

BULLETIN OF
THE JOHN RYLANDS
LIBRARY
MANCHESTER

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No. 1

WITH the present issue the publication of the "Bulletin of the John Rylands Library" is resumed after a somewhat lengthened period of suspension. Appearing first in 1903 it was continued by annual issues until 1908, when by reason of the exigencies of other work it was found necessary to suspend publication until the pressure of the more urgent claims of the library had been relieved.

Such however has been the experience of the intervening years that any hope of relief which we may have entertained has been completely dispelled, yet in consequence of the repeated inquiries for the "Bulletin," which have revealed the need for some such medium of communication between the library and those who are interested in its welfare, it has been decided to resume the publication without further delay.

It will be noticed that the format has been changed, from the quarto of the original volume to the handier octavo size of the present issue, whilst changes in the arrangement of the contents have been decided upon, with the object of increasing its usefulness.

It may not be out of place to remind readers that the primary purpose of the "Bulletin" is to make clear to students in Manchester and elsewhere the possibilities of usefulness which such a library offers. This will be effected through the medium of lists of the most important additions to the shelves, of aids to readers in the form of select bibliographies, or reading lists of the character of the one prepared by Professor Peake, which appears in the present issue; of bibliographical notes upon any specially noteworthy addition, such as the "Odes of Solomon"; of occasional articles on the special collections and outstanding books and documents in which the library is so rich; and by any other means calculated to make its resources better known.

That such a publication will materially increase the general interest in the library, and not only promote the use of books that would otherwise be neglected, but directly tend to the advancement of knowledge, cannot be doubted.

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS.

In reviewing the work of the library during the interval which has elapsed since the publication of the last issue of the "Bulletin," it may not be out of place in the first instance to recall the considerations which have led to the present policy of the administration of the library.

POLICY
OF THE
LIBRARY.

Throughout the fourteen years of the library's existence, it has been recognized that while it is the primary duty of the authorities carefully to preserve the books and manuscripts entrusted to their care, yet the real importance of such collections rests not upon the number or the rarity of the works of which the collections are composed, but upon the use to which they are put.

It was inevitable that the possession of so great an inheritance of literary treasures should cause the library to become a place of pilgrimage for those who have given themselves to the service of learning, as well as for the lover of rare books. But from the first it has been the intention of the Governors to make it at the same time an excellent working library for students, whether in the department of theology, philosophy, history, philology, belles-lettres, the fine arts, or bibliography, and with this end in view they have consistently strengthened the collections in directions likely to be fruitful of good results, so that students and scholars of riper experience alike should be attracted, not merely by the library's treasures, but also by the facilities which it offers for study and research.

Needless to say there are still many lacunæ upon the shelves of the library, although every effort is being employed to reduce their number. This, however, is not surprising when the comparatively recent date of the foundation is recalled.

In this work of development, very material assistance has been rendered by readers, whose suggestions, which are invited and welcomed, receive careful and sympathetic consideration, with the result that during the fourteen years that have elapsed since the library

opened its doors, something like 120,000 volumes have been added to the shelves, including seven thousand manuscripts and many other works either of extreme rarity or of historical importance.

There is cause for great satisfaction in the fact that one of the outstanding features of the use made of the library during the period under review is the large and increasing amount of original research which has been conducted by students, not only from our own universities, but also by scholars from other countries.

USE MADE
OF THE
LIBRARY.

Every encouragement is given to such workers, with the result that of late, such has been the increase in their number that the seating capacity of the library has been taxed at times to the point of congestion, and the need, if the present standard of service is to be maintained, for more adequate accommodation, has become increasingly apparent.

With a view not only of providing for this necessary extension of the present buildings, but also of creating for the building an island site, in order to minimize, as far as possible, the risk of fire which the close proximity of the buildings at the rear threatened, the Governors, for several years past, have been acquiring land at the rear of, and immediately adjoining, the library.

BUILDING
EXTENSION.

After careful consideration of the most pressing needs, the architect of the original building was asked to prepare sketch plans for an extension which was to harmonize with the existing structure, and to be in communication with it, in which provision should be made for an additional reading room, a manuscript room, a series of rooms for administrative work, common rooms for the staff, and stack rooms for book storage.

The original building, though admirable from the architectural point of view, and possessing many other excellent qualities, does not fully meet the requirements of a modern research library. Therefore, in deciding upon the character and arrangement of the new portion, reliance has been placed upon the actual experience of the past years—years which have furnished many object lessons—with the result that every part of the extension has been designed to meet some particular need.

