

The Owens College Library.

I. INTRODUCTORY.

THE Owens College Library contains 61,200 volumes. The nucleus of it was formed by Mr. James Heywood, F.R.S., a gentleman, still living, who has done much in other directions for the advancement of literature and learning, and who is a member of a family that has had a very beneficial influence on the neighbourhood of Manchester for the greater part of this century. He, soon after its establishment in 1851, presented 1,200 volumes to the College; and his public spirit has since been imitated in various directions. For, in addition to the annual money grants of the Council of the College for the large and increasing requirements of the students, the library has received some very valuable benefactions.

In 1870, the first large addition was made, being a legacy by Dr. James Prince Lee, the first Bishop of Manchester, of his valuable library, numbering 7,000 volumes, which had been collected with great care and judgment.

In 1874, a benefaction by the late Charles James Darbishire, of Rivington, was received of £1,000, for extending the College library by the addition of selected standard books to an amount of expenditure (including the cost of serviceable binding) not exceeding in any one year the amount of interest and £100 of capital; books only of permanent value to be purchased, and the fund not to be used to relieve the College from any part of its expenditure in the maintenance of the library. "The books to be chosen from one or other of the following classes, and so far as may be consistent with the convenience of the occurrence of suitable books and the needs of the College, care shall be taken that none of such classes shall be neglected. (a) Books of religious thought and life of any people, including so-called sacred books and books of history, criticism and exposition, and comparative theology, but not including any works, except biographies, which treat of dogmatic or controversial subjects in a spirit other than that of scientific and unprejudiced pursuit of truth and frank declaration of the results from time to time ob-

tained by honest intellectual research, free from the bonds alike of authority and preconception. (b) Books of the language and literature of any people. (c) Books on moral and mental philosophy, on jurisprudence, on constitutional history, or on political economy. (d) Books of history, biography, or geography (including books of travel of sufficient permanent interest), and books on politics (including scientific essays on any political question of the day)."

This example of Mr. Darbishire has been followed by many other benefactors who have made special provision for certain departments of the College library.

All suggestions of books proposed under these benefactions, or out of the annual allowance for library purposes provided by the Council, are first submitted to the professors of the subjects in whose department the literature may fall before being submitted to the Library Committee. This results in a careful discrimination of the best literature in the various departments of knowledge, and the advantage of the system is obvious. The more careful carrying out of the principle in all libraries would be advantageous. For, after all, libraries should be the repositories of the best literature; and they ought not to be expected (in this age of cheap books) to minister to the wants of the thoughtless and the frivolous. Thomas Carlyle, in his evidence before the Royal Commission on the subject of providing a catalogue for the British Museum, said, "that none but good books should be bought." He added, "Where the man was a quack, and his work decidedly bad, I should consider I was doing God service, and the poor man himself service in extinguishing such a book."

The special characteristics of the library may be indicated in short as an especially good collection of historical works (including the first Bishop of Manchester's judicious collection of books on local and county history and on archæology), and the late E. A. Freeman's very fine historical library, together about 13,000 volumes. Also the late Bishop's valuable biblical and theological collections (4,618 volumes). A very good philological collection (4,673), Mental and Moral Science (971), Political Science (5,200), Law (2,935), Mathematics and Physics (2,866), Engineering (779), Medicine (2,350), Fine Arts (1,408), General Modern Literature (9,719 volumes). A good chemical library (7,528); a very fair collection of books on Natural History (3,800), and a valuable collection of Oriental

literature, mostly legacies of the late Professor Theodores and Sam Robinson, of Wilmslow (1,375 volumes). The literature of the library is comprised in seventy languages.

II. MANUSCRIPT BOOKS.

The library has a good collection of manuscripts on vellum. The earliest is a Saint Augustine of the twelfth century, entitled *Divi Augustini quaedam Opuscula*. It consists of tracts and epistles, and is a small folio on vellum, clearly written in double columns. A few of the initial letters are ornamented in colours. It is a beautiful specimen of palæography, and was one of the most popular works of the middle ages; for from the fifth, till probably the thirteenth century, no man exercised such influence over the Christian Church, or made such an impression on Christian thought. The library also possesses the grand printed Benedictine edition of St. Augustine's works, twelve volumes in nine, large folio (Antwerp, 1700), from the edition of the learned Benedictine Monks of St. Maur.

