

# ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

IN THE LIBRARIES OF  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

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by

J. D. PEARSON, M.A.

Librarian, School of Oriental and African Studies,  
University of London

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THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY  
LONDON 1954

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## PREFATORY NOTE

The purpose of the present compilation is simply to inform Orientalists where collections of Oriental manuscripts, large and small, are to be found in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, with brief indications of the size of the collections, the provenances of the largest component groups, and the catalogues which have been produced for them. Manuscripts in practically all Oriental languages are included, the only exceptions being inscriptions, papyri and ostraca in the varied forms of the Egyptian language, which are usually regarded as falling within the province of the museum keeper rather than in that of the librarian.

A few collections in private hands have been included: it should be understood that this in no way implies the automatic grant of permission to consult these manuscripts. Application should always be made in good time to the owner.

The collections of manuscripts in the countries concerned range from the many thousands of volumes in the large national and university libraries to the small pockets of manuscripts to be found hidden away in the most unexpected of places. Most, if not all, of these manuscripts have been examined by some Orientalist in the course of time and no spectacular discoveries of unknown works of value have been made in the course of compiling this survey; it is hoped, however, that the recording of all known collections may be of service to scholars, especially those from overseas, wishing to assure themselves that all possible sources of material have been consulted. It is intended that the present work shall be continued later to take in documents and archives material, art collections in museums and similar depositories, and in fact any collections of materials which may be of value to the scholar and research worker. In a work of this kind mistakes both of omission and commission are bound to be numerous: any additions and corrections will be gratefully received and a file of up-to-date information will be kept in the library of the School of Oriental and African Studies.

It will be obvious to all that this work could not have been completed without the generous co-operation of colleagues in other libraries, who have ever been ready to provide information on the collections in their charge. To all these librarians, too numerous to be mentioned by name, to Mr. Sinor who gave constant encouragement and advice while the work was in progress, to the Council of the Royal Asiatic Society who arranged for the publication of the work, to Dr. Mary Boyce, who undertook the thankless task of reading the manuscript and made many helpful suggestions, the compiler wishes to express his sincere thanks. Finally, he acknowledges his indebtedness to Miss J. M. Barrow and Miss S. A. Richards, who in their competent handling of an untidy manuscript, requiring to be typed at very short notice, did far more than their official duties demanded.

School of Oriental and African Studies.

12 June, 1954.

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## THE ORIENTALIST LIBRARIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

The six principal Orientalist libraries in this country are of varied origin and character. Three are sections of large national or quasi-national libraries enjoying the right of "copyright deposit": by exercising this right the British Museum and the libraries of Oxford and Cambridge Universities ensure that everything of importance published in this country is secured.

Of the other three libraries, the India Office Library, founded by a private trading corporation in the early years of the nineteenth century, and later absorbed by a Government Department, now finds itself, by the accident of history, left high and dry through the extinction of its department, but still occupying the foremost place in Indian studies; the School of Oriental and African Studies, coming rather later into the field, is at the present time rapidly making up the leeway between it and the older collections, and amassing more of contemporary literature than even the three great libraries first mentioned; the Royal Asiatic Society Library is going now through a difficult period, being forced to rely on books sent for review and exchanges for its journal for its current accessions, but it is still valuable for its extensive resources built up in more palatial times.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

A. Esdaile: *The British Museum Library: a short history and survey*. London (1946). Second impression, 1948.

The foundation and growth of the British Museum and its Library are graphically described in Esdaile: accounts of the "foundation collections" of Sir Robert Cotton, the Harleys, Earls of Oxford, and Sir Hans Sloane, of their acquisition for the British people, and of the method adopted to secure funds for the establishment of a home for these collections (the lottery conducted under the august sponsorship of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his fellow trustees) may all be read in this book. So, too, may the history of the collections of

Oriental printed books (pp. 294-321) which, if one excuses a few rather naive mistakes committed by one with no special Orientalist experience, gives a good general account of the rise and growth of the collections in the various languages. For more information on the history of the collections one naturally turns to the introductions to the various catalogues of manuscripts, where traditionally is prefixed an account of the history of the collections described, and one is led to wonder at the rapid development between 1753, when the Museum possessed only a fair number of Hebrew MSS., and 34 Turkish MSS. in the Harleian collection, and to-day, when the Museum's collections are certainly unrivalled in this country and scarcely to be matched elsewhere.

This steady development of the Oriental collections is in no small measure due to the efforts made by the many eminent Oriental scholars whose services have been at the disposal of the Museum. Until 1867 the Oriental MSS., and until 1892, the Oriental printed books, were part and parcel of the general MS. and printed book collections and were administered by the departments of MSS. and Printed Books respectively. The first Oriental scholars in the Museum seem to have been the Rev. C. G. Woide and the Rev. Thomas Maurice. Woide is better known as the editor of the facsimile edition of the New Testament section of *Codex Alexandrinus*, published in 1786, but his scholarship embraced also Coptic, and some of the fragments formerly owned by him are now to be found in the Bodleian Library. Maurice was the author of two large works entitled *Indian Antiquities* and *History of Hindustan*, and of *Sanscreeet fragments*, and was the first in a line of distinguished Indologists who have served the Museum, a line which includes the honoured names of F. A. Rosen (who was employed in the 1830s, but principally it seems on the Catalogue of Oriental MSS.), Charles Bruce (the first to have charge of the Sanskrit printed books), Dr. Ernst Haas (who brought out the first printed catalogue of Sanskrit books), Cecil Bendall, E. J. Rapson, John Allan (like Rapson, of the Department of Coins and Medals, and now lecturer in Sanskrit at Edinburgh), and L. D. Barnett, the range of whose linguistic achievements is illustrated by the vast array of printed books and catalogues

for which he was responsible, and whose services in his retirement are still at the disposal of the Museum.

The list of other Orientalists employed before the Department was set up includes the name of the Rev. Josiah Forshall, who, with F. A. Rosen, compiled the first catalogue of the Oriental MSS.; he later became Secretary to the Museum, and was a great power in the Museum until his mind became deranged in 1850. But the best-known name is that of William Cureton. To him, more than any other, is due the credit for the growth of the Near Eastern collections in the second third of the nineteenth century: for from 1838 onwards there came into the Museum some 581 Syriac, Karshuni and Mandaean MSS., mostly from the Convent of S. Mary Deipara in the Nitrian Desert, including the fragments of the celebrated version of the Syriac New Testament by which Cureton's name has been immortalized.

In 1867 the Department of Oriental MSS. was set up under Charles Rieu, who originally came to the Museum as a supernumerary in 1847, having studied under Silvestre de Sacy. Rieu's assistant for nine years was William Wright and in that time the two scholars brought out between them the major portion of the Near Eastern catalogues, characterized by that wealth of scholarly description to which few libraries can aspire in these days of enforced austerity. Rieu himself brought out the Arabic, Persian and Turkish catalogues, while Wright made himself responsible for the Syriac and Ethiopic ones before his retirement from the Museum to become Sir Thomas Adam Professor of Arabic in the University of Cambridge, a chair in which he was later to be succeeded by his former Keeper, Rieu.

Rieu was followed as Keeper by R. K. (afterwards Sir Robert) Douglas, in whose day the oriental printed books were united with the manuscripts in the Department of Oriental Printed Books and MSS. Douglas produced catalogues of the Chinese and Japanese books. His assistants were A. G. Ellis, who catalogued the Arabic books and produced a "descriptive list of the Arabic MSS."; G. Margoliouth, who brought out the large four volume catalogue of the Hebrew MSS., having previously compiled a hand-list of them, to which he later added a "descriptive hand-list" of the Syriac MSS. acquired

since Wright's catalogue was issued; L. D. Barnett and L. Giles, both of whom succeeded to the Keepership and who continue to serve the Library in retirement. Giles was succeeded in the Keepership on his retirement in 1940 by A. S. Fulton, who has recently handed over to Mr. J. Leveen.

At present in addition to the Keeper, who was responsible for the final volume of the Hebrew MSS. catalogue, the Museum disposes of the services of three Orientalists, Mr. C. Moss, who has catalogued the Syriac printed books, Mr. H. Macaleavy, whose responsibility is the Far Eastern collections, and Mr. Meredith-Owens for the Persian and Turkish books. From time to time, as has always been the case, outside specialists are called in to help with the cataloguing of books in languages with which the severely limited staff of the Department is unable to cope: Dr. David Lang of the S.O.A.S. is at present working on a catalogue of the Georgian books.

The total number of books in the Oriental Department is a matter of conjecture: Esdaile estimated the Arabic printed books alone at 15,000. As no general access is given to the shelves, the system used for classifying the books is of little interest to the ordinary visitor, but the catalogues are all the more important for that reason. It has long been the Museum's policy to issue catalogues which are monuments of precise description with meticulous attention to detail. Throughout the English-speaking world, at least, a statement in a British Museum catalogue is generally taken as authoritative and requiring no checking. Mr. F. C. Francis of the Printed Books has enumerated *The Catalogues of the Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts* in a series on the Museum catalogues published in the *Journal of Documentation* in 1951, available also from the Museum as a separate. Most are also listed in Esdaile's book, while the MS. catalogues in the present work are included under the appropriate heading. For these reasons it is not deemed necessary to repeat here the list of British Museum catalogues of manuscripts, but the printed books catalogues are enumerated in all brevity for the benefit of those to whom the two publications already mentioned are not accessible.

- Hebrew. J. Zedner. 1867.  
S. van Straalen. 1894.
- Syriac. C. Moss. In the press.
- Georgian. D. Lang. In progress.
- Arabic. A. G. Ellis. 2 vols. 1894-1901.  
Vol. 3 : Indexes, by A. S. Fulton. 1935.  
Supplement by Fulton and Ellis. 1926.
- Persian. E. Edwards. 1922.
- Sanskrit and Pali. E. Haas. 1876.
- Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit. C. Bendall. 1893.  
Supplement by L. D. Barnett. 1908.  
Supplement by L. D. Barnett. 1928.
- Bengali. J. F. Blumhardt. 1886.  
Supplement by the same compiler. 1910.  
Supplement by J. F. Blumhardt and J. V. S. Wilkinson. 1939.
- Hindi, Panjabi, Sindhi and Pushtu. J. F. Blumhardt. 1893.
- Hindi. Supplement by the same. 1913.
- Hindi, Nepali and Bihari. L. D. Barnett. In the press.
- Urdu (Hindustani). J. F. Blumhardt. 1889.  
Supplement by the same. 1909.
- Marathi and Gujarati. J. F. Blumhardt. 1892.  
Supplement by the same. 1915.
- Assamese and Oriya. 1900.
- Canarese. L. D. Barnett. 1910.  
(Kannada, Badaga and Kurg.)
- Tamil. L. D. Barnett and G. U. Pope. 1909.  
Supplement by L. D. Barnett. 1931.
- Telugu. L. D. Barnett. 1912.
- Sinhalese. M. de Z. Wickremasinghe. 1901.
- Burmese. L. D. Barnett. 1913.
- Chinese. R. K. Douglas. 1877.  
Supplement by the same. 1903.  
MS. supplement by Giles.
- Japanese. R. K. Douglas. 1898.  
Supplement by the same (books acquired 1899-1903). 1904.



All the catalogues of the Museum, printed or otherwise, have continuations which are available in the department. A catalogue of MSS. arranged in purely numerical or press-mark order, irrespective of language, is kept in the Students' Room; this is up-to-date, or, at the most, a year behind: the "classified inventory" gives a list of the MSS. under languages, with, as a rule, no additional information.\*

As has already been stated, the Museum, by virtue of being a "copyright library," is entitled to a free copy of every book or periodical published in the United Kingdom, and this right is strictly enforced. In addition, the Museum buys large numbers of books published in other countries every year: economies forced upon it in recent years, however, have had the result that the Museum can no longer justifiably claim to acquire everything of importance for scholarship and containing new information based on the results of research, or all important new editions of older works. This affects both the Western collections and the Eastern: in both numbers of periodicals essential for research purposes are missing. Lack of expert staff has also resulted in serious deficiencies in some departments, such as Japanese, for which no competent scholar has been available until recently since Douglas's time. It is sincerely to be hoped that more enlightened official policy will enable these deficiencies to be made good.

Permission to work in the Museum Library is invariably granted to serious students, though technically it is necessary to give evidence that the material sought is not accessible in other libraries. Under its statutes the Museum is prohibited from allowing books to be taken out of the buildings housing them, and the Museum is incapable, therefore, of playing the same part in inter-library national and international co-operation as is played by the national libraries of other countries such as the Library of Congress.

#### (b) BODLEIAN

For the early history of the Library of the University of Oxford and its re-foundation by Sir Thomas Bodley in the seventeenth century recourse should be had to Macray's

\* Important MS. accessions are described in the *British Museum Quarterly*.

*Annals* or to Esdaile's *Great libraries of the World*; Sir Edmund Craster's *History of the Bodleian Library 1845-1945* describes the recent history of the Library and the growth of its collections, including the Oriental printed books and manuscripts; Dr. A. F. L. Beeston has recently compiled an account of *The Oriental manuscript collections of the Bodleian Library*, to be published in the August, 1954, number of the *Bodleian Library Record*. The present writer acknowledges his gratitude to Dr. Beeston for permission to see the typescript of this article before publication, as well as for many kindnesses and much help and encouragement in connection with the present work. Dr. Beeston's article contains a summary account of the principal *fonds* which go to make up the Bodleian Oriental collections, and of the principal catalogues, whether published or not, a description of the classification of the MSS., and statistics of the holdings in the principal languages.

Although it was only on Craster's assumption of office in 1931 that the Department of Oriental Books was set up, parallel to the Departments of Western manuscripts and Printed Books, each in the charge of a sub-librarian, yet throughout the greater part of the nineteenth century one of the two sub-librarians had been a scholar versed in Arabic or the other Semitic languages. Nicoll, compiler of part of the second volume of the Arabic MSS. catalogue, was appointed in 1814 and stayed until his election to the Regius chair of Hebrew in 1822. He was succeeded by Stephen Reay who combined the duties of sub-librarian with those of the Laudian professorship of Arabic for thirty-two years. Later Oriental scholars who occupied this post with distinction were Robert Payne Smith, later to become Regius Professor of Divinity and Dean of Canterbury, who compiled the Syriac MSS. catalogue, Max Mueller (for a year or two only), J. W. Nutt and Adolf Neubauer, whose reputation for scholarship was such that he was appointed to the second sub-librarianship at a time when the senior sub-librarian was also a Hebrew scholar. An eminent Hebrew scholar in the person of Sir Arthur Cowley was Bodley's librarian from 1919 to 1931. (An earlier distinguished orientalist to occupy this post was Thomas Hyde,

Librarian from 1665 to 1701.) The present Keeper is Dr. A. F. L. Beeston, well known for his researches into the South Arabic inscriptions as well as for his frequent articles on recent accessions appearing in the *Bodleian Library Record*; he has the assistance of Dr. O. Lehmann for the Hebrew books.

For the convenience of the Orientalist in the Bodleian a special reading room, the Rawlinson Room, is provided. Here may be consulted all MSS. and most of the printed books, the exceptions being those on India, Pakistan and Burma, which are in the Indian Institute nearby, founded in 1880 to supply a centre for Indian studies in the University and since 1927 under the direct control of the Bodleian curators. In the Rawlinson Room may be found also the principal reference books and periodicals important for Oriental studies, with the catalogues of MSS. and printed books. The only catalogue of its Oriental printed books published by Bodley so far is that of the Hebrew books, which Cowley brought out in 1929. Its illustrious predecessor, by Steinschneider, scarcely needs to be mentioned here. Card catalogues for the printed books in Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, Ethiopic, Georgian, Hebrew, Japanese, Persian, Syriac and Turkish are up-to-date, as are those for Indian languages in the Indian Institute, where they and the entries for Western books are all arranged in one alphabet. Since 1948 a card index of articles of Oriental interest in current periodicals has also been maintained.

The Bodleian's books were estimated by Craster to be in the region of two million: like the British Museum it enjoys the privileges of "copyright deposit," and is rapidly adding to its store of foreign books by judicious book selection. Little of real importance is allowed to slip through its net, and it is still able on occasion to compete in the salerooms for valuable MSS., thanks to a series of endowments among which the estate of Sir Arthur Cowley is to be numbered.

Genuine scholars are always made welcome at the Bodleian. Though the lending of books was expressly forbidden by its founder, in later years some relaxation of this rule has been instituted, it still remaining necessary, however, for any loan to be sanctioned by the Curators, who are only disposed to grant the privilege to institutions approved by them.

## (c) CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Cambridge's Oriental collections go back to a very respectable antiquity; a "Catalogue of the Hebrew books in the Public Library of Cambridge" was compiled by Abraham Wheelock, Librarian from 1629 to 1653.

Cambridge also had its Macray in the person of Charles Sayle, former secretary and eminent and tireless bibliographer (as they all have to be), in whose *Annals* we find recorded the earliest reference to an Oriental matter under the year 1588 (a year better known for another highly important event in English history) when William Chaderton, Bishop of Chester, and formerly President of Queens' College, gave the Bomberg Bible. This entry is soon followed by that recording the death of Erpenius in 1624 and the exertions of the Duke of Buckingham to ensure that his MSS. were acquired for the University Library, where they duly arrived in 1632. But a brief and more connected account of the principal Oriental collections in the Library is to be had in the preface to Browne's *Persian Catalogue*.

The Cambridge University Library is the first of the important Oriental collections to have a system of "open access" to a large proportion of the shelves. Unlike in the two larger libraries already described, in Cambridge it is the custom for a reader, having found the book he wants in the catalogue, to fetch it himself from the shelves, and to read it either at a table conveniently situated among the bookshelves, or in the imposing Reading Room seating 150 readers. Further, if he is a member of the University, he is permitted, on giving due recognizances, to take the book home with him.

With the possibility of visiting the bookstacks open to him, the reader has a more than academic interest in the system used for classifying the books, and it is thought worth while on this account to give a brief description of it as far as it affects books on Oriental subjects. The scheme is a decimal one, utilizing the numbers 1 to 999, of which 800-849 are reserved for Oriental (and other non-European) languages and literatures. Works on other subjects such as law, history, anthropology, archaeology, religions, and philosophy with special reference to Oriental countries must be looked for in the

sections allocated to these subjects. Periodicals are classified by the same series of numbers, with the prefix P for current and important journals, L for the less erudite, Q for those which have ceased to exist, and T for those which for their rarity, value, multiplicity of plates or other special reason are thought to demand restriction of access. Thus the visitor will find the printed books on Oriental linguistics and literature mainly in classes 800-849 and the most important current periodicals in the field in P800-849.

A smaller number of printed catalogues has been issued by Cambridge than by the other two great libraries who, like it, are entitled to claim any British publication under the authority of the Copyright Act. This lack of catalogues applies both to MSS., as will be noticed in the sections dealing with the individual languages, and to printed books, for which all that is offered is the printed catalogue of the Wade Collection of Chinese books, with its supplement, and the hand-list of the Turkish books bequeathed to the Library by E. J. W. Gibb. At Cambridge, however, unlike some other libraries, cataloguing of printed books is up-to-date and entries for practically all the Oriental books are placed in the General Catalogue (of authors only) very soon after they are received, the only exception being the Chinese and Japanese books which have separate card catalogues, though a beginning has recently been made with the printing of slips for the Japanese books and the insertion of them in the General Catalogue.

As a beneficiary under the terms of the Copyright Act Cambridge can be relied upon to have any British publication, though its funds for the purchase of the works of foreign authors are severely limited. Fortunately this deficiency is offset to some extent by the use of the income from the Browne Memorial Fund, from which source it is enabled to buy important contributions to Islamic studies in both Western and Oriental languages.

Books are lent freely, but only to members of the University, and the library plays no part in national or international library co-operation schemes: books and MSS. are, however, sometimes lent to other institutions for stated periods, a "grace" of the Senate being necessary in all cases.



Quite distinct from the main University library are the College libraries, several of which possess extensive collections or Oriental books. The MSS. of Trinity and King's are world-famous, but other colleges have collections important for Oriental studies: the library of Christ's embodies the Israel Abrahams collection of Rabbinical literature and the Sanskrit books formerly belonging to W. H. D. Rouse, the greater part of the collection, however, deriving from Professor Robertson Smith, one of the many distinguished Orientalists who have been among its alumni; Clare has a collection which formerly belonged to Humphrey Prideaux (1648-1724), and Queens' has large numbers of books on Oriental subjects received from various sources. Of the women's colleges, Girton has a small Sanskrit collection which formerly belonged to Professor E. B. Cowell, and a number of Hebrew and Samaritan printed books and MSS. bequeathed by Mary Frere.