The sketch plans having been prepared in such a way as to allow the work to be executed in two sections, the plans for the first section were elaborated, in which provision is made for the administrative

requirements of the library. These include : receiving and accession room ; secretarial room ; binding room where the preparation of work for the binder and the checking of such work upon its return may be carried out under proper conditions, also where repairs to manuscripts and rare books may be executed under careful supervision ; publications room for the storage of the library's printed catalogues and other publications ; cataloguing room, in which the principal part of the cataloguing 'staff may be concentrated, and where they will be surrounded by their most necessary tools ; senior and junior common rooms for the staff ; a workroom for the librarian ; and a number of stack rooms for book storage.

Building operations were commenced in the early part of last year, and it is expected that the first section of the extension will be ready for occupation towards the end of 1915.

The final portion will consist of a stack building to provide shelf accommodation for half a million volumes, surmounted by a reading room and a manuscript room, which will be reserved for special research, the aim being to provide every reasonable facility for such work, including freedom from the distractions which are unavoidable in the more public rooms of the library.

The accommodation which will be provided under this scheme is calculated to meet the requirements of the library, at the normal rate of growth, until the end of the present century.

A photographic studio with a complete equipment of apparatus has been installed in the library, and placed in charge of a thoroughly qualified assistant. By this means it has been possible to render valuable assistance to scholars both at home and abroad by furnishing them with photographed facsimiles of pages from any of our rarer printed books and manuscripts. Again and again, in the case of requests for transcripts and collations of passages from some important text, it has been found possible, at very small cost to the library, to provide rotograph photographs of the passages, which were at once more trustworthy and more acceptable than the best handmade transcript could possibly be. This new department is fraught with possibilities of world-wide benefit.

Public interest in the library has been fostered in a variety of ways, with most encouraging results. Each session, since the year 1900, a series of public lectures has been arranged,

PHOTO-
GRAPHIC
STUDIO.

PUBLIC
LECTURES.

including the names of scholars of the highest eminence, who gladly contribute lectures upon the subjects of which they are the acknowledged authorities. On these occasions the lecture room is invariably filled to overflowing, whilst at times hundreds of people have been unable to gain admission.

The following syllabus of lectures arranged for the ensuing session will give some idea of the character of this part of the library's work :—

EVENING LECTURES (7.30 p.m.).

Wednesday, 14th October, 1914. "How to Study the New Testament." By Arthur S. Peake, M.A., D.D., Professor of Biblical Exegesis in the Victoria University of Manchester. (A brief reading list will be printed for circulation at this lecture.)

Wednesday, 11th November, 1914. "Babylonian Law and the Mosaic Code." By Canon C. H. W. Johns, M.A., Litt.D., Master of St. Catharine's College, Cambridge.

Wednesday, 9th December, 1914. "The Youth of Vergil." By R. Seymour Conway, M.A., Litt.D., Professor of Latin and Indo-European Philology in the Victoria University of Manchester.

Wednesday, 20th January, 1915. "A Mediæval Burglary." By Thomas F. Tout, M.A., F.B.A., Bishop Fraser Professor of Mediæval and Ecclesiastical History in the Victoria University of Manchester.

Wednesday, 10th February, 1915. "Words and their Story." By James Hope Moulton, M.A., D.Litt., D.D., D.C.L., D.Theol., etc., Greenwood Professor of Hellenistic Greek in the Victoria University of Manchester.

Wednesday, 10th March, 1915. "Ancient Egypt and the Dawn of Civilization." (Illustrated with Lantern Pictures.) By G. Elliot Smith, M.A., M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy in the Victoria University of Manchester.

Wednesday, 28th April, 1915. "World Literature : the New Departure in the Study of Literature." By Richard G. Moulton, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Literary Theory and Interpretation in the University of Chicago.

Friday, 30th April, 1915. "World Literature : the Five World Bibles." By Richard G. Moulton, M.A., Ph.D.

AFTERNOON LECTURES (3 p.m.).

Tuesday, 17th November, 1914. "Theban Tombs." (Illustrated with Lantern Pictures.) By Alan H. Gardiner, M.A., D.Litt., Formerly Lecturer in Egyptology in the Victoria University of Manchester.

