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HELPS FOR STUDENTS OF HISTORY, No. 46

EDITED BY C. JOHNSON, M.A., H. W. V. TEMPERLEY, M.A.,
AND J. P. WHITNEY, D.D., D.C.L.

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HARRY GIDNEY ALDIS, M.A.

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NOTE

THE MS. of this work was almost completed at the time of the author's death in 1919. It has been revised and prepared for publication by some of his colleagues at the University Library.

November, 1921.

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THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, CAMBRIDGE

I.—INTRODUCTION.

THE Library of the University of Cambridge may claim to be the oldest public library in the kingdom. Its actual beginnings have not been traced, but it has been in existence for at least 500 years. It still possesses books bequeathed to the University in 1415, and it has been in occupation of some part of the present buildings since 1470. The pride of historical continuity is, however, in some measure tempered by the legacy of mediæval arrangements. The existing book-cases date from 1649 to 1921, and the buildings from about 1400 to the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The extent and value of the collections which have been gathered together within its walls during the five centuries of its history, as well as the use to which its resources are put, give the Library an important place among the great libraries of the world.

The site upon which the buildings stand measures nearly an acre. The printed books now occupy upwards of seventeen miles of shelving, and are estimated to number about 920,000 volumes. The

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normal annual increase equals some 1,450 feet of shelf space. In addition to the printed books, there are more than 10,000 manuscripts, and as many as 140,000 maps, besides various collections of papers and documents.

The three sources of addition to the collections are (1) the operation of the Copyright Act, (2) purchase, (3) donation. Under the Copyright Act the Library, in common with certain other libraries, is entitled to receive every new book published in the United Kingdom. This provision secures for preservation and renders accessible to the student the whole volume of modern English literature, without regard to the importance or worthlessness of any particular work; but this boon to the student entails upon the Library the burden of housing and cataloguing a large number of comparatively valueless and insignificant books. It may be borne in mind, however, that the value of a library to the scholar lies not so much in those books which are wanted every day and which every library can produce, but rather in the book which is wanted perhaps once in five, ten, or even twenty years, and which only a great library can afford to shelter.

New foreign books and periodicals, including the publications of learned societies, form the bulk of the books acquired by purchase; but older books, both English and foreign, are constantly being bought to fill gaps in the literature of past centuries.

The donations to the Library cover the whole period of its existence, and have contributed to the

enrichment of every department. They range in extent from a single volume or leaflet to such munificent gifts as the library of Bishop Moore (30,755 volumes, including 1,790 manuscripts) presented by King George I. in 1715, and Lord Acton's historical library of about 60,000 volumes given to the University by Viscount Morley in 1902.

The Library ministers primarily to the needs of the University, and aims at providing the literature necessary for the carrying on of its many-sided activities. But, besides enabling members of the University to prosecute their researches, it places its resources in generous measure at the service of scholars from every quarter. The interests of the Library are wide enough to embrace the whole range of written and printed literature. It aims at promoting the cause of learning in every department of intellectual activity by giving the freest possible access to the largest possible number of workers under the fewest possible restrictions.

II.—RESOURCES AND COLLECTIONS.

CONSIDERED as materials for study, the collections fall into two main divisions—(a) Western, (b) Oriental: and each of these may be subdivided as (1) manuscript, (2) printed.

(a) WESTERN.

MANUSCRIPTS.—The Western manuscripts comprise about 5,000 volumes and a large number of various documents and papers. A catalogue of the earlier part in six volumes was published in 1856-1867 and the additional manuscripts acquired since that date are described in a manuscript catalogue not yet printed.

A survey of the material they contain for the study of history cannot be attempted in the space here available, and the student is referred to the catalogues for details; but a few of the items of outstanding interest may be noted.