Next, a copy of the *Pandects* of Justinian, Books I.—XXIV. A large folio volume in manuscript of the twelfth century, on vellum, with illuminated illustrations of the subjects as headings for each book. The initials are painted in colours throughout. This is a magnificent copy, with elaborate commentaries round the margins of the text in handwriting of the same period. Nothing is more rare than to find very ancient manuscripts of this great work. At Mrs. Lee's sale, at Birmingham, in September, 1875, this identical copy was sold for £100.

Next, a manuscript Bible (Vulgate), Jerome's Version (or first executed version from the Hebrew, A.D. 383), the Old Testament portion of which to a great extent took the place of the Alexandrian version collected by the Hellenistic Jews in Egypt about the middle of the second century, known as the Septuagint. It has the prologue of St. Jerome and an interpretation of the Hebrew names. It is a small folio of the fourteenth century, with 84 miniatures in gold and colours, and bound in calf with the original oak boards. The initial letter of Genesis is a curious and uncommon specimen of early art, exhibiting in the capital "I" eight representations of Christ, concluding with the crucifixion. Many of the other capitals contain miniatures of the Saints, beautifully coloured, and in fine preservation, and are generally representative of some

fact recorded in the narrative or characteristic of the sacred writer.

Next, a few Books of Hours.—The first one is of the rare English use, with calendar, together with other offices and prayers, on vellum, with Gothic initials illuminated in red, blue, and gold, and with five beautiful miniatures of "The Crucifixion," "A Saint in Prayer," "The Annunciation," "King David," and "The Temptation," with calendar in English. There are two of the French use, gorgeously illuminated in gold and colours; one with eight beautiful miniatures, the other with twelve. One has the margins beautifully illuminated with curiously drawn natural history illustrations of birds and beasts with human heads. Another is of the Dutch use, in Low German of the fifteenth century, 12mo. There is also an old Roman Missal, dated 1261, with an engraved border for a title pasted on the vellum, the title itself being written in modern type characters. A Collection of Prayers, with a few hymns and a calendar, apparently designed for the use of the Austin Friars, is a manuscript of the fifteenth century, on vellum, 12mo. *Proprium de Tempore*, or prayers and little chapters for the Sundays and Feasts throughout the year, written in Roman characters, with musical notation for the commencement of the hymns is a small folio manuscript on a thick vellum of the seventeenth century.

Nor should I neglect to mention some of the late reproductions in facsimile of early and valuable manuscripts, such as the Greek *Codex Alexandrinus*, 4 vols. of sheets in portfolios, issued by order of the trustees of British Museum, from the copy in that library. There is also the *Codex Vaticanus*, facsimile, issued by Pope Leo III. in folio, entitled *Novum Testamentum, e codice Vaticano 1209. Nativi textus Græci primo omnium phototypice representum*. Curante, J. Cozza-Luzi, Romæ e Bibliotheca Vaticana: where the original has been since the middle of the fifteenth century. There is also a facsimile of the newly discovered *Codex Rossanensis* of the gospels in the sixth century, a Greek manuscript on purple vellum in letters of silver (uncials) and illuminated. The original is in the Imperial Library at Vienna. Nor should be overlooked the facsimile of the Laurentian manuscript of *Sophocles*, from the Biblioteca Mediceo-Laurenziana at Florence; or the beautiful facsimile in folio of the Hebrew manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, illustrating the various forms of Rabbinical characters with transcriptions by Neubauer.

III. PRINTED BOOKS.

The most important of the printed books in the Owens College Library, from a bibliographical point of view, is the *Complutensian Polyglot*, prepared by Cardinal Ximenes, for some time Regent of Spain. It is divided into six volumes folio. It has the Hebrew, Latin and Greek in three distinct columns; the Chaldee paraphrase is at the bottom of the page with a Latin interpretation, and the margin is filled with the Hebrew and Chaldee radicals. The fifth volume contains the Greek Testament, with no other translation than the Latin (this portion was printed in A.D. 1514, but a delay in the publication enabled Froben of Basle to issue the first published New Testament in movable types in an edition hastily prepared by Erasmus, which is in the Library). Vol. 6 contains interpretations of the Hebrew, Chaldaic, and other names, introductions to the Hebrew Grammar, &c.

