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LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

IN MEMORIAM.

IT is with profound regret that we have to record the death of Sir George Watson Macalpine, J.P., LL.D., in the seventy-first year of his age, which took place at his residence "Broad Oak," Accrington, on Sunday, the 18th of April.

SIR
GEORGE
WATSON
MACAL-
PINE, J.P.,
LL.D.

Sir George Macalpine had been associated with the Library for nearly twenty years, first as a Representative Governor appointed in 1901 by the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Baptist Churches, since 1912 as one of the Trustees, and since 1915 as Chairman of the Council. Throughout these years, and until within a few months of his death, he had served the institution with conspicuous ability and untiring devotion.

To those who enjoyed the privilege of Sir George's friendship, his death is deeply felt. For many months he lived in almost complete retirement, sheltered by the loving care of Lady Macalpine, his daughter, and his four sons. His life was full of beauty, of power, and of achievement, and those who were accustomed to look to him for guidance and encouragement do not yet realise the loss they have sustained, through the absence of that inspiration and sympathy upon which they could always count.

Sir George was the son of a Baptist minister, and had his religious beginning among the Scotch Baptists, whose strength of conviction, habits of piety, love of the Bible and of the Church, left their mark upon his character and life. As the years went by his sympathies broadened, and his active interest in the cause of foreign missions—the religious enterprise into which he threw his energies most abundantly—brought him into close touch with other churches, but he always spoke of those early years with profound reverence.

He was a student widely read and deeply versed in theological teaching, a business man of keen penetration, very wide experience, and unfailing courtesy, with a genius for friendship—qualities which enabled him to wield that subtle and powerful influence which was such a characteristic feature of his public life and work. His sympathies were so large as to embrace the work of the Baptist Union, the Baptist Missionary Society, the Baptist World Alliance, the recent movement towards Christian Union, that missionary co-operation which found its expression in the Edinburgh Conference, the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the John Rylands Library, to mention only the most important of the institutions and causes in which he took so active an interest.

In addition to these wider interests Sir George was a tower of strength to the Baptist Church at Accrington, with which for so many years he identified himself. For upwards of forty years he was the beloved leader of large morning and afternoon Bible-classes, in preparation for which he gave many hours of study every week. The Baptist denomination delighted to do him honour: he was the Chairman of the Baptist Missionary Society, was twice elected Moderator of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Baptist Churches, and was called to the Presidential Chair of the Baptist Union in 1910, the year in which he received his knighthood. By his death the Baptist Church loses one of its most distinguished laymen, and the missionary cause a statesman of real distinction.

It is impossible to give any adequate idea of the value of Sir George's services to the missionary enterprise of the Baptist Church, but he was for many years the guiding spirit in its councils, and the missionaries in the field could not have desired a better friend and advocate. His interest was inexhaustible as long as health enabled him to continue these activities. He also commended the enterprise to the world by his own unflinching confidence and enthusiasm, and his evident sense of the privilege of being one of its leaders at home.

In 1911 he went to India, in company with Miss Macalpine, to see the work at close quarters, a visit which is remembered with gratitude, not only by the Indian Staff, but also by the Indian Christians connected with the mission. He also attended the Philadelphia Congress in the same year, and made a profound impression on the representatives present.

The Bible Society had a warm supporter in Sir George, and his Biblical scholarship was shown in the Harmony of the Gospels, one of the results of his work of preparation for the members of his Bible-classes, which he published in 1905, under the title: "The Days of the Son of Man".

In 1907, as Moderator of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Baptist Churches, he delivered a memorable address on "The Arrested Progress of the Church," and in 1910, from the Chair of the Baptist Union, he delivered two addresses on Ministry: (1) "The Ministry of the Church to the Church," and (2) "The Ministry of the Church to the World," which made a deep and lasting impression, not only upon his hearers, but upon all into whose hands the addresses in their printed form fell. Also, in 1910, he gave abundant evidence of his knowledge of, and interest in the classics, by editing in collaboration with John Green Skemp: "Interpretations of Horace," by the late William Medley, a volume which abounds with annotations from his pen, revealing great critical insight and knowledge of the subject.

Indeed, Sir George was a man of very varied gifts, who gave himself and his means to public service with a single eye to the public good. He never sought honour for himself, but in any company his great and shining qualities inevitably gave him the position of leader.

The Governors of the Library, and the writer mourn his loss, not only as a colleague and counsellor of outstanding administrative ability, who had rendered to the Library very conspicuous service, and whose wise counsel and kindly spirit will be greatly missed, but also as one, who by his qualities of heart, had won their highest personal esteem and affection.

By the death of Mr. William Carnelley, which took place in October last, at the advanced age of ninety-eight years, the Library loses the senior member of its governing body. Mr. Carnelley was one of the original members of the Board of Trustees, and one of the first Governors of the Library, having been appointed to those offices by Mr. Rylands, to whom he had rendered most valuable assistance in connection with the organisation of the institution, from the time of its inception, and in the erection of the buildings. He also occupied the position of Vice-Chairman of the Council for a period of fifteen years, although, owing to the failure of

WILLIAM
CARNEL-
LEY.

his strength, he had not often been seen at the meetings of the Council during recent years.

