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THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF ENGLAND
(OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EXCEPTED).

BY GEORGE GIBB CLARKE, DEPUTY LIBRARIAN, WEST
HARTLEPOOL.

A S part of the educational system of this country, University libraries have within recent years made rapid improvement. Each has catered with the object of meeting the requirements of the student of higher education in all branches of knowledge. Special Departmental Libraries, similar in organization and administration to the Departmental Libraries of the United States, have been instituted in a few of our English Universities; and Seminar Rooms, a prominent feature of the German Universities, have also been established—as for example, the University of Leeds—with promising results.

Much of the success of the English University libraries has been due to large donations and bequests—of money, buildings, and private collections or libraries. The Universities of London and Manchester are typical illustrations. The majority of our University libraries have found their humble origin in such gifts of private collections, given to form the nucleus of a becoming institution.

As the title of this thesis conveys, the libraries of Oxford and Cambridge Universities have been excluded, while the scope of the thesis, curtailed by being restricted to a certain length, has caused certain features—such as rules and conditions of borrowing books, hours of opening, and, with certain exceptions, the staff—to be purposely omitted.

Each library is treated from a descriptive standpoint, setting out the history, foundation, arrangement, special donations and bequests, and other noteworthy features.

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Birmingham.

By means of the incorporating Charter of 1900, the library of the Mason Science College became the library of the Birmingham University. The College dates back to 1880, and its library, now upwards of 70,000 volumes (excluding the stock of the Departmental Libraries), had a humble beginning of a few hundred volumes. The march of time soon wrought a decided increase in the library's resources, and when in 1909 the late King Edward VII opened the new extensive buildings, the stock numbered some 65,000 volumes (Departmental Libraries excluded, as before).

Much of the success of the University Library is due to the splendid munificence of the late Dr. T. P. Heslop. While rendering monetary assistance to the extent of at least £5000 for the purchase of books, he also evinced the keenest personal interest. The extensive range of complete sets of literary and scientific periodicals is only one phase of his noteworthy endeavours.

There are two outstanding collections in the library, viz. The Hensleigh Wedgwood Collection and the John Corbett Collection.

The author of one of the earliest English etymological dictionaries, Hensleigh Wedgwood, was also the founder of this splendid collection of about 2000 volumes, dealing chiefly with philological subjects. In addition to containing numerous dictionaries and treatises in several of the European languages, the collection is also rich in such societies' publications as the Early English Text Society, the Philological Society, and the English Dialect Society. This collection was presented to the library in 1891 by Miss Julia Wedgwood.

The John Corbett Collection came into the keeping of the library authorities in 1906, as the donation of the late Dr. Thomas Corbett, of Impney, Droitwich. The collection, which is especially rich in county histories, general biographies, and works of art, was selected by the University Librarian from the library of the late John Corbett, M.P.

Another collection, numbering some 4000 volumes, has recently been presented to the library by a few friends of

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the late owner, Prof. J. Churton Collins. It includes general biographies, works of English Language and Literature (including Shakespeare and Shakespeariana), Greek and Latin Classics, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and other languages.

Though the University Library cannot boast any great rarities, manuscripts, incunabula and the like, the gift of the late F. D. Mocatta, Esq., of London, in 1903, is of considerable worth. It consists of an almost complete set of the beautiful coloured plates issued by the Arundel Society, and these are richly mounted in strong portfolio cases.

It is interesting to note that busts of several of the library's benefactors have been erected in the building.

Supplementing the General Library and the Departmental Libraries, is the Harding Memorial Library at Bournbrook, the gift of the family whose name it bears. This institution is intended to relieve the work done in the other departments, and in the near future, it is hoped that it will become the head-quarters of the Birmingham University Libraries.

The classification of the libraries is in sections corresponding to the subjects taught in the University. The catalogue is on cards.

Bristol.

The main library of the Bristol University is that of the Faculties of Arts and Science, and was founded when the University was still a College. The College itself was established in 1876, but it was not until some time later that a library was begun.

During the term of office of the first Hon. Librarian (Prof. Rowley) the library received its first large acquisition of books, in the form of the Exley bequest of mathematical works chiefly. Since then, the library has been enriched by the Baynes gift of books, chiefly Classical and Oriental (mainly Arabic). The Rowley Collection—the bequest of Prof. Rowley mentioned above—was acquired after the death of the owner. It consists of works of English Literature, History, and Language.

