AN exhibition to commemorate the Three-hundredth Anniversary of the Death of Shakespeare was arranged in the main library, and opened on the Wednesday preceding the actual date of the anniversary (the 23rd of April), which fell on Easter Sunday.

The object which was kept in view in the selection and arrangement of the exhibits, was to show the unfolding of Shakespeare’s mind as it is reflected in his works. This we sought to accomplish by exhibiting, not only such of the original and early editions of the poet’s writings as the library possesses, but also the principal sources which he employed in their composition.

As a result we were able to bring together copies of the actual editions of the principal works to which Shakespeare had access, probably upon the shelves of his own library, since they are known to be the authorities whence he drew the foundation plots, stories, and other illustrative matter, which, after passing through the crucible of his mind, were transformed into the living and lasting reality which we find enshrined in his immortal works.

Of Shakespeare’s own works we have been able to exhibit two sets of the four folios, and an interesting copy of the surreptitiously printed “Sonnets” of 1609, which made its first appearance in June, the identical month in which Edward Alleyn, the contemporary actor, and founder of Dulwich College, purchased a copy for 5d., the same figure as that which appears in manuscript on the title-page of the one exhibited. Of the original quartos of the plays, the library does not possess a single example; therefore, for the purpose of illustrating the order of publication of the plays and poems, which were printed either with or without authority during the author’s lifetime, we have had recourse to the excellent facsimiles which have appeared from time to time.
In addition to what may be described as the direct sources, we have included an interesting selection of contemporary works of a more general character, with which Shakespeare was certainly familiar, and which may be described as his general reference books. As an indication of the character of these works, mention may be made of the following: William Camden’s “Britannia”; John Florio’s “World of Words” and “Second Fruits”; Leonard Digges’ “Pantometria,” in which there is a description of the invention of the “camera obscura,” which in its modern form is known as the “periscope,” which is attributed to Digges; Randle Cotgrave’s “French Dictionary”; “Dives Pragmaticus”; Richard Hakluyt’s “Principal Navigations”; and Saxton’s “Atlas”.

Another of the exhibition cases has been devoted to contemporary writings, which are of topographical or historical interest as bearing directly upon Shakespeare and his times, or which contain allusions to the poet, such as “England’s Parnassus”; Heywood’s “Apology for Actors”; the unique copy of “Ratsei’s Ghost” in which the author seems to make a sarcastic reflection on Shakespeare, who, a few years earlier, had purchased New Place, Stratford, out of his professional earnings.

Finally, we have assembled a collection of school-books, many of which were current in Shakespeare’s day. These serve to convey some idea of the character and standard of the education which obtained in England, not only at the time of our poet, but also in the earlier part of the sixteenth century. Amongst the works exhibited are: the little grammar “Rudimenta Grammatices” prepared by Cardinal Wolsey for the use of the college at Ipswich, which he had established in succession to the old grammar school; the first book wholly on arithmetic to be printed in England, the author of which was Cuthbert Tunstall, successively Bishop of London and Durham; and the treatise on education entitled “The Schoolmaster,” by Roger Ascham, the tutor of Queen Elizabeth, in which he testifies warmly to Her Majesty’s learning.

The purpose which this and similar exhibitions are intended to serve, is to reveal to the public, and especially to students, the wealth of material available to them, in the library, for the study of the subjects dealt with. If we may judge from the large number of people, including numerous groups of students from the schools and colleges in
and around Manchester, who, with evident enjoyment, and avowed benefit, have visited the present exhibition, as well as from the appreciative notices which have appeared in the press, we venture to believe that the purpose has been fully achieved.

It may interest our readers to know that the exhibition will remain on view until the early months of the new year.

With a view to increase the educational value of the exhibition, and also to mark the occasion, a descriptive catalogue or handbook has been issued, in which, by means of annotations to the various entries, full and accurate information is given as to the bibliographical peculiarities, and other features of interest possessed by the respective exhibits. In the case of Shakespeare's own works, brief notes as to the sources have been appended to each of the plays, with an indication of the precise location in the exhibition and the catalogue of the works to which reference is made.

