our own Catalogue of Greek papyri, briefly to refer to the new OXYRHYN-
CHUS volume of the "Oxyrhynchus Papyri," the publication PAPYRI. of which synchronises with our own. This eleventh volume, issued by the Græco-Roman Branch of the Egypt Exploration Fund, and edited by Dr. B. P. Grenfell and Professor A. S. Hunt, consists, with one exception, of literary pieces of considerable importance, found at various dates since 1897. The exception is "one of the most interesting documents concerning the early Egyptian Church," furnishing as it does a list of services at various churches on Sundays, festivals, and apparently on other days, of five months in a particular year, which can be definitely fixed as A.D. 535-6. Other theological fragments

include short passages from several of the Epistles, but apparently of no great textual value.

The classical discoveries include fragments of Hesiod and Bacchylides, the latter being represented by two substantial pieces of scolia or convivial songs; some twenty-four elegiacs from the "Aetia" of Callimachus (1st cent.); a passage on the nature of justice by Antiphon, a contemporary of Socrates; and nearly two complete columns on the history of Sicyon (3rd cent.). Of extant texts there are papyri of parts of Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, and others, but the most important are portions of Thucydides VII (2nd-3rd cent.), furnishing new readings which will be much appreciated by experts of the text of Thucydides.

The feature of this volume which has afforded us the greatest pleasure, is the reappearance of the name of Dr. Grenfell upon the title page. Dr. Grenfell, we are glad to learn, has made a splendid recovery, and we hope that for many years he may be permitted to continue his researches in the field of scholarship, which he and his colleague, Dr. A. S. Hunt, have so peculiarly made their own, and that their researches may be crowned with new successes not unworthy of comparison with those which they have already to their credit.

The second of the library publications which has just made its appearance is:—

<p>SUMERIAN TABLETS FROM UMMMA IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY. . . . Transcribed, transliterated, and translated by C. L. Bedale, M.A. . . . With a Foreword by Canon C. H. W. Johns, M.A., Litt.D. 4to, pp. xvi, 16, with ten facsimiles. (Price five shillings, net).</p>	<p>SUMERIAN TABLETS FROM UMMA.</p>
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This thin quarto consists of a description of fifty-eight tablets, forming part of the collection acquired by the library some years ago, at the suggestion of the late Professor Hogg and Canon Johns. The work of cataloguing and editing the collection was to have been undertaken by Professor Hogg, but death intervened before he was able seriously to enter upon it. Mr. Bedale, one of Professor Hogg's students, who succeeded him as Lecturer in Assyriology at the University of Manchester, very gladly and readily stepped into the breach, and with the assistance of Canon Johns has produced a piece of work which does the editor infinite credit.

The volume is of considerable interest, since it makes available for study the first batch of tablets from this particular site at Umma, and that interest has been further enhanced by the Foreword contributed by Canon Johns, in which he describes the nature of the transactions recorded.

The third publication to make its appearance is a portfolio of facsimiles of eight early engravings, which are preserved in the John Rylands Library, under the title :—

WOODCUTS OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY. Reproduced in facsimile. With an introduction and descriptive notes by Campbell Dodgson, M.A. Folio. Ten plates, of which two are in colour, and 16 pp. of text, in a portfolio. (Price seven shillings and sixpence.)

WOODCUTS
OF THE
FIFTEENTH
CENTURY.

In addition to its fine collection of printed books of the fifteenth century, the library contains a small but precious collection of the woodcuts and metal cuts that were issued separately in large numbers in the early part of the same period, chiefly as aids to devotion.

Two of these woodcuts are of exceptional interest and importance, and have been known and celebrated for a century and a half, but have not hitherto been reproduced in a satisfactory manner, by any of the modern photo-mechanical processes. The two woodcuts referred to represent "St. Christopher" and "The Annunciation," the former of which has acquired a great celebrity by reason of the date (1423) which it bears, and which, until recently, gave to it the unchallenged position of the first dated woodcut.

Since the discovery in 1845, at Malines, of another woodcut representing "The Virgin and Child," and bearing the date 1418, which was afterwards acquired for the Royal Library at Brussels, and has, it is to be hoped, escaped the fury of the modern Vandals, the St. Christopher, in the estimation of some of the authorities, has lost its position. This view is shared by Mr. Dodgson, but there are other authorities who have a strong suspicion that the date in the Brussels print has been faked, if not added later, since the character of the lettering in the date differs entirely from that found in the untouched ribbon scrolls, containing inscriptions, in the picture itself.