Charles Butler, in his *Horae Biblicae* (vol. 1, pp. 129—130), says "The Polyglot of *Complutum* or *Alcala* (from the Academy in which it was compiled) was begun in 1502, the impression was printed off in 1517 A.D., and it was published in 1522. The expense of the work, which amounted, it is said, to 50,000 ducats (or about £11,250) was wholly paid by Ximenes, one of the noblest characters in Spanish history." "The variety, the grandeur, and the success of his schemes, leave it doubtful," says Dr. Robertson, "whether his sagacity in council, his prudence in conduct, or his boldness in execution, deserves the highest praise. His reputation is still high in Spain, not only for wisdom, but sanctity, and he is the only prime minister mentioned in history whom his contemporaries revered as a saint, and to whom the people under his government ascribed the power of working miracles." Cardinal Ximenes died in 1517 A.D., not long after the Polyglot was finished, and before it was published.

Six hundred copies only were printed off. It is exceedingly difficult to procure a complete copy. In most copies the comparisons between the Hebrew and the Chaldaic at the end of the first volume is wanting. A copy was sold at the sale of Mr. Beresford-Hope's library in 1882 for £166. A small number were printed on vellum. One of these, at the sale of the Pinelli Library, was sold to Count de McCarthy Reagh for £483. It is now in the possession of the Duc d'Aumale.

The interest of the work is not merely from its being a superb example of the then recent art of printing with movable types, but because it is the first Polyglot edition of the Bible, and the first *printed* edition of the New Testament in the original tongue. The Greek is a curious letter imitating the MSS. of the thirteenth century, and the Hebrew is a noble type. Every page of this copy is clean and perfect. At the sale of Mrs. Lee's effects, in Birmingham, in 1875, Mr. Quaritch is said to have offered £360 for this copy.

Dibdin, in his *Introduction to the Greek and Latin Classics*, says that Cardinal Ximenes, in order to become acquainted with the more learned parts of the Polyglot, undertook to make himself master of the Hebrew tongue, though upwards of sixty years of age. He employed a large number of learned men, and gave 4,000 crowns for seven manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible. There are only two marginal observations in the New Testament portion, one relating to the omission of the Doxology, the other to the insertion of the passage relating to the three witnesses in Heaven (I. Epis. John v., 7)—passages on which a great number of commentaries have been written. It is said by Richard Bentley, that Ximenes's editors had access to all the MSS. in the Vatican. The bull of Pope Leo X., giving permission for the publication of the Polyglot, was dated 22nd March, 1520, and probably the postponement of its issue was the cause of the long delay in the publication of this stupendous work.

There is another Polyglot which has been much appreciated by divines during the last two centuries. Brian Walton's Polyglot (sometimes called the English Polyglot and the London Polyglot) including the original text, the Hebrew, with Samaritan Pentateuch, Chaldaic, Greek, Ancient Samaritan version, and Greek Septuagint; interpretations of the Chaldaic, Syriac, Arabic, Æthiopic, Persian, and Latin Vulgate, with the text and Oriental versions of the Latin translation; 6 vols. folio, 1657-59. It is the Royalist Edition, with the dedication to King Charles II. This is said to have been the first book printed by subscription in England.

There are two Bibles produced under the editorship of Pope Sixtus V. One, the Greek Septuagint (1587) is the first printed edition of the Codex Vaticanus. It has formed the model for succeeding editions of the Septuagint; the other is the Latin version from the Greek Septuagint, a magnificently-printed large folio (1588). These celebrated Bibles of Sixtus V. are

eagerly sought for by collectors. Singularly enough, their distinguishing feature is the multitude of errata that crowd their pages; notwithstanding that His Holiness Sixtus V. carefully superintended every sheet as it passed through the press, and finally prefixed to the first edition a bull forbidding any alteration in the text.

There is a specimen of very early printing in a Latin Vulgate—an illuminated small 4to., printed at Venice in 1480 A.D. This is the earliest printed book in the library. It is said that since the first printed Bible was issued, the Mazarine Bible, printed by Gutenberg at Mentz, in 1450, 30,000 different editions of the Bible, in various languages, have been printed; 1,450 of these were exhibited at the Caxton Exhibition in 1877.

