



A Reader's Alcove in the John Rylands Library

BULLETIN OF
THE JOHN RYLANDS
LIBRARY
MANCHESTER
Edited by the Librarian

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No. 1

NOTES AND NEWS

THE John Rylands Library, as is well known, was founded by Mrs. Enriqueta Rylands in memory of her husband John Rylands. He it was, who, when a youth, started a cotton weaving business and by taking his father and two brothers into partnership established the firm of Rylands & Sons with seat of operations in Wigan. In 1823 a branch was opened in Manchester and this subsequently became the headquarters of the firm. Largely through the enterprise of John Rylands the firm, branching out in many directions, became highly prosperous, and when he died in 1888 he left to his widow a vast fortune. Part of this she devoted to building, equipping and stocking the Library. Her finest acquisitions were the famous Spencer Collection of Early Printed Books and the equally famous Crawford Collection of Manuscripts.

THE ISAAC
WOLFSON
BENEFACTION

During Mrs. Rylands' lifetime there was a close connection between the Library and the firm of Rylands & Sons. Unfortunately, shortly after her death in 1908, the link which bound them together was severed. So the situation remained until recently when Mr. Isaac Wolfson acquired the firm. As the new chairman of Rylands & Sons he has donated to the Library the sum of £21,000 to erect and equip an annexe designed to include a new photographic studio and provide suitable accommodation for those special collections which it is desired to bring together in one place.

This generous gift happily restores the former association between Library and Firm. Plans are now ready and it is hoped to begin work on the new project at an early date. The building will be known as "The Isaac Wolfson Annexe" and will be of

great benefit to the Library in relieving pressure on space and in adding to the efficiency of the services it renders to scholars. Mr. Wolfson has, indeed, earned the gratitude of all interested in the Library and its work, and they are many and widespread.

The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres has recently added to his Scottish family muniments, which are deposited in this Library, 500 further letters and papers, dating mainly from the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The greater part of this accession consists of a varied and valuable collection of correspondence, bound in two volumes, addressed to Sir David Lindsay (d. 1641), who was created Lord Lindsay of Balcarres in 1633. It deals not only with his personal and legal affairs, but also with political matters, and contains several drafts and copies in his own hand. Among earlier and later letters, which include a wide range of correspondents of note, are a small group written to Lord Menmuir, some in his capacity as Secretary of State to James VI of Scotland, and a more extensive collection relating to Colin, 3rd Earl of Balcarres (d. 1722). Forming part of the latter's papers are, together with other items of interest, twenty-one documents from the Privy Council of Scotland, dated between 1679 and 1704; eight letters from James, 4th Earl of Perth, written during his exile; and a similar number from the Bishop of Glasgow, written in 1704 and 1707 and dealing with political affairs at this important period in Scottish history. Both in these groupings and among the remaining letters and papers a number of other well-known figures occur. In the seventeenth century correspondence, for example, we meet with Lauderdale (the 1st Earl), Rothes (6th Earl), Wemyss (1st Earl), Hamilton (3rd Marquess), and, not least interesting, the poet William Drummond of Hawthornden and his brother-in-law and lifelong friend John Scott of Scotstarvet, one of the most munificent supporters of literature and learning in his time. From other individual items of note we may cite a contemporary copy of a letter of 1589 to Peter Young, tutor and counsellor to James VI (afterwards James I of England), written from Denmark respecting his master's marriage to Princess Anne of

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OF THE
EARL OF
CRAWFORD

Denmark and marked to be delivered to Peter "with haste"; a copy, also in a contemporary hand, of a lengthy letter from Madrid, dated 28 June 1623, enlarging on the numerous virtues of the Spanish Infanta, presumably in connection with her projected marriage to the Prince of Wales (later Charles I); a letter signed by Rothes, Wemyss and others, sent to "My Lord Balcarras" in 1638, just before the First Bishops' War, concerning "the dangerous estate querin our Religion, our Kirk, our Liberties, Lives and fortunes presentlie stand" and beseeching him "immediatlie to haste hither" (Edinburgh); and a number of informative reports from the Continent in the first half of the same century dealing with military and political events. Certain of the letters from this collection were drawn on by Lord Lindsay for his *Lives of the Lindsays*, but much of great value remains and the whole forms a source for Scottish and English history which will well repay detailed examination.

