

parliament of May, 1322, that the Despensers were and remained reformers to the end. But in his new book he is inclined to stress the contrast between the Despensers' policy and that of the expert civil servants, such as Stapeldon and Baldock, whom they had taken into partnership. The Despensers were prepared, he thinks, to sacrifice the wardrobe and the privy seal to the new spirit of conservative reform, but only on condition that they were allowed to extend the authority of the chamber and of a new secret seal, the special seal of the chamber, which first made its appearance in 1313 (*Chapters*, ii. 325). He justifies this statement by an interesting survey (*ibid.* ii. 348-60) of the operations of the chamber under the younger Despenser. He shows that the Despenser policy had been to some extent checked by Stapeldon's insistence on the subjection of most of the forfeited estates to exchequer control. The average gross revenue of the chamber estates in the last years of Edward II was only about £2,000. But the chamber accounts suggest that Despenser and his subordinates made a considerable profit out of their connexion with the chamber system (*ibid.* ii, pp. 355, 357-8); and it is clear that the staff and the activities of the chamber increased considerably under the new régime. We seem to perceive two conflicting interests or factions in the royal party. Stapeldon and Baldock think that the power of the Crown should be asserted and maintained through the old organs of administration, the chancery and the exchequer. The Despenser faction are unwilling to let the fruits of victory go entirely to the professional administrators and endeavour to reserve for themselves at least one sphere of influence and one field for speculation.

Mr. Tout promises two more volumes, in which he will continue the history of the wardrobe to 1399, and will deal specially with the great and privy wardrobes and with the small seals. We hope that he will be able to fulfil his promise shortly, for the first and second volumes give indications that some of his most interesting results have still to be disclosed. Pending the appearance of the index it is rather difficult to do full justice to the earlier volumes, which, owing to the nature of the subject, are intricate in plan, and contain a number of interesting digressions on side-issues. We have not attempted to go beyond the main thread of Professor Tout's investigations; and it is only fair to warn the readers of this review that there is hardly any branch of our medieval constitutional history which is not, in one way or another, elucidated by these *Chapters*.

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Chartularium Studii Bononiensis. Documenti per la Storia dell' Università di Bologna dalle origini fino al secolo XV. Vols. ii and iv. (Bologna: Commissione per la Storia dell' Università di Bologna, 1913, 1919.)

THIS chartulary is being edited with extraordinary thoroughness. Masses of documents are being published, most of them *in extenso*, which are only very remotely connected with the history of the university. Thus in vol. ii we have a number of documents from the monastery of Sant' Agnese in Bologna, which throw no light upon the university beyond an