There is also Erasmus's New Testament, Greek and Latin, folio, Basle (Froben), 1516, the first entire New Testament that was published in print. It is widely different from the Latin Vulgate of Jerome, which was at the time in common use, and its production was largely due to the encouragement he received from English scholars.

There is a very beautiful specimen of early printing, a *Horace*, with the Commentary of Landinus, 4to., Florence, 1482. In her Majesty's library there is a copy of it upon vellum, also one at the Blenheim Library, and another at the sale of the Sunderland Library was bought for £150.

Apollonius Rhodius, Græcæ. *Editio princeps*, 4to., Florence, 1496 A.D.: a beautiful copy in perfect condition.

S. Hieronymii Epistolæ, two vols. in one, folio, wanting title, Venice (Toresanis de Asula), 1488.

Rationale Divinorum Officiorum, by Bishop Durandus, black letter, folio, Basle, 1488, is an example of the first book printed with cast types. A copy of this rare book at the sale of the Askew collection fetched £61. There is a copy printed on spotless vellum, in the Althorp Library, and there is an edition of 1459 on vellum in the Blenheim Library.

Our copy of *Pronosticatio in Latino*, by Johann Lichtenberger, the Hermit of Elsass, 4to., 1488, is very rare, with 31 very curiously coloured wood-cuts in the style of Block Books. "The misfortunes of the Romish Church were foreseen and foretold in these curious soothsayings of Lichtenberger" (*Dibdin*). Its chief interest lies in the wood-cuts, which are amongst the earliest German efforts of the kind. Every one who has described the book draws attention to the curious wood-cut

of a monk on whose shoulder stands the devil surveying the brain pan of the monk. The Holbein Society has just produced an exact facsimile from this copy. Isaac Disraeli says, "hardly had the printing press been in use when a multitude of 'the people's books' spread through Europe their rude instruction or their national humour. They were even rendered more attractive by the expressive wood-cuts which palpably appealed to a sense which required no 'cunning' to comprehend."

Felix Hemmerlin *Variae Oblectationes Opuscula et tractatus* (contra Validos Mendicantes, &c.), in folio, Basle, 1497, is also here.

We come now to the Aldine books. The first is the *editio princeps* of Aristophanes, folio, Venice (Aldus Manutius) 1498, edited by Marcus Musurus, whose preface in Greek precedes the body of the work. Dr. Dibdin (*Introduction to Editions of Greek and Latin Classics*) says, "Aldus could only discover nine comedies and part of the tenth, which induced him to publish the edition with the nine complete comedies only, and for this publication posterity is deeply indebted to his indefatigability and researches, as he literally rescued Aristophanes from dust and oblivion." Second, a Greek Bible, folio, Venice (*Aldi et Andreae Soceri*), 1518. This first edition of the Septuagint contains the first Greek Old Testament published, though it had been printed in the previous year in the Ximenes Polyglot. Aldus died whilst superintending the printing of this book, and before it was completed. Third, Ulpian's Commentary on Demosthenes' Orations (The Olynthiacs and the Philippics), small folio, 1503, published by Paul Manutius. Fourth, Plautus *Comoedias XX.*, Venice (*Aldi et Andreae Soceri*), 1522. Fifth, Mocenicus *Universales Institutiones*, folio, Venice (Aldus), 1581; a specimen of Aldine latin type, published by the grandson, Aldus Manutius.

There are some Elzevirs; a small 12mo. Greek Testament (Leyden, 1633), a *chef-d'œuvre* of the family; a magnificent *Corpus Juris Civilis* (Amsterdam, 1663), in large folio; *Euphormionis Lusini sive Joanni Barclaii Satyricon partes quinque cum clavi Accessit Conspiratio Anglicana* (Leyden, 1655), 32mo., *Epigrammatum Joan. Owensi, Cambro-Britanni Oxoniensis*. Editio postrema (Amsterdam, 1647), 32mo.

There are also three of the most beautiful specimens, New Testaments, of Robert Stephens, the learned Parisian printer of the sixteenth century. The works issued by this family, Dr. Dibdin says, "justly excited the admiration of the curious and

learned of all countries." The beauty of their typography, however, pales before that of the Elzevirs.

There is also a fine specimen of the celebrated Antwerp printer, Plantin, in a Greek New Testament, 12mo., 1574.