Recent accessions to the Library's Charter Rooms include a new and extensive collection of family muniments consisting of over 800 documents relating to the Arderne and Alvanley estates in Cheshire, which were deposited with us in April on behalf of Lady Helen O'Brien. Lady Helen, sister of the 12th Earl of Haddington, is the grand-daughter of the 11th Earl, whose mother-in-law was the daughter of Richard Arderne, 1st Baron Alvanley through whom these estates descended as the result of the marriage in the early seventeenth century of Ralph Arderne and Eleanor Done. The Ardernes are of great antiquity in Cheshire and with this marriage they became allied to another ancient Cheshire family, the Dones of Utkinton. The male line of the Dones terminated with the death of John Done in 1630 and their property was inherited by his sisters Jane (d. 1662), Mary (d. 1690) and the Eleanor who married Ralph Arderne. Jane settled her share on her sister Mary (who married John Crewe), and the lawful heirs of her body, with remainder to the surviving sons of her other sister, Eleanor. The muniments, as received, relate almost entirely to Cheshire—the very few exceptions concern Lancashire, Surrey and Hertfordshire—the

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places most fully represented being Alvanley itself, Utkinton, Tarporley, Rushton, Eaton, Oulton, Clotton, Kingsley, Norley, Duddon and the Stockport area. A wide range of documents is represented—conveyances, rentals, maps, enclosure awards, and family and estate papers—and the collection is unusually rich in marriage settlements and wills, mainly of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. These include the settlement made after the above-mentioned marriage of Ralph Arderne and Eleanor Done (9 August 1625), through which part of the inheritance of the Dones of Utkinton came into the Arderne family, and the settlement (1831) on the marriage of John Warrender with the Hon. Frances Henrietta Arden, daughter of the 1st Baron Alvanley. Incidentally, Ralph and Eleanor Arderne were the parents of James Arderne (d. 1691), Dean of Chester and Chaplain to Charles II. Among the wills is that of the Jane Done (d. 1662) to whom reference has already been made, who was the daughter of Sir John Done of Utkinton. A number of items also concern the Crewe family, as might be expected from the division of the Done estate, and here we may perhaps note an interesting group of seventeenth and eighteenth century deeds concerning apprentices charities, by which money arising from certain lands was to be used “ for the putting forth as apprentices yearly one of the eldest sons or, for want of such sons, one of the eldest daughters, of the cottagers or poorer sort of tenants ” of Sir John Crewe and his heirs in the townships of Clotton, Eaton, Rushton and Alpraham ; the trades to which the apprentices were to be assigned had to be approved by Sir John and his heirs. The whole collection is one of great interest and forms a most welcome addition to the already extensive Cheshire muniments now deposited in the Library’s Charter Rooms. A Hand-List has been compiled and is available for consultation in the Library.

With the aid of a contribution from the Friends of the National Libraries, we have recently been enabled to purchase two beautifully adorned Arabic manuscripts. Both are by the same hand, dating from the late eighteenth to the early nineteenth century, and provide fine examples of calligraphy. The common

ACQUISITION
OF ARABIC
MANU-
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theme is the exaltation of the Prophet and the contents consist mainly of prayers, although one also includes a number of surahs of the Qur'an. This manuscript, which extends to 159 folios, has two mihrabs exquisitely designed in gold and colours and ninety-six headings of similar workmanship, together with two full-page bird's-eye views of mosques of Mecca and Medina and sixteen full-page depictions of the Prophet's personal effects—umbrella, sherbet decanter, brazier, book, lamp, hand, foot, sword, shield, coat, comb, rosary, standard, etc.—all richly painted and gilded. The other volume, of 92 folios, has much the same features, but is not so profusely illustrated. It has, however, bird's-eye views of the mosques of Mecca and Medina and contains three elegantly designed mihrabs and ten equally elegant chapter headings. In both volumes, which are bound in dark red native Morocco, tooled and gilded, each page of the text is enclosed within a broad border of burnished gold, with gold rosettes separating the sentences. We are indebted to the Friends of the National Libraries for the generous donation which has made this acquisition possible.

