

# BULLETIN

## OF THE

# JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY

VOL. I.

AUGUST, 1907.

No. 5.

### LIBRARY NOTES.

**Accessions to the Library.**—Since the last issue of the BULLETIN there have been added to the Library 3,233 volumes, and a collection of examples of fifteenth century printing, with woodcuts, title-pages, and engravings of the early German, Dutch, and Italian Masters, numbering about 2,500 pieces. Of these, 2,787 volumes were acquired by purchase, and 446 volumes, with the collection of engravings and examples of printing, were received by gift.

The accessions by purchase comprise many works of great interest and importance. Mention can be made of only a few: Twenty-seven works printed before 1500. A collection of works, consisting of grammars, dictionaries, and texts in the various Italian dialects, numbering 734 volumes. *Assemanus*: "*Codex liturgicus ecclesiæ universæ*." Rome, 1749-63, 13 vols. "*Biblia latina*." Paris, 1558. "*Missale Treverense*." Basle, 1468. *Hieronymus*: "*Opera omnia cum argumentis et scholiis D. Erasmi*." Basle, 1516, 10 vols. "*Opuscula Beati Anselmi*." Basle, 1489. *Aubrey*: "*Wiltshire, enlarged by J. E. Jackson*." *Devizes*, 1862 (Mr. Jackson's own copy containing much extra manuscript matter.) Seventeen tracts by *William Prynne*. John Lee's "*Remarks on the complaint of H.M. Printers against the Bible Societies*". Edinburgh, 1824-6. *Ogé*: "*Dictionnaire . . . de la Province de Bretagne*." Rennes, 1845. *Rutebeuf*: "*Oeuvres*." Paris, 1874, 3 vols. (on vellum). *Tyndale*: "*Parable of the Wicked Mammon*". London, 1560. *Thomas Becon*: "*The sicke man's salve*". London, 1582. *Donovan*: "*Rome Ancient and Modern*". Rome, 1842-4, 4 vols. Several early editions of "*De imitatione Christi*". A fourteenth century manuscript of *Vergil*. A manuscript copy of Flower's "*Visitation of Cheshire in 1580, with Pedigrees of Knights, etc.*," fully emblazoned. Sets of the Transactions and Publications of the following Societies: "*The Cymnrodorion Society*"; "*The Kent Archæological Society*," 1858-1904; "*The Wiltshire Archæological Society*," 1854-1904; "*The Society of Psychical Research*," 1883-1904; "*The Navy Record Society*," 1895-1905. Sets of "*La Revue des Études Juives*," 1880-1906, 52 vols.; "*The Oriental Congress Reports*," 1873-1893, 43 vols.; "*L'Année Sociologique*," 1896-1906, 9 vols.; "*The Decennial Publications of the University of Chicago*," 1903, 10 vols.; "*Le Grande Encyclopédie*, 1895-1901, 31 vols.; *Arbois de Jubainville*: "*Cours de littérature Celtique*," 1831-1902, 12 vols. A collection of 366

volumes on the *English Drama*. *Hippocrates: Oeuvres complètes; traduction de E. Littré*. Paris, 1839-61, 10 vols. *Pallottini: "Collectio omnium conclusionum et resolutionum quae in causis propositis apud S. C. Conc. Tridentini interpretum prodierunt . . ."* Paris, 1868-93, 17 vols. "*Hundert Kalendar Inkunabeln*," von P. Heitz. Strassburg, 1905. "*The Apology of Johan Bale agaynste a ranke Papyst*. . . ." London, 1550. "*The Mynde of the Godly and excellent lerned man, M. Jhon Caluyne, what a Faithful man, whiche is instructe in the Worde of God, ought to do, dwellinge amongst the Papistes*." Ipswich, 1548. "*An other boke against Rastel named the subsedye or bulwark to his fyrst booke made by Jhon Frithe presoner iu the Tower*." [London, circa 1533.] The first edition of Tate and Brady's "*New Version of the Psalms . . . fitted to the Tunes used in Churche*". London, 1696. "*The forme and maner of makynge and consecratyng of Archebischoppes, Bischoppes, and Priestes and Deacons*." London, 1549.—This first edition of the *Ordinal* was printed in the same month as the first edition of the "*Book of Common Prayer*." The *Ordinal* was not included in the *Prayer Book* until 1552. "*The Institution of a Christen man, conteynynge the exposition or interpretation of the cōmune Crede . . .*" London, 1537.—The first edition of the "*Bishops' Book*". "*The Psalmes of King David, translated by King James*." London, 1637. "*Ludus literarius: or the Grammar Schoole, showing how to procede from the first entrance into learning, to the highest perfection required in the Grammar Schooles . . .*" By John Brindsley. London, 1612. "*The Newe Testament . . . Translated out of Greeke by T. Beza, and Englished by L. T. . .*" London: *Deputies of Christopher Barker*, 1587.—The only known copy of this particular edition, which is the first Testament printed by the *Deputies of Christopher Barker*. "*Breviarium secundum ordinem Sancti Dominici . . .*" Nuremberg, A. Koberger, 1485.—In the original characteristic stamped binding.