#### (d) THE INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY

The history of the India Office Library was written by Professor A. J. Arberry during his tenure of the office of assistant librarian: many distinguished scholars, in addition to him, have spent part or all of their careers in its service. *A Guide to the India Office Library*, by S. C. Sutton, the present librarian, was published in 1952: in it may be found full particulars of the collections and their catalogues.

The Library was founded by the Honourable East India Company in 1801 to serve as a repository for the varied collections committed to its charge by its servants in the East. In 1858 on the transfer of the Company's powers and effects to the Crown, responsibility for the Library was taken over by the newly created Department of State, the India Office, and in 1867 the Library was moved to its present quarters in King Charles Street, off Whitehall. In 1947, on the abolition of the India Office as a result of the Indian Independence Act of that year, the Library was embodied in the Commonwealth Relations Office and came directly under the control of the Secretary of State for that department. It has, however, retained its old name.

The library's resources are put at about 20,000 Oriental MSS., some 1,000 MSS. in European languages, and about a quarter of a million printed books, some 180,000 of which are in Oriental languages. In addition, the Library possesses a large collection of paintings and drawings, including some 15,000 Indian and Persian miniatures; a collection of photographic negatives and prints mainly of archaeological interest; and various "miscellaneous properties" such as coins, textile samples and epigraphic material. Its annual report for the year ending 31 March, 1952, recorded the acquisition of 1,407 printed books during that year, and this figure may be taken as conforming with the average annual increase of the Library. Its acquisition policy is to collect everything of importance in Western and Oriental languages relating to the Indian sub-continent, together with all modern Arabic and Persian works on the history, religions, and classical literatures of the Arabs and the Persians, and such works dealing with other parts of the East as have a bearing on the countries and peoples of India and Pakistan. Over a long period, from 1867 to 1948, the Library enjoyed the right, bestowed upon it by the (Indian) Press and Registration of Books Act (Act XXXV of 1867), of claiming a free copy of every printed or lithographed work published in British India and Burma.

The Library has for long adhered to a policy of publication of printed catalogues for its collections, a policy which has the great advantage of enabling a knowledge of the contents of the collections to be widely disseminated, and which has proved of special value in the case of its huge collections in modern Indian languages which are not widely represented in other libraries. On the other side of the scale, however, there is the disadvantage inherent in the system of the catalogue's never being fully up-to-date, which involves those who are able to visit the Library in a search through two or more series in order to be sure that all sources are tapped, and there is also the possibility that cards for some of the more recent accessions will not be available for the reader. This can be illustrated in particular by the catalogues of the "European Collection." A printed catalogue was issued in 1888, with a supplement in 1895, a second supplement in 1909 and a series of 18

further supplements during the period 1911 to 1936. For the benefit of those able to visit the Library themselves, a start has been made on incorporating the entries in all these catalogues into one main card catalogue, arranged by author and subject, which has been maintained in the Library since 1936. This incorporation, however, involves a vast amount of work, and only about one-third of the total has so far been achieved.

The principal catalogues issued so far for the Oriental printed book collections are those for the Persian books by A. J. Arberry in 1937, and for the Sanskrit and Prakrit books by Reinhold Rost, librarian 1869-93, in 1897. The latter catalogue, arranged in Sanskrit alphabetical order by titles, is undergoing revision, and three volumes of the four projected have so far (May, 1954) been issued. When completed, the catalogue will cover all accessions up to 1932, with some for the years 1933-5 which it will have been found possible to include. Catalogues for the printed books in modern Indo-Aryan languages were compiled by Professor Blumhardt. Many other catalogues, both of MSS. and printed books, Western and Oriental, are already in the press or in process of compilation: Mr. Sutton's *Guide*, supplemented by the *Annual Report*, will give the latest position in each case.

The India Office Library has always been known for the very liberal way in which it has lent its treasures to scholars all over the world. Fortunately, no signs of modification of this policy are apparent. The Library continues to lend generously both to all who seek its membership and to those who are precluded from joining by distance. Printed books may be borrowed through the post: MSS., however, are lent only to approved institutions such as university libraries. For some years now the Library has been engaged in preparing microfilm copies of its most precious MSS. which are lent whenever appropriate in place of the original manuscripts.

#### (e) SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Of much more recent foundation than any of the libraries so far described, the School of Oriental and African Studies Library has not been able to build up MSS. collections comparable with those of the older institutions, MSS. being much

less easy to come by in the East now than they were in previous centuries. This and other considerations are responsible for the library's policy of serving as a "working library" rather than as a repository for rare and valuable documents: its declared function is to supply the needs of the teaching and research work carried on both in the School and outside. For all this, the library has assembled in the thirty-five years of its existence no fewer than a thousand MSS. in most of the languages of the East. Its annual accessions of five thousand or more volumes to its present total of 170,000 printed books means that it is increasing more rapidly than any other Orientalist library in the country.

The School's chief interests originally lay in the languages and literatures, current and extinct, of the whole of the Asian continent: later it acquired a concern for the continent of Africa and the word "African" was added to its name, this addition to its scope being naturally matched in the library's collections. Gradually at first the School's studies broadened to take in disciplines other than philology, the process being accelerated by the acceptance of the Scarbrough Report, so that the School now possesses Departments of Phonetics and Linguistics, History, Law and Cultural Anthropology. Other subjects, not separately organized into departments, play important parts in the School's activities: religion and philosophy are represented by lectureships, as are art and archaeology, music, and to some extent the social sciences. In fact at the present time the School's domain may be regarded as being the whole of the humanities in so far as they refer specially to the continents of Asia and Africa, and these interests are reflected in the School's library. To avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, however, in an area such as London which is provided with excellent libraries for most subjects of study, aspects of certain disciplines are not covered extensively by the School Library but are left to those other libraries whose principal concern they are. Thus, Egyptology and Near Eastern archaeology are represented solely by the principal reference works and standard text-books, there being extensive collections on these subjects already available in the University of London Library, the Library of University College (to

which the University Chair of Egyptology is attached) and in the Institute of Archaeology; Biblical and Rabbinical Hebrew is left in the main to University College, London, and Jews' College, both of which institutions provide reaching in these subjects, though the School is a collector of works on modern Hebrew literature and Hebrew epigraphy; certain aspects of colonial and international law are regarded as the prerogative of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and of the London School of Economics.

Access is freely granted to about three-fifths of the library's shelves: this proportion would be much higher were it not for difficulties caused by shortage of accommodation. The aim is to make the whole of the library accessible, with the obvious exception of MSS. and valuable works for which extra security is essential. Works in Western languages are kept as a rule separate from those in Oriental languages and translations therefrom, though the two categories are kept as closely together as is possible in order to mitigate any inconvenience caused by this arrangement. The principal classification sections are: I—Far East. II—South East Asia. III—Sanskrit. IV—India, Pakistan, Ceylon. V—Arabic. VI—Persian. VIII—Turkish, Near East in general. IX—Phonetics and Linguistics. X—Islam. Law. XI—Generalia. XII—Modern Indian languages. XIII—Africa and its languages. E—Art. W.G.—Religion, philosophy, anthropology, folklore.

No printed catalogues of any part of the library's collections have ever been issued, but the card catalogue maintained in the library is completely up-to-date. The main catalogue contains entries for all the books in the library, MS. and printed, in all the languages catered for (a language index to the School's collections contains some 2,500 cards), with the exception of Chinese and Japanese, for which separate catalogues exist in the departments for these two languages. The cataloguing is based on the principles used by the British Museum: as in the printed catalogues of that institution the School's catalogues are arranged by author, title and subject in three separate alphabetical arrangements. Of the subject catalogue it should be mentioned that the arrangement is in



general by language and country: for each language and country a stereotyped list of subjects is used as far as is appropriate. (There are many objections to this method: it entails, for instance, making an arbitrary and quite impracticable distinction between "religion" and "philosophy" which cannot be substantiated for any of the Eastern religious systems.) Monthly lists of accessions to the library, containing reproductions of the catalogue entries for both new books and older ones recently acquired, are distributed to all libraries which have evinced an interest in them: they are designed mainly to serve the needs of the academic staff of the School but have been found useful by other institutions.

The present librarian considers it a proper function of the library of the largest school of Oriental Studies in Great Britain, if not in Europe, to concern itself with the problem of providing adequate bibliographies for the mass of literature available on the subject. To this end an author index has been made of articles on Far Eastern subjects which have been published since 1920 in a wide range of periodicals and *Festschriften*, numbering at least 500 in all: this is being kept up-to-date and supplements containing recently published articles are issued at monthly intervals and will be cumulated into the main index.

Orientalists are always welcome to make use of the library's collections: permission to read is always granted with the minimum of formality; to become a borrower it is necessary to produce a form signed by two sponsors and to pay a deposit of two pounds.

In addition to the main library of the School, each of the teaching departments maintains a smaller library mainly for class and seminar use. Most of the books in these libraries are duplicated in the main library, but certain classes of material such as newspapers and educational material in African and other native languages are normally retained by the departments concerned. A special mention should be made of the Library of the Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art which has valuable collections in Western languages as well as in Chinese.

## (f) ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

The Royal Asiatic Society has built up in the 130 years of its existence an important and valuable library for the use of its members, containing many interesting deposits of manuscripts and scholars' papers, and printed books such as the Schrumpff Armenian collection and the Chamberlain Japanese books. In 1935 the Society published a catalogue of all its printed books with the exception of the Siamese and Chinese, for the latter of which there exists a card catalogue compiled by Mr. Shelley Wang in 1937. In recent years, like most learned societies, the Society has fallen on difficult times. Though the most important periodicals are still received in exchange for the Society's Journal and new books received for review are added to the library, it is seldom that the Society is able to buy books to add to its collections.

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Many other libraries will be mentioned from time to time in these pages: to list all of them large and small, which possess collections of interest to the Orientalist would require a volume much larger than the present one. But there remain some few, in and out of London, of which mention must be made. In London there are libraries specializing in smaller sectors of the Oriental field: Jews' College has important collections of Hebraica and Judaica, with a bias towards Biblical and Rabbinical studies; the libraries of both the University of London and University College, London, with justification take pride in their Egyptological collections, the former built up through the enthusiastic interest of a former librarian, Mr. R. A. Rye, the latter nurtured through its close attachment to the Edwards Professorship with which the name of Flinders Petrie will always be associated; both the Institute of Archaeology and the Warburg Institute foster a lively interest for the art and archaeology of the pre-Roman Near and Middle East.

Outside London the most important collections are to be found in Manchester, Birmingham and Durham: Manchester has its John Rylands Library in which the Oriental collections accumulated by the Earls of Crawford, and purchased for the

library by Mrs. Rylands, occupy a prominent position. It has shown its wisdom by appointing a distinguished Orientalist to be its librarian. The extensive collections put together by Alphonse Mingana put the Library of Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham, on the Oriental map. Durham is rapidly developing a strong Oriental Department: in recent years Oriental studies there have grown out of all recognition. The library has not lagged behind in this rapid development: the Oriental section has budded off from the main University Library and now occupies premises of its own in a school situated in pleasantly rural surroundings. The other libraries in the kingdom attached to universities with Oriental departments are for financial reasons "perforce incurious of Oriental Letters," as Professor Keith said of his own university of Edinburgh.

It is perhaps fitting to end this brief survey of Britain's resources with the mention of the greatest library yet remaining in private hands in these lands. Mr. Chester Beatty's library, recently translated to Dublin, is famed not merely for its celebrated papyri of the New Testament and its superb collection of Western MSS. but also for the unrivalled Oriental collections, built up over the last forty years, containing illustrated MSS. in most of the languages of the East, picture-books, albums and scrolls, Tibetan *tankas*, fine bindings, papyri and specimens of calligraphy. For its printed books, too, its books of colour plates and engravings, its early editions of Oriental classics, its numerous works of travel and its fine collection of atlases it is justly renowned.

# THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

## HEBREW

Collections of Hebrew MSS., and the catalogues provided for them, habitually contain MSS. in other languages written in Hebrew characters, varying from other Semitic languages such as Aramaic and Arabic to a diversity of non-Semitic tongues used by Jewish communities all over the world. Most of the MSS. in the Aramaic dialects (with the exception of Syriac and Mandaean) will be included in the present section, as will Arabic MSS. and those in all other languages in Hebrew characters.

### (a) THE BRITISH MUSEUM

G.<sup>1</sup> Margoliouth: *Catalogue of the Hebrew and Samaritan manuscripts in the British Museum*. 4 vols. London, 1899-1935. (Pt. IV: *Introduction, indexes, brief descriptions of accessions and addenda and corrigenda*, by J. Leveen.)

1,206 manuscripts are described in the first three parts of the catalogue (340 Biblical texts and commentaries, including parts of the missing Hebrew text of Ecclesiasticus, in the first part; the Midrashic, Talmudic and Halakhic, and liturgical manuscripts, numbering 393 in all, in the second; and the remaining 474 manuscripts, including 29 charters, in the third part).

The fourth part, edited by Mr. J. Leveen, contains, in addition, a supplementary list of 89 manuscripts omitted from earlier parts of the catalogue or received since they were published. This number includes some 51 fragments from the Cairo Genizah to which a bare mention is given. A hand-list of the complete Genizah collection, totalling 120 fragments in all, may be consulted in the Students' Room. 2 Persian MSS. in Hebrew characters are described in Rieu's Supplement to the catalogue of Persian MSS.

Also omitted from the catalogue are descriptions of the greater part of the important library of Dr. Moses Gaster,\*

\* The remaining portion of this collection has been recently acquired by the John Rylands Library, Manchester.

amounting to some 180 items, purchased in 1925, for which a handwritten list exists in the Students' Room. A small fragment of the text of Ecclesiasticus is also to be found among the great rarities in the collection.

Since the publication of part 4 of the catalogue, 35 Hebrew manuscripts have been received, and one in Aramaic and Arabic (Or. 7923) was omitted. Despite its title, it was not found possible to include in the catalogue descriptions of 7 Samaritan manuscripts possessed by the Museum; 6 MSS., however, are described in Rieu's Supplement to the catalogue of Arabic MSS. (nos. 50-55).

Mr. Leveen has sketched the history of the Hebrew collection in the introduction to the fourth part of the catalogue. He shows that the British Museum acquired a fair number of Hebrew manuscripts in its foundation collections. (More than 130 Hebrew MSS., including several charters came with the Harley collection, purchased in 1753.) By 1840 the collection consisted of approximately 200 MSS. (excluding the charters), of which number nearly half were Biblical codices or commentaries. But from that date onwards the scope of the collection was broadened, largely as a result of the efforts of Zedner and William Wright, the former being appointed to the Staff of the Printed Books in 1845 and the latter joining the Department of Manuscripts in 1861.

The largest single collection added to the Museum's shelves was the Almanzi collection bought in 1865 from Asher & Co. of Berlin for the sum of £1,000, and this purchase assured the Museum's entry into the front rank of Hebrew libraries in Europe, 332 MSS. being added, many of which formerly belonged to the well-known scholar and bibliophile Hayyim Joseph David Azulai.

Between 1877 and 1882 the Museum bought nearly 300 MSS. from the ill-fated bookseller W. M. Shapira; including 40 MSS. emanating from the Yemen purchased in 1877 and a collection of 145 volumes of Karaite works in 1882. This latter purchase made the Museum's Karaite Collection second only to the Firkowitsch Collection in Leningrad. In 1889 the Museum issued *British Museum Karaite MSS.: descriptions and collations of portions of the Hebrew Bible in Arabic characters.*

Leveen has also provided a list of dated manuscripts, a feature indispensable in all good manuscript catalogues, which indicates that the oldest MS. in the Museum's collections dates from the year 977 A.D. We learn, too, that 75 of the MSS. are illuminated and that 65 MSS. are autographs.

The Starrs and charters of Jewish interest received in the various collections acquired by the Museum formed the subject of a three volume edition by Israel Abrahams and H. P. Stokes, with additions by Herbert Loewe, published by the Jewish Historical Society in the years 1930 to 1932. Many, if not most, of the Hebrew Starrs had been published previously by M. D. Davis in his *Shetaroth*, which includes all the accessible Hebrew documents relating to the Jews of England prior to their expulsion in the year 1290 extant in the public libraries of this country, mainly the British Museum, Public Record Office and the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey. The Abrahams, Stokes and Loewe edition supplements that of Davis by providing English translations of the charters, together with Latin charters which illustrate the transactions recorded by the original documents.

(b) OTHER LIBRARIES IN AND NEAR LONDON

- H. Hirschfeld: *Descriptive catalogue of Hebrew MSS. of the Montefiore Library*. London, 1904. (Repr. from JQR for 1902 and 1903.)
- A. Neubauer: *Catalogue of the Hebrew manuscripts in the Jews' College, London*. Oxford, 1886.
- D. S. Sassoon: *Ohel David. Descriptive catalogue of the Hebrew and Samaritan manuscripts in the Sassoon Library, London*. 2 vols. London, 1932.
- R. A. Rye: *Catalogue of the printed books and manuscripts forming the library of Frederic David Mocatta . . .* London, 1904.
- A. Löwy: *Catalogue of Hebraica and Judaica in the Library of the Corporation of the City of London, with a subject index*. London, 1891.

The Montefiore Collection in Jews' College Library consists of the old stock of manuscripts collected by Louis Loewe during the life time of Sir Moses Montefiore, as well as manuscripts from Zunz's library and 412 Halberstam manuscripts acquired through the good offices of Dr. Gaster in 1892. Since the

publication of the Hirschfeld catalogue, Jews' College has acquired some 70 additional manuscripts including 10 formerly belonging to Asher I. Myers which are listed in the 80th Annual Report of the College. A descriptive catalogue of 51 of these additional manuscripts by Hirschfeld was discovered among the archives of University College, London in recent years, and a photostat copy is available in Jews' College.

Fifty of the Montefiore manuscripts were retained by the library bearing his name, which was endowed by Sir Moses at Ramsgate when the remainder of the collection was transferred to Jews' College in 1899. These manuscripts are included in the Hirschfeld catalogue and can be sent to Jews' College for the use of scholars there if due notice be given.

Also housed in Jews' College Library are the collections of the Jewish Museum, among which may be found many handsome copies of Scrolls of the Law, Esther rolls and Kethubboth. A description of the museum's contents by Cecil Roth appeared in *The Connoisseur* for Sept.-Oct., 1933 and has been offprinted for sale in the Museum.

Neubauer's catalogue of the Beth Din Library (misleadingly called the Jews' College, London) embraces descriptions of the manuscripts purchased in 1842 from the executors of Solomon Hirschel, Chief Rabbi, with funds bequeathed by A. Ascher.\*

The magnificent library of D. S. Sassoon now at 15 Sollerstott East, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, catalogued in two handsome volumes bearing the title of *Ohel David* in 1932, includes Geniza fragments obtained in 1902, but the bulk of the collection was acquired after the war of 1914-19. Section N of the catalogue describes a number of Samaritan manuscripts. The oldest MS. in the collection is a ninth century Pentateuch from Damascus (no. 507). In 1932 the collection numbered 1,220 manuscripts, of which 1,153 are described in the catalogue.

Until its destruction by enemy action in the war of 1939-45, University College, London, possessed in the F. D. Mocatta

\* 4 MSS. have been added to the collection since the publication of Neubauer's catalogue. Numbers 17, 82, 112, 127, 128, 144 cannot now be traced and must be regarded as missing. The collection comprises 303 separately numbered MSS., bound in volumes numbered 1-149. (Information in a letter from Mr. Marcus Carr, Clerk to the Court of the Chief Rabbi.)

Library an unrivalled collection of material principally illustrating the history of the Jews in England, but containing also Jewish books and MSS. on various subjects. The most valuable of the books and MSS. were saved from the holocaust through having been packed in boxes and removed to a place of comparative safety. At the present time (April, 1954) there are 5 accessible Hebrew MSS. in the College library, 2 being the inevitable Esther scrolls; but in addition to these documents of little value there is a Targum fragment with supralinear punctuation and two very beautifully illuminated service books on vellum. Other MSS. are for the present still packed away and quite inaccessible. The Mocatta Library is, however, it is good to know, to rise again from the ashes, for the Jewish Historical Society, through judicious purchases of Hebrew collections and individual books, has already accumulated a useful successor to the old library, for which it is hoped the College will be able to provide accommodation to enable it to be opened to the public during the present year (1954). The collections of Hebraica and Judaica formerly in the Guildhall Library, catalogued by A. Löwy, have also been placed on permanent loan to the Jewish Historical Society and will form an important part of the resuscitated Mocatta Library.

There are seven rolls in the Library of the British and Foreign Bible Society, as well as two Samaritan Pentateuchs given by Dr. Gaster.

(c) OXFORD

Neubauer, A.: *Catalogue of the Hebrew manuscripts in the Bodleian library and in the college libraries of Oxford, including MSS. in other languages, which are written with Hebrew characters, or relating to the Hebrew language or literature; and a few Samaritan MSS.* (Vol. 2 by A. Neubauer and A. E. Cowley.) Oxford, 1886-1906.

