





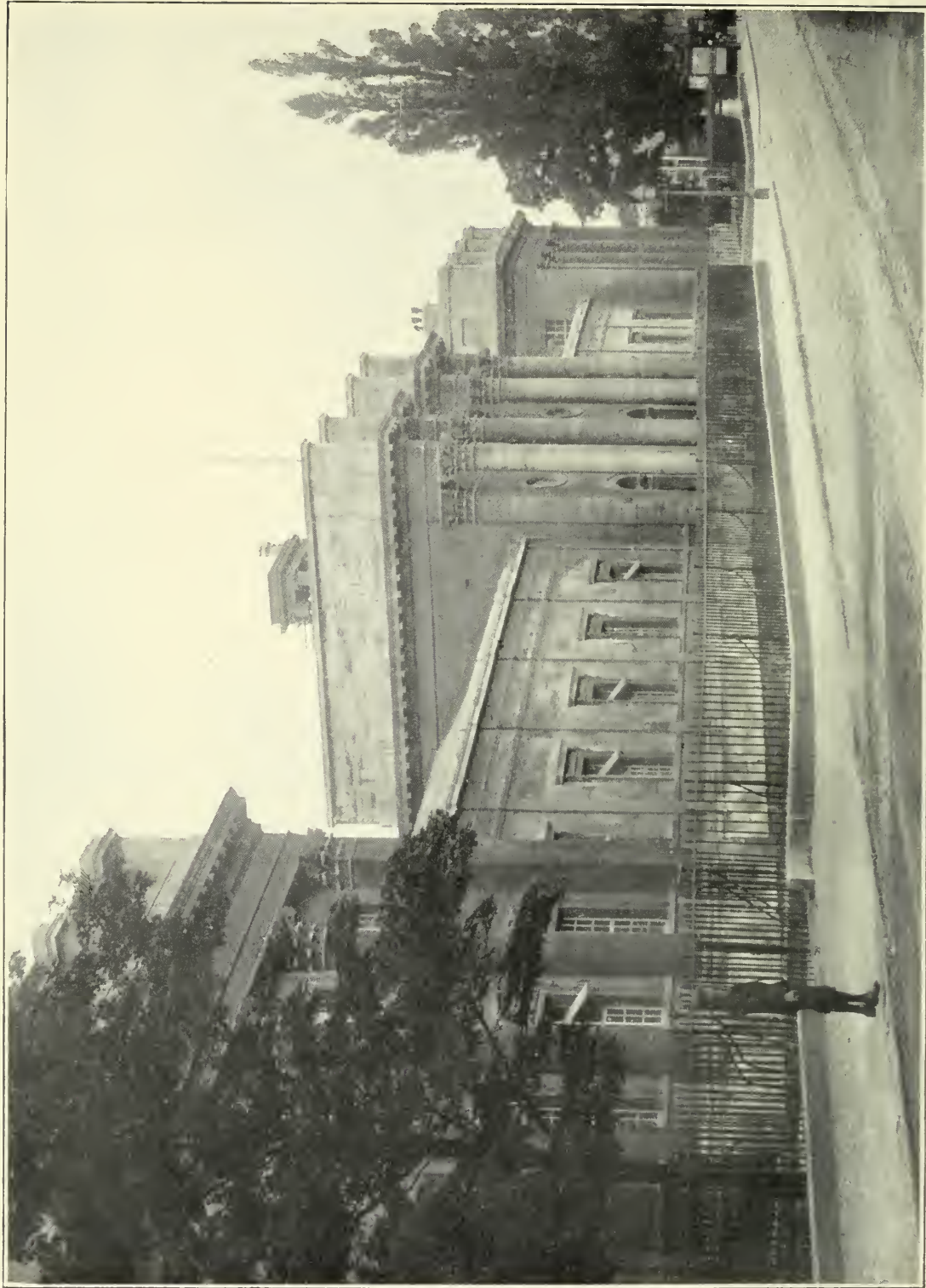
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AA 2 Craster  
from the author  
24 Oct. 1929