Tuesday, 5th January, 1915. "The Origin of the Cult of Dionysos." By James Rendel Harris, M.A., Litt.D., LL.D., etc., Director of Studies at the Woodbrooke Settlement, Birmingham.

The object of these lectures is to stimulate interest in the library, and each lecture is made the occasion for reminding the audience of this fact, by directing attention to the available sources of information upon the subject dealt with. The value of the lecture is often enhanced by the distribution of a printed synopsis, or a printed list of the principal authorities upon the subject, which are to be found in the library.

Another department of work which has met with encouraging success is represented by the bibliographical and other demonstrations for students, which are arranged from time to time for organized parties of students from the training colleges, technical, secondary, and other schools in Manchester and the neighbouring towns.

As a rule, the demonstration deals with the author or subject, sometimes a period of history or of literature, which has been the theme of class study during the term. Such topics as "The Beginnings of Literature," "The Beginnings of Printing," "The Middle Ages," "The Revival of Learning," "Caxton," "Aldus," "Chaucer," "Shakespeare," "Dante," and "Milton," have each in turn been dealt with in this manner.

Experience has taught us that nothing will help a student to appreciate the reality underlying the great names of literature or history like a personal introduction to the original documentary sources, the autograph material, the original editions of their works, and to the most authoritative works bearing upon the subject. In this way a sense of personal acquaintance with the writers, or a vivid impression of the subject is obtained, which not only deepens their interest in that particular subject but stimulates an interest in the many valuable collections which the library contains, and lays the foundation for future study.

DEMONSTRATIONS TO STUDENTS.

By means of exhibitions, which are arranged in a series of glass cases in the Main Library, the public are given the opportunity of inspecting some of the principal treasures of the library. In this way the "History of the English Bible," the "History of Printing," the "Manuscripts of the Middle Ages," the "Original Editions of the Earliest English Classics," and other subjects have been illustrated to the evident enjoyment of a large number of visitors, including organized parties from the elementary and secondary schools, and with the gratifying result that in a number of cases which have been brought to our knowledge, the interest of the casual visitor has ripened into a desire to become a regular reader.

It is customary to issue in connexion with each exhibition a descriptive catalogue or handbook, illustrated with facsimiles, and containing lists of works for the study of the subject dealt with, which are at the service of readers in the library. Particulars of the most recent of these catalogues will be found amongst notes dealing with publications.

In the accompanying list of donors to the library during 1913-14 we have unmistakable evidence of the constantly increasing practical interest in the library and its work. In the name of the Governors we take this opportunity of renewing the thanks already expressed in another form to the donors for their generous gifts, and of assuring them that these generous expressions of interest and goodwill are a most welcome source of encouragement.

The Rev. Dr. W. F. Adeney.
 The Rev. W. C. Atkinson.
 The Rev. Dr. W. E. Beet.
 Mr. and Mrs. Bentham.
 Marco Besso, Esq.
 W. K. Bixby, Esq.
 Bodley's Librarian.
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 Professor Carleton Brown.
 Dr. Burggraef.
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The Rev. E. Hampden Cook.
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The Rev. E. A. W. Peacock.	J. B. Watson, Esq.
Julian Peacock, Esq.	Professor Dr. K. Wessely.
Miss Isabelle Mary Phibbs.	Mrs. Widener.
	G. Parker Winship, Esq.
	T. J. Wise, Esq.

Aberdeen University Library.

Aberystwyth. National Library of Wales.

Auckland Public Library.

Bankipur. Oriental Public Library.

Barcelona. Biblioteca de Catalunya.

Berlin. Kommission für der Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke.

Berlin. Königliche Bibliothek.

Bonn. Königl. Universitäts-Bibliothek.

Boston Public Library, Mass.
Bristol Public Library.
British and Foreign Bible Society.
Bryn Mawr College, Pa.
California University Library.
Cambridge. St. John's College Library.
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
Carnegie Foundation.
Chicago University Library.
Chicago. John Crerar Library.
Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences.
Copenhagen. Det Store Kongelige Bibliothek.
Cornell University Library.
Downside Abbey Library, Bath.
Dublin. National Library of Ireland.
Dublin. Marsh's Library.
Durham University Library.
Egypt Exploration Fund.
Gand. Bibliothèque de l'Université.
Glasgow University Library.
Groningen. Rijks-Universiteitbibliothék.
Halifax. Bankfield Museum.
Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Baptist Churches
Leyden. Bibliothek der Rijks-Universiteit.
Lisbon. Academia das Sciencias.
London. British Museum.
London. Guildhall Library.
London. Jews' College.
London. Middle Temple Library.
London. Patent Office Library.
London. Victoria and Albert Museum.
Manchester. Chetham Hospital and Library.
Manchester. Egyptian and Oriental Society.
Manchester. School of Technology.
Manchester. Victoria University.
Michigan University Library.
New York Public Library.
New York. Columbia University Library.

