



The Dead Sea Scrolls : Cave IV seen from the bed of the Wady Qumran
By permission of John Allegro

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NOTES AND NEWS

AN Exhibition of scrolls from the wilderness of the Dead Sea was on display in the Main Library from Monday, 14 February to Saturday, 12 March.

Under the joint patronage of H.M. the Queen and H.M. King Hussein of Jordan, this Exhibition was arranged by the Smithsonian Institution at Washington and consists of scrolls and associated artifacts lent through the generosity of the Government of Jordan and the Trustees of the Palestine Archaeological Museum at Jerusalem. After touring the United States of America between February and September of last year and spending one month in Canada, the Exhibition is being shown at four centres in Great Britain: the British Museum, where it was on view from 16 December to 29 January, the Rylands Library, the National Library of Scotland (28 March–23 April) and the National Museum of Wales (9 May–4 June). In June it will leave this country for permanent display in Jordan.

DEAD SEA
SCROLLS
EXHIBITION

The Exhibition in the Rylands was opened by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Manchester, under the Chairmanship of Professor W. H. Semple, in the presence of a distinguished gathering, including the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Governors of the Library, and representatives of leading institutions of learning and civic bodies.

The main Exhibition, which consists of twenty-two cases, was supplemented by three cases arranged by the Library itself. The former is in four sections, of which the first two and the last deal with "The Discovery of the Scrolls", "The People of the Scrolls and their Community" and "Modern Scroll Research". In these sections are exhibited artifacts used in the daily life of

the Essene community, discovered between 1951 and 1956, among them being examples of their table service, lamps and cooking utensils, an iron door key, part of a hoard of silver coins, an inkwell from their scriptorium, and jars in which the Scrolls were kept. In the third section is a selection of the Scrolls themselves, fourteen in all, ranging in date from the third century B.C. to c. A.D. 68, when the community was destroyed by Roman soldiers of the Tenth Legion under Vespasian. Here are displayed both Biblical and Sectarian manuscripts, the former comprising fragments of two Exodus Scrolls (one assigned to the mid-third century B.C.), Leviticus (in Greek), Deuteronomy (including the Ten Commandments) and Samuel, together with portions of scrolls containing the Psalms, of which one (the Elizabeth Hay Bechtel Scroll) is the second most complete yet found. The Essene Sectarian manuscripts include Blessings appended to the rules of the community, a phylactery, liturgical hymns for daily worship, a fragment of a text on the "Elect of God", and part of the War Scroll, describing a "War of the Children of Light against the Children of Darkness". Also exhibited are a fragment of an apocryphal Testament of Levi, written in Aramaic, and a commentary on Nahum; the latter, the largest connected piece from Cave IV, is of special interest as it mentions known historical figures such as "Demetrius, King of Greece", who aided the Pharisees in a rebellion against Alexander Jannaeus. All four sections are provided with explanatory descriptions, photographs and diagrams and the various texts shown are accompanied by translations and comments.

As mentioned above, three cases supplementary to the main Exhibition were arranged by the Library. The first two contained materials illustrating the story of the Copper Scroll, discovered in Cave III in March 1952, the opening of which was effected at the Manchester College of Science and Technology by Professor Henry Wright Baker. These consisted of photographs kindly loaned by him and by Mr. John Allegro and of a scroll model, together with the saw used to segment the original and samples of mineral dust and sand obtained during the process, also lent by Professor Wright Baker. In 1960 he generously presented to the Library the original transcripts of the Copper

Scroll, made when it was being deciphered, and two of these were also shown.

In the third case was displayed a small selection of manuscripts from the Library's own collections, ranging from the second century B.C. to the seventeenth century A.D. They comprised, with one exception, Old Testament manuscripts in Hebrew, Samaritan, Greek, Coptic, Ethiopic, Latin and English. Included were the Deuteronomy fragments of the second century B.C., the oldest surviving manuscript of the Septuagint ; a tenth-century Hebrew fragment of Jeremiah containing a colophon giving its precise date (= A.D. 954) ; the earliest dated manuscript (=A.D. 1211) of the whole Samaritan Pentateuch to be found outside Nablus, the headquarters of the Samaritan community ; part of a parchment codex of c. A.D. 900 containing 1 and 2 Samuel in Sahidic, the Coptic dialect current in Upper Egypt ; an Ethiopic Octateuch written in the scriptorium at the royal court at Gondar ; a beautifully adorned Vulgate Old Testament of the twelfth century ; and an early fifteenth-century text of a Wycliffite translation of the Psalms. As it was felt that a display of such a nature in this Library would hardly be considered complete without the St. John fragment, this, too, was on view.

The Exhibition proved a great success, attracting 66,138 visitors.

During the four weeks in which it was held a series of free public lectures dealing with the Dead Sea Scrolls was arranged in the Lecture Hall of the Library. Admittance was by ticket only and all tickets were claimed long before the series started. The lectures, delivered on each Thursday at 6 p.m., were : 17 February, " The History of the Qumran Sect " by Em.-Professor H. H. Rowley ; 24 February, " The Discovery and Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls ", by Em.-Professor H. Wright Baker ; 3 March, " The Dead Sea Scrolls : Their Finding, Editing and Archaeology ", by John Allegro, Lecturer in Old Testament and Inter-Testamental Studies in the University of Manchester ; and 10 March, " The Scrolls and Early Christianity ", by Professor F. F. Bruce, Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis in the University of Manchester.

The Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition was preceded, in October of last year, by an exhibition arranged to commemorate the fifth centenary of the introduction of printing into Italy, where the art was first practised in 1465. Italy produced finer books and in greater number than any other country in Europe and the Library is fortunate in possessing an outstanding collection of them. With the selection displayed were exhibited a number of manuscripts illuminated in Italy in the same century, many of them illustrating the influence exercised by scribes and illuminators on the work of the printing office.