C. Roth: *Handlist of Hebrew manuscripts and other MSS. and documents illustrating Jewish history and literature in the collection of Cecil Roth (Oxford).* (Repr. from *Alexander Marx Jubilee Volume, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America.*) 1950. (With a printed addendum slip.)

The Bodleian catalogue by Neubauer and Cowley contains descriptions of 2,918 manuscripts. The first volume, for



which Neubauer alone was responsible, has the appearance of having taken an "unconscionably long time" in the printing, for after the main section describing 2,321 manuscripts, there are no fewer than seven supplementary chapters, four of which contain entries for manuscripts omitted from the main body of the work or received after its completion. A fifth chapter includes manuscripts written in Roman characters which have a bearing on Hebrew literature, a sixth a list of additional Samaritan manuscripts, and a seventh lists the manuscripts belonging to several of the Oxford Colleges, insufficiently described in Coxe's *Catalogus Codicum MSS. in Collegiis Oxon.* and in Kitchin's catalogue of the library of Christ Church. Of these, the manuscripts belonging to Corpus Christi and Jesus Colleges are now deposited in the Bodleian Library.

The nucleus of the Hebrew collection is formed by the manuscripts received in the Laud, Selden and Marshall collections bequeathed to the University in the seventeenth century and in those belonging to Dr. Robert Huntington and Edward Pococke, Regius Professor of Hebrew, purchased during the same period. Of the more important later additions may be mentioned the Canonici collection of manuscripts bought in 1817, including 110 in Hebrew; the great Hebrew library of Rabbi David Oppenheimer of Prague, bought in 1829 (780 MSS.); the collection of Heimann Joseph Michael, of Hamburg, bought in 1848, which contained 860 MSS., now bound up in 629 volumes; the collection made by Professor Isaac Samuel Reggio of Goritz, bought in 1853; and the Kennicott MSS. and papers transferred from the Radcliffe Library to the Bodleian in 1879.

The second volume, mainly the work of A. E. Cowley, contains descriptions of 316 volumes, among which it is important to mention the 166 volumes containing fragments brought from the Cairo Genizah, which from 1890 the Bodleian began to acquire, principally through the good offices of the Rev. Greville J. Chester and Professor Sayce. The credit for first realizing the importance of the fragments from the Geniza for the study of Hebrew literature and Jewish history in general is due to Dr. Neubauer.

There are 95 Hebrew MSS. not yet described in a published

catalogue, as well as some 50 additional Genizah fragments described in MS. catalogue by Cowley, which it is hoped to publish soon, and a small number of papyrus fragments.

Uri described 6 Samaritan codices in the Syriac section of his catalogue, and 11 additions are included by Neubauer in volume 1 of the catalogue. Cowley's intention of bringing out a separate catalogue of the remaining Samaritan manuscripts was never realized; the Samaritan hand-list now contains 45 items, many of which formerly belonged to Cowley.

The private collection of Cecil Roth, of Merton College, Oxford, lecturer in Jewish Studies in the University and author of the *Magna Bibliotheca Anglo-Judaica* contains 351 items and a printed addendum issued later records 8 additional manuscripts. Among these are to be found a section on "Karaite and Samaritan literature" (nos. 601-628).

The library of Pusey House, Oxford, contains an interesting Hebrew MS., a commentary on the Siddur by one Judah ben Yaqar.

(d) CAMBRIDGE

S. M. Schiller-Szinessy: *Catalogue of the Hebrew manuscripts preserved in the University Library, Cambridge. Vol. 1 [no more published].* Cambridge, 1876.

E. H. Palmer: *A descriptive catalogue of the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish manuscripts in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. With an appendix containing a catalogue of the Hebrew and Samaritan MSS. in the same library* (by W. A. Wright and S. M. Schiller-Szinessy). Cambridge, 1870.

H. Loewe: *Catalogue of the manuscripts in the Hebrew character collected and bequeathed to Trinity College Library by the late William Aldis Wright.* Cambridge, 1926.

H. Loewe: *Catalogue of the printed books and of the Semitic and Jewish MSS. in the Mary Frere Hebrew library at Girton College, Cambridge.* Cambridge [1915].

Dr. Schiller-Szinessy, a Hungarian Rabbi who became Reader in Rabbiniics at Cambridge, brought vast resources of Jewish learning and an unequalled aptitude for careful scholarship to bear on the cataloguing of the Cambridge MSS., the earliest of which had remained for two and a half centuries in the library before their contents could be made widely accessible to scholars. His great catalogue, *Notices of Hebrew MSS.* in

six folio volumes describing MSS. down to Add. 676, remains substantially in MS. (Or. 1116-1121 (13)): only the section dealing with Biblical texts and commentaries (containing entries for 72 MSS.) was ever published, and that in a somewhat abbreviated form. (Sheets for entries 73-98 containing the Talmudic MSS. were printed off but never published.) Schiller-Szinessy's work was continued by Herbert Loewe, who compiled a hand-list to the whole collection, likewise remaining in MS. It is arranged on slips filling two large boxes, with an index on cards in a cabinet, and contains entries for some 900 MSS. 39 MSS. have been received since Loewe's day and remain to be catalogued. The most famous MS. in the collection, which has recently gained a renewal of popularity, is undoubtedly the Nash Papyrus, until recently at any rate regarded as the oldest Biblical MS.

Genizah fragments have already been mentioned as forming part of the collections in the British Museum and the Bodleian; the great bulk, however, was acquired by Cambridge largely as a result of Solomon Schechter's efforts and his negotiations with the Cairo synagogue authorities, and also of the incomparable generosity of the Reverend Charles Taylor, former master of St. John's College, himself a Hebrew scholar of no small ability, who financed Schechter's expedition. The pamphlets were cleaned and treated in three ways on arrival in the library: a specimen still preserved in the state in which the documents were received shows the difficulties which confronted the library officials before the fragments could be bound up in volumes, placed between sheets of glass, or neatly arranged in boxes. The whole collection contains some 28,000 fragments, of which perhaps the most important are the fragments of the Hebrew text of Ecclesiasticus, parts of the Hexapla, the Aquila document (ed. by F. C. Burkitt) and a papyrus codex of liturgical content believed to date from the ninth century. The fragments under glass number 1,811, those bound up in volumes 3,449, while 21,764 are kept in boxes.

The circumstances under which the Geniza fragments first became known in, and transported to, the West, are described by Dr. Kahle in his Schweich lecture for 1941: he gives, too, a

brief summary list of the principal contents. Though no complete catalogue of the collection as a whole has been issued, the documents in glass, and the bound volumes marked 13.J.1-25 (consisting mainly of marriage and other legal documents) have been listed by E. J. Worman in a catalogue which still remains in MS. Other scholars have contributed descriptions of single fragments or of small groups: most important is the list made for his own purposes by Dr. S. L. Skoss of a great number of the Arabic documents, which he generously allowed the library to copy. Many of the most interesting Arabic documents were published in a series of articles in the *Jewish Quarterly Review* over the years 1902-7 by Dr. Hirschfeld.

Some 665 documents from the Genizah, received by the library before the advent of the Taylor-Schechter collection, are preserved in a series of boxes bearing the class-mark Or. 1080. No list of these is available.

Two Scottish ladies, Mrs. Agnes Smith Lewis and Miss Margaret Dunlop Gibson, well known for their contributions to Semitic scholarship, brought back a number of Genizah fragments from one of their journeys to the East. Among these was a parchment document which was handed over for examination to Dr. Schechter. It proved to be part of the missing Hebrew text of Ecclesiasticus, the first of many subsequently to be discovered in various libraries. Schechter's excitement on his discovery may well be imagined: the letter in which he announced it to Mrs. Lewis is preserved among the Hebrew manuscripts. The Lewis-Gibson fragments are now in the library of Westminster College, a theological institution in the founding of which the two ladies were concerned. Schechter began to describe this collection in JQR IX, 1896-7, pp. 115-121, but got no further than the first 8 fragments.

Others of the Cambridge colleges also possess Hebrew manuscripts. An appendix by W. A. Wright and Schiller-Szinessy to Palmer's Catalogue of the Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts in Trinity College describes 28 Hebrew and 4 Samaritan manuscripts. The same William Aldis Wright left his own collection of 159 Hebrew manuscripts to the college he served as vice-master for many years. These 159

MSS., many of which formerly belonged to C. D. Ginsburg, the Duke of Sussex and W. H. Black of Mill Yard, were described in a catalogue published in 1926 by H. M. Loewe.

Loewe also described a Hebrew charter in Peterhouse in his unpublished catalogue of the University Library manuscripts, and published a catalogue of the Mary Frere Hebrew Library in Girton College, wherein are enumerated some 46 Hebrew manuscripts, many in Samaritan characters.

A search through the series of catalogues produced by M. R. James of the manuscripts in the libraries of the colleges will also reveal mention of Hebrew MSS.; Emmanuel has 4, Pembroke 1, St. John's 5, Gonville & Caius 1 Bible and 1 other MS. described in the Supplement, with 1 MS. in the Fitzwilliam Museum. It must be admitted, however, that the examination of these MSS. seems scarcely likely to reward the diligent searcher, and they may with aptness be described in the words of James in his preface to the Pembroke catalogue as "books . . . bequeathed by their fond authors [or owners] to an undisturbed repose on the shelves of a college library."

The Fitzwilliam, however, which has acquired 5 additional Hebrew MSS. since James's catalogues were issued, provides the exception to this statement. There the MSS. collected principally for their artistic value, are well worth inspection.

### OTHER LIBRARIES

E. Robertson: *Catalogue of the Samaritan manuscripts in the John Rylands Library, Manchester*. Manchester, 1938.

Outside the London area, and the University cities of Oxford and Cambridge, the most interesting collection is perhaps that in the John Rylands Library at Manchester, where 26 codices and 1 large sheet of paper in Samaritan are to be found as described in the catalogue by Professor E. Robertson. This collection is part of that formerly belonging to the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres bought by Mrs. Rylands in 1901. In the same library are to be found 47 Hebrew codices not yet described in print, though descriptions in MS. by Loewy, Kerney and others exist for some of them. One of these, an illuminated Spanish Haggadah, is the subject of an article by

Helen Rosenau in *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library, Manchester*, XXXVI, March 1954, pp. 468-483. Recently the remaining portion of the Moses Gaster Library has been acquired.

The Library of the Selly Oak Colleges at Birmingham possesses 3 Hebrew and 2 Samaritan MSS. together with with 40 Genizah fragments. Durham University can muster a small number of Hebrew stars in the collections administered by the Keeper of Palaeography and Diplomatics, and Liverpool University Library has 2 MSS. in its own collections and 6 in the Mayer collection deposited by the City Museum. The Brotherton Library at Leeds possesses three XV-XVI Century synagogue rolls of the Pentateuch in the Holden Library and an Esther synagogue roll of the thirteenth century in the Brotherton collection.\*

Further afield, in the Scottish University libraries we note 1 manuscript in Aberdeen; 2 Hebrew rolls in St. Andrews; 3 MS. codices and rolls of the Pentateuch and Esther in Glasgow; 4 manuscripts and 3 scrolls in Edinburgh University Library, in addition to the papers of James Robertson, formerly Professor of Hebrew; and 2 manuscripts in the National Library of Scotland in this city. Abbott has recorded 23 manuscripts in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin.

There are without a doubt small groups of Hebrew manuscripts in many other British libraries. The Anglican cathedrals and the Jewish synagogue libraries, to name but two possible sources, may well contain a few choice manuscripts of lasting interest. Scrolls of Esther are well-nigh ubiquitous.

\* Birmingham Public Libraries contain a collection of Jewish tallies, 17 in all, 10 of which contain Hebrew writing. A description has been published by Michael Adler in *Miscellanies of the Jewish Historical Society of England*, Part II, 1935. Four of them are also described in H. P. Stokes' *Studies in Anglo-Jewish History*, Part II, pp. 80-82, 1912. (Information given in a letter by Mr. F. J. Patrick, City Librarian.) The Chestham Library, Manchester, has a Hebrew Pentateuch. (*Bibliotheca Chethamensis*, no. 6716.)

## SYRIAC

Most collections of Syriac MSS., and the catalogues describing them, include also MSS. in Karshuni, or "Garshuni" as Mingana preferred, and MSS. of this kind, though strictly speaking in the Arabic language, will be included in the notes on this section. Mandaean MSS. are also included under this heading.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

*Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum Orientalium qui in Museo Britannico asservantur. Pars prima codices Syriacos et Carshunicos amplectens.*  
[By J. Forshall and F. A. Rosen.] Londini, 1838.

*Codices Syriaci I — LXVI*

*Codices Carshunici I — X*

W. Wright: *Catalogue of Syriac manuscripts in the British Museum, acquired since the year 1838.* 3 vols. London, 1870-2.

G. Margoliouth: *Descriptive list of Syriac and Karshuni MSS. in the British Museum acquired since 1873.* London, 1899.

The British Museum collections described by Forshall and Rosen in the Latin catalogue of 1838 consisted of 66 MSS. in Syriac proper and 10 in Karshuni; most of these had belonged to Claudius I. Rich, British Consul at Baghdad, having been acquired by him at Mosul in 1820, and many of them were of extreme antiquity and considerable value. Between the years 1838 and 1864 no fewer than 581 MSS. in Syriac, Karshuni and Mandaean were acquired, principally from the Convent of St. Mary Deipara in the Nitrian Desert in Egypt. The story of how the Convent was eventually persuaded by Mr. Tattam and M. Pacho to part with its treasures is graphically told by Wright in his catalogue, which contains in all descriptions of 1,036 MSS., including some of the oldest dated books in existence, of the fifth century A.D. An appendix offers notes and additions to the earlier catalogue of Forshall and Rosen. Another gives descriptions of the 13 Mandaean (or Mandaitic) manuscripts. Margoliouth's list is much more austere in character, lacking the luxury of the detailed descriptions of Wright, and contenting itself with bare authors, titles and dates. It contains

the Syriac and Karshuni MSS. acquired since 1873, with the pressmarks Or.1240-Or.5463. The MSS. listed were mostly purchased by Budge in the Mosul, Alqosh and Tiari districts in the years 1889 and 1890; other volumes received subsequently came from Urmi and its neighbourhood. Since 1899, 96 Syriac MSS. have been added to the Museum's collections and 10 Mandaean.

(b) OXFORD

*Catalogi codicum manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae pars sexta, codices Syriacos, Carshunicos, Mandaeos, complectens. Confecit R. Payne Smith. Oxonii, 1864.*

Payne Smith catalogued the 205 manuscripts possessed by the Bodleian in 1859. In addition to the MSS. from the older collections, there are included some 60 manuscripts which belonged to the eighteenth-century traveller James Dawkins. The Karshuni MSS. find, as usual, a place in the catalogue and there are 3 MSS. in Mandaean. The number of later accessions is 29, in addition to which there are some small fragments.

In the Oxford colleges, according to H. O. Coxe, are to be found the following MSS.: Merton 1 (no. 98), New 4 (nos. 331, 333, 334, 335), St. John's 1 (no. 70).

(c) CAMBRIDGE

*A catalogue of the Syriac manuscripts preserved in the Library of the University of Cambridge.* By the late W. Wright, with an introduction and appendix by S. A. Cook. 2 vols, 1901.

A. E. Goodman: *The Jenks collection of Syriac manuscripts in the University Library, Cambridge.* (JRAS, 1939, pp. 581-600.)

The Cambridge University MSS. down to Or.11 are described by Wright and Cook in two large volumes, an introduction being provided by Cook which traces the history of the collection. The first Syriac MSS. came to the University with the collection of Oriental MSS. of Thomas van Erpe, better known as Erpenius, which was presented to the University by the widow of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham. Subsequent additions came in with the "Royal Library" of John Moore, Bishop of Ely, presented by George I in 1715, and 3 MSS. from the collection of Robert Huntington, most of



which went to the Bodleian, arrived around that date. The Rev. Claude Buchanan presented the MSS. collected by him in Southern India during his travels in the years 1806-7, and from the S.P.C.K. the library received in 1887 the MSS. which had been collected for it by the Rev. George Percy Badger in the course of his mission through Mesopotamia and Kurdistan. At a much later date came the collection of David Jenks described by A. E. Goodman in the JRAS for 1939, which includes 34 MSS. in the University Library and one in Pembroke College (no. 311). Another collection of 26 MSS. was catalogued by C. P. T. Winckworth, but has never been printed. Since the compilation of these two catalogues 17 MSS. have been received. Trinity College possesses a Syriac grammar in MS. (James 465).

#### (d) SELLY OAK COLLEGES

*Catalogue of the Mingana collection of manuscripts now in the possession of the trustees of the Woodbrooke Settlement, Selly Oak, Birmingham.* (Vol. 1: *Syriac and Garshūni manuscripts*, by A. Mingana. Vol. 2: *Christian Arabic manuscripts and additional Syriac manuscripts*. Vol. 3: *Additional Christian Arabic and Syriac manuscripts*.) Cambridge, 1933-6.

The highly important collection made by Alphonse Mingana in the Near East in 1925 is now housed permanently in the library of Selly Oak Colleges at Birmingham. Mingana spared himself no pains in the amassing of this collection, having copies made when it was not possible to acquire the manuscripts themselves. Mr. George Cadbury should be remembered also in connection with this collection, for having provided the necessary funds to enable Mingana to undertake his journeys. Mingana claims that almost every branch of Syriac literature is represented in this collection which equals the combined collections of the national libraries of Paris and Berlin and is greater than those in Oxford and Cambridge.

The first volume of the catalogue contains descriptions of 606 manuscripts; those of MSS. 607 to 622 are in vol. 2; MSS. Mingana Syriac 623-622 appear in vol. 3, which also contains a biographical sketch of Mingana by D. S. Margoliouth and a bibliography of his works.

## (e) OTHER LIBRARIES

There is a Syriac MS. in the India Office Library, which was described by Furlani in RSO X, 1924, pp. 315-320: another Syriac MS. of little importance in the R.A.S. Library was described by Wright in a handwritten note kept with the MS.: a copy of this note has itself become a Cambridge University MS. (forming part of Or. 983. See Browne, *Supplementary hand-list*, p. 325). The British and Foreign Bible Society owns 9 MSS.

The John Rylands Library at Manchester owns 82 MSS., of which 6 have been described in a catalogue existing only in manuscript. Other MSS. are to be found in Trinity College, Dublin (13 listed in Abbott's Catalogue), Glasgow University Library (8 Syriac, 2 Karshuni, described by Weir in JRAS, 1899, pp. 754-756), Liverpool University Library (1 Karshuni), and Lambeth Palace Library (MS. 1200, a "Gospel book," in H. J. Todd's Catalogue). A collection of Mandaean MSS. in the possession of Lady Drower has been described by her in JRAS 1953, pp. 34-39.

## COPTIC

A list of the principal sources of Coptic MSS. in the world was published by J. Simon in *Le Museon* for 1931 : more information may be found in Kammerer's *A Coptic bibliography* (Ann Arbor, 1950).

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

W. E. Crum : *Catalogue of the Coptic manuscripts in the British Museum*. London, 1905.

*Greek papyri in the British Museum. Catalogue, with texts. Vol. 4, the Aphrodito papyri*, ed. by H. I. Bell. *With an appendix of Coptic papyri*, ed. by W. E. Crum. London, 1910.

The Coptic codices and fragments described by Crum in the first-named catalogue number 1252 (Sa'idic 1-491, 932-1220; Ahmimic 492, 1221-2; Middle Egyptian 493-711, 1223-1244, 1252; Bohairic 712-931, 1245-1251). The Sa'idic for the greater part derive ultimately from the Shenoute monastery at Atri-pe, the Middle Egyptian from the Fayyum and the Bohairic from the Nitrian monasteries. The first instalment to reach the Museum came through Mr. H. Wallis in 1886 : a much larger quantity accrued as a result of the efforts of Budge, to whom the growth of the collection is mainly due. Budge himself edited a good many of the most important manuscripts in the collection.

The papyri form part of the Aphrodito collection found at Kom Ishgau in 1901. Portions of this hoard are at Cairo, Heidelberg and Strassburg, but only at the British Museum are documents in Coptic to be found. They number in all 153 fragments, represented by numbers 1494-1646 in the catalogue.

125 MSS. remain to be catalogued.

### (b) BODLEIAN

Coptic MSS. came early to the Bodleian : the Marshall collection received in 1685 contained 23 MSS., and 29 came in with the Huntington collection of 1693. Five volumes belonging to the eminent German Coptic scholar, Paul Ernst Jablonski, were bought in 1768. In 1790 the Delegates of the Clarendon Press purchased the Coptic portion of the library of

C. G. Woide, including his correspondence, transcripts and collations, together with transcripts made by earlier scholars and 5 volumes containing 65 early fragments, and later deposited the whole collection in Bodley. In 1843 was acquired the famous *Codex Brucianus*. Greville Chester was instrumental in securing for the library a few papyrus fragments in 1888-90, but a much larger consignment belonging to the sixth, seventh and eighth centuries from the library and muniment chamber of the Coptic monastery of St. Apollo at Deir-Balyzeh in the Western Desert of Egypt was received in 1908 through the good offices of Sir Flinders Petrie, its excavator.