THE CLARENDON PRESS, WALTON STREET, OXFORD

(The Bible Press is nearest to the spectator: the Learned Press at the far end)

**A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS AT  
OXFORD WITH ILLUSTRATIONS  
TOGETHER WITH A CHART OF  
OXFORD PRINTING**

**BY FALCONER MADAN M.A.  
FELLOW OF BRASENOSE COLLEGE**



**OXFORD : PRINTED AT THE CLARENDON PRESS  
MCMVIII**

2232 .098 M24 1908

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PUBLISHER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD  
LONDON, EDINBURGH  
NEW YORK AND TORONTO



## PREFACE

NEXT to Speech and Writing, the Printing Press has probably done more to raise the general standard of knowledge and attainment than any other human invention. No apology is therefore needed for attempting a short account of the greatest provincial Press in England, one which can boast continuity from Elizabethan days and can look far further back to a time when the art was unknown in London, and to a book bearing a date either anterior to Caxton's first work at Westminster or second only to that.

This Essay is divided into three parts:—1. The history proper. 2. Some incidents and curiosities of the Oxford Press. 3. A chart of printing at Oxford, divided into half centuries; in which the effect of the Civil War, the Tractarian movement, and the First University Commission are clearly traceable.

Much use has been made of my *Chart of Oxford Printing* (1903 and 1904), and some facts are drawn from a *Souvenir of the University Press, Oxford, July 7, 1906*; but the scope of this booklet does not admit of references to authorities. Perhaps its production may be allowed to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the union of the Bible and Learned Presses under Mr. Horace Hart, and his management of them from the year 1883 till now. But grateful acknowledgement is personally and specially due to Mr. Henry Frowde, at whose request this piece has been undertaken, and to whose enterprise and sympathetic interest it largely owes whatever merits it may possess.

F. M.

OXFORD: *May 15, 1908.*

## NOTE

ONE of the illustrations (No. 16), which has no connexion with the Oxford Press, may seem to need some explanation. It is the only detailed and artistic representation of a complete printing-office at an early date: and occurs in a rare work, the *Nova Reperta*, published at Antwerp about A. D. 1600, and containing nine plates of recent inventions designed by Johannes Stradanus (born at Bruges in 1523, but domiciled in Italy) and engraved by Philippus Gallaeus (born at Haarlem in 1537). It displays the whole process of printing, from the paper brought in at the gateway in the background to the 'clean sheets' hung up to dry. Three compositors will be noticed, two of a lower grade with inferior 'cases', and one in the foreground with a 'case' of thirty-five divisions and a small box on his left for 'spaces'(?). The 'copy' is posed before them almost as in modern times. There are two stalwart presses of a simple hand-screw kind, at one of which the type is being inked, while at the other the platen is on the point of being brought down on the paper. A corrector of the press is looking over a proof, and a lad is arranging the damp sheets before drying them on a string. The picture is completed by the burly figure of the Master Printer, old, experienced, care-worn, and short-tempered. The small vignette in the upper right-hand corner may represent a man engaged in what is really primaeval printing, the act of sealing.





AN OXFORD TITLE-PAGE OF 1640

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*at end*



ARMS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRINTED FROM AN OLD WOODBLOCK

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of the University from old woodblocks.



ARMS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRINTED FROM AN OLD WOODBLOCK





rationis assignet Si inquam hec secundū  
 traditionis supra exposite regulam con  
 sequantur aduertimus deprecemur vt  
 nobis et omnibus qui hoc audiunt conce  
 dat dominus fide quam suscepimus custo  
 dia cursu consumato expectare iusticie  
 repositam coronam : et inueniri inter eos  
 qui refurgunt in vitam eternam liberati  
 vero a confusione et obprobrio eterno \*  
 per christum dominum nostrum per quem  
 ē deo patri omnipotēti cū spiritu sancto  
 gloria et imperium in secula seculorum  
 amen .