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The present library, which is a special, rather than a general one, is comparatively small, containing as it does some 15,000 volumes (books and periodicals). The periodicals are chiefly scientific.

In addition to the main library of the Faculties of Arts and Science, there are Sectional Libraries belonging to the departments of Chemistry, Physiology, Geology, and Zoology. There are also libraries belonging to the Faculties of Medicine and Engineering, and a library connected with the Day Training College for men. This last institution is only associated with the University.

As in the case of the Birmingham University Library, this library possesses but few manuscripts, specimens of handwriting, and a few rare books. The books in the main library are arranged according to subjects, to suit the University curriculum. The card catalogue has been adopted.

The University Library is at present temporarily housed. The old Bristol Blind Asylum is used for this purpose, and in the event of these premises being demolished, a building suited to the present day needs of a University will be erected.

It is worthy of note that the Library Association held its Annual Conference in 1900 in the University buildings.

Durham.

The University Library of Durham was founded, on the passing of a bill in 1832 to grant the establishment of a University, in 1833. Now consisting of some 37,000 volumes, the library was commenced by the late Bishop Van Mildert, who presented, in addition to a number of costly works, a collection of the Benedictine Fathers.

Of later years the value and extent of the library was enhanced by the addition of four very extensive private libraries: the Routh, Maltby, Winterbottom, and Lightfoot Libraries.

The Routh Library, which consists of some 16,143 volumes of rare and valuable printed books, together with an important series of political and religious tracts dating from 1852 to the middle of the eighteenth century, was made

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over by deed of gift, by the owner, Dr. Martin J. Routh, late President of Magdalen College, Oxford; and came into the keeping of the University authorities in 1855.

In the following year, Bishop Maltby, on retiring from the See of Durham, presented his library of some 2408 volumes collected by him at Auckland Castle, and made a endowment of £1000 to be vested in trust. It is noteworthy that there is a printed catalogue of this, as well as the Lightfoot Library.

It was in the year 1859 that the library received the valuable bequest of some 5147 volumes formerly belonging to Dr. Thomas Masterman Winterbottom of South Shields. It consists of works on Philology, Classics, General Literature, an extensive collection of dictionaries, and a large number of works in various European languages.

The bequest of Bishop Lightfoot in about 1700 volumes includes among classical, archæological, and general works, the magnificent work of Lepsuis on Egyptian Antiquities. Like the Maltby Collection, this is also represented by a printed catalogue.

Apart from donations and bequests, there is also in the library a complete set of Migne's "Patrologia Graeca" in 166 volumes, and "Patrologia Latina" in 221 volumes, purchased in 1894 by the authorities. Several recent facsimiles of Biblical and classical manuscripts have also been procured.

Leeds.

It was on the opening of the Yorkshire College of Science in 1875 that the urgent need of a library became apparent. A small grant was accordingly made to obtain a selection of books, and these, in addition to a number of donations comprised the commencing stock. In the first year of the library's existence, the books were confined solely to reference purposes, but subsequently, upon remittance of a small fee, students were permitted to borrow them.

In 1884, when the new College buildings were opened, a special room with accommodation for 10,000 volumes was appropriated for the housing of the library. Such provision

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was excessive, considering that the stock did not then exceed 4000 volumes.

Despite the insignificance of the library stock, it was found essential, owing to the increasing duties of administration, to appoint a librarian; this was filled by the lady librarian now in office. A system of re-organization was then undertaken: the books were classified and arranged according to subject, and a comprehensive catalogue commenced.

The year 1894 marked the opening of a new College Hall and Library. Up to that date the library's resources—due chiefly to numerous donations—had increased as if by magic, and two years later, the librarian was provided with an assistant.

The Royal Charter of Incorporation was granted in the April of 1904, and thus the Yorkshire College became the University of Leeds. The stock, then 14,500 volumes, had by far exceeded the accommodation available, making another difficulty to be surmounted. To this end all journals were removed from the General Library to a store-room, and this was designated the "Journal Room". Two rooms adjoining the library were then annexed as Seminars for the English, French, and German Departments, and these rooms were made the resort of books specially selected by the Professors of the departments named.