Uri described 55 Coptic MSS. in his catalogue of 1787; an unpublished catalogue of the Woide fragments by Henry Hyvernat is available in the Rawlinson Room; the Deir-Balyzeh fragments were described by W. E. Crum in Flinders Petrie's *Gizeh and Rifeh* (1907), pp. 39-43. There remain to be catalogued 26 additional MSS. and a large collection of papyrus fragments.

#### (c) CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge's MSS., 71 in number, were catalogued by that "most genial knight," Sir Stephen Gaselee, formerly the distinguished librarian of the Foreign Office. His catalogue has not yet been printed, and there are now 23 additions, most of them being transcripts and translations of liturgical works made by Dr. R. M. Woolley. Sir Herbert Thompson bequeathed two boxes of fragments of MSS. as well as his large and important collection of ostraca, numbering well over 100 pieces. Five MSS. are to be seen in the Library of Gonville and Caius College, 4 of which are "fragments of Oriental MSS. given by Dr. Swete." Descriptions of these, in James's Catalogue (nos. 805-9), were provided by Gaselee. Other MSS. may also be found in Corpus Christi College, for which see H. Munier: *Mélanges de littérature copte*. I. *Collection du Rev. E. C. Hoskyns* in *Ann. Serv. antiq. Egypte* XIX, 1920, pp. 225-241.

#### (d) JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY, MANCHESTER

W. E. Crum: *Catalogue of the Coptic manuscripts in the collection of the John Rylands Library, Manchester*. Manchester, 1909.

W. E. Crum: *New Coptic manuscripts in the John Rylands Library*. In: *Bull. J.R.L.* V, 1918-20, pp. 497-503.

W. C. Till: *Coptic Biblical fragments in the John Rylands Library*. In: *Bull. J.R.L.* XXXIV, 1952, pp. 432-458.

W. C. Till: *Die nichtkatalogisierten Coptica der John Rylands Library*. In: *Das Antiquariat*, Vienna, VIII, 1952, Nr. 13/18.

The collection, which is the subject of Crum's first catalogue, falls into two distinct parts: the first consisting of the Bohairic MSS. and some of the Sa'idic literary MSS. belonging to Archdeacon Tattam, bought by the 25th Earl of Crawford, and some Sa'idic leaves formerly in the possession of the Rev. R. Lieder and in the collection of J. Lee, who died in 1886; the second, including all the papyri, with a smaller number of parchment and paper fragments was bought from two well-known Gizeh dealers by the 26th Earl in 1898. The collection contains 467 items (Sa'idic 1-410; Middle Egyptian 411-415; Bohairic 416-461; addenda 462-467).

The "new Coptic MSS." are those acquired in Egypt by Rendell Harris. Mostly papyrus, but with some vellum, some 50 odd pieces, according to Crum, were likely to repay further examination. Dr. Till's first article is an edition of the Biblical fragments from this collection, 20 in all, of which all save one are Sahidic, the exception being Fayyumic. The latter article by Till has not been available to the writer of these notes, but the uncatalogued section of the Coptic *fonds* is believed to consist of some 400 papyrus fragments.

Other Coptic MSS. are to be found, according to Simon, in Birmingham University Library, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, School of Oriental and African Studies (2 Arabic-Coptic MSS.), British and Foreign Bible Society (where there are 43 papyrus leaves containing most of the Gospel of St. John, dating from c. A.D. 400, and 4 Coptic-Arabic Gospels), and the private libraries of Sir Alan Gardiner and Miss Margaret Murray, also in the private library of Mrs. J. Wordsworth at Bishopstone, near Salisbury. Kammerer adds the Wellcome Historical Medicine Museum to this list. There are single MSS. in Glasgow University Library (Robson, in *Presentation volume to W. B. Stevenson*, p. 137), St. Andrews University Library

(BS. 1425.c7), Trinity College, Dublin (Abbott 1494), and 2 in Aberdeen University Library (James 101,102). The library of Selly Oak Colleges possesses 4 Coptic MSS. Crum (B.M. Coptic Catalogue, p. xvii, n.1) mentions a MS. in the University Museum, Aberdeen, which contains a collection of charms and was at that time the only Ahmimic MS. then known to him other than the three specimens in the B.M.

Mr. Chester Beatty's Library, now in Dublin, was the recipient of a large find of Coptic translations of lost Manichean works.

## ETHIOPIC

In the compilation of this section the list of manuscript collections given by Zanutto has been used. Ethiopic collections habitually contain MSS. in Amharic, or individual MSS. contain sections in both languages, so that it is not always possible to separate the two languages. MSS. in the other Semitic languages of Abyssinia seem to be extremely rare, only a couple of MSS. in Tigre and Tigrinya, both written by Europeans, being reported in any of the collections.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

*Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum orientalium qui in Museo Britannico asservantur. Pars tertia, codices aethiopicos amplectens.* Londini, 1847. [By A. Dillmann.]

W. Wright: *Catalogue of the Ethiopic manuscripts in the British Museum acquired since the year 1847.* London, 1877.

Dillmann's catalogue describes in Latin 82 codices, of which 4 are entirely and 10 partly in Amharic. The major part was collected in Abyssinia by two missionaries, C. W. Isenberg and J. L. Krapf, of the Church of England Missionary Society, and later handed over by the Society to the Museum. Wright continued the Ethiopic catalogue down to the accessions of the year 1877, with descriptions of 408 MSS., 350 of which (less 10 graciously accepted by Queen Victoria and preserved in the Library at Windsor Castle) represent a portion of the MSS. which are euphemistically described as "coming into the hands" of the British troops who took part in the expedition against King Theodore at the fall of Magdala in 1867. Since the publication of Wright's catalogue in 1877 the Museum has acquired 57 MSS. in Ethiopic. 14 Amharic MSS. have not yet been described in print.

### (b) BODLEIAN

A. Dillmann: *Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae Oxoniensis. Pars VII: Codices Aethiopici.* Oxford, 1848.

*Catalogue of Ethiopian manuscripts in the Bodleian Library. Vol. 2.* By E. Ullendorff. Oxford, 1951.

Dillmann also described the Bodleian MSS., 35 in number, in his catalogue published in 1848. In the hundred years which elapsed before another catalogue was issued 66 additional MSS. were acquired, which were catalogued by Ullendorff in 1951. The additions consist in the main of MSS. brought back from his travels by Bruce and of others acquired during the expedition of 1867-8. There are 2 later accessions to the collection.

#### (c) CAMBRIDGE

The Cambridge University MSS. have been catalogued by S. G. Wright, but his work exists only in manuscript. There are 49 MSS. in Ethiopic, 38 of them appearing in Mr. Wright's catalogue. The 5 Amharic MSS. in the library have never been catalogued. There is an Ethiopic psalter in the Fitzwilliam Museum.

#### (d) OTHER LIBRARIES

14 MSS. belonging to the British and Foreign Bible Society were described by T. F. Platt in 1823, one of them being in Tigre in Roman characters. Since the publication of the catalogue the Society has acquired 8 Amharic, 13 Ethiopic, 4 Tigre, and one listed under the heading "Abyssinian" which is said to be "Instructions of Patriarch Mark of Alexandria." One of the Amharic Bibles is described in Darlow and Marle, *Historical catalogue of printed Bibles* . . . (no. 1556). Jews' College has 1 Ethiopic MS. and two 2 fragments (nos. 24, 25), the complete MS. being an Ethiopic-Amharic glossary, edited by Hirschfeld in JRAS for 1919. The SOAS Library possesses 5 MSS. in Ethiopic and the India Office Library 4 (described by Cerulli in *Oriente moderno*, vol. XXVI, 1946, pp. 109-116) and a collection of letters in Amharic, written by the Emperor Theodore III to Hormuzd Rassam during the latter's visit to Abyssinia in 1864-8.

The John Rylands Library has 33 MSS., of which nos. 1-31 have been described in an unpublished catalogue by J. M. Rodwell and Budge. Also in Manchester are to be found 4 Ethiopic rolls (said to be charm amulets) in the University Library. In the library of Stonyhurst College, near Whalley, in Lancashire, are 3 MSS. In Liverpool University Library



are 5 "Abyssinian MSS." deposited there by the City Museum. A single MS. in the Library of Leicester University College has recently been examined and described by Dr. Ullendorff. Selly Oak Colleges Library has 5 Ethiopic MSS. The 10 MSS. already mentioned as having been accepted by Queen Victoria are preserved in Windsor Castle Library and have been catalogued by Dr. Ullendorff; an article on them is to appear in a forthcoming number of *Rivista di studi orientali*.

In Edinburgh are to be found 3 MSS. in the National Library of Scotland and 2 in the University Library. St. Andrews possesses a single MS., marked PJ. 9097. A7. There are 3 MSS. in Trinity College, Dublin (Abbott's catalogue, nos. 1495-7).

## ARMENIAN

F. C. Conybeare: *A catalogue of the Armenian manuscripts in the British Museum. To which is appended a catalogue of Georgian manuscripts in the British Museum.* London, 1913.

S. Baronian and F. C. Conybeare: *Catalogue of the Armenian manuscripts in the Bodleian Library. (Catalogi codd. mss. Bibliothecae Bodleianae pars XV.)* Oxford, 1918.

Few additions can be made to M. Jean Simon's inventory of the libraries of Europe possessing MSS. in Armenian (published in *Orientalia*, II, 1933, pp. 232-250).

The British Museum's collection of 149 MSS. catalogued by F. C. Conybeare in 1913, grew up over many years, some volumes being received in the foundation and other early collections with the addition more recently of several interesting MSS. from the library of M. Raffi. 22 additional MSS. are enumerated in the *Classified inventory*.

The published catalogue of the Bodleian Library, begun by Baronian and completed by Conybeare, contains descriptions of 124 MSS., and there have been 7 later accessions. The first MSS. received were in the collections of Archbishop Laud in 1635, and further contributions were made by T. Marshall, E. Pococke and Archbishop Narcissus March. A good many were bought during the librarianship of E. W. B. Nicholson, including 50 in the year 1899. Single MSS. are to be found in the libraries of New College (Coxe, p. 115) and Wadham College (Coxe, p. 11).

No catalogue has been published of the Cambridge collection, though one was compiled by A. G. Ellis. To the 16 MSS. described by Ellis must now be added 9 received later. Elsewhere in Cambridge there is an "Armenian Gospel Book" and three miniatures from MSS., believed to date from the thirteenth century, in the Fitzwilliam Museum (James 195, 201); a Psalter in Corpus Christi College (James 478) which belonged to the first English student of Armenian, William Patten; and the private library of Professor H. W. Bailey of Queens' College which includes 12 codices.

In other London libraries, the SOAS Library can count 12 MSS., the British and Foreign Bible Society 3 and 1 "Armeno-Turkish" and Lambeth Palace Library has an Old Testament (no. 1209 in H. J. Todd's catalogue). Manchester's John Rylands Library has 22 MSS. with an unpublished catalogue by the authors of the Bodleian catalogue, and Selly Oak Library at Birmingham possesses 8 MSS. collected by Mingana in the Near East. An illustrated Armenian roll is stated to be in Glasgow University Library (Young and Aitken, p. 565). Mr. Chester Beatty's Library in Dublin contains some illuminated MSS.

## GEORGIAN

Georgian MSS. are painfully few in number in this country. Such collections as exist have been enumerated by the Archimandrite Gregory Peradze (in *Georgica* I, pp. 80-88) and by the indefatigable M. Jean Simon (in *Orientalia* III, 1934, pp. 98-104), and the only addition to these lists which we are able to offer is the 2 MSS. in the private possession of the Georgian scholar, Mr. W. E. D. Allen, of Whitchurch House, Cappagh, Co. Waterford,\* and a group of 8 fragments in Selly Oak College Library, Birmingham.

The British Museum's MSS., 6 in number, were catalogued by Sir Oliver Wardrop, who published his descriptions as an appendix to the Armenian catalogue. There are 2 additional MSS. not yet catalogued.

The Bodleian's Georgian collection is the most important one in Europe. It originally consisted of the entire library gathered together by Mr. (afterwards Sir Oliver) Wardrop in the course of his career in the consular service, and presented by him at intervals after 1910. The collection is known as the "Marjory Wardrop Collection" in memory of his sister: a typewritten catalogue by Miss Ecce Cherkezishvili, describes in English 78 manuscripts, as well as giving the authors and titles in Georgian of the large collection of printed books in that language. The hand-list of the Wardrop Collection, however, lists 118 volumes of MSS. A Menologion of about the year 1040 was described in *Analecta Bollandiana*, vol. XXI, 1912, pp. 301-318. The collection includes a palimpsest leaf from the Genizah containing part of the book of Jeremiah, from the same manuscript as the similar palimpsest fragments in the British Museum and Cambridge University Library.

The Georgian MSS. in Cambridge, 11 in number, were catalogued by R. P. Blake in an article published in the *Harvard Theological Review*, XXV, 1932, pp. 207-224. Included in the list are 2 fragments of Jeremiah from the Taylor-Schechter collection.

\* One of these is Prince Sul Khan Saba Orbeliani's Georgian dictionary, a MS. of the eighteenth century, which Peradze mentioned as having seen at SOAS.

## ARABIC, PERSIAN, TURKISH

It is convenient to treat these three languages together, for, although in number they vastly exceed any single language or conventional grouping, MSS. in all three languages are often contained in the same collections and described in the same catalogues. Many Arabic and Persian MSS. in Hebrew characters will be found described in the catalogues enumerated in the Hebrew section, and Karshuni MSS. are included in the Syriac section.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

#### (i) ARABIC

*Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum orientalium qui in Museo Britannico asservantur. Pars secunda, codices arabicos complectens. (Supplementum, pp. 353-534. Appendices, etc., pp. 535-881.)* [By W. Cureton and C. Rieu.] Londini, 1846 (-1871).

C. Rieu: *Supplement to the catalogue of the Arabic manuscripts in the British Museum.* London, 1894.

A. G. Ellis and E. Edwards: *A descriptive list of the Arabic manuscripts acquired by the Trustees of the British Museum since 1894.* London, 1912.

Part 2 of the *Catalogus codicum manuscriptorum orientalium*, 1846, and the *Supplementum*, 1871, which are usually bound up together and have continuous pagination, describe in Latin 1,653 Arabic MSS. of which 57 are Christian. The original catalogue was compiled by Cureton, who also prepared the entries for a large part of the *Supplementum*, this latter being completed by Rieu. The principal contents of the first section of the catalogue are the MSS. received by the Museum in the foundation collections, especially the Harleian, Sloane and Arundel, numbering between them some 150 volumes; the collections made by Claudius Rich; the books brought home from Egypt in 1802 after the Battle of the Nile by Colonel Tomkyns Hilgrove Turner; and those bought from Hodgson, American Consul at Tunis.

The main division of the *Supplementum* describes MSS. received up to 1859, the principal collections being those

presented by the sons of Major William Yule, of the East India Company; the collection which belonged to the missionary and traveller, Dr. Sternschuss; and the MSS. formerly owned by the Consul Baker. The Appendices carry descriptions of MS. received down to the year 1870.

The first Appendix of the four attached to the *Supplementum* describes, among others, 310 MSS. bought in the years 1860-1863 from Mr. T. K. Lynch, son-in-law of Colonel Robert Taylor, British Resident at Baghdad, a life of whom, by Mr. Lynch, is printed on pages ii-iii of this Appendix.

The second Appendix lists the 41 MSS. which belonged to Cureton, which with books in other languages were acquired in the years 1863-5.

Rieu's *Supplement* describes the accessions since 1871, which by March, 1894, had reached the figure of 1303. Six important private collections are included, those of Alexander Jaba (38 MSS.), Sir Charles Murray (45), Sir Henry Rawlinson (75), Alfred Freiherr von Kremer (198), Dr. Eduard Glaser (328) and E. W. Lane (106). The Glaser MSS. were collected by that scholar mainly during his third journey to the Yemen and include a rich proportion of Zaidi MSS. (Certain stone inscriptions also collected by Glaser are in the Department of Oriental Antiquities.) Edward Lane's MSS., collected by him for use in compiling his *Lexicon* and his *Manners and Customs of the Egyptians*, include highly important lexicographical materials and works of popular literature. Other collections described include those of Colonel J. B. Miles (50), Sir John Kirk (5), Sidney Churchill (10), and the MSS. brought back by Budge from Mosul (173). There are four illuminated MSS. of artistic interest, and a description is provided of what is thought to be the earliest Kufic Koran in Europe, dating from the eighth century of our era. Numbers 1-49 are Christian literature, and 50-55 Samaritan. An appendix provides a descriptive list of 13 MSS. presented by Charles Ingram, Esq., in March, 1894.

The MSS. acquired after 1894 are briefly enumerated in the *Descriptive list* of Ellis and Edwards published in 1912, and include papyri dating from the first century of the Hejra. No information is given as to provenance of the MSS., but they

presumably include the bequest by Darea Baroness Zouche<sup>o</sup> of the MSS. collected as specimens of writing in the eighteen-thirties by Robert Curzon.

Of MSS. received since that time, Esdaile mentions the so-called Sultan's Library from Constantinople, and a long series of gifts by R. S. Greenshields made anonymously over the years 1926-34, while in recent years MSS. have been bought (together with Rabbinical Hebrew works) from the income from the James Mew bequest. In March, 1954, the number of MSS. awaiting publication of a catalogue amounted to 2,669.

## (ii) PERSIAN

C. Rieu: *Catalogue of the Persian manuscripts in the British Museum.* 3 vols. London, 1879-83.

C. Rieu: *Supplement to the catalogue of Persian manuscripts in the British Museum.* London, 1895.

Rieu's catalogue in three volumes contains entries for 2,536 MSS. in all. The printing of the first volume began in 1876 and this volume contains the 947 MSS. in the Museum at that date. The second volume completes the description of MSS. in the Museum at the end of 1876 and "of such of the later acquisitions as came in time to be incorporated into their respective classes." The first part of the third volume brings to a close the descriptive portion of the catalogue, the second part being reserved for various appendices, additions and corrections, indexes and the like.

An essay on the extent, origin and growth of the collections is provided in the third volume. The rapid growth of the Persian collection is illustrated by a comparison of the numbers of MSS. (150) in the Museum at the end of the eighteenth century with that (over 2,500) at the time of the completion of the catalogue. This prolific increase is to some extent accounted for by the acquisition of collections which enriched also the Arabic section of the library, in particular those of Rich, Robert Taylor, Rawlinson, Sternschuss, Jaba, Yule and Cureton. The chief collections important primarily for their Persian contents are those of three historians, Sir John Malcolm,

William Erskine, of whose papers 436 volumes were presented by Claude Erskine in 1865, Sir Henry M. Elliot's 429 Persian MSS. from a total of 458 owned by him; and that of Colonel George William Hamilton from whose 1,000 manuscripts a selection of 352 was made for the Museum. Worthy of note among the older collections are those of Thomas Hyde, Bodley's librarian in the seventeenth century and Nathaniel Brassey Halhed, translator of the "Gentoo Laws."

Rieu's *Supplement* describes the MSS. acquired from 1893 to 1895, 425 in all, of which a prominent place is assigned to the 240 volumes from the Sidney J. A. Churchill collection, including 8 written in Hebrew characters, 2 of them described in this *Supplement*, the remainder reserved for the Hebrew catalogue. There are MSS. of considerable importance for the study of art, containing miniatures with precise dates.

For the acquisitions of 1895-1934, with accessions from that date onwards, a volume of typewritten slips, arranged by titles of works, is available in the Students' Room. 866 MSS. have been received since Rieu's *Supplement* was published.

### (iii) TURKISH

C. Rieu: *Catalogue of the Turkish manuscripts in the British Museum*. London, 1888.

Here again we owe the existence of the definitive catalogue to the labours of that eminent scholar, Charles Rieu. In June, 1888, the Museum possessed 483 MSS., all of which are described in Rieu's catalogue. After the 34 MSS. received in the Harleian Collection, the principal sources were the libraries of Rich, Jaba, Robert Taylor, Kremer and Churchill, with 29 MSS. bought back from Egypt by Hilgrove Taylor. 39 works in "Eastern Turkish, or Chaghatai" are included, and there are eight volumes of poems in Azerbaijani Turkish. A list of works written before the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople is appended, together with a chronological list of the earliest dated MSS. from A.H. 855-999.