Explicit expositio sancti Jeronimi in  
 simbolo apostolorum ad papam laure  
 cum Impressa Oxonie Et finita An  
 no domini . M . cccc . lxxviii . xvij . die  
 decembris \*

THE LAST PAGE OF THE OXFORD JEROME

(Bearing the disputed date 1468 : see pp. 1, 22)

# PART I

## CHAPTER I

### THE EARLIEST OXFORD PRESSES

#### *The Fifteenth Century Press, '1468'-1487*

**T**HE earliest printers seem to have had no idea of the importance of their work. They regarded the new art, compared with pen work, as just a less troublesome and much quicker method of producing books. The ecclesiastical and academical world probably viewed printers at first with some suspicion, and made it desirable that as little publicity as possible should be given to the venture. Early records are in consequence scanty, and usually to be found in reports of some legal process concerning the devolution of the type or press, as in the case of Gutenberg, or in the books themselves. 'A small room—two, or perhaps three, "cases" of type, placed near the window for light's sake—a rude and diminutive wooden press—a couple of workmen, and a bale of paper,' such is Blades's description of the beginning of printing at Westminster and Oxford. Most unfortunately the Oxford University Registers of Congregation and Convocation, otherwise continuous from 1448 to the present time, are wanting from 1463 to 1505, while the *Registrum Curiae Cancellarii*, after a volume relating to 1434-69, begins again only at 1498.

The first book printed at Oxford bears the unmistakable date MCCCCLXVIII (1468), and is discussed at p. 22 of the present volume. Even if the true date be 1478, as nearly all bibliographers believe, this first press is of great interest from its very early date, the rarity of its products, and the bibliographical problems raised during its course. The books fall at once into three classes:—

I. '1468'-1480 (place of printing and date always given, but no printer's name: size of printed page always  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$  inches: type no. 1 only).

I. '1468,' Dec. 17.—*Expositio Sancti Ieronimi in Simbolum Apostolorum*: really by Rufinus, bishop of Aquileia: see p. 22. (14 copies known.)

2. 1479.—*Textus Ethicorum Aristotelis per Leonardum Arretinum translatus.* (8 copies.)

3. 1478<sup>9</sup>/<sub>0</sub>, March 14.—*Tractatus fratris Egidij de peccato originali.* (3 copies: its colophon in red is the earliest printing in colours in England.)

II. 1480?–1482 (no place or printer's name except in no. 5, 'Alma universitas Oxon.' and 'Theodoricus Rood de Colonia': types nos. 2 and 3).

4. About 1480.—(*Ciceronis Oratio pro Milone.*) This, if it be really a product of the Oxford press, is the first classic printed in England. (Fragments.)

5. 1481, October 11.—*Expositio Alexandri (de Hales) super libros (Aristotelis) de anima.* (16 copies: with the earliest woodcut border known in England.)

6. 1481?—(*Longe Parvula*, by John Stanbridge, a Latin Grammar in English.) (Fragments.)

7. 1482, July 31.—*Liber moralium super Trenis Iheremie, compilatus per Iohannem Latteburij.* (17 copies.)

III. 1483?–1487? (no date, place of printing or printer's name given, except in no. 14, 'Alma universitas Oxoniae,' and 'Teodericus Rood de Colonia' with 'Thomas Hunte Anglicus' as printers, and the date 1485: and in no. 16, which bears a date, 1486<sup>6</sup>/<sub>7</sub>: types nos. 3–7).

8. 1483?—(*Compendium totius grammaticae per Johannem Anwykyll*) and, *Vulgaria Terentij.* (4 *Vulgaria*, and fragments: there is apparent evidence of two editions of the grammar.)

9. 1483?—*Excitatio anime ad elemosinam, a beato Augustino.* (1 copy.)

10. 1483?—*Explanationes Ricardi (Rolle de) Hampole super lectiones Iob.* (3 copies.)