The Order of the Cross, Paignton.
 Pennsylvania Public Library.
 Petrograd. Imperial University Library.
 Princetown Seminary.
 Saint Andrews University Library.
 Saint Anselm's Society.
 Sheffield. Hunter Archæological Society.
 Société Asiatique.
 South Australia Public Library.
 Stockholm. Kongelige Bibliotheket.
 Strassburg. Kaiserl. Universitäts- und Landes-Bibliothek.
 Sydney Free Public Library.
 Toronto Provincial Museum.
 Toronto Public Library.
 Tübingen. Universitäts-Bibliothek.
 Uppsala. Universitets-Bibliothek.
 Utrecht. Rijks Universitäts-Bibliothek.
 Vienna. K.K. Univ. Bibliothek.
 Warrington Literary and Philosophical Society.
 Washington. Congressional Library.
 Washington. Smithsonian Institution.
 Washington. Surgeon-General's Office Library.
 Washington University Library, St. Louis, Mo.
 Worcester, Mass. Clark University Library.
 Yale University Library.

Since the publication of the last issue of the "Bulletin" a number of interesting catalogues and other publications have made their appearance. The most important is the "CATALOGUE OF THE DEMOTIC PAPYRI IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY. With facsimiles and complete translations. By F. LL. GRIFFITH, M.A." 3 vols. 4to. (Price 3 guineas.)

PRINTED
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 LOGUES
 AND OTHER
 PUBLICA-
 TIONS.

This was published in 1909, after about ten years of persistent work on the part of Mr. Griffith. It is something more than a catalogue, since it includes collotype facsimiles of the whole of the documents, with transliterations, translations, valuable introductions, very full notes, and a glossary of Demotic, representing, in the estimation of scholars, the most important contribution to the study of Demotic hitherto published.

This was followed in the same year by the "CATALOGUE OF THE COPTIC MANUSCRIPTS . . . By W. E. Crum, M.A." 1 vol. 4to. (Price 1 guinea.) In this also many of the texts are reproduced *in extenso*. The collection includes a series of private letters considerably older than any in Coptic hitherto known, in addition to many manuscripts of great theological and historical interest.

In 1911 appeared the first volume of the "CATALOGUE OF GREEK POPYRI . . ." Volume I. Literary texts (nos. 1-61); by Arthur S. Hunt, D.Litt. 4to. (Price 1 guinea.) The texts are reproduced *in extenso*, and comprise many interesting Biblical, liturgical, and classical papyri, ranging from the third century B.C. to the sixth century A.D. Included are probably the earliest known text of the "Nicene Creed," and one of the earliest known vellum codices, containing a considerable fragment of the "Odyssey," possibly of the third century A.D.

The series of reprints, which is to be known as "THE JOHN RYLANDS FACSIMILES," has been undertaken, with the object of rendering more readily accessible to students by means of faithful facsimile reproductions, some of the more interesting and important of the rarer books and prints which are in the possession of the library, and also of averting the disaster and loss to scholarship involved in the destruction by fire or otherwise of such unique and rare literary treasures when they have not been multiplied by some method of reproduction.

The volumes consist of minutely accurate facsimiles of the works selected, preceded by bibliographical introductions.

Three volumes have been issued, and are briefly described in the following paragraphs, whilst two others are in an advanced state of preparation.

1. PROPOSITIO JOHANNIS RUSSELL, printed by William Caxton, circa A.D. 1476. . . . With an introduction by Henry Guppy, M.A., 1909. 8vo, pp. 36, 8. 3s. 6d. net.

* * * This "proposition" is an oration, pronounced by John Russell, Chancellor of England, on the investiture of Charles, Duke of Burgundy, with the Order of the Garter, in February, 1469, at Ghent. The tract consists of four printed leaves, without title-page,

printer's name, date, or place of printing. It is printed in the type which is known as Caxton's type "No. 2," but whether printed at Bruges or at Westminster has yet to be determined.