A brief sketch of Shakespeare's life and times, followed by a chronological table of the principal events connected with and surrounding the poet and his writings, has been prefixed to the catalogue, which concludes with a sixteen-page selected list of works for the study of Shakespeare, which may be consulted in the library.

The volume, which extends to 180 pages, and is illustrated with sixteen facsimiles of the title-pages of some of the rarer and most interesting of the works exhibited, may be obtained from the usual agents at the price of one shilling (postage 4d.).

The commemoration was further marked by the delivery of two lectures by Professor Richard G. Moulton, of Chicago University, on "Shakespeare as a Dramatic Artist," and "Shakespeare as a Dramatic Thinker." On each occasion the hall was filled to overflowing, long before the advertised hour of the lecture, whilst hundreds of people were unable to gain admission. The lectures were full of inspiration and suggestion. The lecturer with his accustomed power seemed to cast a spell over his audience, as he revealed to them new beauties in the works of the dramatist, and opened out new avenues of study.

Arrangements were also made with Mr. William Poel, the Founder and Director of the Elizabethan Stage Society, to deliver a lecture upon "Shakespeare's Stage and Plays". Unfortunately, a
sudden attack of influenza prevented Mr. Poel from fulfilling his engagement, and in his unavoidable absence the Librarian lectured on "Why we honour Shakespeare". 

We are glad, however, to be able to present our readers, in the present issue, with the substance of Mr. Poel's lecture. Unfortunately it is in cold print, and lacks the vitalizing personality of the lecturer, but in it some new and interesting theories are advanced which will be read with considerable interest, although they are not likely to pass unchallenged.

The article has been issued also in a separate form, at the price of one shilling, and may be obtained from the usual agents.

Our own exhibition has been admirably supplemented in Manchester, at the Whitworth Art Gallery, by an interesting and instructive exhibition of pictorial Shakespeareana, which was designed to illustrate, principally by means of pictures, the history of our national poet and the representation of his works. It includes portraits of Shakespeare, his patrons, his critics, his commentators, as well as of actors; with topographical illustrations including the play-houses, a long series of play-bills, medals, tokens, busts, etc. The arrangement of the material is excellent, and we offer our congratulations to the Governors of the Whitworth Institute and to the Curator, upon the success which has attended their enterprise in organizing an exhibition, which as a pendant to the John Rylands collection has done much to increase the educational value of Manchester's Tercentenary Commemoration.

Elsewhere in the present issue we print the fourth list of contributions to the new library for the University of Louvain, furnishing fresh evidence of the generous and widespread interest which our appeal on behalf of the crippled University has called forth.

Already upwards of 8000 volumes have been actually received, and in themselves form an excellent beginning of the new library. Yet, when it is realized that the collection of books, so ruthlessly and senselessly destroyed at Louvain, numbered nearly a quarter of a million of volumes, it will be evident that if the work of replacement, which we have inaugurated, is to be accomplished, very much more remains to be done.
It is with confidence that we renew our appeal for prompt offers of suitable books, or monetary contributions, to help us in this endeavour to restore, at least in some measure, the resources of the crippled and exiled University, by the provision of a library adequate in every respect to meet the requirements of the case, so as to be in readiness for the time of her restoration.

Arrangements have been made for the delivery of the following lectures during the ensuing session.

**EVENING LECTURES (7.30 p.m.).**


Wednesday, 14th March, 1917. "A Puritan Idyll: Richard Baxter (1615-1691) and his Love Story." By Frederick J. Powicke, M.A., Ph.D.

Wednesday, 18th April, 1917. "Shakespeare's 'Lear': A Moral Problem Dramatized." By Richard G. Moulton, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Literary Theory and Interpretation in the University of Chicago.

Friday, 20th April, 1917. "Fiction as the Experimental Side of Human Philosophy." By Richard G. Moulton, M.A., Ph.D.
The John Rylands Library

Afternoon Lectures (3 p.m.)