Amongst the earlier classics are Erasmus's Aristotle, folio, Bâle, 1539: Cicero De Senectute, a J. Cubitensi emendatus, small folio, Leipzig, 1514, Melanchthon's copy with interlineations and notes, and lately belonging to Dr. Kloss; Demosthenis Orationes, with Ulpian's Commentary and Libanius' Argument, folio, Bâle, 1532, edited by Erasmus. Dionysius Alexandrinus, *editio princeps*, small folio, Paris (Stephanus), 1547. Euripidis Hecuba et Iphigenia in Aulide, with Erasmus's Latin translations. Small 4to. Bâle, 1524. Editio iii., prima Erasmi. Melanchthon's copy with marginal notes wholly or in part by him. Euripidis Trægiæ octodecim. 8vo., Bâle, 1551. "The edition of 1551," says Dibdin, "was extolled by Dr. Askew as being the most valuable of all the ancient editions of Euripides. It contains eighteen plays, having the *Electra*, which Victorius first published at Rome in 8vo., 1545, and which was afterwards reprinted with a Latin version in 1546." Platonis Opera Omnia (Arnoldus Arlenius), folio, Bâle, 1556. Auli Gelli Noctes Atticæ. 8vo. Leyden. (ap. Seb. Gryphium) 1550. This is a beautiful edition. "Almost all the editions of Gryphius, and his heirs, printed generally in the *Italic* character, are deserving of the student's notice." "Gryphiorum editiones nostro quidem iudiciis accuratissimis sunt accensendæ." There is also another Gryphius, 16mo., *Antiquitatum Variarum Auctores*, Leyden, 1552, containing selections from eighteen of the less known classical authors. In addition to the above, the library contains a large collection of modern editions, especially English and German, of the classical writers.

Amongst other rare and curious books are—a French Grammar in English, with interlineations of the French, in Gothic or Black Letter of 1532, "*Compyld for the ryghte hygh, excellent and moste vertuous lady the Lady Mary of Englands daughter to Kyng Henry the Eyghte*. By Giles Duwes."

The first English Translation of Euclid, folio, London (John Day), 1570. "With a fruitfull preface made by Dr. John Dee, specifying the chief mathematical sciences, what they are, and whereunto commodius, where also are disclosed certain new secrets Mathematical and Mechanicall, untill these, our days, greatly missed." The following note was observed on the back

of the title of another copy of this work :—" John Dee was the man that carried the lanthorn to blow the Parliament house up upon the 5th November, 1605." The printer of this work issued many most valuable books. His epitaph at Bradley-Parva, in Suffolk, contains these words, " Here lyes the Day that darkness could not blind. Obit. 23rd July, 1584."

Fabyan's *Chronicle*, newly printed at London by Wylliam Rastell, 1533, 2 vols in 1, folio. Black Letter. The Second Edition: rarely found perfect. This was the first printed Chronicle in English. "Cardinal Wolsey is said to have suppressed the first edition" (I. Disraeli).

"*Chronicles of England, Scotlande and Ireland. Faithfully gathered and set forth by Raphael Holinshed*," folio, 2 vols. London, 1577. Black Letter. The first volume is divided into three parts (with three pagings and titles). (1) "The Description and Chronicles of England, from the first inhabiting unto the Conquest," pp. 289. (2) "The Description and Chronicles of Scotland, from the first originall of the Scottes Nation, till the yeare of our Lorde 1571," pp. 518 and Index. (3) "The Description and Chronicles of Irelande, likewise from the firste originall of that Nation, untill the yeare 1547," pp. 115 and Index. Printed for John Hunne. The title of the second volume is "The laste volume of the Chronicles of England, Scotlande, and Irelande, with their descriptions. Conteyning the Chronicles of Englande from William the Conqueror until this present tyme, pp. 1876, and 100 four column pages of Index. Imprinted for John Harison." The first edition of this valuable Chronicle and the only one having woodcuts. It is commonly termed "Shakspeare's Edition," because it must have been the edition used by him in the composition of his historical plays; indeed he has incorporated long passages from it into some of them. In the Second Edition the language was much altered and the numerous wood-cuts omitted. This first edition is very rare. T. Hearne, in his preface to Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, in a marginal note (p. 27), says, "The first and not the second edition of Holinshed's Chronicle is the true genuine work of the author." Our copy is perfect as issued; this is not the case with the British Museum copy.