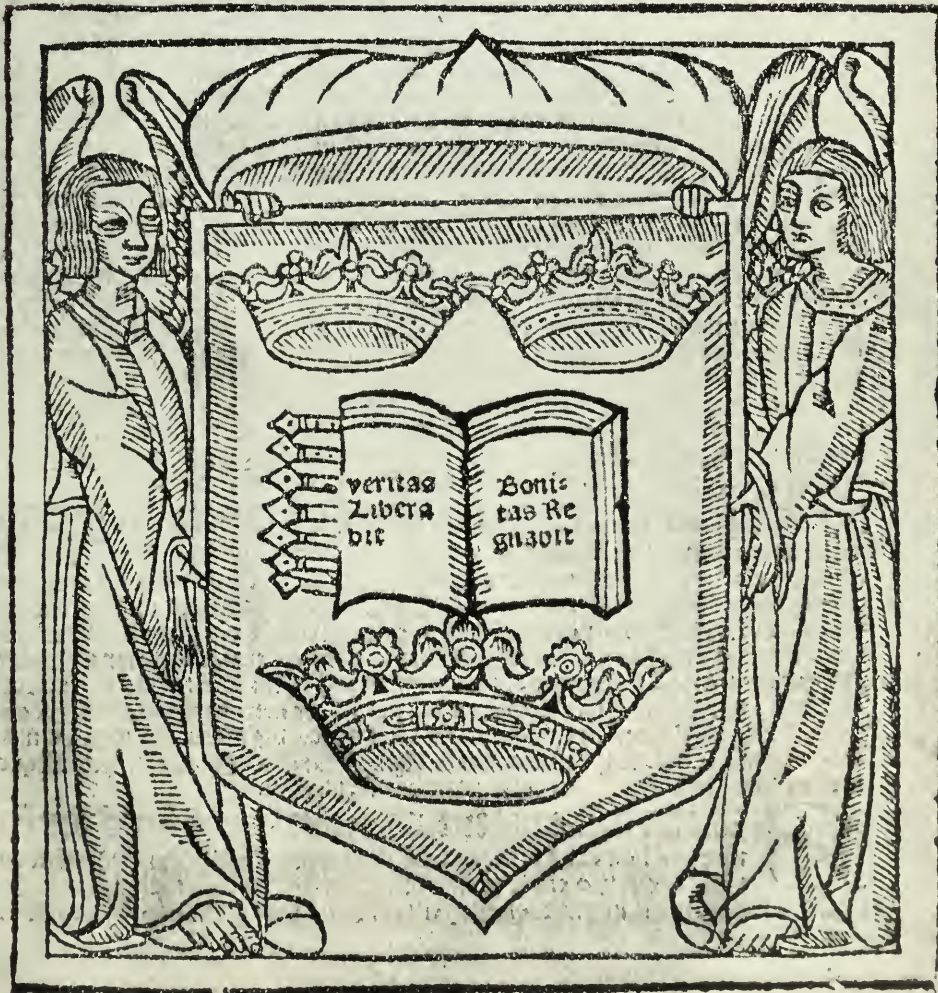
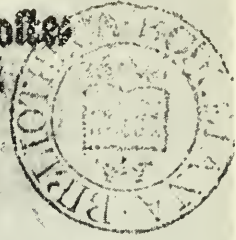
11. 1483?—(*Tractatus logici.*) (2 copies.)

12. 1483?—*Opus Wilhelmi Lyndewoode super constituciones prouinciales.* (22 copies.)

13. 1485?—(*Textus Alexandri de Villa Dei, cum sententiis.*) (Fragments.)