The most famous manuscript in the whole collection is undoubtedly the volume known as *Codex Bezae*. This book, which contains the four Gospels and Acts of the Apostles in Greek and Latin on opposite pages written on vellum, was given to the University in 1581 by the Genevan reformer, Theodore Beza. It was written in the sixth century, and is quoted as Codex D. Though

it stands fifth in order of date among extant manuscripts of the Gospels, recent investigations have led to the hypothesis that actually it represents a more primitive type of text than any of the four older codices.

The study of this manuscript has been greatly facilitated by the publication in 1899 of an excellent facsimile of the whole volume executed by M. Paul Dujardin of Paris.

The copy of Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica gentis anglorum* (Kk. 5. 16), which came to the Library with Bishop Moore's books in 1715, was written about the time of the author's death (A.D. 735), probably at Epternach, and is believed to be the earliest existing copy of this work. With the Bede came also the little ninth (tenth) century vellum manuscript known as *The Book of Deer** (Ii. 6. 32), which contains the four Gospels in Irish script, but whose chief interest lies in later entries made in the twelfth century. These additions consist of Gaelic charters recording gifts of land made by the Celtic chiefs of Moray and Buchan to the Columban monastery at Deer, in Aberdeenshire. Attention was first directed to this manuscript by Henry Bradshaw,† who was also the discoverer of the Breton and Welsh glosses in manuscript Ff. 4. 42 (*Juvencus*), the first of a succession of similar finds which have shed a guiding light on the dim path of Celtic philology.

* Edited (with facsimiles) by John Stuart, LL.D., for the Spalding Club (1869).

† Librarian from 1868 to 1886.

Among other manuscripts of Scottish interest are the fifteenth century metrical *Lives of Saints* (Gg. 2. 6),* and the *Troy* poem (Kk. 5. 30), both of which were at one time attributed to John Barbour; and William Stewart's *Metrical Chronicle* (Kk. 2. 16), edited by W. B. Turnbull in the Rolls Series, in 1858. The last two of these Bishop Moore acquired at the sale of the Duke of Lauderdale's library († 1682).

Other interests are represented in the thirteenth century *Life of Edward the Confessor* (Ee. 3. 59), with notable pictures at the head of each page; the *Book of Cerne* (Ll. 1. 10)†, a liturgical manuscript of the ninth century, formerly belonging to the Benedictine Abbey of Cerne in Dorsetshire, and containing a number of charters relating to that abbey. The seventeenth century collection of *Legends of the Saints* (Add. 3041), which goes under the name of Nicholas Roscarrock and came from the Brent Eleigh library in 1891, is frequently called upon, though in point of fact the materials are derived mainly from Capgrave. The copy of Chaucer's translation of Boethius' *De consolacione philosophiæ* (Ii. 3. 21) was given to the University by John Croucher during the generation immediately succeeding Chaucer's death. Concerning this volume, which he calls "the gem of our original library," Bradshaw remarks, "There are probably very few copies of any of Chaucer's works of which it can be said, as it may of this, that they have

* Edited for the Scottish Text Society by W. M. Metcalfe in 1896.

† Edited by Dom A. B. Kuypers (Cambridge, 1902).

remained in the same house since within so few years of his death.”*

The Library possesses no less than eight manuscript registers of the Benedictine Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds, and, among other monastic records, the *Red Book* of Thorney, which was acquired in 1890. Materials for manorial history are well represented. Besides the court rolls of the manor of Forncett, Norfolk, which have been explored by Miss Frances G. Davenport†, there are several of the manor of Orsett, and numerous single rolls from other places. The *Buxton Papers*, consisting of the contents of the muniment room of the family of Buxton of Shadwell Court, Norfolk, include many court rolls as well as a long series of charters dating from the twelfth century.

Among other collections affording material for study are the twenty-four volumes of manuscripts left to the University by Thomas Baker in 1740; the genealogical collections of Thomas Blore, the historical transcripts made for Lord Acton as well as his own historical notes, and a series of volumes of Admiralty records transferred from the Public Record Office in 1911.

A good example of the historical material that may be gathered from a general examination of the manuscripts may be seen in an article “On Manuscripts in the University Library, Cambridge, relating to Huguenots and other Refugees,” by E. J. Worman, which was printed in vol. vii. of the

* *Collected Papers*, 1889, p. 17.