For many years the copy now in the John Rylands Library was considered to be unique. Indeed, until the year 1807 it lay buried and unnoticed in the heart of a volume of manuscripts, with which it had evidently been bound up by mistake. Since then, another copy has been discovered in the library at Holkam Hall, the seat of the Earl of Leicester.

2. A BOOKE IN ENGLYSH METRE, of the Great Marchaunt man called "Dives Pragmaticus". . . . 1563. . . . With an introduction by Percy E. Newbery, M.A. ; and remarks on the vocabulary and dialect, with a glossary by Henry C. Wyld, M.A., 1910. 4to, pp. xxxviii, 16. 5s. net.

* * * The tract here reproduced is believed to be the sole surviving copy of a quaint little primer which had the laudable object of instructing the young in the names of trades, professions, ranks, and common objects of daily life in their own tongue. The lists are rhymed, and therefore easy to commit to memory, and they are pervaded by a certain vein of humour.

3. A LITIL BOKE the whiche traytied and reherced many gode thinges necessaries for the . . . Pestilence . . . made by the . . . Bisshop of Arusiens. . . . [London], [1485 ?]. . . . With an introduction by Guthrie Vine, M.A., 1910. 4to, pp. xxxvi, 18. 5s. net.

* * * Of this little tract, consisting of nine leaves, written by Benedict Kanuti, or Knutsson, Bishop of Västerås, three separate editions are known, but only one copy of each, and an odd leaf are known to have survived.

There is no indication in any edition of the place of printing, date, or name of printer, but they are all printed in one of the five types employed by William de Machlinia, who printed first in partnership with John Lettou, and afterwards alone, in the city of London, at the time when William Caxton was at the most active period of his career at Westminster.

CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF DANTE ALIGHIERI [with list of a selection of works on the study of Dante]. 1909. 8vo, pp. xii, 55. 6d. net.

The exhibition of which this is a descriptive catalogue was arranged, primarily, in connexion with the visit to the library of the members of the Manchester Dante Society, with the object of revealing to them the wealth of material which is here available for the study of Dante, and it may not be out of place to reproduce a few paragraphs from the preface, in which the scope and character of the collection are described.

The library contains five manuscripts and upwards of 6000 printed volumes and pamphlets relating to Dante. The nucleus of this collection, including the rarest and the most important of the early editions, formed part of the Althorp Library. These have been added to from time to time, by the purchase of other groups of copies, together with a considerable collection of the modern literature of the subject.

Of the five manuscripts the three most important are: (1) a copy of the "Canzoni" written in the latter part of the fourteenth century for Lorenzo degli Strozzi, which is ornamented with large initial letters and illuminated borders, containing portraits of Dante and of his innamorata; (2) a copy of the "Divina Commedia" written in 1416, containing a number of variants from the common text, made by B. Landi de Landis, of Prato, of whom nothing is known; (3) a sixteenth-century copy of the "Divina Commedia," with the "Credo" and other poems at the end, which at one time was in the possession of Cavaliere S. Kirkup.

The printed editions include the three earliest folios of the "Divina Commedia," printed in the same year (1472) at Foligno, Mantua, and Jesi respectively. The only serious gap in the collection is the fourth folio, undated, but which issued from the press of Francesco del Tuppo at Naples between the years 1473 and 1475. Of this edition not more than three or four copies are known to have survived, three of which are already locked up in national or public libraries. With this exception, the entire range of the early and principal critical editions of the text of Dante's great poem is represented. Of the first illustrated edition of the "Divina Commedia," which has also the distinction of being the only one printed in

Florence during the fifteenth century, one of the two copies in the possession of the library is believed to be the only copy containing twenty of the engravings, said to have been executed by Baccio Baldini.

CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL EDITIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL WORKS OF JOHN MILTON, arranged in celebration of the tercentenary of his birth. 1908. 8vo, pp. 24. 6d. net.

CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL EDITIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL ENGLISH CLASSICS [with list of works for the study of English literature]. 1910. 8vo, pp. xvi, 86. 6d. net.

CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF MANUSCRIPT AND PRINTED COPIES OF THE SCRIPTURES, illustrating the history of the transmission of the Bible, in commemoration of the Tercentenary of the "Authorised Version" of the English Bible, A.D. 1611-1911. 1911. 8vo, pp. xiv, 128, and 12 facsimiles. 6d. net.