The Library has sustained still another serious loss through the death of the Right Hon. Lord Cozens-Hardy of Letheringsett, P.C., who was also one of the original members of the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Founder of the Trust, in which he took a great interest.

LORD
COZENS-
HARDY.

Lord Cozens-Hardy was a staunch Liberal, Gladstonian, and Nonconformist. He sat in Parliament for North Norfolk, from 1886 until his appointment as Judge of the High Court in 1899. In 1907 he was made Master of the Rolls. In 1914 he was raised to the Peerage, and in 1918 he resigned the Mastership of the Rolls. He was a faithful adherent of the Congregational Church, and his daughter married the late Rev. C. Silvester Horne, who was also an honoured Trustee of the Library.

Sir Henry Miers, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S., the Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University, has been appointed, by the Governors, Chairman of the Council, in succession to the late Sir George Macalpine; and Professor A. S. Peake, M.A., D.D., has been elected Vice-Chairman. Mr. J. W. Marsden, J.P., of Blackburn, has been appointed a Representative Governor, by the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Baptist Churches, in succession to the late Sir George Macalpine.

CHANGES
IN THE
PERSON-
NEL OF
THE COUN-
CIL OF THE
LIBRARY.

Three of the Governors of the Library have received well merited distinctions during the last few months, and we take this opportunity of offering to them our warmest congratulations. Professor A. S. Peake, M.A. (Oxon.), D.D. (Aberdeen), has had the Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred upon him, by his "Alma Mater," the University of Oxford; The Rev. J. H. Roberts, M.A., B.D., who succeeded the Rev. Dr. Alexander Maclaren in the pastorate of Union Chapel, Manchester, has had the Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred upon him by the University of St. Andrews; and the Rev. George Jackson, B.A., of Didsbury College, has had the Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred upon him by the University of Aberdeen.

The present year will mark an epoch in the history of the Library, for it was on the 6th of October, 1899, that it was formally dedicated

to public use. It is true that it was not found possible to admit readers or the public until the 1st of January following, yet the formal inauguration of the institution took place on the date mentioned, and during the twenty-one years that have since elapsed, there has been a steady progression both in efficiency and influence.

THE LIB-
RARY AT-
TAINS ITS
MAJORITY.

It is to be regretted that Mrs. Rylands did not live to see the present fruition of her scheme, which was to dedicate to the memory of her late husband, John Rylands, an institution devoted to the encouragement of learning, placed in the very heart of the city which had been the scene of his varied activities and triumphs.

The stock of books with which the Library opened, numbering about 70,000 volumes, has now grown to upwards of a quarter of a million, not the least important feature of which are the 10,000 manuscripts which have been added from time to time to the original stock.

Not only in numbers has the collection grown, but also in importance, for by the acquisition of many noteworthy collections, including the Crawford Manuscripts, there have been added to its shelves many world-famed literary treasures, which have been instrumental in attracting to the Library scholars from all parts of the world.

In the first year of the Library's activity readers were comparatively few in number, although the public took advantage of the opportunities afforded them on the open afternoons and evenings, by coming in crowds to inspect the building, and the exhibition which had been arranged specially for their benefit, with the object of revealing to them something of the scope and richness of the collection.

To-day, during term time especially, it is difficult to find a vacant seat in the building, and the most gratifying feature of the development is that the readers, almost without exception, are engaged on some special piece of original research.

The development of the resources of the Library is being continued along lines which hitherto have been productive of such excellent results, and in this respect we should like to renew our acknowledgments of the valuable assistance which we have received from readers, who often in the course of their investigations have been able to call attention to the Library's lack of important authorities in their special line of research.

A YEAR'S
ACCES-
SIONS,

We welcome these helpful suggestions, which will always receive prompt and sympathetic attention.

The additions to the Library during the past year, by purchase and by gift, number 6985 volumes, of which 3532 were acquired by purchase, and 3453 by gift.

The acquisitions by purchase include a number of rare and interesting items, which add to the strength of several departments in which the Library is already admittedly rich, amongst which the following manuscripts may be mentioned : An interesting collection of briefs, patents, wills, marriage contracts, deeds of gift, and other documents relating to the Medici family, from the Medici archives ; a number of charters and court rolls, including a large collection of court and manor rolls, and other documents relating to, and comprising practically the history of the Manor of West Horsley ; the original collections of Sir John and Sir Henry Savile for the "History of Yorkshire," in two large folio volumes ; a wardrobe book of Edward II ; a treasury account book of Charles VI of France ; a fifteenth century illuminated chronicle in roll form ; a fourteenth century chronicle of the Dukes of Normandy and Kings of England ; two fifteenth century manuscripts of Richard Rolle of Hampole ; a small fifteenth century manuscript of the Latin Vulgate Bible on uterine vellum ; a palimpsest of an Icelandic manuscript of Laws promulgated in Iceland from 1281 to 1541 ; and a considerable collection of manuscript and printed material relating to Warren Hastings, and the East India Company, to mention only a few of the principal items, to serve as an indication of the character of the accessions which are constantly being made.