† *The Economic Development of a Norfolk Manor, 1086-1565* Cambridge, 1906.

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Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of London (1904).

PRINTED BOOKS.—Printed books naturally form the major portion of the Library. These fall into two main divisions: (1) Books in the open library (those rooms to which readers have direct access), and (2) books in reserved classes.

Restrictions of space and a too tardy acquisition of additional shelf room have continually rendered impossible any general reclassification of the books in modern times. But, in the main, books in the open library are roughly grouped under subjects,* though in many cases all the books on a subject will not be found in one place. Among the larger groups are theology in Cockerell's Building, history in Room R, and natural history in Room M; modern works on other subjects are, as a general rule, classified on the shelves in the Goldsmiths' Room. Modern works on law are, for the most part, housed in the Squire Law Library, but their titles are included in the general catalogue.

Literary and scientific journals and the transactions of learned societies are specially important to students as a source of information upon the newest researches and discoveries in any line of investigation. The resources of the library in this direction are extensive and representative of the many-sided activities of the University.

Acton Library.—Of the separate collections on

* A clue to the arrangement is given in a small publication entitled *Notes for Readers*, which is on sale in the Entrance Hall (5th ed., 1920, price 6d.).

special subjects, the largest, and by far the most important for the student of history, is the library formerly belonging to the late Lord Acton, Regius Professor of Modern History in the University from 1895 to 1902, which was presented to the University by Viscount Morley of Blackburn in 1902. The special character of this remarkable collection is indicated in the letter in which the donor offered the collection as a gift to the University. He described it as "not one of those noble and miscellaneous accumulations that have been gathered by the chances of time in colleges and other places of old foundation," but "collected by Lord Acton to be the material for a history of Liberty, the emancipation of Conscience from Power, and the gradual substitution of Freedom for Force in the government of men. That guiding object gives to these sixty or seventy thousand volumes a unity that I would fain preserve by placing them where they can be kept intact and in some degree apart."

The collection is separately housed in two rooms on the ground floor of the Library buildings. The following description of the arrangement of the books, and the leading features of the groups into which they are divided, is mainly taken from a report upon the collection which was printed in the *Cambridge University Reporter* of June 10, 1913:

"The Acton Library consists of a great assemblage of books, chiefly, but not exclusively, historical, of which the main body is understood to have been acquired by the late Lord Acton between

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the years 1854 and 1884. It likewise comprises books which were at Aldenham before his time, including some which had been in the possession of his grandfather, Sir John Acton, Prime Minister at Naples under King Ferdinand IV. The idea which guided Lord Acton in the selection of books for his library and in the studies for which they were intended to supply the material was sufficiently defined by Lord Morley in the letter cited at the beginning of this report.* It was, of course, impossible that a collector who at times purchased entire libraries, and a reader whose interests were as varied as his desire for the acquisition of knowledge was unbounded, should have been able to limit his collection to works bearing directly or indirectly upon the problems most constantly before his mind; but even a rapid survey of the contents of the Acton Library reveals very clearly that his reading, vast as it was, had unity of purpose, and that in the gathering of his library this purpose was never far from his thoughts.

“The Acton Library is thus, in the most pregnant sense of the words, a working library. It was brought together because of its value for definite historical study, and to no other end. The number of manuscripts, valuable as such, and of early (*i.e.*, fifteenth century) printed books† is small. They have been treated as a separate class, in

* See p. 13, where extracts from the letter are given.

† Of these there are about sixty in the collection, including one which seems to have been hitherto undescribed. Of English books printed before 1640, the collection contains less than thirty.

company with certain other books selected on account of their rarity.