Geiler von Keiserberg's Sermons, 4to, 1518 (Black Letter), exercised a wonderful influence in their time. The book is now extremely rare.

Guidonis Bonatis De Astronomia Tractatus, folio, Bâle, 1550.

Budaeus Commenatrii Linguae Graecae. Folio, Bâle, 1540. His most important work. "The peculiar value of this work consists in the full and exact account which it gives of the Greek legal and forensic terms, both by literal interpretation and by a comparison of the corresponding terms in Roman jurisprudence. So copious and exact is this department of the work that no student can read the Greek Orators to the best advantage unless he consults the Commentaries of Budaeus." *Quarterly Review*, vol. 22, p. 313.

Calepini Dictionarium undecim Linguarum, folio, Bâle, 1590, is rare.

There is also interesting "Enquiries touching the Diversity of Languages and Religions, through the Chief Parts of the World, written by Edward Brerewood, lately Professor of Astronomy in Gresham College in London. 4to. 1622." It is divided into 27 chapters and treats "(1) Of the ancient largeness or extent of the Greek tongue, with its declension upon the Inundation of the Saracens, about 640 years after our Saviour in the time of Heraclius the Emperor. (2) More particularly of the decay of the ancient pure Greek, and of the present vulgar Greek; nevertheless that the present language does not so much decline from the antient Greek as the Italian departs from the Latin, according to Bellonius: it is concluded that the skilful in the learned cannot understand the vulgar. (3) That the Roman tongue abolished not the vulgar languages in the foreign provinces of the Roman Empire, but that near fourteen tongues (here mentioned) were in Europe in the time of the Roman Empire. From whence it is observed, how hard it is to supplant vulgar languages in populous countries."

A very rare work is *De Corrupto Ordine Viuendi pereuntibus*. Inventis Nova. Seb. Brant, 1498, 8vo, with wood-cuts. Sebastian Brant, of whose *Stultifera Navis*, popular with the Germans as *Das Narrenschiff*; and with the English as "The Ship of Fools," the library possesses modern editions. Also, *De Praestigiis Daemonum, et incantationibus ac ueneficiis, Libri V.*, by John Weir, 3rd edition, 12mo, Basle, 1566, containing stories of Dr. Faustus. First published at Antwerp in 1563. It was prohibited by Phillip II. of Spain. Passed through several editions and was translated into French (Geneva, 1579).

Agricolae De Re Metallica Libri XII. folio, Bâle, 1521, is very rare. Many of the woodcuts in this volume are by Rudolph Manuel Deutsch, one of the best engravers on wood of that time.

The Works of Geber, the most famous Arabian Prince and Philosopher [of the ninth century] Of the investigation and perfection of the Philosopher's Stone. 8vo, London, 1686. Translated by Richard Russell.

Also a translation of "The Works of the Highly Experienced and Famous Chymist, John Rudolf Glauber; containing great variety of Choice Secrets in Medicine and Alchymy. In the working of Metallic Mines, and the Separation of Metals. Translated into English, and Published for Publick Good, by the Labour, Care, and Charge, of Christopher Packe, Philo-chymico-Medicus. Folio, London, 1689."

Stow's *Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster, containing the Original, Antiquity, Increase, Modern Estate, and Government of those Cities. Written at first in the year MDXCVIII. Now lastly corrected, improved and very much enlarged by John Strype.* Folio: the best edition, with maps, plans, and plates.

I have not noticed the splendid collection of editions of the Old and New Testament, the three hundred and fifty large folios of a collection of the Greek and Latin Fathers, and the still larger collection of ancient classical authors; the works on Archæology, the valuable collections in folio and octavo on English History lately enriched by Dr. Freeman's collection; the scarce and valuable best editions of Isaac Newton, Locke, Montucla, Bolingbroke, Lagrange and Cauchy, The Thesaurus of Du Fresne and Stephens (last edition). The books already mentioned, however, will give a general idea of the rarer books in the library.

A totally new department was added to the library in the splendid works of art contained in the collection bequeathed by the first Bishop of Manchester (Dr. Prince Lee) in 1869, and we may linger over the *Monumenti Inediti* published by the Roman Institute, *L'Antiquité Expliquée* of Montfaucon, the *Museum Florentinum*, the Thorwaldsens, the Piranesi, *Antiquities of Herculaneum*, Vitruvius, Visconti, Waagen, Pugin, Deuchar and Canale's Etchings, and many others.