**Gifts to the Library.**—The list of donors to the Library contains fifty names. The most considerable gift, as usual, is due to the continued generosity of the Founder. It comprises forty-one volumes, in addition to the extremely interesting and important collection of examples of fifteenth century printing, and early engravings, numbering about 2,500 pieces. The collection was formed by J. W. Holtrop, Librarian of the Royal Library at the Hague, and historian of the Dutch printing presses of the fifteenth century, to illustrate the development of printing in Europe to the close of the fifteenth century. The collector, who was for fifty years accumulating and arranging this collection, has attached notes of identification of printer, place, and date, as far as possible, to each piece. It includes several early broadside Calendars and Indulgences of great rarity, and what is probably an unique xylographic Indulgence of about 1450. It also includes a number of early sixteenth century title-pages, woodcuts, and ornamental initial letters, and a choice collection of engravings of the early Dutch, German, Italian and French masters. The engravings are for the most part brilliant impressions of the work of such masters as Albert Durer, Jost Amman, Aldegrever, Beham, Stefano della Bella, Hans Holbein, Lucas van Leyden, Goltzius, and Berain.

Under the will of the late Mr. George H. Hankinson, solicitor of Altrincham and Manchester, the Library has received one hundred and fifty volumes of historical and topographical works, which form a welcome addition to our collections. The manuscript genealogical and topographical collections left by Mr. Hankinson have also come into the possession of the Library, through the kindness of the Misses Hankinson. These collections, contained in ten folio volumes, were left to these ladies to dispose of at their dis-

cretion, and they decided to present them to this institution with the other books, in memory of their deceased brother. Mr. Hankinson was a most indefatigable, painstaking and accurate worker, as the contents of these ten volumes abundantly show. He took great interest in the history of Altrincham, Bowdon, Hale, and of Lancashire and Cheshire generally, and the result of his many years of careful investigation into the history of these districts form most valuable contributions to our local history. The most important section of the work deals with the history of the Parish Church of Bowdon, and fills four of the volumes. Mr. Hankinson's title indicates the scope of the work, and reads thus: "*Copies of Inscriptions on the Gravestones in the Enclosed Portion of the Churchyard, and on the Monuments, Brasses, and Windows of the Parish Church of Bowdon. Together with particulars of Memorials no longer existing or now accessible, and notes thereon. By George H. Hankinson.*" The work is elaborately indexed, and apparently ready for the printer. There can be but one opinion with regard to this admirable and scholarly piece of work: that the evident intention of the author to print it, should be carried out. It is therefore suggested that the work should be published, either by subscription, or with the assistance of one of the local antiquarian societies.

The donor who wishes to be known as "A Friend," has generously presented to the Library fifty-eight volumes of Greek and Latin Classics, which have supplied some of the "lacunae" in that section, and the Trustees of the British Museum, in response to representations made to them, have presented one hundred and ten volumes of catalogues and other publications, to the enrichment of the bibliographical section of the Library.

The list of donors is as follows:—

Mrs. Rylands.  
 "A Friend."  
 Aberdeen University.  
 Principal Adeney.  
 Sir George J. Armytage.  
 The Trustees of the British Museum.  
 Ch. Burrage, Esq.  
 W. S. Churchill, Esq.  
 The Editor of the Congregational Year Book.  
 The Congressional Library, Washington.  
 The Countess Cowper.  
 The late Dr. Richard Garnett, C.B.  
 The late Henry Guppy.  
 The late G. H. Hankinson, Esq.  
 The Misses Hankinson.  
 Harvard University.  
 The Rev. R. T. Herford.  
 Robert Hoe, Esq.  
 R. C. Jackson, Esq.  
 The John Crerar Library.  
 H. Larmuth, Esq.  
 Lincoln Public Library.  
 The London Library.  
 T. N. Longman, Esq.  
 R. C. McDix, Esq.  
 Madrasah Library, Calcutta.