“ It may perhaps be added that when the books reached Cambridge, a very large proportion of them contained slips of paper indicating where passages were to be found which the owner of the book had thought deserving of special notice, the actual passages being often marked by a thin line in the margin. These memorials of careful reading have been, and will, it is hoped, so far as possible continue to be, preserved. In connection with these marks, reference may be made to the large collection of passages transcribed by Lord Acton from the books he read and arranged in boxes under the subjects which they illustrate. These transcribed passages possess a personal, and may prove at some future date to have a biographical, value; they did not form part of Lord Morley’s gift, but were purchased by the Library Syndicate for the University, as was also a considerable body of transcripts made for Lord Acton from the Vatican archives and other sources.

“ It would unduly lengthen this report to append to it the scheme of classification adopted by the syndicate; but it may be permissible to add that of the three main divisions of that classification (A, Ecclesiastical History; B, Political History; C, Other Subjects), the first, though not actually the largest, is relatively the fullest, and, from the point of view of the collector’s guiding purpose, the most significant. The twenty-two classes contained in this division fall under three main heads. Classes 1 to 3

are concerned with the history of the Papacy (including the lives of Popes, Cardinals, and other great dignitaries of the Church); the organization of the Curia, with the Papal executive, the Inquisition (a very curious collection, especially of earlier works), the Index (about 100 volumes, mostly editions of the Index itself), the Propaganda, the history of the Temporal Power; works on Canon Law and its development; and the history of the monastic Orders (exclusive of the Jesuits). The entries in this section of the Bulletin amount to nearly 600. Classes 4 to 6 deal with the chief epochs and most momentous crises in the general history of the Western Church, beginning with a history of the relations between the mediæval Universities and the Papacy, and proceeding to the Conciliar Movement, the Reformation, and the Counter-Reformation, with the history of the Council of Trent and the Society of Jesus—a collection of the very greatest interest, carried on in the case of the Jesuits to a modern date, and comprising more than 900 titles. Equally interesting is the last class (7) to be mentioned under this head—viz., works treating of the relations between the Papacy and its opponents after the Council of Trent. This contains a large number of works on Jansenism, and on the last Vatican Council, with which Lord Acton's personal relations are well known.

“ In Classes 8 to 20 the history of the several National Churches is dealt with in succession, special attention being, of course, given to the struggles between the Papacy and these Churches

or the national States to which they belong. The entries in these classes could not always be kept apart from those in the classes concerned with the political history of the respective countries; the Bulletin of the entries appertaining to Spain and Portugal, which includes both the works concerned with the ecclesiastical and those concerned with the political history of these nations, illustrates this, and shows how advantageous a general catalogue with cross-references would be to the historical student. The last two classes of the first main division (A) consist of works dealing with the history of the Greek and Oriental Churches (including the Russian) and with Church history in general.

“ This main division comprises a wealth of historical literature to which, whether in the systematic character of the collection as a whole or in the abundance of selected material to be found in a number of particular sections, it would be difficult to find a parallel among existing European libraries. Nor should it be overlooked that the study of many important special fields of ecclesiastical history—such as the gradual organization of the Roman Curia, or the development, in different directions, of the activities of the Jesuit Order—could hitherto not be studied conveniently, except with the aid of collegiate or other libraries to which, from the nature of the case, access cannot be easy.

“ It should not be thought that the second main division (B) of the Acton Library is a mere supplement to the first (A). The twenty-one sections dealing with political history contain, with much

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that is rarely to be found in a general historical library, much, especially in the way of local history, that is not widely accessible except in the localities or at least in the countries to which it has reference. Among the rare portions of the collection are the pamphlets, as a prominent example of which may be instanced those bearing on German history in the later sixteenth and earlier seventeenth century, which will prove invaluable to a future historian of the Thirty Years' War. In local history Lord Acton's acquisitions in France, where so much has been and is being done by associated effort, were of particular value.

“ In the third main division (C), which is concerned with ‘ other subjects,’ special attention should be directed to the very extensive and interesting collection, in about 1,000 volumes, of letter-writers (Class 49). Class 46 (Theology and Dogmatics) contains part of the library of the late Ernst von Lasaulx, known as a theosophical writer and reactionary politician, the whole of which was left to Lord Acton.”