The library, now possessing some 30,000 volumes, has organized in addition to Seminar Libraries (under the supervision of honorary keepers) several Departmental Libraries, controlled from the General Library. The library of the School of Medicine is also part of the University of Leeds, and is managed independently of the General Library. It consists of the joint libraries of the School of Medicine and of the Leeds and West Riding Medico-Chirurgical Society. The School of Medicine obtained the library of the old Leeds Infirmary in 1865, which is rich in medical classics. It is noteworthy that the library of the University contains an important collection of scientific periodicals and pamphlets.

The card catalogue, commenced in 1909, when another assistant was engaged, is still in course of preparation.

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Liverpool.

The University Library of approximately 60,000 volumes found its genesis in a donation of 1000 volumes, the gift of the Rev. Canon Hume in 1882. Like some of the other University Libraries, the receipt of donations, large and small, soon caused the library stock to exceed its accommodation. Thus it was that ampler provision was sought and eventually secured in the Tate Library of the New Victoria Buildings, built and furnished by Sir Henry Tate.

Some time later the foundations were laid of a good General Library, the funds forthcoming being donations from George Holt, Esq., of £1000 in 1887, and the above benefactor of £5500 in 1894. In 1894 also the library of the Liverpool Royal Institution was transferred to the University College, while a similar course was adopted in connexion with the Liverpool Literary and Philosophical Society, five years later.

Among the bequests made to the institution were the libraries of Canon Hume (above referred to), Prof. Clark, Rev. J. H. Thom (including the books of Blanco White), and Dr. Nottingham. Of the rarer collections may be mentioned the collection of Thomas G. Rylands, consisting of early works on Geography and Astronomy, the collection of works by or relating to William Blake, sets of the Bannatyne, Maitland, and Roxburghe Clubs, together with over 100 incunabula. The library is also rich in general works, possessing as it does a comprehensive collection of Academies and Periodicals.

The founding of External Departmental Libraries as branches of the General Library is quite recent. These libraries originated as the result of the activities of Professors of the University, in forming collections of the best works on specific fields of knowledge, and in some cases the augmenting of some of those libraries by important donations. They exist in the following subjects: in the Faculty of Science—Zoology, Botany, and Chemistry; in the Faculty of Medicine—Experimental Medicine and Anatomy; in the Faculty of Engineering—Engineering and Applied Electricity.

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Though housed in separate buildings, each department is under the control of the Central Authorities.

The aim of these Departmental Libraries is to provide the most up-to-date advanced scientific literature in each subject, and under this arrangement, books and journals dealing with particular branches of science are stored in the External Departmental Libraries; works of a general nature, embracing several subjects, being retained in the Tate (general) Library.

Special Class Libraries in the Faculty of Arts were established from an Arts Equipment Fund in 1903, when the Act granting the Charter was passed, and later augmented by annual grants from the Council, for equipment and maintenance in the various departments. These class libraries exist for the purpose of providing the requisite literature for teaching in the various Arts subjects, and until 1905 were under the individual control of the Heads of each department, when the Faculty established a Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of the University Librarian. They cover the following subjects: Architecture, Celtic, Classical Archæology, Classical Literature (comprehending the two Class Libraries of Latin and Greek), Economics, Education, Egyptian Archæology, English Language and Literature, French, German, Geography, Ancient History, Modern History, Italian, Logic, Ethics, Palæography and Diplomatics, Russian, and Spanish.

In the Faculty of Science there is a Class Library of Mathematics, and in the Faculty of Medicine, the subjects of Bio-Chemistry, Gynæcology, Pharmacy, and Hygiene are represented.

It is the aim of the library to establish a scholar's library, adequately represented by the leading authorities and works of reference in the main departments of learning.

The staff of the library is made up as follows: In the library proper, there is a librarian, two senior and one junior assistants. The Departmental Libraries of the Faculties of Science and Medicine are controlled by a lady sub-librarian for each. The Special Departmental Library of the Faculty of Engineering—which is divided into two libraries—Engineering and Applied Electricity—is under the management

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of two male librarians. The Class Libraries of the Faculty of Arts are subject to the control of a female assistant. Eleven students are also nominated by the Heads of Departments as Bursary Holders.

Special bibliographies of the University Library have been issued, and the main catalogue is being completed by the aid of a grant for the purpose from the Council.

London.

The libraries of our Metropolitan University contain some 87,500 volumes and pamphlets, and are housed in extensive buildings at South Kensington. They consist of three main departments: the General Library, the Goldsmiths' Company's Library of Economic Literature, and the Physiological Laboratory Departmental Library.