Tuesday, 2nd January, 1917. "Sir Thomas More and his 'Utopia.'" 1 By Foster Watson, M.A., D.Lit., Emeritus Professor in the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Lecturer in Rhetoric in Gresham College, London.

Tuesday, 6th March, 1917. "Shakespeare's Theatre." (Illustrated by One Hundred Lantern Pictures.) By William Poel, Founder and Director of the Elizabethan Stage Society.

Mrs. Emmott, of Birkenhead, has generously presented to the library, in memory of her husband, the late Professor Emmott, of Liverpool University, a collection of books, numbering nearly 300 volumes, dealing with Roman Law and Comparative Law and Jurisprudence, in the hope that it may stimulate others to take an interest in a study in which the late Professor was himself so deeply interested.

This collection forms a most welcome addition to our shelves, since it enables us to strengthen an important section of the library, which, hitherto, has been only very inadequately developed.

During the process of registering and cataloguing the gift, it was found that a certain number of the works were already in the library. These volumes, with the kind consent of Mrs. Emmott, have been added to the Louvain collection.

Professor George Henry Emmott, whose memory, henceforth, will be perpetuated in the annals of this library, was the eldest of five sons of the late Thomas Emmott, of Brookfield, Oldham. He was born in 1855, and was educated, first at the Friends' School, Stramongate, Kendal, and afterwards at Owens College, Manchester, and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took a First Class in the Law Tripos, in 1878. On leaving the University he read law in the chambers of Mr. Joseph Braithwaite, and was called to the Bar in 1879. Shortly afterwards

1 In commemoration of the first publication of "Utopia" at Louvain in February, 1516.
he took chambers in Manchester, and was appointed Lecturer on English Law in Owens College. In 1881 he married Elizabeth, the daughter of Mr. Joseph Bevan Braithwaite, and for the next five years made his home at Wilmslow.

Then came a call to a professorship in the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, where for ten years he entered with zest into all the activities of the University life, his work being principally with post-graduate students in Roman Law and Comparative Jurisprudence. For five years he was also Lecturer on Civil Law in Columbia University, Washington.

During the whole of his residence in America Professor Emmott made an annual visit to England to see his parents, and in 1896, on being offered the Queen Victoria Chair of Law in University College, now the University of Liverpool, he decided to return permanently. For twenty years he held this Chair, being Dean of his Faculty for nearly thirteen years, and continued his work up to the very end, delivering his last lecture on the day before his lamented death, which took place on the 8th of March, 1916.

Speaking at the University Senate, the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alfred Dale, paid a graceful tribute to the memory of his late colleague. "How Emmott served us here we all know; the endless pains he took over his work; the quiet ardour with which he spent himself in helping others; how much more ready as a teacher he was to give than most pupils are ready to receive. Except on formal business he seldom spoke in this room, but we valued his opinions, trusted his judgment, and when he spoke, could always be sure of this, that the last thing he thought of was his own interest and himself. Vanity, display, and self-seeking, he not only avoided, but abhorred. He was a man that even in these distracted days we shall not soon forget, and we shall always remember him as one who obeyed an inner law, and followed an inner light. . . ."

Of the strength and soundness of his work Professor Maitland held a very high opinion, which was in itself a fine and rare distinction.

Of Quaker parentage Professor Emmott was throughout his life intimately associated with the Society of Friends. He was a great book-lover, and had a large and well-chosen library, in which he delighted to spend his leisure hours among never-failing friends.
Among the recent acquisitions of the library is a collection of manuscripts, numbering forty pieces, of undetermined antiquity, in the language of the Mo-so people. These manuscripts are of considerable importance, since they represent the largest group in this particular script to be brought into Europe. They were acquired through the instrumentality of Mr. George Forrest, who obtained them in the remote and little-known country of their origin, whence he returned only a few months since.

The manuscripts are mostly oblong in shape, measuring about three inches in height by ten inches in width, and are written in picture characters, on a thick Oriental paper of uneven texture, apparently brown with age.