The titles of all the books in the Acton collection are inserted in the General Catalogue of Printed Books. In addition, a card catalogue of the entire collection is provided in a room adjacent to the collection; and any student of history is given access to the shelves in the Acton Library on making application to the Librarian.

Catalogues of certain classes in the Acton Library have been published in the form of Bulletins.

These Bulletins contain the titles (as printed for

the General Catalogue) of such books as were not previously in the Library. They are:

Classes 1, 2, 3, 6, 7: Papacy, Canon Law, Religious Orders, Counter-Reformation.

Classes 17 and 38: Spain and Portugal (Ecclesiastical and Political History).

Class 34: Germany, Austria, and Hungary (General Political History). —

Class 48: Political Philosophy, Social Philosophy, Economics, Law.

Incunabula.—The fifteenth century books in the Library were first segregated as a collection by Henry Bradshaw, who was one of the earliest students of incunabula to examine the books from what he called “a natural history point of view.” Bradshaw was enabled to add largely to the collection by judicious purchases at the Meyer, Culemann, Vergauwen, and other important sales. He also contributed freely by gifts himself, and it is mainly due to his acumen and enthusiasm that the Library to-day possesses such a remarkable series of books printed in the Low Countries before the end of the fifteenth century. The collection has been largely added to in recent years, and now numbers almost 3,000 separate works, including as many as fifty-two Caxtons.

Early English Books.—The phrase “Early English books” now usually indicates books printed not later than 1640, a terminal date which has been adopted because it stops short of the spate of tracts which the pamphleteering activities of the Civil War period let loose upon the stream of our national

literature. These books are well represented in the Library, and though not gathered together as a collection, they have been rendered conveniently accessible through a printed catalogue compiled by Mr. C. E. Sayle.*

Many important early printed books are contained in the collection bequeathed to the University by Professor J. C. Adams in 1892, and in the collection bequeathed two years later by Samuel Sandars, the founder of the Sandars Readership in Bibliography. Another separate collection which goes by the name of its donor is the collection of books on logic, comprising upwards of 1,000 volumes, which Dr. John Venn presented in 1888.

Cambridge Collection. — Special attention is naturally devoted to literature relating to the University, town, and county of Cambridge, and the material gathered under this head has now assumed very considerable proportions. It includes the large collection (upwards of 10,000 items) amassed by the late J. W. Clark, Registrary of the University, and bequeathed by him to the Library in 1910.† In view of the close relationship which exists between Eton College and the University, a large number of publications relating to the college have been included in the collection.

Irish Books.—The Bradshaw Irish Collection

* *Early English Printed Books in the University Library, Cambridge (1475-1640)*, 4 vols. Cambridge University Press, 1900-1907.

† *Catalogue of the Books and Papers . . . bequeathed to the University by John Willis Clark.* By A. T. Bartholomew. Cambridge, 1912.

forms one of the most notable special sections of the Library. It consists, in the main, of books and pamphlets brought together by Henry Bradshaw. The major portion of these, comprising some 1,000 bound volumes and 3,900 pamphlets, were given by Bradshaw in 1870, and his subsequent acquisitions were presented by his family after his death in 1886. The collection, which is specially rich in seventeenth century tracts, has been added to from time to time, and a catalogue of the whole, compiled by Mr. C. E. Sayle, has recently been published.*

Other Special Collections.—Among several smaller collections representing a variety of interests may be mentioned the books on political economy brought together by Professor George Pryme († 1868); Sir Frederic Madden's collection of sheet ballads, mounted in twenty-five large volumes; † forty-four editions of the Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs; a collection of liturgical books; a collection of bindings; and a collection of Dante literature. There is also a comprehensive collection of Prynne's tracts, and a reference to the heading Erasmus in the Catalogue will show that the Library is particularly well found in the works of that writer.

A collection of caricatures issued in Paris during the siege and the Commune (1870-71), mounted in six large folio volumes, and eight similar volumes

* *Catalogue of the Bradshaw Irish Collection.* 3 vols. Cambridge, 1916.