In the Department of Printed Books the most notable of recent acquisitions by purchase has been an addition of 328 pamphlets to the Library's considerable collection of Mazarinades. These vary greatly in historical interest and in literary value, but to many of them Naudé, librarian to Cardinal Mazarin, accords high praise. He describes *Les souhaits de la France* as "une des meilleures pièces", and *Le sommaire de la doctrine curieuse du Cardinal Mazarin* as "modèle des bonnes pièces". Many of the new additions deal with the three-months war at the beginning of 1649, and with the treaty of Ruel signed on 1 April at its conclusion. There are several interesting effusions of the pamphleteer, De Carigny, who, in *L'idole renversée* says that he had "brulé mes encens sur l'autel du monstre [Mazarin]", but that now he retracts his eulogies since no savant could boast of favours received from the monster, in other words his incense had gone without reward. There is a list of *Contents et mécontents sur le sujet du temps* in which it is curious to find printers

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ranged among the *Contents*, booksellers among the *Mécontents*; the latter presumably did not derive sufficient profit from the pamphlet war which was raging. The collection deals with the most diverse aspects of French life; the *Avis aux bourgeois de Paris pour la conservation de leurs personnes et de leurs familles*, for example, which gives counsel on avoiding and curing the plague, would seem to suggest that one was feared in 1649. The collection now consists of about one-third of all the Mazarinades issued and forms invaluable source material for the student of the history of the Fronde.

The "Hand-List of the Bagshawe Muniments" has been reprinted from the three recent numbers of the BULLETIN in which it has appeared and issued as a separate publication; a full index of Persons and Places, extending to thirty-two pages, has been added. This collection, deposited in the Library by Major F. E. G. Bagshawe of Ford Hall, co. Derby, has already yielded some interesting discoveries. While it was being calendared new letters and papers relating to Arthur Young, perhaps the greatest English writer on agriculture, came to light and attention was drawn to them in the "Notes and News" section of one of our earlier numbers (Vol. 35, No. 2, pp. 281-2). This material, which includes eleven leaves from the original manuscript of Young's "Autobiography", was dealt with in the BULLETIN for March 1955 (Vol. 37, No. 2) by Professor John G. Gazley of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, in an article entitled "Arthur Young, Agriculturalist and Traveller, 1741-1820. Some Biographical Sources." Professor Gazley there pointed out that among these Bagshawe letters are fifteen from Young's son, the Rev. Arthur Young, about whom almost nothing has hitherto been known. He is to deal with these in a further study to be published in the next BULLETIN. Another group of interesting letters is from Lady Mary Wortley Montagu to Sir James Caldwell, and these are to be discussed by Professor Robert Halsband of Hunter College, New York, in the same number. Sir James Caldwell (d. 1784) of Castle Caldwell, co. Fermanagh,

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was in contact with many of the leading political and literary figures of his age, as was pointed out in another article of September 1952 (Vol. 35, No. 1) and among his extensive family archives which have survived in the Bagshawe Muniments are, apart from his business and estate papers, his letter books (1745-83), over 1,500 of his letters, 25 of his pamphlets and 400 letters from various correspondents to his wife, who was the daughter of the Archbishop of Tuam and aunt of William, 2nd Earl of Shelburne, later 1st Marquess of Lansdowne. Their presence here is due to the marriage in 1751 of Sir James's sister with Col. Samuel Bagshawe (d. 1762). Col. Samuel's letters and papers have an interest of their own. A Justice of the Peace for co. Derby, M.P. for Tallagh, co. Waterford, and Colonel of the 93rd Regiment of Foot, he had a distinguished career as a soldier and was for some time Second in Command in the East Indies. His East India papers, numbering nearly 600 items, form part of the collection, together with correspondence relating to the 93rd Regiment, muster rolls, returns, regimental accounts and receipts, and others of his official records. The military historian should find much of value in them. With them, as another unused source of military history, may be mentioned the letters and papers of Lord John Murray (d. 1787) and Lt.-Gen. William Murray (d. 1878); the former, son of the 1st Duke of Atholl, was for over forty years Colonel of the 42nd Highlanders (the Black Watch). Among other items of interest are volumes of building accounts of the architect Sir Jeffry Wyattville, noted for his restoration at Windsor Castle; they concern the building of Banner Cross, the Murray's Yorkshire seat, which Wyattville himself is said to have considered to be the finest example of his work. There is also an extensive collection of deeds and muniments of title covering some twelve counties, the bulk relating to Derbyshire and Yorkshire. They include family, estate and business records, among them being several dealing with eighteenth century mining, particularly lead mining in Derbyshire. Attached to one of the deeds, as Mr. R. C. Somerville, Archivist of the Duchy of Lancaster Office, has pointed out, is a seal of George I which is the only specimen of its kind to have survived.

