

V. REPORT OF THE ADVISORY DIRECTOR AND LIBRARIAN, TURNBULL LIBRARY.

CATALOGUING, BINDING, ETC.

Good progress has been made during the year with the cataloguing and arranging of the library. By the 31st March, 1921, over thirteen thousand books had been classified, numbered, and placed on the shelves, one thousand of this number being bound pamphlets. This means that some eighty thousand cards have been prepared, some for the permanent card catalogue, some for the printed catalogue when issue of such a catalogue is contemplated.

Last year's estimate of fifteen thousand volumes as comprising the oceanic section of the library proves to have been a very moderate one, as the whole of the Australian and some of the New Zealand pamphlets, and all the newspapers and magazines, still remain to be catalogued, besides some thousands of unbound pamphlets.

Although some time must still necessarily elapse before a commencement is made with cataloguing the general-literature classes (outside the oceanic section), students are given reasonable access to the books in these classes, which include so many bibliophilic rarities and treasures, and which in years to come will serve as an inestimably valuable *corpus* of literary material, which university and other students of English literature generally should put to excellent use.

Out of the volumes classified, about eight hundred were sent to the Government Printer for binding or lettering.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year some seven hundred and fifty volumes have been added to the library, but this number includes some six hundred volumes dealing with the history of the British stage, obtained from B. Quaritch, and reported last year. Few important works have been published in the sections in which the library is to specialize—viz., Pacific history, sociology, ethnology, &c.

DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

The library has been fortunate in receiving several valuable donations during the year, among which are—

Donor.	Donation.
General Sir Ian Hamilton (through Hon. W. H. Triggs, M.L.C.)	Manuscript of part of the second Gallipoli despatch.
H. H. Bothamley (through A. T. Bothamley)	Some hundreds of old parchments and like legal documents dating back to the sixteenth century, and including the original charter of the Abbey St. Mary de Sallay, dated before 1197.
Church Missionary Society, London (through the Ven. Archdeacon Williams)	The Church Catechism, in Maori, 1830
Ven. Archdeacon Williams ..	Nine volumes in Maori, including works printed at Paihia in 1840; set of <i>Te Kopara</i> ; manuscript letter, dated April, 1731, written by Bentley, concerning his uncle's annotations on Milton.
Mrs. R. Coupland-Harding ..	Colenso's composing-stick (the first in New Zealand) and mission-press type; manuscript letters of Colenso.
Professor T. H. Easterfield ..	Cabinet of over four hundred medallions of kings, queens, scientists, literary men, &c., of the Old World, issued about a century ago.
His Honour Justice Chapman ..	Thirty-two maps, principally of Europe, dating from 1793 to the middle of the nineteenth century; also some fifty volumes of Provincial Ordinances and Gazettes, &c.
Captain Euan Dickson ..	Sparkling-plug used in pioneer aeroplane flight across Cook Strait, with signed statement.
R. Hogg ("Robin Blochairn") ..	Author's copies of "Singin' to the Weans," "A Ploughmen's Dream," "The Fireside Clime."
T. E. L. Roberts ..	Author's copy of "Rimu and Rata."
Miss Wickham ..	"Casual Ramblings Up and Down" (two series), by "A Tramp."
Mrs. C. M. Tripp ..	"My Early Days," by Mrs. E. S. Tripp.
G. Mitchelmore and Co., London ..	"The Doubleure."
Maggs Bros., London ..	Five morocco-bound volumes of their illustrated catalogues.
B. C. Aston ..	"A Compendium of Geography," 1807; Bowles's "Atlas Minor," 1791.
Oxford University Press ..	Scott, "A Short History of Australia," and other publications.
J. McDonald ..	Manuscript notes of S. Smith's account of the capture of Te Rauparaha.
E. N. Hogben ..	"The New Zealand Division," by Burton.
Dunedin Municipal Library ..	<i>The Crusader</i> , and other transport magazines.
J. P. Maxwell ..	Butler, "Hudibras," 1812; Carlyle, "On the Repeal of the Union," 1889.
H. Baillie ..	Water-colour drawing of iceberg seen from the "Brougham," 1841.
H. R. Butcher (through the Hon. Sir Robert Stout)	Milton, "History of England," 1818; Chatterton, "The Rowley Poems," 1777.

The thanks of the Government are due to these donors, and if like liberality continues the library will certainly become a repository rich in books, manuscripts, and articles of historic interest.

The old legal documents referred to above, presented through Mr. A. T. Bothamley, Clerk-Assistant of the Legislative Council, were received just after the 31st March, but mention of them is made here as they are of very great historic interest, and some at least are of great historic value. They include documents drawn up at various times from the reign of Queen Elizabeth and onwards. Some are in English, some in Latin. They form a fine collection, illustrating the evolution of English caligraphy during over three hundred years. A general description of the collection has already been made public in the Press.

The donation of the Church Missionary Society is of especial value, as it is a copy of the first book set up and printed in New Zealand, and only two other copies are known to exist.