† The Irish Collection (see above) also contains a large number of such ballads.

filled with newspaper cuttings of 1878 relating to the death and career of Pius IX., contain material of uncommon interest and value to students of these subjects. There is also a comprehensive series of telegrams received during the Franco-German War.

War of 1914-1919.—The collection of printed matter concerning the war of 1914-1919 is very large, and contains much which is of value to the student. In addition to the general literature of the war, both English and foreign, which is arranged in four classes in the "open" library, there is a large mass of printed matter of every description which is being arranged in three classes in the reserved part of the Library. Special mention may be made of the collection of German propaganda, chiefly from Italy, Spain, the United States, and some of the South American Republics. There is also a complete set of the very valuable *Review of the Foreign Press* (with its various supplements) issued by the War Office from 1915 to August, 1919, together with a large collection of the newspapers upon which it was founded.

The Calendars of State Papers and other publications of the Record Office are in the History Room. The Library also possesses a complete and uniform set of Parliamentary Papers from 1715 to the present day, together with the series of indexes which facilitate reference to any particular subject or individual paper. These, with the Journals of the Lords and the Commons, Hansard's Debates, and the statutes of the realm, form a

comprehensive record of the transactions of Parliament. In addition to the set of public and local Acts, the Library some years ago acquired an extensive collection (in 112 volumes) of private Acts ranging from 1 George II. to 1 William IV. (1727-1830).

MAPS.—The map department, upon which special attention has been bestowed in recent years, now comprises upwards of 140,000 maps, plans, and other geographical publications. It includes sets of the various maps issued by the Ordnance Survey Office, the War Office, the Admiralty, and Indian and Colonial Governments, as well as many published by foreign Governments. Besides these, there is a very large number of maps of almost every part of the world. The department also possesses many older maps which have now acquired historical interest and importance. This historical section includes a specially fine series of old British county maps, and numerous plans relating to the town and county of Cambridge. Forming an adjunct to these latter is a large collection of particulars of sale of properties in and around Cambridge; in these are preserved many details of local history and topography, which in process of time will not be otherwise easily ascertainable.

NEWSPAPERS.—By reason of their bulk and considerations of shelf space the collection of newspapers is of necessity limited mainly to those of local interest and a few of national importance. *The London Gazette* runs from 1665, with a few gaps;

The Times is incomplete from 1792 to 1874, thereafter complete; and *The Manchester Guardian*, recently deposited by Mr. C. P. Scott, runs from its beginning in 1867.

A very large collection of newspapers published in all parts of the world during the war of 1914-1919 is in process of arrangement (see p. 22).

MUSIC.—Music, manuscript and printed, forms an integral part of the collection. Manuscript music is not at present kept apart from the other manuscripts. Printed music is kept in a separate room and catalogues of the collection are available. The collection has received gifts and bequests from the libraries of B. W. Hayward (1885), G. F. Cobb (1905), E. Atkinson (1915), J. E. Nixon (1916), T. H. Lewin (1917), and Sedley Taylor (1920).

(b) ORIENTAL.

ORIENTAL BOOKS. — The beginnings of the Oriental department, which at the present day provides abundant material for students of Eastern languages, literatures, and religions, are to be found in the manuscripts of the Oriental scholar, Erpenius, which were presented in 1632, and the library of Hebrew books purchased by Parliament from George Thomason* in 1647 for bestowal upon the University.

The manuscripts of other noted Orientalists have found their way into the Library to take a place in company with the Erpenius manu-

* This Thomason was the London bookseller who made the famous collection of Civil War tracts now in the British Museum.

scripts, notably those of the Rev. George Lewis, Archdeacon of Meath (1727), chiefly Persian; the Rev. Claudius Buchanan (1805-1809), mainly Hebrew and Syriac; John Lewis Burckhardt (1809), Arabic to the number of 300; Professor H. G. Williams (1871), Arabic and Persian; Professor W. Robertson Smith (1894), Syriac and Arabic; Professor Bensly (1895); Professor Cecil Bendall (1886), Sanskrit; E. J. W. Gibb (1902), Turkish printed books; Professor E. B. Cowell (1903). In 1887 ninety Syriac and Arabic manuscripts were presented by the S.P.C.K.