771 MSS. have been received since 1888 and await the production of a *Supplement* to Rieu.



## (b) OXFORD

## (i) ARABIC

J. Uri: *Bibliothecae Bodleianae codicum manuscriptorum orientalium . . . pars prima*. Oxonii, 1787.

*Codices christiani litera et sermone arabicis expressi*. I-CV.

*Codices manuscripti arabici*. I-MCCXIX.

A. Nicoll: *Bibliothecae Bodleianae codicum manuscriptorum orientalium catalogi partis secundae volumen primum arabicos compectens*. Oxonii, 1821.

*Codices samaritano-arabici, sive arabici a Samaritanis scripti, et ad literas samaritanas pertinentes*. I-VIII.

*Codices hebraeo-arabici, sive arabici a Judaeis scripti*. I-XIV.

*Codices christiani sermone et literis arabicis expressi*. I-LVI.

*Codices arabici mohammedani*. I-CLVI.

*Partis secundae volumen secundum arabicos compectens*. Edidit et catalogum Urianum aliquatenus emendavit E. B. Pusey. Oxonii, 1835.

*Codices arabici mohammedani*. CLVII-CCCCXXIII. *Codex hebr. arab.* (p. 440).

*Codices arabici christiani* I-XXVI.

Uri's catalogue describes 105 Christian Arabic and 1,219 Islamic MSS. : its continuations and supplements by Nicoll and Pusey bring the totals to 187 and 1,642. The earliest MSS. were acquired with the Laud and Archbishop Marsh collections, to which were added among many others the collection belonging to George Sale, translator of the Koran, included in the deposit made by the Radcliffe Trustees in 1872. For the MSS. received since 1835 a card-catalogue only is available, containing entries for 465 MSS. arranged by author and title. A number of the MSS. of musical interest were described by Dr. H. G. Farmer in JRAS 1925, pp. 639-654.

## (ii) PERSIAN AND TURKISH

*Catalogue of the Persian, Turkish, Hindustani, and Pushtu manuscripts in the Bodleian Library*. Begun by E. Sachau. Continued, completed and edited by H. Ethe. (Part III: *Additional Persian manuscripts*, by A. F. L. Beeston.) Oxford, 1889-1954.

The earliest collections described originally by Uri contained fine illuminated MSS. which had belonged to Pococke, Greaves and Marsh. To these were added in the nineteenth

century the large numbers of important MSS. from the Sir William and the Sir Gore Ouseley collections, and the MSS., close on a hundred, of General Alexander Walker, political resident in Baroda.

Part 1 of the catalogue describes 2,038 MSS., included in this number being a section on Zoroastrian literature by Sachau which records 28 MSS. in "Old Bactrian (otherwise styled Zand), Pahlavi, Parsi, or Pazand, and Persian." Part 2, for which Ethe alone was responsible, contains the MSS. in the other languages mentioned in the title, viz. : Turkish (280), Hindustani (43) and Pushtu (4), as well as additional Persian MSS. numbered 2,039-2,099. A third volume by Dr. Beeston, containing descriptions of 419 Persian MSS., has recently been published.

A few MSS. are to be found in the Oxford colleges, according to H. O. Coxe : Balliol has 3 Arabic (nos. 325, 327, 328) and 4 Turkish (nos. 323, 324, 326, 269) believed to have been given by Theophilus Leigh; Merton has 9 Arabic (nos. Or. 2-4, 11-14, 17, 19), a Latin Koran (no. 29), and 2 Turkish (nos. 15, 16); Exeter 1 Arabic (no. 8); Queen's 1 Arabic (no. 345, a seventeenth-century Koran); New 2 Arabic (nos. 296, 309); All Souls 2 Arabic (nos. 287, 295) and 6 Persian (nos. 288-293); Brasenose 1 Persian (no. 20); Corpus Christi 2 Arabic (nos. 388, 389); St. John's 6 Arabic (nos. 72, 103, 107, 145, 175, 201) and 2 Persian (nos. 105, 133); Jesus 2 Arabic (nos. 24, 117); Wadham 3 Arabic (nos. 42, 43, 45) and 2 Persian (nos. 41, 44). One should, however, not expect to find many treasures among the MSS. here enumerated : a good many will be found to be Korans of little interest.

### (c) CAMBRIDGE

- E. G. Browne : *Catalogue of the Persian manuscripts in the Library of the University of Cambridge*. Cambridge, 1896.
- E. G. Browne : *A hand-list of the Muhammadan manuscripts, including all those written in the Arabic character, preserved in the Library of the University of Cambridge*. Cambridge, 1900.
- E. G. Browne : *A supplementary hand-list of the Muhammadan manuscripts, including all those written in the Arabic character, preserved in the libraries of the University and Colleges of Cambridge*. Cambridge, 1922.

- E. G. Browne : *A descriptive catalogue of the Oriental MSS. belonging to the late E. G. Browne*. Completed and edited with a memoir of the author and a bibliography of his writings by R. A. Nicholson. Cambridge, 1932.
- A. J. Arberry : *A second supplementary hand-list of the Muhammadan manuscripts in the University and Colleges of Cambridge*. Cambridge, 1952.

343 MSS. are included in Browne's Persian catalogue, the preface of which gives a general history of the collections of MSS. written in the Arabic character. Of these the most important are :

1. The Erpenius MSS., given in 1632 by Catherine, widow of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham.
2. Nicolas Hobart, Fellow of King's, gave 16 MSS. in 1655.
3. The Library of John Moore, Bishop of Ely, presented by King George I in 1715, contained a number of Oriental MSS.
4. George Lewis, Archdeacon of Meath, presented in 1727 a cabinet containing a valuable collection of Oriental MSS. (mostly Persian).
5. Three MSS. from Tippoo Sultan's Library given by the directors of the East India Co. in 1806.
6. The valuable collection of J. L. Burckhardt, consisting of 300 MSS., mainly Arabic, and 10 bundles of fragments.
7. Mr. R. E. Lofft presented in 1867-8 a number of Oriental MSS. (mostly Persian) collected by his father in India.
8. In 1870 some 100 volumes of Oriental MSS. were bequeathed by Professor H. G. Williams, Sir Thomas Adams Professor of Arabic 1854-1870.
9. Later donations and bequests include those of Dr. William Wright (1873-4), Professor W. Robertson Smith (1894) and Mrs. Bensly.

The 1900 hand-list includes descriptions of 1,422 MSS. in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Urdu, Pashto, Malay and Panjabi and, in addition, 1 ancient Egyptian fragment, 2 documents written chiefly in the Pahlavi script and certain other Muhammadan writings in Latin and some other Western languages. A list of MSS. dated before A.H. 900 is provided.

The Persian MSS. are included, but the bare title only is given and reference made to the compiler's earlier *Persian Catalogue*.

The supplementary hand-list of 1922 contains descriptions of MSS. in the Arabic character acquired, mostly by purchase, by the University Library since the publication of the *Hand-list* in 1900. In addition 776 MSS. in the college libraries are included, making 1,570 in all, with 8 most recent additions to the University Library collections. Details of the college MSS. are: Clare 3, Pembroke 3, Corpus Christi 254 (collected mostly in Lucknow by Colonel Honnor and presented to the college by a subsequent owner, Francis Hodder, Esq.), King's 257 (from the collection made by Edward Ephraim Pote in the latter half of the eighteenth century, divided in two equal shares between King's and Eton. The King's MSS. were catalogued by E. H. Palmer in JRAS 1867, pp. 105-131; the Eton MSS. found a cataloguer in D. S. Margoliouth), Queens' 13, St. Catharine's 4, Jesus 17, Christ's 58, St. John's 39, Magdalene 1, Trinity 89 (catalogue by E. H. Palmer published in 1870), Emmanuel 23. Browne describes also 12 MSS. in the Fitzwilliam Museum, and to this collection there have since been added 3 Korans (nos. 265, 342 and 374) and 17 Persian MSS. (nos. 309, 311, 323, 343, 344, 373, 378, 1948: 1-7, and 1949: 1-3), all of which are preserved for the artistic value of their illuminations or calligraphy. The Museum also possesses, in no. 314, a "collection of stencils and sketches for decorating Turkish MSS."

Browne's own library, first deposited in, and later handed over to, the University Library, includes 30 MSS. dealing with the Babis, the collection formerly belonging to Sir Albert Houtum-Schindler, described by Browne in JRAS 1917, pp. 657-694, and at least 100 MSS. bought from Hajji 'Abdu'l-Majid Belshah, who died in 1923. 57 MSS. were bought from the Trustees of the British Museum in December, 1923, and January, 1924. The total number of MSS. designated by class-marks is 468, of which 67 are Shaykhi and Babi MSS., and 10 are Turkish poetry. There is one non-Islamic book (Z.1), a Zoroastrian catechism in Persian verse. An appendix contains descriptions of 9 supplementary MSS. to which no class-mark had been assigned, and some additional works may be

found in the lower drawers of the cabinet containing the Browne MSS.

Arberry's "second supplementary hand-list" describes, in fact, 450 MSS. in Arabic and Persian in the University Library only, the most important collection included being that bequeathed by R. A. Nicholson, and consisting partly of MSS. which the Professor had inherited from his grandfather, John Nicholson, a merchant trading to the East.

There may be a few more Arabic and Persian MSS. in the University Library that have been omitted from Arberry's catalogue, for in 1947, 481 MSS. in these languages (294 Arabic, 187 Persian) were counted; some discrepancy in the figures could be occasioned by some of the manuscripts being bound up in more than one volume. One of the boxes in the Taylor-Schechter collection contains a number of fragments in Arabic script, this in addition, of course, to the vast amount of material in Arabic but in Hebrew characters. 23 Turkish MSS. remain to be catalogued.

#### (d) INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY

O. Loth: *A catalogue of the Arabic manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. London, 1877.

*Catalogue of the Arabic manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. Vol. 2: London, 1930- . I. *Qur'ānic literature*, by C. A. Storey. II. *Sufism and ethics*, by A. J. Arberry. III. *Fiqh*, by R. Levy. IV. *Kalām*, by R. Levy.

E. Denison Ross and E. G. Browne: *Catalogue of two collections of Persian and Arabic manuscripts preserved in the India Office Library*. London, 1902.

H. Ethé: *Catalogue of the Persian manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. Vol. 1: Oxford, 1903; Vol. 2: containing additional descriptions and indices, revised and completed by E. Edwards. Oxford, 1937.

Loth described 1,050 manuscripts in the library's possession in 1876, the principal sources being the Bijapur Collection (438 vols., the remnant of the library of the 'Adil Shahs); the collection of Richard Johnson; the collections of Warren Hastings; the remnant of the John Leyden Library; the Tippoo Sultan collection deposited in 1806; and the College of

Fort William collection received in 1837. 5 Kufic fragments and 2 Karshuni MSS. are included. The second volume, when completed, will contain descriptions of some 2,150 MSS. received between 1876 and 1935, including the Delhi collection deposited by the East India Company. Up to now (April, 1954) 1,170 MSS. have been described in the four parts issued. Arabic and Persian MSS. received since 1935 have been described in two articles by A. J. Arberry in *JRAS* 1939, pp. 353-396 and *Islamic Culture* XIII, 1939, pp. 440-458 respectively. In the first are described 76 MSS. received during the years 1936-8, and in the second 17 MSS. received "during the last five months," presumably those of 1939.

The two collections described by Ross and Browne were transferred to the India Office Library by the Royal Society, to whom they had been given by Sir William Jones and Burjoree Sorabjee Ashburner respectively. The former collection contains 118 MSS. (81 Persian, 36 Arabic, 1 Urdu), the latter 113 (86 Persian, 6 Arabic, 2 Urdu, 9 "Zoroastrian"). In addition the catalogue contains descriptions of "Mulla Firuz transcripts" (8 Persian, 4 Arabic, 2 Urdu) and 15 fragments.

The first volume of the Persian catalogue contains, in classified order, descriptions of 3,003 MSS. (nos. 2,828-2,988 "additional" at the end, 2,989-3,003 in an appendix), classified in the four main divisions of history, poetry, sciences (mental, moral and physical) and Parsee literature (10 items, all in Persian). The second volume contains descriptions of 73 "additional Persian MSS. recently discovered in the library" as well as a "conspectus of the MSS." and indexes. The chief collections from which the MSS. are drawn are those of Tippoo Sultan and the College of Fort William. Other Persian MSS. are described in the catalogue of the Royal Society collection and in the articles by Arberry, all of which have been already mentioned. Mr. Sutton estimates the total number of Persian MSS. to be in the region of 4,850; a catalogue of the 1,550 MSS. from the Delhi collection and of accessions since 1935 is in preparation.

There are 23 MSS. in Turkish languages at present undergoing description.

## (e) OTHER LIBRARIES IN LONDON

## S.O.A.S. LIBRARY

The School of Oriental and African Studies Library possesses 166 MSS. entirely in Arabic and 20 others in which Arabic is one of the languages concerned; 398 in Persian, as well as 11 in which Persian is associated with other languages; and 29 in Turkish, with 13 in which Turkish is associated with Arabic or Persian or both. A catalogue compiled by Professor A. J. Arberry of the Arabic and Persian MSS. has not yet been published, but descriptions of all the MSS. can be found in the library's general catalogue. Among the collections so described is that of the 109 Persian MSS. collected by Mr. D. D. Dickson which were presented in 1942 by his nephew Mr. R. C. Reid. Others of the Dickson MSS. are in Darlington Public Library.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON LIBRARY

The Library of University College, London, has a very small collection of 6 Arabic and 2 Persian MSS. Some of the Arabic MSS. belonged formerly to S. Arthur Strong; 2 are of mathematical content, and 1 of the Persian MSS. is an anatomical treatise illustrated with rather crude drawings.

## THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

O. Codrington: *Catalogue of the Arabic, Persian, Hindustani, and Turkish MSS. in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society.* (JRAS 1893, pp. 501-569.)

This collection, the catalogue of which is compiled chiefly from descriptions of MSS. written by W. H. Morley in 1838 and 1854 and Guy Le Strange in 1881, contains 48 Arabic, 351 Persian, 13 Urdu (Hindustani) and 43 Turkish MSS. Additions received by the Society since the catalogue was published are: 16 Arabic, 40 Persian, 1 Urdu and 4 Turkish. In addition, a collection presented by A. G. Ellis contains 14 Arabic and 39 Persian MSS.

## THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

A. S. Tritton: *Catalogue of Oriental manuscripts in the Library of the Royal College of Physicians.* (JRAS 1951, pp. 182-192.)

Of the 45 Arabic, 17 Persian and 1 Turkish MSS. described, 7 represent survivors of the collection bequeathed by John Selden to the college in 1654. The majority of Selden's Oriental MSS. went to the Bodleian.

#### THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

In Bible House there are some twenty Arabic MSS., mostly of modern translations of the Bible into the literary language or the spoken dialects, but including 4 Korans, one of them being a fragment of two pages in Kufic characters. There are many modern Persian MSS., including one emanating from the Babi sect, and an important Turki MS. of the *Tarikh i Rashidi*, written in 1543 A.D.

#### PRIVATE LIBRARY

Mr. C. S. Mundy, Lecturer in Turkish in the School of Oriental and African Studies, possesses a small but highly interesting private collection of MSS., mainly collected in the East, containing 23 Arabic, 59 Persian, and 207 Turkish. Of the Turkish MSS. 11 are described as "Turki" and 2 Chaghatay, and 1 *mecmua* contains a commentary in a Caucasian language; most subjects are represented, but the collection is strongest in tales, romances and anecdotes, and Turkish poetry. In addition, the collection contains one Karamanlitika MS., 1 Greek in Arabic characters, 2 Greek proper, 1 Karshuni and 1 Kurdish.

#### (f) MANCHESTER

- A. Mingana: *Catalogue of the Arabic manuscripts in the John Rylands Library, Manchester*. Manchester, 1934.  
 D. S. Margoliouth: *Catalogue of Arabic papyri in the John Rylands Library, Manchester*. Manchester, 1933.

The 818 MSS. (21 in an appendix) described in this catalogue are for the major part from the Bibliotheca Lindesiana of the Earls of Crawford and Balcarres. Lord Crawford has described the genesis and development of the collection in a note quoted by Mingana: begun by his father during travels in Egypt and Syria in 1836-7, it was built up by occasional purchases which included MSS. from the Library of Caussin de Perceval and the Castel-Bruno section of Silvestre de Sacy's



Library, its most important accessions coming as a result of the purchase en bloc in 1866 of Nathaniel Bland's Library of 631 volumes and that in 1868 of the 710 MSS. belonging to Colonel G. W. Hamilton, H.E.I.C. 22 volumes were acquired for the library by Mingana during his travels in the Near East in the years 1924, 1925 and 1929.

Christian literature accounts for numbers 1-9 of the MSS. There is a valuable Koran in Kufic script dating from the end of the eighth century, and a large Koran with interlinear Persian and Eastern Turkish translations.

In addition to the MSS. described by Mingana there are a large number of fragments, 27 on vellum, 630 paper and 252 papyrus, which are unlisted. It is not known whether any of these papyrus fragments are included in the catalogue of Margoliouth.

The collection catalogued by Margoliouth was bought, together with a large number of paper fragments, by the Earl of Crawford in 1899, passing into the possession of the John Rylands Library in 1901. Of the 430 items described, the greater number date from the third century A.H., with a few representatives of the second and fourth centuries and some doubtfully assigned to the fifth; "minor fragments" account for 197 of the total.

The library has not yet produced a catalogue of its Persian and Turkish MSS. which number 964 and 174 respectively. A hand-list, however, prepared by M. Kerney while the MSS. were still in the hands of the Earl of Crawford was privately printed at Aberdeen in 1898, under the title *Bibliotheca Lindesiana. Hand-list of Oriental manuscripts, Arabic, Persian, Turkish*. At that time the collection numbered 773 Arabic, 912 Persian and 166 Turkish MSS.

Some 20 of the Persian MSS. are illustrated with miniatures, and a few of these have been described by Mr. R. B. Robinson of the Victoria and Albert Museum in *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, XXXIV, 1951, pp. 69-80.

MSS. in Arabic characters are also found in other libraries in Manchester, the University possessing 20 Persian and 2 Arabic MSS., and the Chetham Library 18 MSS. (*Bibliotheca Chethamensis*, nos. 6,704, 7,979-7,994, 27,856).

## (g) BIRMINGHAM

A. Mingana : *Catalogue of the Mingana Collection of manuscripts now in the possession of the Trustees of the Woodbrooke Settlement, Selly Oak, Birmingham.* (Vol. 2: *Christian Arabic manuscripts and additional Syriac manuscripts.* Cambridge, 1936. Vol. 3: *Additional Christian Arabic and Syriac manuscripts.* Cambridge, 1939. Vol. 4: *Islamic Arabic manuscripts*, by H. L. Gottschalk. Fasc. 1, *Qur'ān, hadīth, fiqh.* Fasc. 2, *Dogmatics, mysticism, philosophy, history, and science.*) Birmingham, 1948, 1950.

The origin of this collection, as has already been explained, lies in the journeys to the Near East undertaken by Mingana at the expense of Mr. George Cadbury. The Christian Arabic MSS., 272 in number, exceed those in the British Museum. In addition to these, the collection comprises Islamic MSS., estimated at 1,650 in number, of which 991 have been described in the two fascicules issued so far, as well as 17 Persian and 2 Turkish MSS. and a collection of Arabic papyri.

At Oscott College, Sutton Coldfield, there is said to be "a curious Turkish ms. describing the voyage of a merchant-ship, commanded by a Captain Basci, which set sail from Constantinople in the year 1137." It belonged formerly to Cardinal Wiseman.

## (h) OTHER ENGLISH LIBRARIES

Other libraries with MSS. in Arabic characters in England include the Bristol Baptist College, said to have some Malay, Persian and other Oriental MSS.; Darlington Public Library, with 3 Arabic and 22 Persian MSS. formerly belonging to D. D. Dickson; Durham University Library (Near East section) with 3 Arabic and 3 Persian MSS., and another group of 22 MSS. recently deposited by Dr. F. Rahman; and Liverpool University Library, wherein are to be found 6 Arabic and 15 Persian MSS. on loan to the City Museum, and 2 MSS. in its Rylands collection in Arabic and Turkish. The Library of Lincoln Cathedral has 5 Arabic MSS., 3 of which are medical treatises; they are enumerated in Woolley's *Catalogue* (nos. 271-5). The MSS. in Eton College Library were described by D. S. Margoliouth in a catalogue published in 1904. As has already been told, E. E. Pote, scholar of King's College, Cambridge, divided his collection between

King's and Eton. He had acquired part of the collection of Colonel Polier (who achieved fame by being the first to bring to England a complete copy of the Veda), 215 MSS. being in Persian and Arabic, and 4 in Hindustani. The last item, in an unknown language, is a copy of the Gun-Sāgar, said to be a "poem of a mystic character."