As a result of frequent requests from readers and visitors, a brochure dealing with the Library and its contents was published last year under the title A LIBRARY
BROCHURE "The John Rylands Library, Manchester. A Brief Descriptive Account." The first printing is already nearly exhausted and a reprinting is now available. This brochure, with an introduction by Sir John S. B. Stopford, the Chairman of the Governors, gives an account of the founding of the Library and of the wide range of its collections, printed and manuscript, beginning with the famous Althorp Library of Earl Spencer, consisting of more than 40,000 choice volumes, rich in incunabula, and the Crawford Manuscripts, which formed part of the renowned Bibliotheca Lindesiana of the Earls of Crawford. Fourteen illustrations are included, of which four are views of the Library itself and ten show rare items from the Departments of Manuscripts and Printed Books, among them the St. John fragment (the earliest known piece of New Testament writing in any language), a unique trilingual Qur'an, the Charles VII Book of Hours (fifteenth century), the St. Christopher Block-Print of 1423 (the earliest known piece of European printing with an undisputed date), *Death-Bed Prayers* of Caxton (the only copy in existence) and the acknowledged masterpiece (the Glasgow "Aeschylus" of 1795) of the greatest English binder, Roger Payne. The brochure concludes with a brief survey of the various catalogues and other publications of the Library, including the BULLETIN.

The following is a list of recent Library publications. The first two have been described more fully in preceding paragraphs, the remainder consists of reprints of articles which appeared in the latest (March 1955) issue of the BULLETIN :

RECENT
LIBRARY
PUBLICA-
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"The John Rylands Library, Manchester. A Brief Descriptive Account." 8vo, pp. 32, with fourteen plates. Price one shilling net.

"Hand-List of the Bagshawe Muniments Deposited in the John Rylands Library." By F. Taylor, Keeper of Manuscripts in the John Rylands Library. 8vo, pp. 143. Price six shillings net.

“Swiftiana in Rylands English MS. 659 and Related Documents.” By Irvin Ehrenpreis, Assistant Professor of English at Indiana University, and James L. Clifford, Professor of English at Columbia University. 8vo, pp. 27. Price three shillings net.

“Arthur Young, Agriculturalist and Traveller, 1741-1820. Some Biographical Sources.” By John G. Gazley, Professor of History at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire. 8vo, pp. 38. Price three shillings and sixpence net.

“A List of Some Uncatalogued Syriac Biblical Manuscripts.” By M. H. Gottstein, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem. 8vo, pp. 19. Price two shillings and sixpence net.

“The Reynolds Copy of Johnson’s *Dictionary*.” By Gwin J. Kolb, Assistant Professor of English in the University of Chicago, and James H. Sledd, Associate Professor of English in the University of Chicago. 8vo, pp. 32. Price three shillings and sixpence net.

“Some Manuscripts of the Life of St. Bernard.” By Fr. John Morson, O.C.R., Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, Leicestershire. 8vo, pp. 29, with two plates. Price three shillings net.