The Thomason volumes are still a feature among the Hebrew books, though large additions have been made from time to time to that group. The manuscripts and printed books of the late Dr. Charles Taylor, Master of St. John's College, given in 1908, were a valuable acquisition; and the vast mass of the Taylor-Schechter collection of documents and fragments of manuscripts from the Genizah at Old Cairo, given to the University in 1898, has afforded its explorers the unwonted thrill of new discoveries. The numerous valuable finds which the examination of the Taylor-Schechter collection has yielded include such extremely interesting MSS. as portions of Aquila's version of the Bible (in the form of palimpsests), the hitherto unknown Hebrew text of Ecclesiasticus, and autograph letters of the celebrated Jewish philosopher and physician Maimonides († 1204). Besides other palimpsests, which include some in Georgian, and very many fragments

of books, there are thousands of documents and letters, many of them dated, which shed new light on the course of Jewish literature, history, and chronology, especially in relation to the important Jewish settlement which existed at Fustât (Old Cairo) for several centuries. Some account of the discoveries already made amongst this mass of materials will be found in the pages of the *Jewish Quarterly Review*, but it is a field of research that has not yet been thoroughly explored.

INDIAN LITERATURE.—The Indian section includes the valuable collection of Sanskrit manuscripts procured in Nepal for the University by Dr. Daniel Wright in 1873-1876. A large number of these are written on palm leaves, and many are remarkable for their early date, the oldest being referred to the ninth century. In his catalogue of the Buddhist portion of the manuscripts Professor Cecil Bendall described the series as being, apart from their literary interest, from an “antiquarian and palæographical point of view, the most important collection of Indian MSS. that has come into the hands of scholars.” A valuable addition to the materials for the study of Buddhism was made with the accession in 1907 of a copy of the *Kanjur*, the sacred canon of the Tibetan Buddhist Scriptures. This work, which came to the Library in the raw yak skins in which it was originally packed in Tibet, comprises 103 large block-books, each containing some 300 leaves or strips of coarse paper printed on both sides in red ink from wood blocks.

MUHAMMADAN LITERATURE.—The manuscripts written in the Arabic character (Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Urdu, Malay, etc.), which may conveniently be classed under the general term Muhammadan, comprise more than 1,500 works, and include upwards of sixty dated earlier than A.H. 900 (A.D. 1495). These have been described by Professor E. G. Browne in his catalogue of Persian manuscripts and his hand-list of Muhammadan manuscripts. Recent noteworthy additions to this section are the collection of Malay manuscripts and printed books presented by Mr. R. J. Wilkinson, and the Turkish printed books which the late Mr. E. J. W. Gibb brought together as materials for his projected history of Turkish poetry.

THE CHINESE LIBRARY.—In the Chinese Library, brought together by Sir Thomas Wade during his forty years' residence in China, and presented by him to the University in 1886, the Library possesses one of the most valuable assemblages of Chinese literature in existence outside that country. In making the collection, Sir Thomas Wade was careful not only to select the particular works, but also to secure the best editions of them. Some important features are the Confucian canon, the dynastic histories of China, encyclopædias, and works of reference; there is also a section devoted entirely to Manchu (and a few Mongol) books. The extent and value of the library has been increased appreciably by gifts and judicious purchases. In 1915 were added the complete works of Liu Tsung-

yüan († 819), dated A.D. 1167, now the oldest printed book in the Library.