occasional mention of a professor's name or an action in which a professor or scholar was engaged. There are some licences to export books, interesting as giving the titles of the books in the private library of a student. The acts of the legate, Cardinal Lodovico Fieschi, contain information as to the salaries paid to various doctors in 1412 and 1413. It is interesting to notice that at this time the *studium* had been so 'totally destitute of famous doctors who were citizens of Bolognese origin, and collapsed', that the students were threatening to leave for better staffed universities. Such were the consequences of the attempt at establishing a largely hereditary professoriate by the restriction of the principal chairs to Bolognese citizens and the limitation of the number of Bolognese who might be promoted. The documents printed from the registers (Vatican and Avignon) of Pope Gregory XI are more directly connected with university history. Many of them relate to the Collegium Gregorianum founded at Bologna by that pope in 1371. Privileges were naturally showered upon the papal foundation with a lavish hand—licences to hold benefices in absence (which throws light upon the question as to the meaning of 'poverty' when applied to members of college foundations), to choose their own confessor or to be ordained by any catholic bishop, exemptions from degree fees, a faculty to absolve each other for 'light injections of hands' upon a clerk not amounting to 'effusion of blood' (all assaults on clerks were of course cases reserved to the apostolical see), and so on. The statutes of 1377 are printed *in extenso*. An interesting feature is the provision of two masses, one before the morning lecture 'sine cantu', the other (a sung mass) afterwards; attendance at one or the other is compulsory (p. 295). Scholars are to confess three times a year and to communicate at least twice. The whole organization of the college is, as was usual in Italian colleges, an imitation of the highly democratic constitution of the universities. The rectorship is an annual office; and, although this was a college containing 30 scholars, 6 chaplains, and 15 servitors, the rector need not be more than 24 years of age. Gregory XI was a native of Limoges, and the scholars were to be partly Italians from the states of the church and partly from the Limoges country; it is interesting to notice that the treasurer had always to be a Frenchman: did the Gallican pontiff think Italians 'mere babes in finance' or was it their moral qualities that he distrusted? The rector might put servitors in the stocks (*cum ligneis compedibus*). Scholars here had separate rooms at about the time when in England, at New College for instance, such a luxury was reserved for doctors of divinity. These are the only college statutes I have seen in which an infirmary forms part of the building, medical attendance is provided for, and if a scholar died in college (but not otherwise) he is to be buried at the expense of the college. It is noticeable how completely the chaplains or priests are regarded as on a level with the college servants. If a scholar assaults a priest or servant, he is to suffer one day's bread and water; for a second offence, two days; only on the third is he expelled. But if a priest or servant assault a scholar, he is expelled forthwith. Musical instruments are allowed, provided they are used 'moderately'. There is a list of offences for which

expulsion was the penalty on the first offence; it is interesting to notice that this did not include theft from the college unless the goods stolen exceeded the value of 30 *solidi*; theft from an individual was pardonable up to the value of three *librae Bononienses*.

Volume iv consists of a large mass of 'notarial acts' from the 'Archivio Notarile' of Bologna. Many of them are deeds and documents relating to proceedings of all kinds, contentious and non-contentious, more or less connected with the bishop's court, dated from 1319 to 1389, and are related to the university only so far as one or more of the parties concerned was a doctor or scholar—wills, acknowledgements of debts, proceedings for the recovery of debts, loans, leases, conveyances, excommunications, absolutions, proxies, institutions, &c. Like every such collection of medieval documents, they are full of curious sidelights upon medieval life. Some of these documents show that the opposition of the medieval church to usury was not so much of a dead letter as is sometimes supposed. We find, for instance, an executor or 'commissary' of a deceased person repaying a sum gained by usury before distributing his goods (p. 132). It is rather startling to find two cases in rapid succession of a beneficed clergyman resigning his living on account of his marriage (*uxoratio*, pp. 143, 146); but of course he need not necessarily have been, and no doubt was not, in major orders. The documents most closely connected with the inner life of the university are a series of records of the 'private examination' and the 'public examination' or actual graduation of doctors. In some cases the votes are given, and occasionally a doctor votes against the candidate. One votes 'uti studeat adhuc per annum', another more bluntly 'pessime in obiectionibus, ideo non approbo, sed adhuc studeat' (p. 82). There is a puzzling feature connected with some of these records. The chancellor of the university at Bologna (except for theology) was of course not the bishop but the archdeacon; yet in some cases (not in all) it is recorded that the examination took place in the presence of a representative or 'vicar' of the bishop and a representative of the chapter (p. 87 f.). It would seem probable that this was during the vacancy of the archdeaconry or the temporary absence of the archdeacon.

For the general history of universities these volumes do not supply much new material, simply because the statutes and the other more important documents have already been printed, but still there are gleanings which help to fill up gaps in our knowledge; and it is unnecessary to insist on their value for local history and biography. Very occasionally I have noticed slips of the kind which suggest rather errors of the press than actual misreadings of the text, e.g. 'fatam albam' for 'fabam' (iv. 211).

H. RASHDALL.

Les Journaux du Trésor de Charles IV. Publiés par JULES VIARD.
(Documents Inédits sur l'Histoire de France. Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1917.)

THE financial administrative system of the French monarchy grew up later than that of the English Crown, and took a long time before it resulted