The Mo-so are a non-Chinese race scattered throughout Southern China, but their stronghold, and the seat of their traditions, is the prefecture of Li-Kiang-fou, called in Tibetan "Sa-dam," and in Mo-so "Ye-gu," which is in the north-west of Yun-nan.

The present prefect traces his descent to a line of kings that go back as far as the year 618.

Travellers from the days of Marco Polo have made reference to this people, but until quite recent years no attempt has been made to deal with their history and language, probably because few scholars had penetrated to the remote region of their habitat. The first scientific monograph upon the subject was read before the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, in 1908, by M. Cordier. In 1913, another scholar, M. J. Bacot, after a residence of several months in the Mo-so country, published, under the auspices of the Institut ethnographique international de Paris, an interesting study of the ethnography, religion, language, and writing of the people, in which he was assisted by M. E. Chavannes, who was responsible for a translation and study of the texts, dealing with the genealogy of the kings of Mo-so, which M. Bacot obtained from their direct descendant.

The Mo-so spoken language differs from the written language. The latter consists of pictographic, ideographic, and syllabic characters.

Many of the ideographic characters, M. Bacot tells us, are very obscure. It is for that reason we attach considerable importance to an excellent key to one of the manuscripts, which Mr. Forrest was fortunately able to obtain, through the services of a Chinese scholar, who was familiar with the people and their language.
The manuscript referred to was first transcribed and then furnished with an interlinear translation in Chinese characters. A further transcript of both the Mo-so and the Chinese was afterwards made, to which was added an English translation of the Chinese version, thus providing us with a key which may prove to be of great service when the other manuscripts in the collection come to be dealt with.

The text of the translated manuscript is of a religious character, opening with a version of the creation story, and as far as we are able at present to judge, most of the others are of a similar type.

The religious practices of this people seem to follow the cults of the particular regions where they are settled, and include natural religion, lamaism, magic, and ancestral worship. The practice of so many cults, differing so greatly in character, seems to indicate a certain indifference to religion, which may account for the failure of the Christian missionaries, who, for sixty years or more, apparently have been active among this people, but hitherto without making a single convert.

The religion proper of the Mo-so, however, is the Cult of Heaven, which embraces a Supreme Being endowed with infinite attributes, providence, and justice. They have their holy city at Bedjri, a shrine to which every priest or sorcerer is expected to make at least one pilgrimage during his lifetime. Their temples, if they may be so described, are enclosed spaces, or clearings in the forest, of which the only roof is the canopy of heaven. These enclosures are entered once a year, when sacrifices are offered upon the stone altar which is erected in the centre.

In due course we hope to arrange for the publication of the texts contained in these manuscripts, and it is not unlikely that they will furnish new evidence as to the religious rites and ceremonies to which we have incidentally referred.

In the meantime Mr. Forrest has kindly undertaken to prepare an illustrated article for an early issue of the BULLETIN, in which he will give some account of the Mo-so people, from his personal and, therefore, first-hand knowledge.

The first volume of the new and standard edition of "The Odes and Psalms of Solomon," published by the Manchester University Press, for the Governors of the Library, has just made its appearance. It furnishes for the first time a facsimile in collotype, of the exact dimensions of the original Syriac
manuscript now in the possession of the library; which is accompanied by a retranscribed text, with an attached critical apparatus.

In working through the text of the "Odes," the editors, Dr. Rendel Harris and Dr. A. Mingana, became convinced that they were dealing with matter that was either purely Oriental in origin, or so coloured by Oriental modes of thought and expression as to be substantially Oriental, and they decided that it was necessary to reconstruct, as far as possible, the rhythms which underlay the recovered Syriac text, and which showed remarkable parallelism with early Syriac poetry. The text has accordingly been broken up; and this made it necessary to re-distribute and renumber the verses as they were given in Dr. Harris's "editio princeps".

In their preface, the editors point out that this text will enable students to acquire first-hand knowledge of the forms in which the "Odes" have come down to us, as well as occasionally to register a possible or probable emendation.