There are also the Rolls Office Publications, the British Museum publications, and the original series and oriental series of the Palæographical Society's publications; the Palestine Exploration Fund Society's lately published Maps of Western Palestine, scale one inch to a mile, from surveys by Lieutenants Conder and Kitchener, R.E., under the superintendence of Colonel Carey; and others of their valuable publications. Ernst

Curtius's *Ausgrabungen zu Olympia*, 5 volumes of plates in folio ; Schliemann's *Trojanische Alterthümer*, with folio plates. Moynsen's *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, arranged according to the countries to which they relate, 25 volumes, folio ; Boeckh's *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum*, 4 volumes, folio ; and the *Corpus Inscriptionum Atticarum*, 8 volumes, folio (in progress), and the *Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum*, many volumes, folio, also in progress.

A beautiful edition in three volumes (lately published), in folio, of the *Massorah*, compiled from manuscripts alphabetically and lexically arranged by C. D. Ginsburg. The *Massorah* has been pronounced to be the most stupendous monument of minute and persevering labour in the whole history of literature. It consists of critical remarks upon the verses, words, letters, and vowel points of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament. As the sacred books were originally written without any breaks or divisions into chapters or verses, or even words, the Jews found it necessary to establish a canon to fix and ascertain the reading of the Hebrew Text. This rule or canon is designated "*Massorah*," or tradition, in which the verses, letters, words, &c., are all numbered, and by this means the slightest variations can be detected. Of course, there are also the Jerusalem and the Babylonian Talmuds, comprising the *Mishna* and the *Gemara*, the latter in 12 volumes, folio.

There is also a collection of Chinese books ; and a good collection of Oriental literature generally ; the publications of the Oriental Translation Fund ; and some Ethiopic and Arabic Amulets against diseases and misfortunes. There are also some modern manuscripts that are interesting from their associations, such as *A True Copie of the Last Will and Testament of Humphrey Chetham* [(the founder of Chetham's Hospital and Library), pp. 167, 8vo., 1651, to which is added "the Foundation of the Hospital and Library, incorporated by K. Charles ye 2nd, Nov. ye 10th, 1665."] Quite a number of note books of philosophical, theological, and scientific lectures and disquisitions, and a unique catalogue of Richard Bentley's manuscripts in Trinity College, Cambridge, in the handwriting of J. P. Lee, the first Bishop of Manchester. And last, though not least, is the first Bishop of Manchester's collection, in twelve volumes, double folio, of hundreds of illustrations, drawings, paintings in water colours and oil, photographs, engravings on wood and steel, plans, maps, architectural designs for new churches, and plans of old churches, being an accumulation arranged according

to Archdeaconries, of all he could collect relating to his diocese of Manchester, a portion of Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis*, being the basis on which he worked. There is hardly a parish within the diocese concerning the history of which there is not some special work. The history of every part of his diocese—of its towns, of its families, and in particular of its parishes and their churches—was evidently a subject of constant enquiry and study by that prelate. Baines's *History of Lancashire* is carefully annotated by the Bishop in a series of fourteen interleaved volumes; and many fascicles of clippings furnish a great variety of material for the future historian of Lancashire. With these are also some singularly interesting collections relating to Lancashire families, High Sheriffs, and names of note, in manuscript, with printed scraps, 10 volumes, folio, collected by the late C. H. Timperley, of Manchester, author of *The Annals of Manchester*, and *Dictionary of Printers and Printing*.

There are some very beautiful specimens of book-binding in the Library, reminiscent of a period when books were prized as rarities, and produced at great expense, some in oak, vellum, and skin of various kinds; solid and much more lasting than most of the binding of the present day; many with metal hinges, corner plates, clasps, bosses and guards of various kinds. Then there are the grand old folios of the seventeenth century, "A company of honest old fellows in their leathern jackets," as old Fuller says. The College book-binding, as at the British Museum, is generally done in half morocco, calf and Russia bindings being a source of constant trouble and expense, owing to their decay. In the case of benefactions, specially printed book labels, recording the donors, are placed in the books, and in some cases the benefactor's monogram has been lettered on the back.

J. TAYLOR KAY.