Dating back to 1839, the General Library comprised the library of the old University of London. It was conveyed from Burlington Gardens to its present home in South Kensington when the re-construction of the University was being carried out in 1900. The old library was not open to readers until 1877, and two years later rules were drawn up and put into operation, under which Members of the Senate, Members of Convocation, and persons recommended by them were authorized to borrow six volumes, retainable for three months. These rules were practically useless, as owing to the heterogeneous condition of the stock, the trouble and delay in obtaining books was not justified.

After effecting the re-organization and re-arrangement scheme (which was not completed until a few years ago) the opening ceremony was performed by the Earl of Rosebery, as Chancellor of the University.

The main object of the London University Libraries is to establish in the Central Building at South Kensington special collections on specific subjects, in order that the needs of the post-graduate student may be met in all respects. As a further aid, a Bibliographical Department has been established, which provides the student with the range of his subject and sources of information.

The General Library, which now contains some 46,500 volumes and pamphlets, consists of special collections and a

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selection of expensive standard works of reference, chosen and made available chiefly on account of their rarity, value, or inaccessibility to students of the University.

The first, and one of the most interesting of these special collections, is that of some 4000 volumes and pamphlets, the gift of Lord Overstone in 1871. It comprised the hobby of the late Prof. Augustus De Morgan, who availed himself, within his limited means, of any bargains of rare mathematical and astronomical books which he might happen to come across upon second-hand bookstalls. At the decease of De Morgan, the valuable collection was purchased and presented to the University by Lord Overstone "in the hope that it may prove the first fruits of a library which shall ere long become in all respects such as the University of London ought to possess".

A bequest made in the same year as the last donation was the collection of George Grote, a former Vice-Chancellor of the University. It consists of about 5000 volumes and pamphlets, chiefly of Greek and Latin Classics. As an endeavour to enhance the classical side of the library, a donation of £1000 from Sir Julian Goldsmid was devoted to this purpose. The third special collection was the Library of the British Association, which was presented to the University in 1879. It consists of extensive sets of journals of societies, received in exchange for the publications of the British Association. In many cases these journals are being kept up-to-date by kindness of the authorities.

The next collection was presented in 1880 by Sir John G. Shaw Lefevre (another Vice-Chancellor). It consists mainly of Russian works, many of which are of considerable rarity. In addition to the above collections, mention must not be omitted of the collection of medical works of Sir Richard Quinn, and many of the works from Dr. James Martineau's library.

The theses presented by successful candidates for the higher degrees of the University are filed in the library, by order of the Senate, and made available for public reference. In addition, theses of other Universities (numbering about 10,000) are also housed in the General Library.

To set out in detail the resources of the library is not

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within the scope of this essay, but it is noteworthy that the Reference Department possesses a section of bibliographies and bibliographical guides, together with numerous sets of the publications of learned societies. The educational section of this department includes a selection of the more superior educational periodicals and a representative collection of school textbooks. On the historical side of the library—which is especially rich—are to be found important sets of such records as the Calendars of State Papers, Historical Manuscripts Commission, and the Royal Historical Society. There are also a number of valuable journals of philology.

The Goldsmiths' Company's Library of Economic Literature (40,000 volumes and pamphlets, collected during the period 1874-1903 by Prof. Herbert Somerton Foxwell, of Cambridge) is housed in the Central Building at South Kensington. This collection, which is admitted to be one of the finest economic libraries in the world, is of thirty-five years' growth. Purchased in 1901 by the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, it was presented by them to the University of London, two years later, to be housed in the Central Building.

The library—which is restricted to reference and research purposes—is intended to serve as a foundation for the study of the commercial, industrial, monetary, and financial history of Great Britain and Ireland, in addition to the development of economic science in general. So far as this country is concerned, the history of economic thought is almost complete, and very explicit concerning the French Economists, during and up to the time of the Revolution. America, is well represented, and the economic thought of Spain, Germany, Italy, and Holland find a fair representation in the collection.