The list of donors, which contains 114 names, furnishes fresh proof of the sustained practical interest which is evinced on all sides in the work of the institution. Two gifts call for special mention. The first is a collection of 600 Sumerian Tablets, probably from Umma, presented by Mrs. Bedale in memory of her late husband, the Rev. C. L. Bedale, whose death, which occurred in March, 1919, inflicted such a serious loss on Manchester. Mr. Bedale was a brilliant student of the late Professor Hogg, whom he succeeded as Lecturer in Assyriology at the University of Manchester, and was one of the small and, unfortunately, diminishing group of scholars, who, in recent years, have been seeking to

GIFTS TO
THE LIB-
RARY.

stimulate interest in a field of research which hitherto has been somewhat neglected by the universities of this country. The second is a collection of 2122 volumes and pamphlets of propagandist war literature, presented by the Ministry of Information of the British Foreign Office. To students of the next generation this collection, a large section of which consists of pamphlets and broadsides not readily accessible in the regular channels of supply, will furnish valuable material for research in the history of the Great War.

The following is a list of Donors to whom, in the name of the Governors, we desire to renew our grateful thanks for their generous gifts to the Library during the year 1919.

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We are glad to be able to announce the publication of the eagerly awaited second volume of the "Odes and Psalms of Solomon," which has been edited for the Governors of the library, by Dr. Rendel Harris and Dr. Alphonse Mingana. This concluding volume consists of a new translation of the "Odes" in English versicles, with brief comments by way of elucidation, 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. The price of the volume is one guinea. Of the first volume, which consists of a colotype facsimile of the exact size of the original Syriac manuscript, now in the possession of the John Rylands Library, accompanied by a retranscribed text with an attached critical apparatus, copies may still be obtained at the price of half a guinea from the Manchester University Press, and from Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co.

THE ODES
 OF SOLO-
 MON.

We congratulate Dr. Harris and his co-editor upon the completion

of this monumental piece of work, upon which they have expended so much laborious research during the last three years.

It will interest readers to learn that Sir Henry Mainwaring, Bart., late of Peover Hall, Cheshire, has recently deposited in the Library, on loan for an indefinite period, for the use of students, his interesting collection of manuscripts, which includes many early charters and other material relating to the county of Cheshire. The Mainwaring family had been seated at Peover ever since the Conquest, and had the good fortune to possess state papers, diaries, household books, and literary papers of the seventeenth century, besides a vast quantity of deeds and evidences relating to their lands, which cannot fail to be of interest to students of the history of the period to which they belong. Many of the Peover deeds are of the time of Edward III, or earlier, and about 500 of them are older than the reign of Henry VIII; the earliest are some charters granted in the twelfth century by the Earls of Chester. The collection was briefly described in the Historical MSS. Commission, 10th Report, Appendix, part 4, pp. 199-210, and a temporary manuscript catalogue, prepared by Mr. J. H. Jeayes, in 1895, is deposited in the Library with the collection. For the fuller information of those who may be interested in the subject, we hope to publish in the next issue of the BULLETIN a hand-list of this important collection of documents.

THE MAIN-
WARING
MANU-
SCRIPTS.

Evidence of the continued interest in the scheme for rendering help to the University of Louvain in the formation of their new library, is to be found in the new list of contributors which is printed elsewhere in the pages of this number. Since the publication of the previous list, which was issued in December last, we have received upwards of 10,000 volumes, and new offers of help are still reaching us almost daily. The total number of volumes which we have actually received and registered, approaches 40,000, and several consignments are in course of transit to us, notably a gift of 1200 volumes from the University of Toronto. We have now very little hesitation in expressing the hope that the British contribution will reach a grand total of at least 50,000 volumes.

LOUVAIN
LIBRARY
RECON-
STRUC-
TION.

The most gratifying feature of the present report is that we are able to announce that already 26,336 volumes of the new Library

have been transferred to their temporary home in Louvain, where they have been placed upon the shelves prepared for their reception, for the use of the staff and students of the repatriated University.

Several letters of grateful appreciation have been received from the Rector of the University (Monsignor Ladeuze), from Cardinal Mercier, and also from Monsieur Stainier, the Administrateur of the Bibliothèque Royale de Bruxelles, who is responsible for the direction of the reconstruction of the new Library, in which they refer in terms of undisguised delight to the character of the works which we have, with the assistance of many generous collaborators, conspired to get together.

Contributions of books, or of money to meet the contingent expenses, may still be sent to the Librarian of the John Rylands Library, Manchester. In the case of books we would ask prospective donors to be good enough, in the first instance, to submit a list of their proposed gifts, so as to obviate unnecessary duplication.