These and many other points of great interest have been dealt with by Mr. Campbell Dodgson, Keeper of the Prints and Drawings

in the British Museum, the recognized authority on such matters, who kindly undertook to write the introduction and descriptive notes, and in so doing has greatly added to the value and importance of the publication.

The "St. Christopher" and "The Annunciation" have been reproduced in the exact colours of the originals, as well as in monochrome, and the difficulty experienced in obtaining satisfactory results in the coloured reproductions, accounts, to some extent, for the delay which has attended the publication of this fourth issue of the series of "The John Rylands Facsimiles". The water-colour sketches, which formed the basis of the colour reproductions, were prepared under the direction of Mr. Richard Glazier, the Principal of the Manchester School of Art, to whom we offer our grateful thanks.

In the course of the examination and description of the library's collection of Arabic manuscripts, numbering upwards of 800 volumes, upon which Dr. Alphonse Mingana is at present engaged, many of them have been invested with a new importance, by reason of the exceptional palæographical and textual interest which they have been found to possess. In recent issues of the "Bulletin" attention has been called to copies of the "Kur'an," which are likely to excite considerable interest with regard to the text of the Mohammedan scriptures. In our next issue we shall publish a further article from the pen of Dr. Mingana, in which he will describe another manuscript, probably unique, by Ibn Bābawaih al-Ḳummi, dealing with Moslem beliefs and practices. There is a glamour of romance and humour surrounding many of the stories translated by Dr. Mingana, which, together with the information regarding the rewards for good deeds, and the punishments for infractions of conduct, reserved for the followers of Mohammed, will make interesting and instructive reading.

The object of the present note, however, is to call attention to the most recent, and certainly the most important of Dr. Mingana's finds. The manuscript referred to is a volume of modest appearance and dimensions, the provenance of which it is now impossible to determine, since there is no record of when and how it came into the possession of the late Earl of Crawford, from whom it was acquired, with the other manuscript collections, in 1902. It consists of an apology of Islām, by a learned Muhammadan doctor, named 'Ali b. Rabbān at-

AN UNRECORDED
APOLOGY
OF ISLAMISM.

Tabari, the importance of which may be gleaned from the following notes furnished by Dr. Mingana.

The ninth century of the Christian era is marked by numerous apologetic works by Christians and Muhammadans, who lived not far from Baghdad, the capital of the 'Abbâside dynasty of the Eastern caliphate. The names of Abu Nūh, Timotheus the Patriarch, and Ishak al-Kindi, among Christian apologists are known by all interested in oriental learning. In particular the "Apology of the Christian Faith," by Al-Kindi can hardly be ignored by any educated Muslim, or by any educated Christian living with Muslims. But, as far as we are aware, hitherto no such an apology of Islâm of so early a date and of such outstanding importance, by a Muhammadan has been known to exist. It is, therefore, a source of great pleasure to be able to announce that a work similar to that of Al-Kindi, dated A.H. 616, has been found in our collection. The work is of first-rate importance to the Muslim, and not of less importance to every oriental scholar, whilst to anyone interested in theological questions it must have an interest. It follows generally the apology of Al-Kindi, which the author probably intended to refute. The work contains about 130 long Biblical quotations to prove the divine mission of the Arabian prophet. These quotations follow the Syriac Version of the Bible, said, in the manuscript, to have been translated by an unknown author called "Marcus the Interpreter". If this Marcus may be identified with the Marcus mentioned in the "Fihrist" (p. 306), and among the writers preceding the time of the Prophet, the book would become of paramount importance for many questions dealing with the redaction of the Qur'an. The Syriac word *Mshabbha*, "the Glorious," wherever occurring in the Old Testament, is translated in Arabic by the word *Muhammad*. It is possible, therefore, that the Prophet having heard this word pronounced, wrote (S. vii, 156, etc.) that his name was found in the Sacred Books of the Christians and the Jews.

The writer is the physician and moralist 'Ali b. Rabbān at-Tabari, who died about A.D. 864. He wrote his book at the request of the Caliph al-Mutawakkil (847-861), at Baghdad in the year A.D. 850. The manuscript is a transcript of the autograph of Tabari himself, and is certainly the most seriously written book on the apologetic theme existing in our days.

The Governors of the Library have in contemplation the publication of an edition of the Arabic text, accompanied by an English translation, upon which Dr. Mingana is at present actively engaged. If it be true, that every faithful follower of Muhammad will desire to possess a copy of this manual as soon as it is brought to his notice, as we are assured will be the case, our printers and publishers are likely to be kept busy for some time to come.