The Rev. C. S. Macalpine.  
 George Macalpine, Esq.  
 Alec Mackennal, Esq. (in memory of the Rev.  
 Dr. Mackennal).  
 The Rev. Dr. J. H. Moulton.  
 M. C. Owen, Esq.  
 A. H. Peach, Esq.  
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 Henry Peet, Esq.  
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 H. W. Underdown, Esq.  
 Upsala University.  
 Dr. Velke.  
 Victoria University.  
 The Rev. Dr. de Vlieger.  
 The Trustees and Family of Dr. James Young.  
 The Librarian.  
 M. le Ministre de l'Industrie, Belge.

The Governors of the Library take this opportunity of renewing their thanks to the donors for their generous gifts.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Governors invite such gifts. They would welcome, especially, additions to the various special collections, which form one of the outstanding features of the Library. Every effort is being used to make these collections more complete, and in that way to render the Library more efficient to serve the requirements of the students and research workers who resort to it.

**Public Lectures.**—During the Winter Session of 1906-7 public lectures were arranged, as in former years, on the open evenings, as follows:—

- 9th November, 1906.—“THE BIBLE AS A BOOK AND ITS INFLUENCE ON OTHER BOOKS.” By the Librarian.
- 7th December, 1906.—“THE HISTORY AND GROWTH OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE.” By the Librarian.
- 11th January, 1907.—“ST. JEROME AS A TRANSLATOR OF SCRIPTURE.” By Canon E. L. Hicks, M.A.
- 8th February, 1907.—“THE BIBLE IN ITS ORIGINAL TONGUES.” By Professor A. S. Peake, M.A., D.D.
- 8th March, 1907.—“THE BIBLE IN THE SCHOOL.” By Miss Sara Burstall, M.A.
- 10th April, 1907.—“THE EVIDENCE OF THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANCIENT LITERATURE—WHETHER CLASSICAL OR SACRED.” By the Right Rev. J. E. C. Welldon, D.D., Dean of Manchester.

The continued success of this section of the work of the Library is gratifying in the extreme, and the authorities are fortunate in being able to arrange for a continuance of the series during the ensuing winter, through the kind and generous help of the lecturers.

The first three lectures in the ensuing session will be as follows:—

- 9th October, 1907.—“A SHEAF OF LETTERS FROM OLD EGYPT.” By Professor J. Hope Moulton, M.A., D.Litt.
- 13th November, 1907.—“THE POWER OF POETRY IN HISTORY.” By Professor R. S. Conway, Litt.D.
- 11th December, 1907.—“THE OLDEST CODE OF LAWS IN THE WORLD—THE CODE OF HAMMURABI.” By Professor Hope W. Hogg, M.A.

Other lectures have been promised, including one by Bishop Welldon on “The Beginnings of Religion,” but the dates have not yet been definitely arranged. The usual printed list will be issued and circulated in due course.

**Demonstrations for Students.**—Another department of work which has met with encouraging success is represented by the bibliographical and other demonstrations for students, a number of which, dealing with a variety of subjects, were arranged during the year. The growing number of requests for these demonstrations seems to furnish proof of the value of the experiment, and to warrant its continuance. Nothing will help a student to appreciate the reality underlying the great names of literature or history, like a personal introduction to the original editions of their works, or to the most authoritative works bearing upon the subject. In this way a sense of personal acquaintance with, or a vivid impression of, the writers is obtained, which not only deepens their interest in the particular subject, but stimulates an interest in the many valuable collections which the Library contains, and in that way lays the foundation for future study. During the year upwards of a thousand students, consisting of pupil teachers, senior scholars, and elementary teachers, have visited the Library in this way, in organised parties of from twenty-five to sixty.

**Exhibitions.**—Three special exhibitions were arranged in the Library during the period under review. The first was in connection with the Conference of the Classical

Association, which was held in Manchester in the month of October, when an exhibition of Greek and Latin Classics was arranged. Of each of the fifty writers, whose works figured in the exhibition, we were fortunate in being able to show, without a single exception, the first printed edition. In the case of the first printed Greek book, the *Batrachomyomachia*, circa 1474, and of the first printed edition of the *Disticha de moribus* of Dionysius Cato, circa 1471, we were able to exhibit the only known copies. Two of the exhibition-cases were devoted exclusively to Cicero and Vergil respectively, with the object of calling attention to the seventy-five works of the former, and the eighteen editions of the latter, printed during the fifteenth century, which are to be found in the Library.

A catalogue, containing a full bibliographical description of the works exhibited, was issued in connection with the exhibition, under the title: *The John Rylands Library, Manchester: A brief historical description of the Library and its contents, with Catalogue of the Selection of Early printed Greek and Latin Classics exhibited on the Occasion of the Visit of the Classical Association in October, MCMVI.* 8vo, pp. viii + 89. A few copies of this catalogue remain, and may be procured from the Manchester University Press at the price of one shilling.