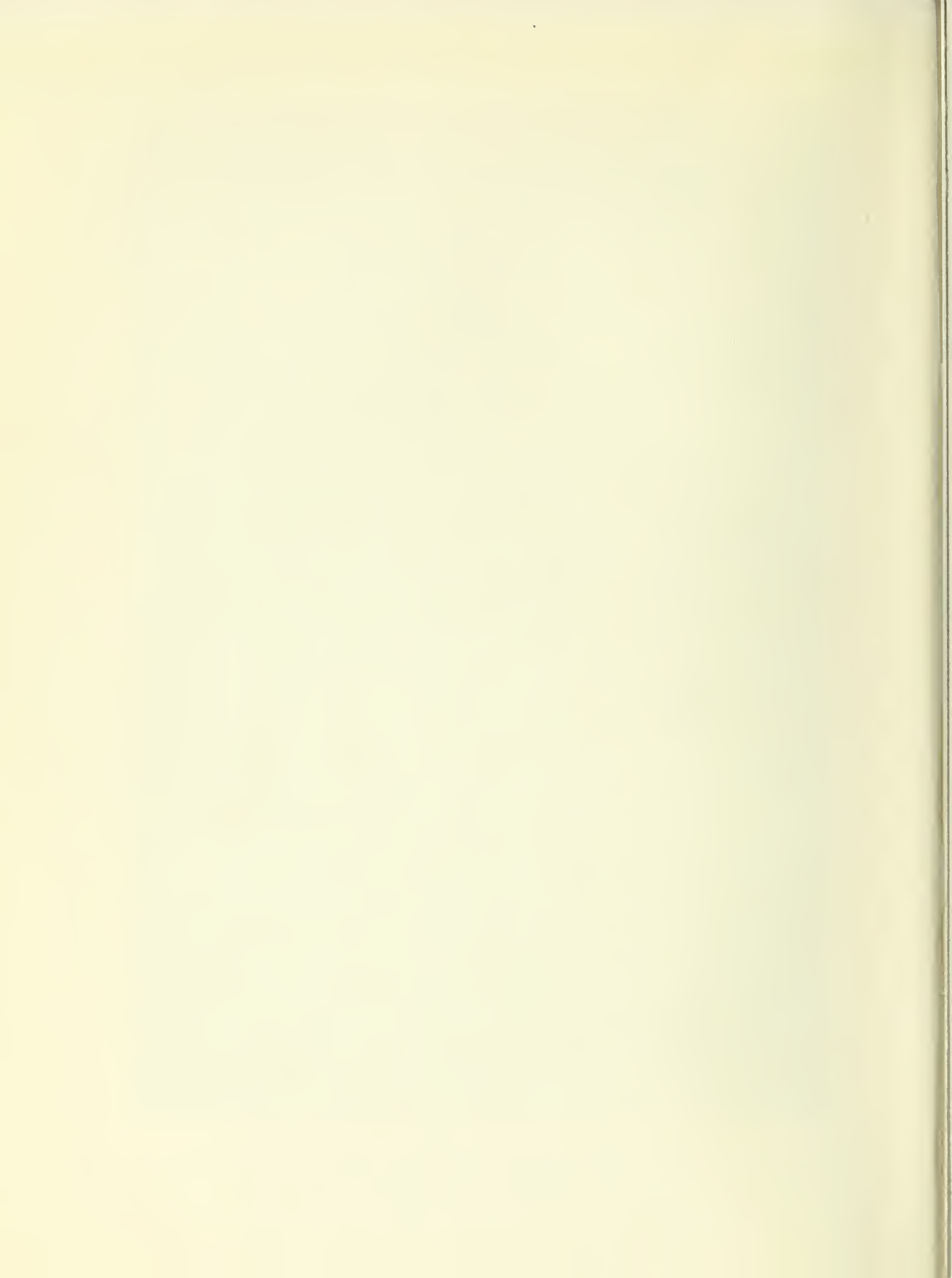
14. 1485?—*Phalaridis Epistolae per Franciscum Aretinum in Latinum versae.* (3 copies.)

**T**ractatus expositivus super libros post-  
 eriorū Aristotilis: preclarissimi philisophi  
 Walteri Burlei artium liberalium  
 et trium philosophiarū magis-  
 tri meritissimi: ac in sacra  
 theologia doctoris perspi-  
 cacissimi planissimiqz  
 suis posteris Oxoniensibus admodum bt̄ilis incipit felis-  
 citer cum summa diligentia.  
 recognitus.



FIRST PAGE OF THE SECOND OXFORD PRESS, 1517

(Arms of the University with the old motto: see p. 3)



15. 1485?—*Compendium totius grammaticae*, a new edition of no. 8. (Fragments.)

16. 148 $\frac{6}{7}$ , March 19.—*The boke that is callid Festiuall* (by John Mirk). (4 copies.)