In the present issue we print an interesting description of an important thirteenth century Latin Summary of the Sentences of Peter Lombard, forming part of a small collection of similar manuscripts in two volumes, which according to the inscriptions found here and there in the volumes themselves, belonged at one time to the Cistercian Monastery of Camborne, in the Diocese of Cambay. It was later and until recently in the possession of Mr. George Dunn, of Woolley Hall, Maidenhead, and at the dispersal of his manuscripts, which took place in 1913, it passed into the custody of this library.

SUMMARY
OF THE
SENTENCES
OF PETER
LOMBARD.

Hitherto the manuscript appears to have escaped the attention of scholars, and we are indebted to the Rev. Raymond M. Martin, O.P., for its identification, and also for permitting us to publish the results of his scholarly examination of a text which should be of considerable importance to those who are interested in the history of mediæval theology.

Father Martin, a Professor of Louvain, has been in England since the occupation of Louvain by the Germans, but he has now returned, feeling that his duty is amongst his own people, to succour, and to minister to such of them as remain in the devastated city.

For some time Father Martin has been engaged in the collection of materials for an edition of the works of the mediæval philosopher and theologian, Robert de Melun, which he has in contemplation. Robert de Melun, who is little known to-day, was born in England. At an early age he proceeded to Paris, to study under Hugues de Saint Victor, and Abélard. In course of time he was made professor, and taught, first at the École de Sainte-Geneviève, and later at Melun. In 1163 he was consecrated Bishop of Hereford, which office he occupied until his removal by death, on the 28th February, 1167.

ROBERT DE
MELUN.

Father Martin has already published two monographs upon the

subject : " Les idées de Robert de Melun sur le péché original," 1913, and " La nécessité de croire. Le mystère de la très Sainte-Trinité, d'après Robert de Melun," 1913, copies of which he has presented to the library. Other articles on the works of this author are to appear in the forthcoming numbers of the " Revue des Sciences philosophiques et théologiques," " Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique," and " La Ciencia Tomista ".

In the last letter received from Father Martin, written on the eve of his return to Louvain, he requested us to announce that he would be most grateful for any information, based upon manuscript sources, as bearing upon Robert de Melun and his works. Needless to say we shall be glad to receive any communications that any of our readers may wish to make, and to transmit them to Father Martin when the opportunity occurs.

Amongst the most recent accessions to the library, we have received the two first fasciculi of a magnificent work by ^{REIMS} M. Paul Vitry, entitled " La Cathédrale de Reims : ^{CATHE-} ^{DR L.} architecture et sculpture," which, when completed will comprise 225 plates excellently reproduced in héliogravure, accompanied by an historical and descriptive introduction, and a bibliography, together with plans and other documents showing the actual state of the damaged parts of this chef-d'œuvre of French architecture.

It is fortunate that the collection of materials for this great work had been completed before the Vandals had commenced their work of studied demolition, and that we have had preserved for all time a pictorial record of this truly national sanctuary, which represents the richest example of Gothic art at its best period, and at the same time the most varied example of French sculpture of the thirteenth century, when it had arrived at its supreme monumental expression.

The words in which M. Vitry dedicates his work to the public are well worth quoting :—

" . . . nous voudrions que ce livre-ci fût surtout et d'abord un hommage pieux au chef d'œuvre, victime d'un attentat odieux, qu'il fixât à jamais le souvenir des parties qui ont été ravagées, glorifiant celles, nombreuses heureusement, qui ont échappé à la dévastation et qui seront d'autant plus célèbres, d'autant plus consultées et admirées par les générations à venir."

There is another work amongst the recent accessions, which is deserving of notice at a time when the thoughts of the intellectual world turn in sympathy to Louvain, which has been appropriately described as the "martyr city," and which will be welcomed by many of our readers, especially by those who have so generously responded to our appeals for help in our efforts to assist in the repair of one corner of that devastated area. The work to which we refer is: "L'Université de Louvain: Conférences données au Collège de France en Février, 1915". By Paul Delannoy. As the title indicates it reproduces the lectures which M. Delannoy, Professor and Librarian of the University of Louvain, delivered at the Collège de France, to large and enthusiastic audiences, in the early part of the year. The author has sketched for us, in a brief, but most attractive manner, the principal episodes of the history of the University from its foundation in the fifteenth century to the present time. He tells us that it was reckoned amongst the most vital intellectual forces of the nation, and was at the same time one of the most ardent centres of patriotism.