JAPANESE BOOKS.—The foundation of a good library of Japanese literature has been laid by the acquisition of the books of W. G. Aston († 1911), formerly Japanese Secretary at Tokio. These books comprise some 1,900 works in about 9,500 volumes. They are, to a great extent, the old block-printed editions, which are now so difficult to procure, and a large proportion are illustrated. Almost every kind of literature is represented, and the collection is especially strong in Shinto, classics, history, topography, fiction, poetry, and the drama. In 1912 and 1913 Sir Ernest Satow added a valuable collection.

III.—THE USE OF THE LIBRARY (ADMISSION, ETC.).

THE Library is one of the primary institutions within the University, and is designed and organized with a view to ministering to the various needs of members of the University, but at the same time it places its resources freely at the disposal of other students who, for longer or shorter periods or for special purposes, desire to pursue their researches within its walls. The conditions under which those who are not members of the University are admitted to read in the Library are set out in the *University Calendar* (also in the *Ordinances of the University*), but the arrangements may be briefly stated here. Persons who are desirous of using the Library for the purpose of study and research are required to fill up a form of application and furnish letters from two members of the Senate, certifying from personal knowledge that the applicant is a student of some specified subject, and is a fit and proper person to be admitted to the Library for the said purpose. These applications are submitted to the Library Syndicate for their approval. The fee for these tickets of admission is one guinea for a year, or half a guinea for a single quarter. Holders of these tickets have full use of the Library in the

same manner as members of the University, except that they cannot take books out of the Library, this privilege being confined to members of the Senate of the University.

A person who wishes to consult some particular manuscript or printed book, or desires admission to the Library for a brief period for some special purpose, may be admitted at the discretion of the Librarian upon presenting a suitable introduction.

The hours during which the Library is open are from 9.30 to 4 o'clock from January 15 to November 14, and from 9.30 to 3.30 from November 15 to January 14. On Saturdays the hours are 9 to 2 o'clock. The Library is closed (for the annual inspection, cleaning, etc.) from September 1 to 15 inclusive; also on the Thursday before Easter and the next five days; on Christmas Eve and the four following days; on the two weekdays following March 31, June 30, and December 31; and on all Sundays.

The chief key to the printed books is the General Catalogue. This catalogue, which was begun in 1854, consists of printed slips pasted into folio volumes of special construction. The entries are, for the most part, arranged alphabetically under the names of authors, while those titles which do not lend themselves to that treatment are grouped under such headings as Academies (publications of learned societies), Periodical Publications, Parliament, the names of countries, etc. New titles printed for the catalogue are also issued as a weekly Bulletin, and accessions are exhibited each week

in the Dome Room, where they may be examined before they are placed on the shelves.

In addition to the General Catalogue there are published catalogues of certain collections, of which particulars will be found in *Notes for Readers*, sold at the Library, price 6d.

From time immemorial it has been the custom in the Library that readers should go to the shelves for their books, and those who have the privilege of using the Library at the present day have direct access to some 460,000 volumes. This privilege naturally involves some responsibility, both in the manner in which the books are handled and in the care exercised in returning a book to its right place on the shelf. The importance of the latter point will be apparent when it is realized that a book put up in the wrong place is for the time being lost, and not available if wanted. Certain books, on account of their value or for other reasons, are placed in reserved classes. These can be consulted in Room Theta. In this room also enquiries respecting manuscripts should be made. A selection of manuscripts and printed books of special interest are exhibited in the show-cases in Cockerell's Building, and some portraits of University celebrities and other historical personages are hung on the south staircase. In the South Room is a series of portraits of Librarians of the University.

Further information concerning the Library will be found in:

Annals of Cambridge University Library. By Charles Sayle. Cambridge, 1916.

Guide to the University Library. Second edition. Cambridge, 1905.

The Collected Papers of Henry Bradshaw. Cambridge, 1889.

The Annual Reports of the Library Syndicate, published in the *Cambridge University Reporter.*

Willis and Clark's *Architectural History of the University of Cambridge.* Vol. III. Cambridge, 1886.

The Organization and Methods of the Cambridge University Library, by H. G. Aldis, in *The Library Association Record* for December, 1905.

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[Continued on p. 4.]

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(Others to follow.)

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