Supplementing this large collection is what is known as the Sabatier Collection, acquired in 1906, which contains about 1000 pieces on French Monetary history of the Revolutionary period in particular. Of the other special collections, there is that of John Urpeth Rastrick, which was acquired in 1908. It comprises Rastrick's notebooks and original manuscripts, specifications, plans, estimates, etc. (covering the period 1829 to 1854) for the construction of railways in

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this country, in addition to a number of early pamphlets on American and Indian railways. The Goldsmiths' Library also possesses Richard Oastler's collection of tracts on factories, as well as a valuable set of factory commission and like reports, which were exhibited at the Health Exhibition. Portraits and autograph letters of statesmen and economists, views of institutions, original Acts of Parliament—interesting on account of their special economic interest—broad-sides, in addition to a large collection of economic periodicals, and some 1500 political publications also figure prominently in this library.

It is worthy of note, that in many cases the library possesses the author's own copy, while in others, the corrected proofs for a second or subsequent edition are to be found.

The reading-room catalogue is on the card principle, and arranged according to author, and a separate catalogue, arranged under authors and faculties, represents the collection of theses.

The Physiological Laboratory Departmental Library, containing some 1000 volumes and a like number of pamphlets, is also housed at the Central Building at South Kensington. The collection comprises a selection of the most modern reference works and periodicals dealing with the subjects of Physiology and Psychology. Established in conjunction with the Physiological Laboratory of the University, the collection is intended mainly to serve the requirements of research students who work in the laboratory.

Like the other departments of the London University Library, this collection is represented by a separate card catalogue.

Supplementing the University Library, there are the libraries connected with the University Colleges, which are under the direct control of the Central Authorities. It is the intention of the Senate to compile a master catalogue of all the libraries connected with the University of London.

Manchester.

The Victoria University Library of Manchester, founded and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1880 (and reconstituted by another Charter in 1903) originated in Owens College in

1851, the nucleus being a donation of some 1200 volumes from one James Heywood.

The receipt of donations from several private individuals and important bodies, as well as by other means of accretion, brings the stock up to the present total of 123,257 volumes, exclusive of those works permanently transferred to the various departments of the University.

This large stock, now housed in a magnificent structure after the Gothic period, comprised the handsome gift of Mr. R. C. Christie. The building was opened in the summer of 1898, and consists of three floors.

Works of Law, Modern Languages, Classics, Economics, History, Philosophy, and Theology are located in separate rooms on the ground floor. Each of these rooms is equipped for students' research work. The first floor is devoted to the Reference Library proper. That department contains—in addition to the ordinary works of reference, which are restricted to perusal in the building—almost the whole of the section of English Literature, as well as the greater portion of the literatures of French, German, and Italian. Most of these works are upon open shelves. Portraits and busts of several of the library's benefactors are displayed in this hall.

The second floor (arranged upon the alcove principle) is devoted to the subjects of Fine Arts, Medicine, Engineering, and Science. The shelving of this room is carried to a considerable height, thereby sacrificing utility for more pressing needs.

The principal bequests and donations include the libraries of Dr. Christie, Dr. Prince Lee (first Bishop of Manchester), Dr. E. A. Freeman, Dr. Angus Smith, Professors Adamson, Marillier, Jevons, and Milnes Marshall, and a portion of the library of Prof. Strachan, together with those of the Manchester Goethe Society, the Manchester Branch of the Teachers' Guild, and Messrs. W. T. Arnold and John Finlayson. The library of Dr. Prince Lee was bequeathed in 1870. Rich in ancient and modern Theology and Biblical Literature, it contains a large number of works relating to the history of the donor's Diocese, which were collected by him. The singular feature of this collection consists of a number of large folio volumes, containing plans and engrav-

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ings illustrating the ecclesiastical history of the Diocese. Originally kept apart as a separate collection, it is now merged in the general library. This bequest formed a substantial groundwork of a good historical library, and was considerably augmented in 1892 by a handsome gift of about 6000 volumes dealing with Mediæval History; this was the library of the late Prof. Freeman, and was made over by the Whitworth Legatees.

In Oriental Literature one need only turn to the collections of the late Samuel Robinson, Esq., of Wilmslow, and the late Prof. Theodores, a former Professor of German and Oriental Languages in the College.