Under the will of the late Mr. Thomas Kay, J.P., of Stockport, there has been bequeathed to the library the portrait of a young man, which without reasonable evidence has been described as the "Grafton Portrait of Shakespeare". In accepting the bequest we are under no illusions as to the iconographic value of the painting. Since, however, it has already obtained a certain notoriety in the press, it is as well that it should be preserved in some public institution, where it will be accessible to any of the experts or others interested in the subject, who may wish to satisfy themselves as to the fallacy of the attribution.

The story of how the picture came into the possession of Mr. Kay, and of his subsequent efforts to identify the portrait with Shakespeare, is told in a little volume which has just made its appearance, under the title: "The Story of the Grafton Portrait of Shakespeare: with an account of the sack and destruction of the Manor of Grafton Regis, 1643". By Thomas Kay.

The book is a piece of special pleading, in which there is little evidence to justify the deductions arrived at. The Keeper of the National Portrait Gallery, to whom the panel was known, and who had examined and condemned it several years before it was brought

LOUVAIN
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SITY.

THE SO-
CALLED
GRAFTON
PORTRAIT
OF SHAKE-
SPEARE.

to the notice of Mr. Kay, warned that gentleman of the cool and vain attempts which had been made from time to time to identify the portrait with Shakespeare, but without avail.

However, it is self-evident that Mr. Kay conscientiously believed in his "find," but that he was completely misled leaves, unfortunately, no possibility for doubt.

The exhibition of manuscripts and early printed books, which was specially arranged in the show cases of the library, on the occasion of the visit of the British Association in September last, will remain on view until March next, when it will be replaced by a selection of the works of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, to commemorate the tercentenary of the death of our national poet.

EXHIBITION
OF MANU-
SCRIPTS
AND EARLY
PRINTED
BOOKS.

In the present exhibition may be seen some of the most famous of the library's possessions in oriental and western manuscripts, illustrating the art and craft of the scribe and the illuminator during the Middle Ages. Side by side with these are examples of the block-books, and the earliest type-printed books, in which also the library is so well equipped. Indeed, it is possible, by means of this exhibition, to trace the evolution of the materials and methods which have been employed from the earliest times down to the close of the fifteenth century, for the preservation and transmission of knowledge from one age to another.

We have been able, also, by means of this exhibition, to render some assistance to the Education Committee of Manchester in their efforts to provide means of instruction for the scholars who have been dislodged through the taking over by the military authorities of so many of the schools to serve as hospitals. The course adopted has been to invite groups of teachers to the library for a demonstration upon portions of the exhibition, so as to provide them with the necessary material, with which, in turn, they may each give a demonstration, around the show cases, to their respective classes. In this way a large number of young people have been brought into touch with the library, and it is impossible to estimate the good that may result from these visits, affording, as they do in so many cases, peeps into an entirely new world, which will add a new interest and reality to their studies.

Since the publication of our last issue, another of our colleagues has joined His Majesty's forces, in the person of Mr. S. O. Moffet, M.A., one of the senior assistants. He has joined the Motor Transport Branch of the Army Service Corps, and having qualified, is daily expecting to be sent to the front.

THE LIB-
RARY'S
ROLL OF
HONOUR.

We are glad to be able to report that, according to the latest reports, our colleagues who are on active service are all safe. Lieutenant O. J. Sutton, who received his commission immediately after the declaration of war, accompanied the 9th Manchester Regiment to the Dardanelles, and was sent back wounded, after seeing considerable service. He has since recovered, and is again on active service. We are proud to learn that he has been mentioned in dispatches by Sir Ian Hamilton for distinguished service, has received his second star, and is recommended for the Military Cross.

The present issue will be found to contain the third section of the list of the most important of the recent accessions to the library, which deals exclusively with the additions to the department of History, accompanied by the promised combined author index to all three sections.

LIST OF
RECENT AC-
CESSIONS.

Of Professor Tout's lecture entitled "A Mediaeval Burglary," which also appears in the present issue, a limited number of reprints in separate form have been published, and may be had of the usual agents, at the price of sixpence.

A MEDI-
AEVAL
BURGLARY.

With our next issue we shall commence a new volume, so that the volumes may not be too unwieldy. We have therefore included in the present and concluding part of the second volume a title page with table of contents, to enable those of our readers who may wish to preserve their copies to bind them.

OUR NEXT
ISSUE.