#### (i) SCOTLAND, IRELAND, WALES

The Islamic MSS. in St. Andrew's University Library have recently been catalogued by Mr. D. M. Dunlop, lecturer in Arabic in the University of Cambridge; they number 22 Arabic and 15 Persian.

Aberdeen University Library has 5 Arabic and 24 Persian MSS., of which 4 and 16 respectively are mentioned in James's catalogue of the Aberdeen MSS.

In Dunimarle Castle, near Culross in Fifeshire, the home of the Erskines of Torrie, there is a library and museum set up by a former owner. Among the collections are 24 Persian MSS., of which 4 contain illuminations that were considered worthy of the attention of Mr. R. B. Robinson of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

#### EDINBURGH

Mohammed Ashraful Huk, H. Ethé and E. Robertson: *A descriptive catalogue of the Arabic and Persian manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library*. Edinburgh, 1925.

This catalogue, in two sections, first the Baillie collection, then Miscellaneous collections, with the usual appendix of additional MSS. and further additions, describes 429 MSS.; the main collection, singled out for special treatment, is that formed by Lieut.-Col. John Baillie of Leys, the 113 MSS. of which were presented to the library by his grandson in 1876.

Other donors of 10 MSS. or more (it is doubtful if Edinburgh ever bought an Oriental MS.) include David Anderson (113), James Anderson (54), Robert Brown (10), and David Laing (10). Since the publication of its catalogue the library has obtained 10 Arabic, 12 Persian and 2 Turkish MSS.; it also possesses four large boxes of fragments of Arabic and Persian MSS., some of them quite substantial.

The National Library of Scotland possesses 10 Arabic and 14 Persian MSS.

The 17 Arabic, 72 Persian and 4 Hindustani MSS. in New College, Edinburgh, have been listed in a pamphlet published by Dr. R. B. Serjeant in 1942. Also noted were approximately 25 Turki MSS., some papers, and the incomplete MS. of a Turki-English dictionary, the bequest of one George Dickson and his wife. Other contributors to the collection were R. M. B. Binning, I.C.S., author of a *Journal of two years' travel in Persia and Ceylon*, London, 1857, in which he describes the circumstances of his acquiring the MSS. A descriptive hand-list of the Turkish MSS., by J. R. Walsh, has been announced as in preparation.

#### GLASGOW

J. Young and P. Henderson Aitken : *A catalogue of the manuscripts in the Library of the Hunterian Museum in the University of Glasgow*. Glasgow, 1908.

J. Robson : *Catalogue of the Oriental MSS. in the Library of the University of Glasgow*. (In: *Presentation volume to William Barron Stevenson*, ed. by C. J. Mullo Weir. *Studia semitica et orientalia*, vol. II, Glasgow, 1945, pp. 116-117.)

The entire collections of Dr. William Hunter, *realia* as well as *literaria*, were handed over to the University of Glasgow in 1807. The Oriental MSS. are listed on pp. 451-523 of the catalogue issued. Previous lists of the Arabic MSS., and the Persian and Turkish MSS. were published in the JRAS for 1899, pp. 739-756 and 1906, pp. 595-609 by Dr. T. H. Weir (the Turkish MSS. being described by E. J. W. Gibb), who collaborated with Mr. Aitken in the preparation of the catalogue of 1908. There would seem to be 61 Arabic, 29 Persian and 31 Turkish MSS. in the Weir catalogues; Aitken mentions in addition a "Tartar" MS. and an "illuminated roll of the Koran."

The chief donors to this collection appear to be H. G. Farmer, the Arabic musicologist, and James Craufurd, formerly district and sessions judge in Bengal. 19 Arabic, 18 Persian MSS. and a Persian-Turkish dictionary are described. The Farmer collection contains, in addition, numerous photostatic

reproductions of Arabic musical MSS. belonging to other libraries.

#### DUBLIN

T. K. Abbott: *Catalogue of the manuscripts in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin*. Dublin, 1900.

The Oriental manuscripts are encountered on pages 402-436. From the preface we learn that among the donors are numbered Dr. Huntingdon [*sic*] of Merton College, Oxford, who in 1682 presented 1 Syriac and 11 Arabic MSS. In 1786 some "beautiful Oriental MSS." were given by W. Digges Latouche. At a later period some of Sir W. Gore Ouseley's Oriental MSS. were bought for the library. The Arabic MSS. are numbered 1514-1547 and 1678 in the catalogue; 1548 is in both Arabic and Persian, Persian are 1549-1611 and 1679-1682, Hindustani and Persian 1612, Hindustani 1613-1616, and Turkish 1617-1623. Mr. Chester Beatty's library possesses a large number of interesting miniatures. The catalogue of the Indian miniatures, by Sir T. W. Arnold, revised and edited by J. V. S. Wilkinson, 1936, gives details of some of the Persian MSS. wherein these are contained.

#### ABERYSTWITH

H. Ethe: *The National Library of Wales. Catalogue of Oriental manuscripts, Persian, Arabic and Hindustani*. Aberystwith, 1916.

During his tenure of the chair of Oriental Languages at Aberystwith, Ethe compiled this catalogue of the small collection of 24 MSS. (Persian 21, Arabic 2, Hindustani 1), of which the major portion was brought back from India in 1797 by Archdeacon Benjamin Millingchamp, D.D.

## SANSKRIT, PALI, PRAKRIT

Dr. V. Raghavan, Professor of Sanskrit at the University of Madras, and compiler of the *New catalogus catalogorum*, on a recent visit to Europe inspected and noted most of the uncatalogued collections of Sanskrit MSS. in this country. The present writer gratefully acknowledges the help given him by Dr. Raghavan who intends, it is understood, to publish a list of the MSS. found by him in his travels, in addition to including them in the normal way in the *New catalogus catalogorum*.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

C. Bendall : *Catalogue of the Sanskrit manuscripts in the British Museum*. London, 1902.

559 MSS. in all are described in this catalogue, arranged in two main parts, Vedic and Brahmanical literature, and Buddhistic literature. The Jain literature is reserved for a future volume, for which the world is still waiting. 11 works contain illuminations, three of them Buddhist.

The principal donors to the British Museum's collection have been, after the 6 MSS. acquired with the Sloane collection, T. H. Baber, who in 1829 presented a collection of South Indian MSS. (Add. 7123-7136); Professor William Wright, who presented a valuable and ancient series of MSS. from Nepal; Sir A. W. Franks and Colonel J. B. Mills, who made donations of several MSS. in 1873 and 1891 respectively. Purchases of MSS. have included those bought from Lieut.-Col. A. L. H. Polier (1741-95) who is said to have possessed the first collection of Vedic MSS. made by a European; the collection of Sanskrit and other Indian MSS. which had been built up by N. B. Halhed while in the service of the East India Company; the collection of transcripts of Sanskrit works on astronomy and mathematics made by Major (afterwards Colonel) Thomas Best Jervis; the Erskine collection bought in 1868, principally important for the Persian material, but including also works on Jain literature, and texts in Hindi and Panjabi; the collections made in Nepal and Northern India by Professor Bendall and Surgeon-Major G. H. D. Gimlette, respectively;

and finally the collection of Dr. H. Jacobi, containing many works on the Jain religion and writings by Jain authors, which its owner had garnered in Rajputana, and which is stated to be the finest individual collection of Indian MSS. in the Museum.

Printed lists of the Museum's Pali MSS. were published in JPTS 1883, pp. 134-144 and 1888, pp. 108-111 by Dr. Hoerning, but a typewritten list of some 345 MSS., including those in the printed lists, is available in the Students' Room. 36 additional MSS. have been received since the preparation of the typed list. Many Pali and Sanskrit MSS. were also received in the collection formerly belonging to Hugh Nevill, a list of which is also provided in the Students' Room. A few Sanskrit MSS. were included in the Central Asian collections of Sir Aurel Stein and lists are available in the Students' Room for these as they are for those Kharosthi documents collected by the same explorer which fell to the Museum's share. The Kharosthi list contains only descriptions of the external forms of the documents: for the contents recourse must be made to the edition of the documents by Boyer, Rapson and Senart.

There still remain 329 Sanskrit and 116 Prakrit MSS. for which no printed catalogue has yet been issued.

### (b) BODLEIAN

Th. Aufrecht : *Catalogi codicum manuscriptorum Bibliothecae Bodleianae pars septima, codices sanscriticos complectens.* Oxonii, 1864.

*Catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts in the Bodleian Library.* Vol. 2 : Begun by M. Winternitz, continued and completed by A. B. Keith. Oxford, 1905.

A. B. Keith : *Catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts in the Bodleian Library.* Appendix to Vol. 1 (Th. Aufrecht's catalogue). Oxford, 1909.

A. B. Keith : *A catalogue of the Sanskrit and Prakrit MSS. in the Indian Institute Library.* Oxford, 1903.

A. B. Keith : *Catalogue of Prakrit MSS. in the Bodleian Library.* Oxford, 1911.

The Bodleian's Sanskrit collections began with the purchase of the H. H. Wilson collection of 540 volumes for £500 in 1842. Wilson was the first professor of Sanskrit to be appointed by the University on the foundation by Colonel Boden of the chair in that language in 1827: his collection was formed in India while he was serving the East India Company. The next

collection to be bought was that unpatriotically sold to the Bodleian by the Rev. W. H. Mill, Regis Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge, but the price paid for it, £350 for 160 volumes, may have afforded some satisfaction to the rival University. The Walker collection, part Sanskrit and part Persian, had been presented by Sir William Walker in 1845; the Indian volumes numbered 100. Other benefactions included the 7 volumes given by B. H. Hodgson in 1837, and a few MSS. given in 1859 by Fitzedward Hall; and the 41 early but fragmentary MSS. which James Fraser had bought in Surat and elsewhere in India were transferred by the Radcliffe Trustees. This collection had been rightly described by Fraser himself as "the first collection of that kind ever brought to Europe."

Later purchases included 23 MSS. selected for the Bodleian by Dr. G. F. W. Thibaut in Allahabad, the magnificent collection of 465 volumes sold by Dr. Eugen Hultsch at the very reasonable price of £200, the famous Bower MS. bought for £50 by the librarian, E. W. B. Nicholson, while making a "passing call" by Quaritch's shop, and the Hoernle MSS. and Weber fragments bought from Dr. Hoernle in 1900 and 1902. By the purchase of the Hoernle MSS. the Bodleian acquired 34 palm-leaf MSS. written between the eleventh and sixteenth centuries, including 4 dated in the eleventh century: the Weber fragments are assigned to a date not later than the fifth century and consist of 72 narrow leaves of woolly paper written on both sides. In 1902 Dr. Hoernle also presented the Bakshali MS., an arithmetical MS. on 70 small leaves of birch bark, possibly of the tenth century.

All these collections are described in the first 2 volumes of the catalogue, 854 MSS. in Aufrecht's volume, and the remaining 767, making 1,621 in all, in the second volume. It had originally been intended that Professor Max Müller should catalogue the Vedic MSS. and their descriptions were consequently omitted from the first volume. That eminent scholar found, however, that his commitments would not allow him to complete this work. They are included, therefore, with some of the MSS. from the earlier collections, omitted from the first volume, in the second. The third volume was compiled by A. B. Keith at Nicholson's request in



order to bring the standards of technical description of the MSS. in the first volume up to those demanded of, and achieved by, the authors of the second.

Since the publication of the catalogue many valuable collections have been received. In 1907 a number of transcripts made by Dr. Mill were acquired. Though Max Müller's own Vedic MSS. went to Tokyo, the Bodleian was able, by means of a grant from a fund raised in his memory, to buy about 90 MSS. from a pundit in Benares in 1908. These MSS. were described in a special catalogue by T. Gambier Parry entitled : *A catalogue of the Sanskrit MSS. purchased for the administrators of the Max Müller Memorial Fund*, 1922. The remainder of the library from which the 90 MSS. were selected was bought by the Maharajah Sir Chandra Shum Shere, Prime Minister of Nepal and by him presented to Bodley. This magnificent donation of no fewer than 6,330 MSS. which more than doubled the size of the Bodleian collections, was also catalogued by Gambier Parry, but his descriptions remain unpublished. There are also 27 later accessions, in addition to some\* transferred from the Indian Institute, which are not yet catalogued.

The 162 MSS. of the Indian Institute Library catalogued by Keith include those presented by Sir Monier Monier-Williams, and the Rev. S. C. Malan, as well as a few purchased in 1886. All have now been transferred to the custody of the Bodleian. The Monier-Williams collection contains a considerable number of Tantric works and a valuable collection of Jaina Prakrit books procured in 1877-78 through the agency of Professor Georg Bühler.

Also transferred to the Bodleian was the collection of 370 Sanskrit MSS. first lent and later bequeathed to the Institute by Sir Aurel Stein, which had been collected chiefly at Srinagar between 1885 and 1905. A mass of diaries and notebooks kept by Stein during his several journeys into Central Asia also came to the library after his death.

Single Sanskrit MSS. are also to be found in Brasenose College (no. 22, Coxe, p. 7) and in All Souls (no. 296, Coxe, p. 78).

\* 93 according to Dr. Raghavan.

The Pali MSS. in the Bodleian, some 34 in number, were listed by Dr. Frankfurter in the *Journal of the Pali Text Society* for 1882, pp. 30-31. Keith's *Prakrit Catalogue*, 1911, also includes further "Addenda to Aufrecht's Catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts."

(c) CAMBRIDGE

C. Bendall: *Catalogue of the Buddhist Sanskrit manuscripts in the University Library, Cambridge*. Cambridge, 1883.

The 248 MSS. described in this catalogue represent the "chief and most characteristic portion" of a large number of MSS. collected in Nepal by Dr. Daniel Wright, while acting as surgeon to the British Residency at Kathmandu, Nepal, on the suggestion of Professor W. Wright, whose name has occurred with remarkable frequency in these pages. In seeking to make known to scholars its valuable collections of Indian MSS., Cambridge has long suffered from a sense of frustration. Bendall's catalogue is the only one that the University has been able to print for its Indian collections, on which a vast amount of work has been bestowed by scholars, including Dr. de la Vallée Poussin, Thedore Aufrecht, Miss C. M. Ridding and especially Dr. E. J. Thomas, in whose charge the collections were for many years, and whose breadth of knowledge and range of languages were a source of inspiration, inciting to a hopeless emulation all who, like the present writer, were privileged to work with him. The number of Sanskrit MSS. uncatalogued is put at 979: the figure for the Pali MSS., some of which were listed in the *Journal of the Pali Text Society* by Dr. T. W. Rhys Davids in 1883, now stands at precisely 100. A large number of Pali works, in a variety of scripts, which have never been given more than a very superficial examination, were received by the library in 1933 from Lady Scott in accordance with the wish expressed by her husband, Sir Robert Forsyth Scott, Master of St. John's College. A short note on this collection, formed by Sir J. G. Scott in Burma, appeared in the *JRAS* for 1889, pp. 466-467.

There are 60 Sanskrit MSS. in Corpus Christi College, 4 Pali MSS. in Trinity, and 16 Sanskrit MSS. in the possession of Professor H. W. Bailey, of Queens' College.

## (d) INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY

*Catalogue of the Sanskrit manuscripts in the Library of the India Office.* London, 1887-1904. [Volume 1.] Pt. 1 : *Vedic manuscripts*. Pt. 2 : *Sanskrit literature* (Pts. 1-3, 5-7 by J. Eggeling; Pt. 4 by E. Windisch and J. Eggeling). Volume 2 : *Brahmanical and Jaina manuscripts*, by A. Berriedale Keith; with a supplement, *Buddhist manuscripts*, by F. W. Thomas. Oxford, 1935.

C. H. Tawney and F. W. Thomas : *Catalogue of two collections of Sanskrit manuscripts preserved in the Library of the India Office.* London, 1903.

The two volumes of the main catalogue describe 8,220 MSS. derived from 11 principal collections named after their former owners : Colebrook (the largest of all, with 2,749 MSS.), the Gaekwar of Baroda (506), Mackenzie (1,165), John Taylor (269), B. H. Hodgson (161), Sir Charles Wilkins (148), Burnell (148), Bühler (321), Tagore (140), Aufrecht (87), and G. A. Jacob (145), all of them which were presented to the library, with the exception of the Mackenzie collections and about half of the Burnell collection. The two collections catalogued by Tawney and Thomas are the Sir William Jones collection and the Ashburner collection, together numbering 86 MSS., formerly in the custody of the Royal Society.

The India Office Library's share of the Stein documents consisted of the Brahmi manuscripts and fragments, as well as of those in Khotanese, Kuchean and Tibetan. Most of the Sanskrit items were found during Stein's second expedition at the Khadalik site, and though no complete catalogue of the collection has yet been prepared, lists of the finds, numbering several thousand documents, may be found in his three important works, *Ancient Khotan*, *Serindia* and *Innermost Asia*.

The library also possesses the manuscripts from the collection of antiquities assembled by Dr. A. F. R. Hoernle in Eastern Turkistan in the closing years of the nineteenth century. The manuscripts, all fragmentary, are in Sanskrit and Kuchean, and have been described by Hoernle himself in *A report on the British Collection of antiquities from Central Asia* in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, extra-number 1, 1901, pp. 6-41. Many of the Sanskrit fragments have been described and edited, as have some of the fragments from the Stein collection,

in *Manuscript remains of Buddhist literature found in Eastern Turkestan*, ed. . . . by A. F. R. Hoernle (Oxford, 1916). The MS. papers of Dr. Hoernle, including a "rough list of Dr. Stein's MSS. sent by Dr. Barnett," and material on the eye and its diseases as treated by Indian medicine, and much material connected with the Stein MSS. and Central Asian antiquities, are now in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society. (See F. E. Pargiter's catalogue of the papers in JRAS 1923, pp. 551-558.)

A few Sanskrit and Prakrit MSS. are included in the MSS. and papers, etc. left behind by Sir George Grierson, a note on which by H. N. R[andle] appears in BSOAS X, 1940-42, p. 1,066, and also in the H. H. Wilson collection.

Two collections of Pali MSS. have been described, one by H. Oldenberg in the *Journal of the Pali Text Society*, 1882, pp. 59-128, and the other, known as the Mandalay collection, in the volume for 1896, pp. 1-52, also issued as a reprint in the following year. The former catalogue describes 111 MSS., and the latter 176 MSS. formerly belonging to the King's Library at Mandalay.

#### (e) ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

- E. B. Cowell and J. Eggeling: *Catalogue of the Buddhist Sanskrit manuscripts in the possession of the Royal Asiatic Society* (Hodgson Collection). Hertford, undated. (Repr. from JRAS 1875.)
- M. Winternitz: *A catalogue of South Indian Sanskrit manuscripts (especially those of the Whish Collection) belonging to the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland*. With an appendix by F. W. Thomas. (Asiatic Society monographs.) London, 1902.
- L. D. Barnett: *Catalogue of the Tod Collection of Indian manuscripts in the possession of the Royal Asiatic Society*. (In: JRAS 1940, pp. 129-166.)

The 79 MSS. in the Hodgson collection were collected in Nepal by B. H. Hodgson and presented by him to the Society in 1835 and 1836.

The MSS. collected by C. M. Whish of the Madras Civil Service and presented by his brother to the Society in 1836 are mostly in the Malayalam and Grantha scripts, those which are in languages other than Sanskrit not being dealt with in the Winternitz catalogue. 180 entries are undisputably from the

Whish collection, a group of 28 Sanskrit MSS. from South India (found by the cataloguer mixed up with a large number of Tamil MSS.) are doubtfully of this ownership, and the appendix by Thomas seems to contain MSS. for some reason omitted by Winternitz. 215 MSS. in all are described.

Colonel James Tod's collection was used by him in the preparation of *Annals of Rajasthan*. MSS. from other sources have, however, been from time to time incorporated in the collection. There are descriptions of 79 Sanskrit MSS., 8 Prakrit, and 41 in which one or both of these languages is associated with a modern Indo-Aryan language.

The Society purchased in 1896 the collection of MSS. belonging to the well-known Pali scholar, Dr. Richard Morris. It contains 19 Pali MSS. and 9 transcripts, as well as MSS. in Sinhalese and Burmese. (JRAS 1896, pp. 212-214.) According to Dr. Raghavan, 23 Sanskrit MSS. remain to be catalogued.

#### (f) OTHER LIBRARIES

The Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies contains 97 Sanskrit, 158 Pali (including 123 with other languages associated) and 1 Prakrit MSS. All have been catalogued by Dr. Barnett while acting as the School's librarian, but no catalogue has ever been published. There is a large collection of Sanskrit MSS. in the Wellcome Medical Historical Research Library, estimated by Dr. Raghavan to contain about 5,000 books. The British and Foreign Bible Society's Library contains some Pali palm-leaf MSS.