It may be supposed that Theodoric Rood, coming from Cologne, printed the first and second group by himself at Oxford: that then about 1483 he took Thomas Hunt, known as an Oxford University stationer since 1473, into partnership, and that he left England in 1485, leaving Hunt to issue the Festial alone. It is peculiar that the only other English provincial press, that at St. Albans (1479-86), ceased about the same time.

### *The Second Press, 1517-20*

The second press is peculiar for its short and almost unrecorded work, and for the entire absence of Theology among its products, whereas in the first press Theology and Classics were about evenly balanced. It was undoubtedly situated in St. John Street, near Merton College, and the printers were John Scolar (nos. 2-5, and probably nos. 1, 6) and Carolus Kyrfoth (no. 7), who lived in the same street and presumably succeeded to the business. The Oxford books at present known are:—

1. 1517, Dec. 4.—*Tractatus super libros Posteriorum Arestotilis Walteri Burlei*. (2 copies known.)

2. 1518, May 15.—*Questiones super libros Ethicorum (Aristotelis) Ioannis Deduci*. Cum privilegio. (8 copies.)

3. 1518, June 5.—*Compendium questionum de luce et lumine*. Cum privilegio. (3 copies.)

4. 1518, June 7.—*Tractatus de materia, &c. Walteri Burlei*. Cum privilegio. (3 copies.)

5. 1518, June 27.—*De heteroclitis nominibus, editio Roberti Whittintoni*. (11 copies.)

6. 1518?—*Prenostica Iasparis Laet*. (2 copies, fragmentary.)

7. 15 $\frac{19}{20}$ , Feb. 5.—*Compotus manualis ad vsum Oxoniensium* (a calendarial treatise). (1 copy.)

It will be noted that the aegis of the University was already held over the Press. All the productions (except no. 6, which is only a broadside) bear the arms of the University, and three are issued with express privilege of the Chancellor, as against other printers, extending over seven years from publication. The press however ceased in 1519, and all the provincial presses of the first half of the sixteenth century were similarly short-lived (York, 1509-16; Cambridge, 1521-2; Tavistock, 1525 and 1534; Abingdon, to which John Scolar seems to have transferred his press from Oxford, 1528; St. Albans, 1534-8; Bristol, 1546; Ipswich, 1547-8; Worcester, 1548-53; and Canterbury, 1549-56). Finally the Charter of the Stationers' Company of May 4, 1556, suppressed all provincial presses except such as might be at Oxford or Cambridge.

Mr. A. W. Pollard allows me to add here that he has discovered recently in the British Museum three leaves of a book which will probably be found to be the earliest product of this second press, though it is rather too soon to assume the fact as certain. The title is *Opusculum Insolubilium secundum usum insignis schole Parisi in alma universitate Oxonie*, a small book of logic, on the title-page of which is the woodcut of the Arms of the University as given on Plate IV, but apparently in an earlier condition. The plate is not known to have been used anywhere but in Oxford.



# IN ADVENTVM ILLVSTRIS

SIMI LECESTRENSIS COMITIS AD

*Collegium Lincolnense.*



CARMEN GRATVLATORIVM.

**C**omiter hoc factum est a te (Comes optime) vt istis  
 hospes in angustis ædibus esse velis.  
 Quò minor hæc domus est, bonitas tua maior habenda est,  
 in tenui hospitio, gratior hospes eris.  
 O Comes es comis, merito Comes ergò vocaris,  
 dux tibi sit Christus, nobilitasq; comes.  
 Oxonia, Patria, Elisa, Atlas, Nestor, Achates,  
 Cresce, Vige, Persta, Viribus, Arte, Fide.

OXONIÆ  
 Ex *Ædibus* JOSEPHI BARNES  
 tertio Idus Ianuarij.

1585.