This exhibition, as the title to the catalogue explains, was arranged to commemorate the Tercentenary of the publication of the "Authorised Version" of the English Bible of 1611.

The exhibits were so arranged as to illustrate the transmission of the Bible through the various stages of its eventful history from the original texts and early versions down to the Revised Version of 1881-98.

A brief sketch of the history of the transmission of the Bible, filling thirty-six pages, is prefixed to the catalogue, which is followed by a list giving particulars of a selection of works for the study of the original texts and principal versions of the Bible, which may be consulted in the library.

CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF MEDIÆVAL MANUSCRIPTS AND JEWELLED BOOK-COVERS [exhibited on the occasion of the visit of the Historical Association], including lists of palæographical works and of historical periodicals in the John Rylands Library. 1912. 8vo, pp. xiv, 134, and 10 facsimiles. 6d. net.

The visit to the library of the members of the Historical Association, on the occasion of the holding of their Fifth Annual Meeting in Manchester, was signalized by the arrangement of the exhibition of mediæval manuscripts described in the above catalogue.

Prefixed to the catalogue is a brief account of the library's manuscript possessions, followed by some notes explanatory of the character of the books of the Middle Ages, and of the distinguishing features which they possess, in the matter of writing, of illuminations, and also of the materials employed, with a view to assist those who may not be familiar with the subject, to a fuller appreciation of the interest and beauty of their workmanship. The illustrations add to the usefulness of the catalogue, by furnishing examples of the work of some of the most important schools of writing and illumination from the ninth to the sixteenth centuries.

Lest it should be inferred that the library is rich in such bibliographical and literary treasures as were exhibited and described, but wanting in the necessary appliances for study and research, it was thought advisable to include a list of the works for the study of palæography with which the library is equipped, and also a list of the periodical publications in history and the allied topics which are regularly taken for the periodical room.

A BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LIBRARY AND ITS CONTENTS, WITH CATALOGUE OF A SELECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS AND PRINTED BOOKS exhibited on the occasion of the visit of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, in October, 1912. 8vo, pp. xii, 144, and 21 facsimiles. *Out of print.*

The object of this volume was to signalize the visit to the library of the members of the Executive of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, on the occasion of the holding of their Annual Meeting in this city. It was peculiarly appropriate that the Congregational Union should, during the course of the Manchester meeting, pay an official visit to the John Rylands Library, which owes its existence to the munificence of a lady, who up to the time of her death, was an honoured member of the Congregational Church, as was also her husband, whose name the library fittingly perpetuates.

A CLASSIFIED CATALOGUE OF THE WORKS ON ARCHITECTURE AND THE ALLIED ARTS IN THE PRINCIPAL LIBRARIES OF MANCHESTER AND SALFORD, with alphabetical author list and subject index. Edited for the Architectural Committee of Manchester by Henry Guppy and Guthrie Vine. 1909. 8vo, pp. xxv, 310. 3s. 6d. net, or interleaved 4s. 6d. net.

This publication, the first of its kind to be issued, with the exception of a few union lists of periodicals and incunabula, was the outcome of a suggestion made early in 1904 at a meeting of the Joint Architectural Committee, which is composed of representatives of the University of Manchester, of the Manchester Education Committee, and of the Manchester Society of Architects.

It was pointed out that scattered over the principal libraries of Manchester and Salford there existed a very fine and extensive collection of works on architecture, and the allied arts, in which architects, students of architecture, and art workers generally might find almost infinite resources of suggestion and inspiration for their work. Unfortunately, there was no means of determining what each library contained, or even where a particular work could be seen and consulted, otherwise than by a personal visit to the various institutions. As a natural consequence the usefulness of the collections was seriously impaired, and much valuable material was allowed to rest upon the shelves unopened, because nobody knew it was there for want of a proper catalogue.

The value of the suggestion that a combined, or union, catalogue of this literature should be issued was at once recognized, and steps were taken to carry it out. The co-operation of the various authorities was invited, and the librarians and committees of the different libraries entered very cordially into the spirit of the proposal, and readily undertook to prepare the necessary lists.

The general work of co-ordination and of editorship was entrusted to the librarian and sub-librarian of this library, who were also responsible for the scope of the undertaking as well as for the form and arrangement of the various details. This catalogue may be said to mark an epoch in the development of library administration and co-operation, and for that reason it may not be out of place, even

though several years have elapsed since its publication, to indicate in a few words the principles which we kept before us in determining the scope and arrangement of the volume.