Liverpool University Library would appear to have 16 Pali MSS. (14 in Burmese and 2 in Sanskrit characters), with 6 "Indian" MSS. on loan from the City Museum. The John Rylands Library in Manchester has 16 Sanskrit and Prakrit and 86 Pali MSS., with 2 MSS. of Sanskrit renderings of the Avesta. Manchester Central Public Library has one Sanskrit MS. The Public Museum at Darlington has 8 Sanskrit birch-bark MSS. in Sarada script, and a large number of short texts, bound up in 8 volumes, of which Dr. Raghavan has identified no fewer than 119 separate works.\*

\* In Birmingham Public Libraries there are "three Sinhalese palm-leaf books, with texts in Pali, Sanskrit and Elu (!)." (Information in a letter from Mr. F. J. Patrick, City Librarian.)

In Scotland St. Andrews University owns about a dozen Pali MSS. on palm-leaves, and 6 on paper, all in Burmese characters, in addition to a roll of the Bhagavadgita. Young and Aitken's catalogue of the Glasgow MSS. mentions one Sanskrit MS. (no. 212), a Sanskrit blockprint (no. 227) and a "number of palm-leaf books in Tamil, Pali, etc." with an "illustrated Hindoo roll" (p. 565). Edinburgh University Library houses in its muniment room 31 Sanskrit and 11 Pali MSS., together with 8 rolls and 8 metal plates with Sanskrit inscriptions; the National Library of Scotland has 8 Sanskrit MSS. Aberdeen University owns 1 Sanskrit and 3 Pali MSS., and there is a Pali MS. in Marischal College in that city.

The National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth possesses 1 Sanskrit MS. See *Hand-list of MSS. in the Nat. Lib. of Wales*, vol. II, p. 11.

Queen's University of Belfast possesses 59 Sanskrit MSS., and in Dublin there are to be found 26 Sanskrit and 1 Prakrit MSS. in the privately-owned library of Mr. Chester Beatty, and 5 Sanskrit and 1 Prakrit MSS. with Mr. Wilfred Merton; 9 Sanskrit and 5 Pali MSS. are mentioned in Abbott's catalogue of Trinity College, Dublin, with 1 Sanskrit and 11 Pali MSS. remaining uncatalogued. Magee University College, Londonderry, possesses a collection of "Sanskrit manuscript material running to several hundred leaves."\*

\* Letter from the Librarian, dated 30th April, 1954.

## MODERN INDIAN LANGUAGES

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

- J. F. Blumhardt: *Catalogue of the Hindi, Panjabi, and Hindustani manuscripts in the Library of the British Museum.* London, 1899.
- J. F. Blumhardt: *Catalogue of the Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Pushtu and Sindhi manuscripts in the Library of the British Museum.* London, 1905.
- M. de Z. Wickremasinghe: *Catalogue of the Sinhalese manuscripts in the British Museum.* London, 1900.

It is to Dr. Blumhardt that we owe the greater number of the few catalogues of MSS. and of printed books, in the Indo-Aryan languages that have been published in this country. The numbers of MSS. described in the catalogues mentioned are as follows, with the number of subsequent accession shown in brackets :

Hindi and Panjabi 108 (Hindi 16, Panjabi 4).  
Hindustani 115 (33).  
Marathi 74 (5).  
Gujarati 57 (13).  
Bengali 23 (4).  
Assamese 6 (5).  
Oriya 12 (7).  
Pushtu 60 (6).  
Sindhi 11 (0).

Many of these MSS. came with the William Erskine collection, whose books included Hindi works on Jain literature, Hindi and Panjabi religious poems and history, and Marathi and Gujarati works. Sir Henry Elliot presented Hindustani works on history and topography, in particular treatises on the North-West Frontier Province. Col. G. W. Hamilton gave poetical works in Hindustani, and the Rev. A. Fisher Hindi religious treatises in Gurmukhi script. Some Marathi MSS. came with the Rev. Benjamin Webb's collection and the Pushtu MSS. from the accumulations of Raverty, Darmesteter and Hughes.

Some few drawings are included in the catalogues, i.e. Hindi and Panjabi nos. 91-97, Hindustani no. 104, Marathi

no. 71 : the Hindi collection contains volumes of miniatures and drawings of the Ragas and Raginis.

In addition to the MSS. described in the printed catalogues, there are 6 Kashmiri, 3 Konkani and 7 Nepali noticed in the *Classified inventory*.

With the exception of the 5 Sloane and 2 Old Royal MSS. the Sinhalese MSS. were acquired through the normal process of purchase and gift, and are not derived from any special collections. 143 manuscripts are described (no. 76 being used in triplicate). Prefaced to the catalogue is a most useful literary history of Ceylon. Sinhalese MSS. are also included in the Nevill collection, for which a separate typewritten list is available in the Students' Room. It will of course be borne in mind that the Pali catalogues are likely to contain material in this language. 95 MSS. have been received since the publication of the catalogue.

The British Museum has not yet produced any catalogues of its MSS. in Dravidian languages, which it possesses in some quantity : Kannada (Canarese) 14, Malayalam 19, Tamil 81, Telugu 27. There are Dravidian MSS. in the Nevill collection (as may be seen from the special hand-list in the Students' Room), including 8 Tamil MSS. (4 with English translations) and many where Tamil is combined with Sanskrit, Pali, Sinhalese or all three, and 2 Telugu MSS.

#### (b) BODLEIAN

The Bodleian's Hindustani and Pushtu MSS. were described in the second volume of Etche's *Catalogue of the Persian* [etc.] MSS. The Hindustani MSS., 43 in number (nos. 2,308-2,349, 2,426) derive mainly from the Ouseley and Elliott collections; 11 have been received since. The Pushtu MSS. are 4 in number (nos. 2,350-2,353); a few Gujarati and Hindi MSS. were included in the collection given by Sir William Walker in 1845. No further accessions in these languages are reported.

There are 11 Sinhalese MSS., and 24 in Kashmiri, 14 in the Arabic character and 10 in the Sharada. The hand-list for "MSS. Ind. Misc." which includes the small collections of MSS. in languages not widely represented, reveals 11 Bengali MSS., 2 Assamese, 7 Oriya, 12 Urdu, 1 Gujarati and 6 Marathi.



The Hindi hand-list enumerates 27 items, of which 4 are stated to be in the Marwari dialect.

100 Tamil MSS. were bought at a Hodgson's sale in 1860 for the small sum of £30. A catalogue of these, together with the other Dravidian MSS., was compiled by the Rev. Dr. G. U. Pope, but this "never reached a fit state to justify printing." The catalogue contains descriptions of 130 Tamil MSS., 20 Telugu (including Sanskrit MSS. written in the Telugu character), 3 Canarese and 5 Malayalam (including Sanskrit MSS. in Malayalam characters). An ancient hand-written catalogue in the Rawlinson Room describes 15 "MSS. in the Telugu or Tenugu language." "MSS. Ind. Misc.", referred to above, enumerates 1 Malto, 4 Canarese and 5 Malayalam MSS., probably additional to those in Pope's catalogue. There remain 8 Tamil and 3 Telugu MSS. yet to be catalogued. There is a Telugu MS. in the Library of All Souls' College (no. 294, Coxe, p. 78).

The "MSS. Ind. Misc." hand-list also shows MSS. in the Munda languages: 1 Ho, 2 Kharia, 21 Mundari and 12 Uramo. The Mundari and Uramo MSS. consist of works written by Hugh Raynbird.

### (c) CAMBRIDGE

Some of the Hindustani and Panjabi MSS. are briefly mentioned in Browne's *Hand-list* and *Supplementary hand-list* and at least one in the former language is recorded in Arberry's *Second supplementary hand-list*. There remain 5 other Urdu MSS. not yet catalogued. 6 Pushtu MSS. are also listed by Browne, and one other in that language remains to be dealt with. MSS. in the Dravidian languages number 41 (Tamil 23, Telugu 2, Malayalam 5, Canarese 1, and 9 miscellaneous items designated as "S. Indian," which might turn out to be in Sanskrit or Pali).

### (d) INDIA OFFICE

J. F. Blumhardt: *Catalogue of the Bengali and Assamese manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. London, 1924.

There are 27 Bengali MSS. and 3 Assamese, one of which is on bark. Principal sources were the Johnson collection (12

Bengali) and the Leyden collection (2 Assamese, 6 Bengali); others include the Colebrooke, Rich, Wilkins and H. H. Wilson collections. The MSS. are said to be of little importance.

J. F. Blumhardt and S. G. Kanhere: *Catalogue of the Marathi manuscripts in the India Office Library*. Oxford, 1950.

Of the 251 MSS., 134 were bought from St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, in 1927-28; 43 were received in 1827 from the bequest of Dr. John Taylor of Bombay.

J. F. Blumhardt: *Catalogue of the Oriya manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. London, 1924.

There are 50 Oriya MSS., 48 of which are on palm-leaf.

J. F. Blumhardt: *Catalogue of the Hindustani manuscripts in the Library of the India Office*. London, 1926.

The principal sources from which the 269 MSS. were procured are the Delhi, Leyden, Johnson, William Irvine and College of Fort William collections.

Of the other languages, catalogues were prepared by Blumhardt of the Hindi (160 MSS., undergoing preparation for publication), and Panjabi (56). A catalogue of the Gujarati (138) and Rajasthani (12) MSS. by A. Master is in the press. The Kashmiri (5), Multani (1), Nepali (unknown number in the Hodgson collection\*), and Sindhi (19) have not yet been catalogued.

The papers of Sir George Grierson include some Maithili and other manuscript sources mentioned in the introduction to the Bihari dictionary compiled by Grierson and Hoernle, as well as Vincent Smith's MS. notes on the Bundelkhand dialect (see BSOAS X, 1940-42, p. 1,066).

C. A. Menon: *A catalogue of the Malayalam manuscripts in the India Office Library*. London, 1954.

To the India Office Library belongs the credit for having produced the first substantial catalogue yet to be issued of MSS. in a Dravidian language outside India.

It contains a description of 67 MSS., all on palm-leaf, with the exception of two incised metal strips, one on silver and one

\* Also in the Hodgson collection are MSS. in Hindi, Urdu and Himalayan languages.

on gold. These are records of treaties made between the Zamorin of Calicut and the Netherlands East India Company in 1691 and 1710; translations of the texts are available in MS.Eur.D.151.

The remaining Dravidian MSS. include Kanarese 14, Tamil 13, and Telugu 12. Catalogues are in preparation for the Kanarese and Telugu MSS.; the Tamil MSS. have been "hand-listed, but not yet catalogued."

#### (e) ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

The Tod collection in the Royal Asiatic Society is on the whole a fruitful source for MSS. in modern Indian languages. Dr. Barnett's catalogue (in JRAS 1940, pp. 129-166) shows 31 MSS. wholly or part in Hindi, including one in Jaipuri and one in Brajbakha; 19 Rajasthani; 29 Gujarati; 2 Panjabi; 3 Marathi. There is 1 Sinhalese MS. which has been added to the library list of the Whish collection, 6 MSS. in the collection purchased by the Society from Dr. Richard Morris in 1896 (see JRAS 1896, pp. 212-214), and 33 additional ones. Hindustani MSS. have been recorded in the catalogue by Codrington.

The Whish collection contains at least a dozen MSS. in Malayalam, in addition to those mentioned in the catalogue by Winternitz, and there are bundles of modern paper MSS. in this language. There are at least 2 Telugu MSS. (nos. 217, 219 in the Whish list) and a number of MSS. in Tamil.

#### (f) SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

The School of Oriental and African Studies Library possesses the following numbers of MSS. in modern Indian languages: Assamese 5, Bengali 3, Bihari 3, Hindi 6 (with one in Sanskrit, Kashmiri and Hindi), Kangra 1 (a grammar and vocabulary by T. Grahame Bailey), Khovar 1 (English-Khovar vocabulary by D. J. T. O'Brien), Konkani 5, Marathi 7, Oriya 1 (there are 2 MSS. in the University of London Library), Panjabi 5, Pushtu 8, Rajasthani 1, Sindhi 1, Sinhalese 147 (plus 65 with Pali and 4 with Sanskrit), Urdu 17. There are also 1 Arabic and Urdu MS., 1 Konkani and Urdu. Multilingual MSS. with Kashmiri as one of the components may be found in the catalogue under Persian and Kashmiri (1),

Sanskrit and Kashmiri (2), Sanskrit, Kashmiri and Hindi (1). In the Dravidian languages there are : Brahui 2 (two copies of an English-Brahui vocabulary by A. D. Dixey), Canarese 3, Malayalam 2, Tamil 14, Telugu 6. Descriptions of all these may be found in the library's card catalogue.

### (g) OTHER LIBRARIES

Other libraries in Great Britain and Ireland can show : Aberdeen University Library, 1 Sinhalese, 1 Canarese (James's catalogue nos. 1,005-6); Mr. Chester Beatty's Library in Dublin, 1 Hindi; Trinity College, Dublin : "Gurmukhi" 1, Marathi 1, Tamil 2, Telugu 1 (all in Abbott's catalogue) and Oriya 1, Pali-Sinhalese 6, Tamil 3, Telugu 4 (as yet uncatalogued); Liverpool University Library, 2 Tamil, 2 Sinhalese (? Pali), and 6 Indian MSS. on loan from the City Museum; the Public Library, Darlington, 2 Hindustani; the John Rylands Library, Manchester, Tamil 12, Telugu 3, Canarese 3, Marathi 4, Panjabi 5, Pushtu 15, Rajasthani 1, Sinhalese 8 (for most of these there exist catalogues in manuscript of varying reliability and usefulness); the Chetham Library, Manchester, appears to have 4 Marathi and 4 Telugu MSS. (*Bibliotheca Chethamensis*, nos. 27930-3; 28025, 28033-5.); St. Andrews University Library, 2 Urdu, 1 Gujarati, 1 Sinhalese (Pali?), 1 Tamil; Glasgow University Library, Urdu 3 (Robson\*), 2 works on Malayalam in Portuguese (Robson\*), Sinhalese 1, Hindi (? Brajbakha) 1, Telugu 1, Tamil 1 (Young and Aitken, nos. 22, 54, 137, 305), and a number of "palm-leaf books in Tamil" and "an illustrated Hindoo roll" (Young and Aitken, p. 565); Edinburgh, National Library of Scotland, 6 palm-leaf MSS. in Sinhalese, an Assamese magical MS. and a palm-leaf MS. in Malayalam; Edinburgh, New College, 8 Hindustani MSS., some in the Dakhani dialect (Serjeant†); Edinburgh, University Library, Hindustani 7 (Hukk, Ethe and Robertson, pp. 333-335), 2 Bengali, 1 Sinhalese, 2 Telugu.‡

\* In *Presentation Volume to W. B. Stevenson*, pp. 132-138.

† A hand-list of the Arabic, Persian and Hindustani MSS.

‡ According to Dr. Raghavan.

## SOUTH EAST ASIA

### I. BURMA AND SIAM

The MSS. in the languages of Further India, or South East Asia, as it is now more fashionably called, are relatively rare in this country, only those in Burmese and Malay being available in any considerable number. Rarer still are catalogues of these MSS. and there is no single published catalogue to record for Burmese, though there is some hope that the India Office Library may soon repair this deficiency. Many Pali MSS., of course, are written in Burmese script and much information is available in the catalogues of MSS. in that language.

Burmese MSS. exist in the British Museum (286), Bodleian (30), Cambridge (57, with a considerable number in the Scott Bequest), the India Office Library (250, of which 71 are described in an unpublished catalogue compiled before 1882 by E. Chevilliot and 170 from the Mandalay collection listed in MSS.Eur.D.504), the School of Oriental and African Studies Library (6, with 17 Pali texts with Burmese *nissayas*), the Royal Asiatic Society Library (4 in the Morris collection), the John Rylands Library, Manchester (14, MS. catalogue compiled in part by Dr. Féér), and the University Libraries of Liverpool, Edinburgh, and St. Andrews. The MSS. in the three libraries last named have been catalogued recently by Mr. Whitbread, Research Student in SOAS. There are 2 Burmese palm-leaf MSS. in Magee University College, Londonderry.

The British Museum has 4 Mon (under "Peguan" in the *Classified inventory*); Cambridge and Oxford possess a single MS. each. The School of Oriental and African Studies Library has at least 2 MSS. in this language which belonged formerly to Professor C. Blagden, who also left to the School among his papers several transcripts of inscriptions and an unfinished dictionary of Old Mon. The Bodleian MS. of the "Book of Raghawan" is well-known from its having been edited by Pater Schmidt in SAWW 151/3, 1906.

The School of Oriental and African Studies recently arranged for a considerable quantity of Mon MSS. in the Bernard Free Library in Rangoon to be reproduced on microfilm and

deposited in the library. There are also 4 Pali-Mon MSS. The British Museum and the School of Oriental and African Studies possess each a single MS. in Taungthu.

There are MSS. in Manipuri (or Meithei) in the British Museum (3), India Office (2), and in Newari in the British Museum (7) and Cambridge (7, with 4 in Parbatiya). MSS. in Lepcha may be found in the British Museum (1), School of Oriental and African Studies (5), India Office (unknown number), and British and Foreign Bible Society (1). The Bodleian has a Khamti MS., as has the School of Oriental and African Studies.\*

The number of MSS. in the Tai group of languages is extremely small: Siamese MSS. are preserved in the British Museum (29), Bodleian (7, one of which may be Pali), Cambridge (3), India Office (21, described in an unpublished note by H. Alabaster in MSS.Eur.B.104), School of Oriental and African Studies (7, with 1 Pali-Siamese), John Rylands Library (11), Liverpool University Library (1), and British and Foreign Bible Society (1). MSS. in Shan may be found in the British Museum (17), School of Oriental and African Studies (11, with 5 Pali-Lao-Shan); in Lao there are in the British Museum 10, School of Oriental and African Studies 6, with 30 Pali-Lao and 5 Pali-Lao-Shan. The great source, however, for MSS. in these two languages is the Scott collection in Cambridge, hitherto quite unexploited. A Shan MS. is among the treasures preserved in the Brighton Public Library. There are 7 MSS. in Cambodian in the British Museum, 3 in Cambridge and 1 Pali-Cambodian MS. in SOAS; photostats of the annals of the Kings of Cambodia from the Royal Library at Pnom Penh are available in the SOAS Library. No one, not even the British Museum, seems to possess a MS. in Vietnamese.

## II. MALAY AND INDONESIAN

Holland has always been the chief centre of Malay and Indonesian studies, and such catalogues as are available for MSS. in these languages were compiled by Dutch scholars, the

\* MSS. in many other Tibeto-Burman languages may be found in the Hodgson collection in the India Office Library.

only exception being that of the Bodleian Library, which, however, contains merely 8 Malay MSS. proper and 4 dealing with Malay linguistics.

Dr. P. Voorhoeve, of the Library of the University of Leiden, is the latest Dutch scholar to concern himself with these MSS. On a recent visit to this country he compiled notes on the Indonesian MSS. in the British Museum, Cambridge University Library, SOAS Library and the Royal Asiatic Society Library. Copies of his notes are available in the libraries concerned and the Cambridge list has been more widely disseminated. His intention is to issue a comprehensive list of Indonesian MSS. in English libraries.

#### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

The British Museum's *Classified inventory* gives the following numbers of Indonesian MSS.: Malay 35, Batak 19, Bugis 31, Fulah 1, Jalloff 1 (a Jalloff-Malay vocabulary from the Egerton collection), Javanese 91, Malagasy 11, Salon 1, Sunda 1. Dr. Voorhoeve's notes cover the Malay, Batak, Bugis and Javanese MSS. 24 of the Malay MSS. were described by G. K. Niemann in *Bijdragen Kon. Inst.*, 3 ser., VI, 1871, pp. 96-101. Add. 12,376-12,399 were bought of John Crawfurd in 1845.

All but two of the Bugis MSS. appear in B. F. Matthes: *Kort verslag aangaande alle mij in Europa bekende Makassarsche en Boegineesche Handschriften* . . . 1875, pp. 89-97. Two additional MSS. (Or. 8,154, 1,854) are noted by Voorhoeve.

Most of the Javanese MSS. were previously described by S. Keyzer in *Bijdragen Kon. Inst.* II, 1854, pp. 330-344.

#### (b) BODLEIAN

R. Greentree and E. W. B. Nicholson: *Catalogue of Malay manuscripts and manuscripts relating to the Malay language in the Bodleian Library*. Oxford, 1910.

Descriptions are provided of 8 Malay MSS. proper, and of four works bearing on the Malay language, including a Malay-Dutch dictionary, and three Malay grammars, all of the seventeenth century. The first Malay MS. was presented to the Bodleian by Archbishop Laud in 1633, and the others have all been received singly, by gift and purchase, at various dates.