“Rylands English MS. 1111 : An Early Diary of Richard Cross (d. 1760), Prompter to the Theatres.” By Harry William Pedicord. 8vo, pp. 27. Price three shillings net.

“Nehemiah’s Mission and its Background.” By Harold H. Rowley, Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature in the University of Manchester. 8vo, pp. 36. Price three shillings and sixpence net.

“John Ruskin : the Final Years. A Survey of the Ruskin Correspondence in the John Rylands Library.” By Robin Skelton, Lecturer in English Literature in the University of Manchester. 8vo, pp. 27. Price three shillings net.

The following is a list of the public lectures (the fifty-fourth series) which have been arranged for delivery in the Lecture Hall of the Library during the current session 1955-6, at 3 p.m. in the afternoon :

12 October 1955. “Shakespeare’s Learning.”
By H. B. Charlton, Professor of English Language and Literature in the University of Manchester.

THE FIFTY-
FOURTH
SERIES OF
RYLANDS
PUBLIC
LECTURES

9 November 1955. "Francis Lieber, Transmitter of European Ideas to America." By Frank Freidel, Associate Professor of History, Stanford University, California.

14 December 1955. "The Lord's Prayer : II." By T. W. Manson, Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis in the University of Manchester.

18 January 1956. "The Mechanics of Law Making." By B. A. Wortley, Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law in the University of Manchester.

8 February 1956. "The Marriage of Hosea." By Harold H. Rowley, Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature in the University of Manchester.

14 March 1956. "Divine Colloquy in Islam." By A. J. Arberry, Sir Thomas Adams's Professor of Arabic in the University of Cambridge.

9 May 1956. "Peter the Venerable (d. 1156): Abbot of Cluny and Friend of St. Bernard." By the Rev. Professor M. D. Knowles, Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge.

The following communication relating to one of our Arabic manuscripts has been received from Dr. D. M. Dunlop, Lecturer in Islamic History in the University of Cambridge: "Rylands Arabic MS. 375 is described in the printed Catalogue (A. Mingana, *Catalogue of the Arabic MSS. in the John Rylands Library at Manchester*, 1934, Col. 610), as *al-Maqālāt ar-Rafi'ah fī uṣūl 'ilm at-ṭabī'ah*, a work of al-Fārābī otherwise attested, and so listed in Brockelmann, following this attribution (*G.A.L.*, Sup. I, 376, C. 12). This title, however, nowhere appears in the manuscript. The only title in the manuscript itself is *Tabī'iyāt Fārābī*, 'Fārābī's Physics' (fol. 1a), which is not only vague and ambiguous but, as can now be shown, completely misleading. The work is not *al-Maqālāt ar-Rafi'ah* and has nothing to do with al-Fārābī. Since the matter is of some importance, the circumstances in which identification has become possible are perhaps worth recording.

RYLANDS
ARABIC
MS. 375

"A microfilm of the manuscript in question was recently

obtained by Dr. G. Hanania, of Christ's College, Cambridge, with a view to a possible edition of what we thought was a little-known work of al-Fārābī. While reading around the subject Dr. Hanania saw and drew to my attention a passage in Dr. 'Umar Farrūkh's *Al-Fārābīyān* (lit. the 'Two Farabis', i.e. al-Fārābī and Avicenna; Ed. 2, Beirut, 1369/1950, 44), in which certain words from the beginning of the Rylands MS. were quoted as from Avicenna. The quotation in 'Umar Farrūkh's book, somewhat indistinctly cited by him, is evidently from Shahrīstānī's *Kitāb al-Milal wa'n-Niḥal* (ed. Aḥmad Fahmī Muhammad, Cairo, 1368/1948, III 174). But the original source, not stated by Shahrīstānī, nor by any of his editors whom I have consulted, is the well-known *Najāt* of Avicenna. Reference to the latter work, which I have used in the edition of Cairo, A.H. 1331, published at the expense of Muḥīy ad-Dīn Ṣabrī al-Kurdī, showed that the same words occur also at the beginning of Part 2 of the *Najāt* (op. cit. p. 158), and, in fact, as can readily be proved by inspection, the Rylands manuscript does not contain any work of al-Fārābī, but Part 2 of the *Najāt* of Avicenna, not quite complete.