FIRST PIECE ISSUED FROM JOSEPH BARNES'S PRESS

(Jan. 11, 158 $\frac{1}{2}$ : see p. 5)



## CHAPTER II

### THE UNIVERSITY PRESS IN PRIVATE HANDS

1585-1669

THE Reformation and the reign of Elizabeth brought great changes to Oxford, though it cannot be said that mediaeval life ceased until the Restoration. When one considers the spread of printing in London during the sixteenth century, it is not astonishing that the Earl of Leicester, the Queen's favourite, and Chancellor of the University from 1564 till 1588, should see the advantage of imitating Cambridge by starting a learned press at Oxford. The very earliest production of the renovated printing office is a broadside (of 1585) to welcome the Chancellor to his lodgings at Lincoln College (see Plate V), and in the first book issued (Case's *Speculum Moraliū Quaestionum*, 1585) he is specially mentioned as the founder of the new press, there being apparently no recollection at that time of any former printing at Oxford.

It was in 1585 then that the University (probably following the recommendation of a Committee De Libris imprimendis, appointed by Convocation on December 23, 1584) lent £100 to Joseph Barnes, book-seller of Oxford, with which to establish a press, and an ordinance of Star Chamber of the following year specially allowed one press and one apprentice at Oxford, besides a chief printer. It is known that Barnes lived first (till 1588?) in a house in the High Street, opposite the middle of the nave of St. Mary's, and next at what is now St. Mary's Entry, opposite the West front of St. Mary's Church, and there worked as sole Printer to the University until 1617, most of the products of his press being theological, whether sermons or treatises. In 1586 appeared the first Greek book, six selected homilies of St. Chrysostom, and ten years later Hebrew type is found. Even in Barnes's time we can see a generous rivalry between the two Universities, for when Cambridge printed a Latin Dictionary by Thomas Thomas in 1588, Barnes issued Rider's *Double*

*Dictionarie* in the next year. In 1595 we find Wermueller's *Perl mewn adfyd*, a Welsh translation of an English version of the original German, with the new imprint 'yn Rhydychen', the latter being the Welsh word for a ford of Oxen. Among other books printed by Barnes are the first English edition of the Latin text of Richard de Bury's *Philobiblon sive de amore librorum* (1599); the first Catalogue of the Bodleian (1605); Brian Twyne's *Antiquitatis academiae Oxoniensis Apologia*, the earliest history of the University (1608); Captain John Smith's *Map [and Account] of Virginia*, issued perhaps at 10s. and now worth £125; and several volumes of University verses, congratulatory or funereal. There is a strange episode in 1586, when Barnes ventured to issue a Spanish Grammar by Antonio Corrano and a *Dialogo* by Juan Valdes to accompany it as a reading book, the first bearing his ordinary Oxford imprint in Spanish. The feeling against Spain, however, ran so high at that date, just before the Spanish Armada, that it was considered unpatriotic to publish Spanish books in England, so Barnes hastily reissued the Grammar with a forged *Paris* imprint! The Grammar with either imprint is very rare, but the *Dialogo* with a Paris imprint (no copy is known with an Oxford imprint) is only rare.

When Barnes retired in 1617, William Wrench and John Lichfield took on his work; but the former disappears in 1618, while Lichfield or his descendants are found continuously printing at Oxford until 1749. The succession of University Printers after Barnes and Wrench, before the Civil War, is John Lichfield 1617-35, James Short 1618-24, William Turner 1624-40, and Leonard Lichfield 1635-58. Of the three really great names connected with the Oxford Press, the first (Archbishop Laud) belongs to this period. It was he who noticed that Cambridge had long before (in the time of Henry VIII) obtained Letters Patent for printing, while Oxford could exhibit none; and through his exertions as Chancellor the balance was restored by similar Letters to Oxford, dated November 12, 1632, which allowed three printers, each of whom (by an amplification of March 13 following) might have two presses and two apprentices. The autobiographical account of Laud's Chancellorship shows how closely he watched and how assiduously he fostered the growing Press. On March 3, 1635, for instance, he obtained a further Royal Charter, in which the University's right to print all manner of books is further extended; but