The part played by Nicholson is evident from the meticulous attention to detail in the technical descriptions, and it is interesting to see how a study of the watermarks may furnish evidence of date. There have been six later accessions.

Indonesian MSS. are listed in the Javanese hand-list. Besides 17 MSS. in this language there are 8 Batak, 1 Sasak and 1 Lampong, none of which has been catalogued.

### (c) CAMBRIDGE

Ph. S. van Ronkel: *Account of six Malay manuscripts of the Cambridge University Library*. (In: BTLV 6de volgr. dl. 2, 1896, p. 53, followed by a detailed account of MS. L1.6.5.)

Ph. S. van Ronkel: *Bericht aangaande de jongste aanwinst van Maleische Handschriften in het buitenland* (Cambridge). Meded. der Kon. Akad. v. Wetens., Afd. Letterkunde, deel 59, serie A, no. 6 (1925).

Voorhoeve included in his list 95 Malay MSS., 2 Batak and 1 Javanese; 2 Batak MSS. and 1 Javanese seem to have been omitted, as was another Malay MS. in the Scott collection. Most of the Malay MSS. were given by R. J. Wilkinson in 1900. References are made to Van Ronkel's *Account* and *Bericht* where more detailed descriptions are to be found, and to the notes in Browne's *Hand-list* and *Supplementary hand-list*. The list also includes two college MSS., Emmanuel 3.2.10 and King's 86 (though this latter is only included in order to refute Browne's suggestion that the MS. was Malay).

### (d) JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY

The John Rylands Library has a small, but interesting, collection of Indonesian MSS. In an article in the Library's *Bulletin* (XXXIII, no. 2, March, 1951) on *Batak bark books*, Dr. Voorhoeve has given a list of the *pustahas* in this language, 14 of which are written on bark, 9 on bamboo and 3 on paper. Voorhoeve's list is based on notes on about 10 of the MSS. by G. K. Niemann, and on a catalogue of the whole collection by C. M. Pleyte. In addition to the Batak books, the library possesses 1 MS. in Achinese (there is some doubt about this; it may be in Arabic), 7 in Balinese (a MS. catalogue was compiled by G. K. Niemann and Dr. Van Eck), 4 Buginese (MS.



catalogue by J. C. G. Yonker), 24 in Javanese and 2 in "Kawi" (MS. catalogue of unknown authorship), 1 Madurese, 2 Makassar and 10 Malay (MS. catalogue by H. Juynboll).

#### (e) SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

A good number of the School's Indonesian MSS. belonged to the Bibliotheca Marsdeniana, presented by Marsden to King's College, University of London, in 1835, and transferred by that institution to the School on the latter's foundation. In Voorhoeve's list pride of place is given to Malay, with 99 MSS., then come Minangkabau (1), Achinese (3, described at length in an article by Voorhoeve in BSOAS XIV, 1952, pp. 335-345), Batak (8), Lampong (2), Javanese (5) and Bugis (7). Section "h" (which should be "i", as "c" is used twice) of the list includes other manuscripts mentioned in the *Bibliotheca Marsdeniana*, in particular a small number of vocabularies of the languages of the Philippine and Molucca Islands, of Borneo and Celebes, and of Amboyna and Polynesian languages. An enormous amount of material on the Oceanic languages in general, both in MS. and printed as book or article, came to the School when the papers of Sidney H. Ray, pre-eminent in this field, were obtained in 1939.

#### (f) OTHER LIBRARIES

H. N. van der Tuuk: *Kort verslag van de Maleische Handschriften in het East-India House te London.* (In: *Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsche Indië*, le deel, 1849, pp. 385-400.)

20 of a total of 26 MSS. in the India Office Library were described by Van der Tuuk in the above article; 4 additional MSS. were mentioned in "note 2" appended to his *Short account of the Malay manuscripts belonging to the Royal Asiatic Society* in JRAS, new series II, 1866, 85-135, which is a translation of an article in Dutch in BTLV I, 1866, pp. 466-70. These MSS. are derived principally from the Mackenzie and Leyden collections.

The Malay MSS. in the Royal Asiatic Society were described by van der Tuuk in BTLV, 3de volgr., le deel, 1866, pp. 409-474: they number 90 in all, 80 in the Raffles, and 10 in the Farquhar collection.

Of 78 Javanese MSS. also in the India Office Library, the main part was again derived from the Mackenzie collection. 49 of these were described in an article by S. Keyzer, *De Javaansche handschriften te London*, in BTLV II, 1854, pp. 339-342. The same article describes also the 34 MSS. of the Sir Thomas Raffles collection in the Royal Asiatic Society, 83 of the Javanese MSS. in the British Museum, and the Marsden MSS. which at that date were in King's College, London.

Dr. Voorhoeve has also compiled recently a list of Indonesian MSS. in the Royal Asiatic Society.

Elsewhere the only Indonesian MSS. which have been discovered are 1 Malay in Glasgow (Robson in *Presentation volume to W. C. Stevenson*, pp. 136-137) and a miscellaneous collection of MSS. in Malay and Javanese, and possibly other languages, preserved in an antique piece of furniture familiarly known as the "ark" in Edinburgh University Library.

## CENTRAL ASIA

When one thinks of Central Asia the names which immediately spring to mind are those of Sir Aurel Stein and Professor Paul Pelliot. The documents collected by the former on his three well-known expeditions were divided between the British Museum and the India Office Library, the British Museum receiving the MSS. in Chinese, Sogdian, Turki and Uighur, and the India Office Library those in Khotanese, Kuchean and Tibetan. The Sanskrit MSS. in Kharosthi and Brahmi have already been mentioned under the heading of Sanskrit.

The Chinese MSS. in the British Museum form the subject of a recently published catalogue by the late Professor H. Maspéro, entitled *Les documents chinois de la troisième expédition de Sir Aurel Stein en Asie Centrale*. To appear shortly is a catalogue by Dr. Giles of others in the same collection : he has already published the dated MSS. in a series of articles in BSOAS\* A "preliminary list" of the other MSS. is available in the Students' Room : they have been assigned the general pressmark Or. 8212 and are 194 in number. Of these the Sogdian fragments have been published by H. Reichelt as *Die soghdischen Handschriftenreste des Britischen Museums in Umschrift und mit Übersetzung* (Heidelberg, 1928 and 1931).

The Khotanese and Kuchean (by some called Tocharian) fragments in the India Office Library have all been micro-filmed, and natural-size prints are bound up in separate volumes. The Khotanese material was brought back by Stein from his expeditions, as were 25 of the Kuchean fragments, the remaining 275 fragments in this language being in the Hoernle collection.

The Stein Tibetan collection in the India Office Library comprises 739 manuscripts, mainly Buddhist texts, from Tun-huang, of which Professor de la Vallée Poussin compiled a catalogue in 1917, now known as MSS. Eur.D.503/1 and 2. In addition to these MSS., there are some 3,500 fragmentary

\* Vols. VII, pp. 809-836; VIII, pp. 1-26; IX, pp. 1-25, 1023-1046; X, pp. 317-344; XI, pp. 148-173.

documents, deriving mainly from the Miran and Mazartagh sites uncovered during the second expedition. These, with some literary MSS. from the third expedition, have been described by Dr. F. W. Thomas, who intends to issue a complete catalogue of the Stein Tibetan material, incorporating La Vallée Poussin's descriptions of the literary MSS. found during the second expedition. Documents found during this same expedition have been described by Dr. A. H. Francke, the original copies of his descriptions being bound up with the documents themselves.

A selection of the Tibetan manuscripts has also been published by Dr. Thomas in the second part of his *Tibetan literary texts and documents concerning Chinese Turkestan* (London, 1951). A MS. in Nam has been published by the same scholar under the auspices of the Philological Society.

In all, the India Office Library possesses about 1,000 literary MSS. in Tibetan, 850 xylographs, and a few thousand documents. In addition to the Stein collection, the principal sources of this material are the Hodgson donation, the St. Petersburg Academy donation, the Lhasa collection, the Waddell donation, and the Denison Ross purchase. The Hodgson donation included the Kanjur and the Tanjur in the Narthang edition of 1731; parts of the Kanjur in the Peking edition were received from the Academy of St. Petersburg. The collection of Tibetan MSS. and block prints amassed by Lieut.-Col. Waddell in 1903-4, while serving as surgeon to Sir Francis Younghusband's expedition to Tibet, was divided among the British Museum, Bodleian, Cambridge and India Office libraries when it reached this country, rather to the regret of its collector, one gathers from the account, with a complete list of the books and the libraries to which they were sent, published by him in the *Imperial and quarterly review and Oriental and colonial record*, XXXIV, no. 67, July, 1912, pp. 80-113. Waddell followed up the distribution of the books with a present of 29 volumes of illuminated MSS. of the *Rñin-ma chos* in 1905. A catalogue was compiled by Denison Ross of the collection bearing his name: *A new collection of Tibetan books under the auspices of Dr. E. D. Ross* (Calcutta, 1907).

A list of the Tibetan MSS. and printed books in the Library

of the Royal Asiatic Society, by H. Wenzel, published in JRAS 1892, pp. 570-579, records 29 MSS.

The British Museum has a collection of 155 Tibetan MSS., most of which have probably been described only in the Waddell article referred to in an earlier paragraph. Esdaile's statement that Barnett in the JRAS for 1903 described the Museum's most important Tibetan books and pieces is incorrect, the documents there mentioned appearing to belong to one important work only, and being deposited in the Museum only until such time as the distribution of the Stein materials among the two benefiting libraries should be carried out.

The Bodleian acquired its first Tibetan MSS. as long ago as the year 1806, when it bought for £50 certain volumes obtained in 1785 by Captain Samuel Turner of the East India Company while on a mission to the Dalai Lama. A collection of MSS. and block-books, collected in Tibet in 1855-58 by the German explorers, Adolf and Robert Schlagintweit, was bought in 1885. A rough description compiled by the third Schlagintweit brother, Emil, is preserved in the Rawlinson Room. To these collections was added later the Bodleian's share of the Waddell collections. In all 90 Tibetan MSS. are listed in the hand-list for this language.

Cambridge University Library possesses 109 Tibetan MSS., of which a detailed catalogue made by Miss C. M. Ridding remains in MS.

The School of Oriental and African Studies Library possesses 26 Tibetan MSS., E. C. Pottinger's notes on certain Tibeto-Burman languages, and a large collection of block prints received, like the MSS., in the Pallis gift of 1940.\*

We include here MSS. in the pre-Islamic languages of Iran. The India Office Library's Avestan and Pahlavi MSS. (27 items) were catalogued by M. N. Dhalla in the JRAS for 1912, pp. 387-398. A few Zoroastrian items are included in Ross and Browne's catalogue of the two collections which came

\* There is one Tibetan MS. in Edinburgh University Library, according to Dr. Raghavan. The British and Foreign Bible Society possesses a medley of Tibetan MSS., described in the library's hand-list of MSS. as "MSS. from Mr. D. McDonald for Dr. Francke; Tibetan book from Lhasa; and Encyclopedia, vols. 2-108."

from the Royal Society, and 10 MSS. of "Parsee literature," in Persian, were described by Ethe in vol. 1 of the Persian catalogue. The JRAS contains in its 1950 volume *A provisional hand-list of the late E. W. West's papers preserved in the library of the Royal Asiatic Society*, by P. J. de Menasce. The papers include 70 items, embracing copies of Pahlavi MSS. in other libraries, translations with transliterated texts carefully prepared for publication in the *Sacred Books of the East* series, correspondence with Haug, Sanjana and Gray, and MSS. from Khotan submitted to West by Hoernle.

The British Museum numbers among its collections 10 Khotanese MSS., 10 Pahlavi and 16 "Zend." The Bodleian has at least three Avestan MSS., one of them being provided with a Pahlavi translation, and dated 1323, another earlier text of the Avesta written about A.D. 1250 containing a Sanskrit translation and believed to be the earliest surviving example of this genre. A hand-list is provided for the 11 MSS. in "Zend." Some 28 Zoroastrian works may be found described by Sachau in Ethe's catalogue of the Persian MSS., Pt. 1.

A very few Pahlavi works will be found in the Cambridge University Library: some are mentioned in Browne's *Hand-list* and in his *Supplementary hand-list*. For a Zoroastrian catechism in Persian verse see Browne's catalogue of his own MSS. (Z. 1).

## FAR EAST

The languages dealt with in this section include principally Chinese and Japanese, with Manchu, Mongolian, Korean, and the non-Chinese languages of China, Lolo and Moso. Other languages sometimes included under a Far East rubric such as Tibetan and Vietnamese have already been dealt with in other sections. As far as Chinese and Japanese books are concerned, the distinction between manuscripts and printed books not being as readily apparent as with other languages (it is often difficult even for the expert to determine whether a book is a MS. or a block-print), it has often not been made in the collections and their existing catalogues. This practice will be followed here.

Mr. E. B. Ceadel, lecturer in Japanese in the University of Cambridge, has published an account of the *Far Eastern collections in libraries in Great Britain, France, Holland and Germany in Asia Major*, N.S. III, 1952, pp. 213-222. Most of what will be said in the succeeding paragraphs has been taken from this article, to which reference should be made; a few notes of additional information on the collections will be included here.

### (a) BRITISH MUSEUM

R. K. Douglas: *Catalogue of Chinese printed books, manuscripts and drawings in the Library of the British Museum*. London, 1877.

R. K. Douglas: *Supplementary catalogue of Chinese books and manuscripts in the British Museum*. 1903.

The principal materials described by Douglas were the large collection of maps and MSS. deposited by order of the Foreign Minister, the Earl of Aberdeen, in 1846, and the 11,509 volumes belonging to John Robert Morrison, son and successor of Robert Morrison, which were bought by the Government and presented to the Museum in the following year. Robert Morrison's collection was also offered to the Museum for purchase, but funds were low, and the books passed into the hands of the University of London, later University College, London, and thence to the School of Oriental Studies. Douglas believed his to be "the first catalogue ever published in Europe of an extensive Chinese library," a mistaken impression,

unless the Bodleian collection of Chinese books, for which Edkins published his catalogue in the previous year, be considered other than "extensive."

The remaining principal collections came after Douglas's day. The Backhouse collection was catalogued by Dr. Lionel Giles and published unofficially in 1908. The Stein collection has already been mentioned in the section on Central Asia, with the catalogues of the Chinese documents by Maspéro and Giles. The *Classified inventory* lists 671 Chinese MSS. in all, excluding those in the Stein collections, some of which will be found described in Douglas's catalogues.

R. K. Douglas: *Catalogue of Japanese printed books and manuscripts in the Library of the British Museum*. London, 1898.

R. K. Douglas: *Catalogue of Japanese printed books and manuscripts in the British Museum acquired during the years 1899-1903*. London, 1904.

The principal collections which Douglas had to catalogue were those purchased by the Museum from William Anderson, and the large collections formed by Philipp Franz von Siebold in 1868 and Sir Ernest Satow in 1884. A considerable number of the official publications of the Japanese Government are now being received and are available in the State Papers Reading Room of the Museum Library. 253 MSS. are listed in the *Classified inventory*, some of which were described by Douglas.

There are 25 Manchu and 32 Mongolian MSS.

#### (b) BODLEIAN

The Bodleian Chinese collections have been described by E. R. Hughes in the *Bodleian Quarterly Record* VIII, 1936, pp. 227-233. The supplementary article by Beeston referred to by Ceadel merely describes the acquisition of seven volumes of the *Yung lo ta t'ien* bought in 1951.

The first Chinese book to come to the Bodleian was given by Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, in 1604. Since then the principal collection received has been the 1,100 works bought for 50 guineas in 1856 from the family of the Rev. E. Evans, principal of the Anglo-Chinese missionary college at Malacca.



In 1876 Dr. Joseph Edkins published a catalogue of all the Chinese books in Bodley. In 1882 over 600 works were bought from Mr. Alexander Wylie for £110. Beginning in 1913, Mr. (afterwards Sir Edmund) Backhouse made the first of a number of Ming editions (of which the Bodleian now possesses over 200). Among the most notable works presented by Backhouse is a copy of a large-paper Palace edition of the encyclopaedia *T'u shu chi ch'êng*, said to be the only complete set still in existence.

The Wylie collection contained also a number of Japanese books, which with a few books and manuscripts presented by Max Müller were catalogued by Bunyiu Nanjio in *Catalogue of Japanese and Chinese books and MSS. lately added to the Bodleian Library*, published in 1881. Sir Ernest Satow gave 328 volumes of Buddhist literature in 1908. There are 98 MSS. enumerated in a hand-list.

A collection of Korean books, including a history of Korean in 25 volumes and a 50-volume encyclopaedia, was presented in 1927 by the Right Rev. Mark Napier Trollope, Bishop of Korea. One MS. is recorded in the "MSS. Asiat. Misc." hand-list.

A Mongolian MS. said to be in Manchu script, is included in the "MSS. Asiat. Misc." hand-list. There are 2 Chinese MSS. in the Library of Corpus Christi College (nos. 205, 216; Coxe, pp. 81, 85), and 1 in Magdalen (no. 228; Coxe, p. 97).

### (c) CAMBRIDGE

The Wade Library started off the Chinese collection at Cambridge. To this was added at a later date an accession of over 1,000 volumes believed to come from Sir Edmund Backhouse, a gift of many volumes from Dr. F. Sanger and large parts of the personal libraries of Bishop G. E. Moule and Professor A. C. Moule. The library is the only one in this country to possess a complete set of microfilms of the rare books deposited in 1941 by the National Library of Peking in the Library of Congress. In 1948 the Chinese books of Sir James Stewart Lockhart were purchased by the Faculty of Oriental Languages and presented to the library.

The Japanese books came mainly from the collections of

W. G. Aston, Baron Heinrich von Siebold, and Sir Ernest Satow. Two very useful bibliographical aids available in Cambridge should be mentioned : a complete set, kept up-to-date, of the cards published by the National Diet Library since 1949 for addition to its catalogue, and a copy of the Columbia University "authority file" giving the references for the correct transliterated forms of Japanese authors' names.

#### (d) SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

More accurate figures can now be given for the Chinese and Japanese collections in the School Library. The Chinese collection at the end of July, 1952, comprised about 6,500 bound volumes and over 50,000 unbound parts; the Japanese about 13,000 bound volumes and 6,500 unbound parts. Both collections are increasing, the Chinese not very rapidly in the present difficult conditions; but to the Japanese collection are added about a 1,000 volumes every year. The nucleus of the School's Japanese collection was formed by collections bought from the widow of B. Ponsonby Fane and from Sir Henry Parlett : after the 1939-45 war a large number of books from the Japanese embassies and consulates in Europe which had been sent to the School for safe keeping was handed over by the Japanese Government. The number of Japanese periodicals received currently has increased to 56. Chinese MSS. number 69 and Japanese 12.

The School possesses a small collection of Mongolian block-prints which has recently been catalogued by Dr. W. A. Heissig of the University of Göttingen, who intends to publish them in a work on which he is at present engaged. There are also 1 Manchu MS. and 1 in Mongolian.

#### (e) OTHER LIBRARIES

Another collection recently acquired by Durham University Library consists of a large number of works on art and archaeology bought from Professor A. Percival Yetts.

To the list of libraries with smaller collections provided by Mr. Ceadel in a note on page 214 of his article, we might add Bristol University Library, to which was bequeathed the

collection of Japanese books formerly belonging to F. V. Dickins, translator of several Japanese literary works. The collection is devoted almost entirely to belles-lettres and consists of at least 500 volumes, mainly Tokugawa editions.

We have seen a shelf of Chinese books in St. Andrews University Library, and about the same quantity of Chinese books, known as the "Bellot Collection," in Manchester Central Public Library. These are probably of little importance. Mr. Sutton has recorded 1 Chinese MS. in the India Office Library, the *Tao té ching*, with Latin translation and notes by Joseph de Grammont, and a collection of 1,850 printed books in the same language. There are also 129 printed books in Japanese, 15 Manchu and 13 Mongol in the same library. A *Descriptive catalogue of the Chinese, Japanese, and Manchu books on the library of the India Office* (London, 1872), by James Summer lists 170 books, the majority of them Chinese. Included among the Chinese books is a Chinese translation of the Tripitaka with Japanese notations in the *Katakana* characters, published in Japan in 1678-81, and presented by the Japanese Government in 1875.\*

Lolo MSS. are very few, and the only ones known to exist in this country are 34 in the British Museum, 1 in the Bodleian and 2 in Cambridge (1 in the Scott collection). Most of the larger libraries, however, possess collections of Moso MSS. in the attractive pictographic script used for writing that language : the British Museum has 94, Bodley 54, Cambridge 30, John Rylands Library 140 (list in preparation by Dr. J. F. Rock), and the India Office Library 111.

\* There are "some sixty-odd volumes in Chinese" in Magee University College, Londonderry.