“The headings of the first two *maqālāt* are omitted in the Rylands manuscript. The first *maqālah* should, of course, be indicated at the beginning of the manuscript; mention of the second has been omitted on fol. 9a (p. 169 of the edition). The heading of the third *maqālah*, duly noted by Mingana on fol. 39a, comes on page 217 of the edition; the heading of the fourth (fol. 48b of the manuscript) on page 233 of the edition; and the heading of the fifth (fol. 58a) on page 248 of the edition. The heading of a sixth *maqālah* comes on page 256 of the edition. It has evidently been omitted in the manuscript. Dr. Hanania has given me the following notes on comparing the *Kitāb an-Najāt*, as edited, with the Rylands manuscript: ‘Identical material, though words here and there are different. The manuscript lacks headings of sections. Out of 56 given in *Kitāb an-Najāt* only 3 are seen in the manuscript., i.e. the headings of the third, fourth and fifth *maqālāt*. Two mathematical diagrams are missing in the manuscript. The latter part of the manuscript is very poor, difficult to read, and full of errors which appear

to be the fault of the copyist (who, obviously, did not understand the text). The manuscript stops abruptly on page 287 of the book, that is, in the 46th section. This leaves 10 sections missing.'

"For completeness' sake it may be added that the work *al-Maqālāt ar-Rafī'ah* exists in Leiden MS. Or. 2930 = Landberg-Brill 570 mentioned by Brockelmann (loc. cit.). This identification I owe to Mr. R. Ritsema of the well-known house of E. J. Brill, Leiden, by whose good offices I was able to obtain a microfilm. Interesting details of the transaction, not deducible from Brockelmann, by which the collection of which this manuscript originally formed part (catalogued summarily by Landberg for the house of Brill) passed to Leiden University Library, may be found in the later (incomplete) catalogue of the Leiden collection (*Catalogus Codicum Arab. Bibl. Acad. Lugduno-Batavae*, ed. 2 (1888), I xxxi (De Goeje)). The manuscript of *al-Maqālāt ar-Rafī'ah* now in Leiden University Library contains a mere twenty-four pages and is apparently unique. It has already been used by Professor Necati Lugal and Dr. Adın Sayılı for their edition of the work, published with a Turkish translation in *Türk Tarih Kurumu Belleten*, xv (1951), 81-122. The authentic *Maqālāt Rafī'ah* is divided into three *maqālāt*, dealing respectively with 'aql (intelligence), ruh (spirit) and nafs (soul). The editors in their introduction express regret that they were unable to procure the 'other copy', i.e. Rylands 375, but, as we have seen, it would not have availed them. For the identity of the Rylands manuscript with Part 2 of the *Najāt* of Avicenna is beyond doubt. The incorrect attribution to al-Fārābī has led others into error besides Brockelmann, e.g. Ahmed Ateş, in his bibliography of al-Fārābī ("Fārābīnin Eserlerinin Bibliyografyası") in *Türk Tarih Kurumu Belleten*, xv. 185, No. 75."

The Universal Copyright Convention comes into force in September 1955. The Convention, which was sponsored by Unesco, protects the rights of authors and other copyright proprietors in literary, scientific and artistic works, including writings, musical, dramatic and cinematograph works, paintings, engravings and sculpture.

UNIVERSAL
COPYRIGHT
CONVENTION

It will provide reasonable measures for permitting the translation of works required in the national interest of particular states. Up to now the world has been divided into various groups of multilateral conventions, none of which has been worldwide in scope. This has led to complications, to gaps in the system of copyright protection, and often to injustice towards the men and women whose works contribute to international understanding through the advancement of culture.

Forty states, including Great Britain, have signed the Convention. It has been ratified or adhered to by twelve of them. Legislation to reform the law of copyright in this country is under consideration. Reference to the subject was made in H.M. the Queen's Speech at the opening of the last session of Parliament. The records of the Intergovernmental Copyright Conference which prepared the Convention were published in July for Unesco by H.M.S.O.

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