The year 1896 brought forth the donation of the Rev. Canon Hicks' collection of books and dissertations on Greek Inscriptions, while three years later the resources of the library were extended by the receipt of the Manchester Goethe Society's Library of books and pamphlets relating to Goethe. It is interesting to observe that the Weimer edition of Goethe's works is included in the collection. Among other collections of scientific works the library obtained by purchase in 1877 some 3600 works from the executors of David Forbes, F.R.S., and by donation in 1885 the Angus Smith Memorial Library of some 4000 volumes, dealing chiefly with Chemistry and Physics. In 1894 the Marshall Memorial Library—the private collection of a late Professor of Zoology in the College—was presented.

In addition to the above, the library holds, as a trust, the Hargreaves collection of musical works.

In order to enrich the library in certain subjects, special funds—spread over a number of years—have been instituted. Among the many, mention may be made of the gift of the Misses Gaskell of £500 in 1886 for the purchase of books dealing with the subjects of English Language and Literature and Greek Testament; one of £500 from J. J. Heywood, Esq., for the purchase of works of modern literature; another gift of £1000 by Charles J. Darbishire; and the Whitworth Endowment Fund of £100 annually.

The classification adopted in the Manchester University Library is that of the Brussels expansion of Dewey; the

catalogue, which is on cards, comprises both an Author and an exhaustive Subject Catalogue.

Sheffield.

In 1897 the University College of Sheffield was founded by Royal Charter. This resulted in incorporating (in one institution) three organizations: the Firth College, the Sheffield Technical School, and the Sheffield School of Medicine. The first of these represents the Faculties of Arts and Science, while the other two cover the fields of Technology and Medicine respectively. The granting of another Charter in 1905 caused the University College to be constituted a University.

The library stock is housed in a fine spacious building, known as the Edgar Allen Library (the gift of Mr. William Edgar Allen of Sheffield). The building—which was opened in 1909 by H.M. King George V, when Prince of Wales—is octagonal in shape and consists of three floors. Each floor is divided into eight alcoves by means of standard bookcases, which gives the building a storage capacity for 120,000 volumes. The ground floor is reserved for reference readers, the alcoves being specially equipped for that purpose. The more commonly used books are located in the main floor and gallery, the former (though this is not strictly correct) is reserved for Arts, the latter for Science and Medicine.

Containing at present about 33,000 volumes, the library depended primarily upon donations and bequests for its growth. In this connexion mention should be made of Prof. G. C. Moore Smith, who until 1907 was hon. librarian. He has written two bibliographical papers on the library, one in the volume of papers published in 1897 to commemorate the incorporation of the University College, and the other, which is a list of the early printed books in the library, issued on the opening of the new premises. The bequest of the late Mr. John Spear Parker (a native of the city) of a number of rare works on Chemistry and Alchemy, was the result of his collecting, with a view to writing a history of chemistry. Of more recent years an extensive donation came into the possession of the University authorities. It was the property of

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the late Dr. Sorby (acknowledged to be the greatest authority of Science that Sheffield has ever produced) and consists of works on Mineralogy, Geology, and general Science; Archæology, Egyptology, Architecture, and other subjects.

Among other collections, the gift of the weekly Board of the Royal Infirmary may be cited. It comprises a number of medical works which treat the subject from a historical standpoint, and are therefore of great value to students of Medicine. A collection of some 400 volumes on Mathematics, the bequest of the late Mr. Herbert Bramley, has also found its way into the library. Prof. J. E. B. Mayor, of Cambridge, and Prof. C. H. Firth, of Oxford, have also made handsome donations in works of literature.

Apart from benefactions, the resources of the library have been brought up to date in all the main classes of knowledge, and under the supervision of the heads of the various University departments the best authorities have been procured. This, then, makes the University Library an efficient students' library.

In early printed books, as also in MSS., the library scores heavily. Of the former, it is noteworthy that the institution possesses the second edition of "Hortus Sanitatis," the "Astronomia Nova" of Kepler (1609), the first edition in handsome binding of Goldsmith's "Deserted Village," and also the plays of Massinger, Shirley, and Nabbes.

The whole of the stock, most of which is on open shelves, is classified according to the Dewey Decimal System, with certain modifications to secure greater convenience and simplicity. The catalogue comprises Author and Subject-Index entries on cards in separate cabinets.

As has been shown, the progress of the University libraries of this country has, though confined to the last century, been marked indeed. While hardly to be compared with the great ancestral libraries of Oxford and Cambridge (founded in the fifteenth century), the constant growth of each, through donations and bequests of money and books, is surely characteristic of the appreciation of the donors themselves and of the average student.

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