The occasion of the second exhibition was the visit to the Library, on the 13th March, 1907, of the delegates of the Lancashire Congregational Union, in connection with the Centenary Meeting of that body, which seemed to provide a fitting opportunity for calling attention to the richness of the Library's collection of English Bibles.

In the arrangement of this exhibition, the object aimed at was to illustrate the history of the English version of the Bible, through all its various stages, from the time of Wiclif to the present day, and we may perhaps be excused for asserting that there are few libraries in the world where this could be accomplished in so comprehensive a manner. Commencing with an English manuscript translation of a Norman French version of the Apocalypse, formerly attributed to Wiclif, but now traced to an earlier source, followed by eleven Wicliffite manuscripts of the Bible, or parts of it, we were able to exhibit copies of every important version or revision down to the year 1906.

The interest of the exhibition was greatly enhanced by the presence of the personal copies: of Queen Elizabeth—the actual copy of the Gospels which was presented to the Queen on the occasion of her progress through the City of London in January, 1558, by Francis Newport, who, for the sake of his religion, had been compelled to fly during the reign of Queen Mary; of King James I.; of Elizabeth Fry—full of her marks and comments, revealing the source of her inspiration, strength and comfort, and the secret of her success in the noble work she undertook; of Thomas Cromwell, which afterwards belonged to King George III.—it may be mentioned that it was through the influence of Cromwell that the "Coverdale Bible" of 1535 was allowed to circulate without being suppressed; and it was through his influence that the "Matthew Bible" was "*set forth with the Kinges most gracyous lycēce*";—and the Bible from which the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone was accustomed to read the lessons in Hawarden Church.

A fully annotated catalogue of this exhibition was also issued, under the title: *The John Rylands Library, Manchester. Catalogue of an Exhibition of Bibles illustrating the History of the English Versions from Wiclif to the Present Time, including the Personal Copies of Queen Elizabeth, Elizabeth Fry and others.* 8vo, pp. viii + 58. The catalogue contains an introductory sketch of the history of the Pre-Wicliffite paraphrases from Cædmon to the time of Wiclif, which, together with the descriptive historical

notes on the various Bibles exhibited, furnishes a brief history, or, at least, the leading facts in the history of the English Bible from the seventh century to the present time. Copies of this catalogue may still be procured from the Manchester University Press, at the price of sixpence.

The third exhibition was arranged in connection with the visit of the Federation of Master Printers and Allied Trades, which took place on the 31st May, 1907.

The object of this exhibition was to reveal to the visitors something of the character of the collections of the Library, as far as they relate to the history of printing. It is generally known that one of the most noteworthy features of the Library is its unrivalled collection of books printed before the year 1501, numbering upwards of 2,500 volumes. Commencing with the famous print of "St. Christopher," the earliest known piece of printing with a definite date (1423), followed by the other specimens of block-printing, the precursors of the type-printed books, the history of which furnishes one of the most fascinating chapters in the evolution of books, it was possible to trace the history of printing step by step in the course of its progress and development through the fifteenth, sixteenth, and succeeding centuries, down to the present day. It is not too much to say that never before in Manchester, and seldom elsewhere outside Manchester, has there been brought together a collection of books and broadsides, illustrating so completely as this does the origin and development of the art of printing.

Of this exhibition also a small descriptive catalogue was issued, under the title: *The John Rylands Library, Manchester: Catalogue of the Selection of Books and Broadsides illustrating the Early History of Printing, exhibited on the occasion of the visit of the Federation of Master Printers and Allied Trades in June, MCMVII.* 8vo, pp. vi + 34. Copies of this catalogue may also still be procured from the Manchester University Press, at the price of sixpence.

It may interest some of our readers to know that this exhibition will remain on view until the month of October next, when it will be replaced by an exhibition of some of the most famous editions of Dante's masterpiece, in which the Library is so rich.

**Co-operative Catalogue of Architectural Works.**—The "*Catalogue of Architectural Works in the Libraries of Manchester*," which is being edited, for the Architectural Committee of the Manchester Committee of Education, by the Librarian and sub-Librarian, is nearly ready for the printer. The catalogue will contain particulars of upwards of 2,000 distinct works, comprising about 8,000 volumes, to be found in the libraries of this city. The titles of any important works of which no copy is to be found at present in Manchester, will be included in the list as "desiderata". In this way it is hoped to produce a really useful bibliographical catalogue of permanent value. It is, we believe, the first catalogue of the kind to be produced in this country.