In the second volume, which we hope to publish in the early part of the new year, it is proposed to re-translate the "Odes" into English versicles, with brief comments by way of elucidation. The translation will be accompanied by an exhaustive introduction, dealing with the variations of the fragment in the British Museum, with the original language, the probable epoch of their composition, their unity, the stylistic method of their first writer, the accessory patristic testimonies, a summary of the most important criticisms that have appeared since its first publication in 1909, a complete bibliography of the subject, and a glossary to the text.

Those readers who may be unfamiliar with the character and importance of the document, which is now being made accessible to students, are referred to Dr. Rendel Harris's brief statement of its value, which appeared in the October, 1914, issue of this BULLETIN.

The price at which each of the volumes will be issued is half a guinea net. The first volume is on sale, and may be procured from the usual publishers or their agents.

We welcome the appearance of the first annual issue of the "Athenæum Subject Index to Periodicals," covering the year 1915; and we offer our heartiest congratulations to all who have been concerned in its production.

The publication of this valuable aid to scholarship has been made
possible through the co-operation of the proprietors of "The Atheneum" with the Library Association and a number of voluntary workers. In justice, however, to the editors, Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme, Librarian of the Patent Office Library, and his colleague, Mr. Hopwood, it should also be pointed out that it is due entirely to their indomitable perseverance, coupled with unwearying and self-sacrificing labour in the face of serious discouragements, that the work has been carried to so successful an issue.

The volume consists of a consolidation, in one alphabet, of the series of monthly class lists, published as supplements to "The Atheneum," with the addition of upwards of 2000 entries. The result may be stated as follows: 420 periodicals have been indexed, yielding 13,374 articles classified under 7054 headings and accompanied by 7280 author references.

This is not the first attempt which has been made in this country to recover and make accessible to students some of the thousands of important contributions to literature which in the past have been buried and neglected for want of proper cataloguing or indexing, simply because, by an accident of birth, they appear in the heart of a volume of the transactions of some learned society, or other periodical publication.

In 1890 Mr. Stead, in connection with his "Review of Reviews," published an "Annual Index to Important Periodicals of the English Speaking World," which was continued for thirteen years (until 1902), after which it ceased to appear, killed by apathy and lack of support on the part of those in whose interest it had been undertaken.

For the honour of the country and its librarianship, it is to be hoped that a better fate is in store for the new index than that which befell, not only the one published by Mr. Stead, but the American "Poole's Index to Periodical Literature," which after a useful career, extending from 1848 to 1907, also ceased to appear in the latter year.

In order to appreciate the value and importance of this literary tool it needs only to be recognized that every item recovered by this means from the buried material, to which we have already referred, adds to the available resources of the library, and often is of greater value than the purchase of many new volumes. We go so far as to say that the smaller the library the greater the need to have its resources expanded in this way. Even when the library possesses few or none of the
periodicals dealt with in the Index, it surely is worth while to be able to refer a reader to an article likely to furnish information upon the subject of his quest, which may be consulted in some neighbouring library, or which may be borrowed from the "Loan Library," which has been established in connection with the Index.

We learn that the number of periodicals dealt with in the present issue is to be augmented in succeeding issues, provided that adequate support is forthcoming.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that every library and every learned society throughout the country will feel it to be, not only to their advantage to subscribe for the Index, but also a duty to assist those who have undertaken the responsibility of this work purely in the interest of scholarship, and by so doing, relieve them from any financial anxiety.

The present issue of the Bulletin, which is a double number, will be found to contain a classified list of the most important of the recent accessions to the library, in the departments of Literature and History. A combined author index to the lists appearing in the current volume will be published in the following issue.

The next issue may be looked for early in the new year and will include an article by Professor C. H. Herford, entitled "National and International Ideals in the English Poets," being the substance of a lecture delivered in the library, in January last; and the fourth of Dr. Rendel Harris's articles on Greek Mythology, dealing with "The Cult of Aphrodite," in addition to the usual list of accessions, and other regular features.