THE
FIFTEENTH
CENTURY
IN ITALY:
MANUSCRIPT
AND PRINTED
BOOK

Conrad Sweynheym of Mainz and Arnold Pannartz of Cologne, the first printers in Italy, set up a press in Subiaco and produced there four books, one of which has disappeared. Of the other three, the earliest, an undated Cicero, "De Oratore", printed before the end of September 1465, the next, the Lactantius dated 29 October 1465, and the last, St Augustine's "De civitate Dei", 1467, were all on view. In Rome, where the same printers are next heard of, they printed forty-eight separate books, of which the Library possesses forty-six. Five of these were exhibited, including the first book printed in Rome, Cicero's "Epistolae ad familiares", 1467, a vellum copy of Pliny, "Historia naturalis", 1470, with an illuminated first leaf matched by a manuscript decorated in the same style, the first Bible printed in Italy, 1471, and the Commentary of Nicolaus de Lyra, 1472, which has a printed list of the partners' productions up to date, with details of the number of copies printed. After the dissolution of the partnership Pannartz printed on his own account and his Seneca of February 1475 was shown. Sweynheym became an engraver and produced the maps for the edition of Ptolemy, printed by Buckinck after his death, which was placed alongside it.

A second case devoted to early Roman printers contained the only perfect copy of the first illustrated book printed in Italy, Cardinal Turrecremata's "Meditationes", 1467, the work of Ulrich Han, who established the second press in Rome. With it were shown examples of the work of Sextus Riessinger, the third, and De Lignamine, the fourth Roman printer, and the Italian Bible printed by Adam de Ambergau, with a set of

woodcuts illustrating the creation, which appear only in the Rylands copy.

Printing was introduced into Venice in 1469, again by a German, Joannes de Spira, who completed three books, all in the Library. The earliest, Cicero's "Epistolae ad familiares", on vellum, was on view with a copy of the book he began which was completed by his brother Vindelino after his death, Augustine's "De civitate Dei" 1470, also on vellum. Of the work of the second Venetian printer, Nicolaus Jenson, four examples were shown, all on vellum; they included classical texts, an illuminated Book of Hours and a Bible of 1476. Among other Venetian books displayed were editions of Appian, 1477, printed by Erhard Ratdolt and his partners, with fine woodcut borders, of Masuccio's "Novellino", De Gregoriis, 1492, with many woodcuts in delicate outline, and a Missal printed by Torresanus in 1496 with a woodcut of the Crucifixion completely over-painted. In the same case was a "Decameron", printed by Valdarfer in 1471, the only surviving perfect copy of the first edition, the sale of which in 1812 inspired the foundation of the Roxburghe Club. Among four examples of the work of Aldus Manutius were his edition of Virgil, 1501, the first book in which he employed his italic type, which by its compression made the pocket edition possible. With it was a manuscript illustrating how closely the type followed contemporary handwriting.

The remaining cases contained many items of great rarity. From Brescia, for instance, were two books printed by Ferrandus; one, the "Batrachomyomachia" of Homer, [1474?], is a unique copy of the first continuous Greek text to be printed (with its two Latin translations it is also the first crib), while of the same printer's edition of Lucretius, 1473, only one other perfect copy is known. The Library is particularly rich in Neapolitan printing and exhibits printed in that city included a Book of Hours, a Missal, a finely illustrated Aesop printed by Del Tuppo in 1485, the precious edition of Horace, printed by Arnoldus de Bruxella in 1474, and the musical treatise of Gafurius, 1480, with a fine woodcut of an organ.

Among editions of the "Divina commedia" of Dante shown were two printed in 1472, one from Foligno, usually held to be

the first, and one from Mantua, and the splendid edition printed by Laurentii in Florence in 1481 with twenty copper plate engravings after Botticelli.

The exhibition was not confined to the productions of the great centres of printing but included work produced in many smaller towns, such as Pojano, Pinerolo, Colle di Valdelsa, Como, Cividale, Gaeta and Scandiano. In several cases the book shown was the town's only fifteenth-century production.

A separate case was devoted to manuscripts in addition to those exhibited side by side with printed books. All were executed in Italy and all, save one, were fifteenth century, the majority being illuminated. They include a Book of Hours and a fine Carmelite Missal, both probably from Padua, a Cicero owned by the Strozzi family, and an "Imitation of Christ" which belonged to the Rucellai of Florence. Also from Florence was a Hebrew text of the Pentateuchal Commentary of rabbi Nachmanides, while a fifteenth-century Archbishop of Florence (St. Antonius) was represented by his principal work, the "Summa Theologica". Two of the most beautiful manuscripts on view were the "Scala del Paradiso" of San Giovanni Climaco and a Mass Book written and adorned for Cardinal Pompeo Colonna (d. 1532), five other volumes of which are also in the Library.

The following is a list of recent Library publications consisting of reprints of articles which appeared in the latest BULLETIN (Autumn 1965):

"Enemies and Evildoers in the Book of Psalms". RECENT LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS
By George W. Anderson, M.A., D.D., Professor of Old Testament Literature and Theology in the University of Edinburgh. 8vo, pp. 12. Price three shillings net.

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Jane E. Henle, Ph.D., Associate in Art History, Columbia University, New York. 8vo, pp. 25. Price five shillings net.

"St. Paul in Rome. 2. The Epistle to Philemon". By F. F. Bruce, M.A., D.D., Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis in the University of Manchester. 8vo, pp. 17. Price four shillings net.

"Art for Archaeologists". By K. de B. Codrington, M.A., Professor of Indian Archaeology in the University of London. 8vo, pp. 20. Price four shillings net.

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