Among the most distinctive features of the present generation is the growing sense of the great advantages springing in every direction from corporate action, coupled with a keener perception of the disadvantages that inevitably attend the failure to utilize such opportunities of combination as may present themselves. In every department of life the value of co-operation is being increasingly recognized as an essential element in the conduct of any undertaking in which one desires to attain the maximum of economy and efficiency. Libraries which are to a large extent the creation of this age, cannot afford to lag in this matter, and to neglect to avail themselves of so valuable a means of increasing and extending their sphere of usefulness. Yet, hitherto, little has been accomplished, or attempted in this direction. Libraries have been content to act independently of one another. If a reader unable to find a book in the library where he is working has wished to know whether it could be found in a neighbouring one, too commonly, his only chance of ascertaining the fact has been by means of a personal, and, perhaps, fruitless, visit to the library in question. The loss of time thus entailed on students must, in the aggregate, be very considerable, and any method by which an economy can be effected in this particular should be accepted, and welcomed as one of the necessary phases of library development.

It was possible to construct this catalogue in two entirely different ways. One method would have been the formation of an alphabetical list of authors, with a subject index to the same. The other course open was to arrange the entries in a logical or classified order, and then to supply alphabetical lists of the authors, and of the subjects, which were treated in the several works.

The former plan, whilst eminently suitable for the catalogue of a large library embracing treatises on a variety of subjects, is less appropriate in the case of a single section of literature than the classified catalogue. The latter preserves the unity of the subject, and by so doing enables a student to follow its various ramifications with ease and certainty.

In the classified catalogue related matter is brought together—juxtaposition is intentional, not accidental. The reader turns to one

subdivision and round it he finds grouped others which are intimately connected with it. New lines of research are thus in some instances suggested, or opinions based on insufficient data modified and corrected.

The choice of a system of classification is manifestly a matter of considerable moment if the aim of this style of catalogue is to be adequately realized. The system should be one that is intrinsically good ; it should be of such simplicity as to be easily capable of comprehension by persons previously unacquainted with it ; at the same time, in the case of a union catalogue, it is desirable that the co-operating libraries should be familiar with the system. Hence the decimal system of classification originated by Dr. Melvil Dewey was selected as best fulfilling these requirements, since its extensive use throughout England and the United States affords evidence that its merits are widely recognized.

AN ANALYTICAL CATALOGUE OF THE CONTENTS OF THE TWO EDITIONS OF "AN ENGLISH GARNER," compiled by EDWARD ARBER (1877-97), and rearranged under the editorship of Thomas Seccombe (1903-04). 1909. 8vo, pp. viii, 221. 1s. net.

In every library there are a considerable number of important contributions to literature which are simply buried and neglected for want of proper cataloguing, because, by an accident of birth, they appear in a volume with other equally important works, which have been lumped together without any distinguishing title-pages, or have been disguised under some misleading title.

The component parts of the transactions of many learned societies, or of such composite volumes as those which form the subject of this catalogue, represent, in a large number of instances, results of scholarly research of much greater value to the student than the more ambitious, but less trustworthy works which are allowed to cumber the shelves and the catalogues of many of our libraries.

Every item recovered from this buried material and made accessible by means of a catalogue entry, adds to the available resources of the library and often is more valuable than the purchase of new volumes. The smaller the library the greater the need to have its resources expanded in this way.

There never has been a question as to the desirability of getting at this hidden material, but the question of ability to carry out the work with the limited resources at the disposal of many libraries has long taxed their ingenuity. Hitherto libraries have been content to work independently of each other, working, it is true, for a common object, but without concerted effort, and by as many different methods and systems as there are different authorities. The result has been a most deplorable waste of energy. Think of the economy of energy that could be effected if libraries were to enter into a friendly arrangement, under which each undertook to analyse a different set of similar collections, and to supply to the others a copy of the resulting entries!

The present catalogue of the two editions of "An English Garner" has been printed with the object of emphasizing the need for the analytical treatment of works of this character. It is also intended to demonstrate the practicability of placing the work of one library at the service of other libraries at a small cost.

The catalogue has been printed on one side of the paper only, in such a way that the entries can be cut up and laid down on cards, or otherwise treated for insertion in any cumulative alphabetical author catalogue. In the case of libraries where it cannot be so employed the volume may be found to be of service in its existing form to students of the history and literature of our own country, since it provides a key to a storehouse of pamphlets, broadsides, and occasional verses, collected in the "Garner," many of which are practically unobtainable elsewhere.

A BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LIBRARY AND ITS CONTENTS, illustrated with thirty-seven views and facsimiles. 1914. 8vo, pp. xvi, 73, and thirty-seven illustrations. 6d. net.

A revised edition of the handbook, the object of which is to provide visitors to the library with a brief narrative of the inception, foundation, and growth of the institution, followed by a hurried glance at some of the most conspicuous of the literary treasures which have made it famous.

Included is a brief description of the building which is regarded by experts as one of the finest specimens of modern Gothic architecture in this or in any country.

The illustrations consist of a number of views of the library, and facsimiles of some of the most noteworthy of the manuscripts and printed books, several of which are reproduced for the first time.

The second volume of the "CATALOGUE OF GREEK POPYRI" is in an advanced state of preparation, and may be looked for towards the end of the year. The popyri dealt with consist mainly of non-literary documents of an official or legal character, some of which date back to the Ptolemaic period. The chief interest, however, will centre in the description of the collection of carbonized popyri of Thmûis. These popyri were found, says Dr. Hunt, as well as others of the same group in various European collections, without doubt in the ruined building in 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 which will be printed in this volume form the largest body yet published from this source.

The "CATALOGUE OF ENGLISH BOOKS TO 1640 IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY," which has been in course of preparation for a number of years, will be in the hands of the printer before the end of the year. It will furnish full bibliographical descriptions of the books in the main alphabetical author part of the catalogue, followed by a chronological short-title catalogue, and the necessary indexes of subjects, places, printers, etc.

Two new issues of the "JOHN RYLANDS FACSIMILES" are in active preparation. The first will consist of a portfolio of facsimile reproductions of eight early engravings in the possession of the library, including the famous prints of "St. Christopher" and "The Annunciation". The reproductions will be of the exact size of the originals, whilst the "St. Christopher" and "The Annunciation" will be in the exact colours of the originals. The descriptive text is being prepared by Mr. Campbell Dodgson, who is Keeper of the Department of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum.

The other the "ODES AND PSALMS OF SOLOMON," which will be reproduced in facsimile of the exact size of the original Syriac manuscript, and will be accompanied by a typographical reprint or transliteration, and a revised translation, upon which Dr. Rendel Harris is at present engaged. There will be an ex-

haustive introduction dealing with the variations of the fragmentary MS. in the British Museum, the accessory patristic testimonies, and a summary of the most important criticisms that have appeared since Dr. Harris published his first edition in 1909.

The article on "The Modern Greek and his Ancestry" which appears in the present issue is an expansion, with illustrative notes, of the lecture delivered by Professor Thumb in the lecture hall of the library, on the 9th of October, 1913, to a large and appreciative audience.

THE MODERN
GREEK AND
HIS ANCES-
TRY.

A complete list of the periodical publications, including the transactions of learned societies, which are regularly subscribed for by the library will be found in the present issue. The list shows the range of the library files, and it will be noticed that, with a few exceptions, there is a complete set of each publication from the commencement of its career. There are also in the library many sets of similar publications which have ceased to appear, of which a list is in preparation for inclusion in the next issue, which will be published in March, 1915.

PERIODICAL
PUBLICA
TIONS.

It has been found necessary at the last moment to withhold the list of the most important of the works added to the library during the year until the next issue, in consequence of the large amount of space occupied by the list of periodicals.

LIST OF
ADDITIONS.

As we go to press, the news reaches us of the death of Mr. Stephen Joseph Tennant, the Honorary Treasurer of the Library, which took place on Wednesday, the 7th of October, at his residence at Poynton, Cheshire, in the seventy-second year of his age, after several months of painful illness most patiently borne. Mr. Tennant was the twin-brother of the late Mrs. Rylands, the foundress of the Library, and was closely associated with the institution from its inception. As one of the original Trustees, as a Life Governor, and as Honorary Treasurer he served it with untiring devotion and ability from the date of its inauguration until within a few months of his death.

DEATH
OF THE
HONORARY
TREASURER.

No member of the Council of Governors was more assiduous in his attendance at the meetings, and no one watched with greater interest and pleasure the growing influence of the library and its work.