ARCHBISHOP LAUD

(Chancellor of the University, 1630-41 : died 1645)



the particular privilege of printing Bibles, Almanacks, and Grammars was surrendered, in 1637, to the Stationers' Company for an annual payment of £200. No doubt this was in consequence of the University producing a Grammar and three Almanacks in 1636, as an earnest of a serious intention to make use of its privilege. Among the books published between 1617 and 1642 are Burton's immortal *Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621, 1624, 1628, 1632, 1638); ten Royal Proclamations in 1625, when the King and Court came to Oxford to avoid the plague in London; Charles Butler's phonetically spelt books, the *English Grammar* and the *Feminine Monarchie or History of Bees* (1633 and 1634); the Laudian *Corpus Statutorum Universitatis Oxoniensis* (1634), by which the University was governed till 1855; a rare Masque at the King and Queen's entertainment at Richmond, largely written in Wiltshire dialect (1636); Randolph's *Poems* (1638 and 1640); Bacon's *Advancement of Learning* (1640; see Plate II), and many volumes of University verses.

The Civil War began on August 22, 1642; and though Laud's power soon passed away, the royal favour took its place, for Charles made Oxford his head quarters from October 29, 1642, until on the fateful morning of April 27, 1646, he slipped out of the East Gate, only to deliver himself up to the tender mercies of the Scotch Army at Newark. In the intervening period royalist pamphlets, sermons, Declarations and Proclamations poured out from Oxford in large numbers, as is graphically shown on the Chart (Plate XXVII), the total output rising from an average of 25 a year, and in 1641, 19, to (approximately) 147 in 1642; then in 1643, 119, in 1644, 100, in 1645, 60, and in 1646, 22, not counting periodicals; while in 1649 under the Parliamentary régime, the number drops to 7!

The great feature of this interesting period is the London counterfeits of Oxford imprints, which are exemplified at p. 24, the royalist publishers in London finding it safer to pretend that their wares came from the royalist city, and not from their own presses. The printers in Oxford were only two in number, Leonard Lichfield and Henry Hall (1642-79, but not a University printer till October 17, 1644); there was also one publisher who was not a printer, William Webbe.

The turn of the tide in the King's affairs was during the winter of 1643-4, and the Press was at once correspondingly affected; but a special disaster befell it in the fire of October 6, 1644, which burnt Leonard

Lichfield's office in what is now Queen Street. Fortunately there was ample warning of its approach, and much that was valuable was removed in time; but the story of one book, which was practically destroyed, can be read at p. 25. The seriousness of the political pamphlets was much lightened by the extraordinary effusions of John Taylor, the Water Poet, who faithfully followed the King to Oxford, and produced a stream of scurrilities against Parliamentary scribblers and poetasters. On the other hand, from his quiet retreat in Queen's College, Dr. Henry Hammond was at the same time issuing a series of theological pamphlets, which almost alone among the publications of the period show no traces of their warlike surroundings.

On June 24, 1646, the city surrendered. The press at Oxford perhaps never fell lower than when Sir Thomas Fairfax introduced his two careless and ill-equipped printers, John Harris and Henry Hills, in 1647. It may be supposed that the University printers, who were deeply and obviously implicated on the King's side, were practically inhibited from exercising their art, and were only able to print in secret (chiefly for Richard Royston, in London), or else to publish such trivial books as a tradesman's ready reckoner (1647), or at most a Scheibler's *Philosophia Compendiosa*. But soon the grip of the Parliamentary Visitation relaxed, and learning began to flourish again, as may be noted on the Chart for 1650-60, while the flow of books was from then till about 1690 more plentiful than ever before. In 1658 was appointed the first Architypographus or Controller of the Press—an office contemplated in the Laudian Statutes—and eleven years after, the munificence of Archbishop Sheldon provided a new and spacious house for the academical printers.



E P I C E D I A

U N I V E R S I T A T I S

O X O N I E N S I S ,

ET

O B I T U M

AUGUSTISSIMÆ PRINCIPIS

HENRIETTÆ MARIAE

REGINÆ MATRIS.



---

O X O N I I ,

E T Y P O G R A P H I A S H E L D O N I A N A .

A n n o D o m i n i . M . D C . L X I X .



## CHAPTER III

### THE SHELDONIAN PRESS AND DR. FELL

1669-1713

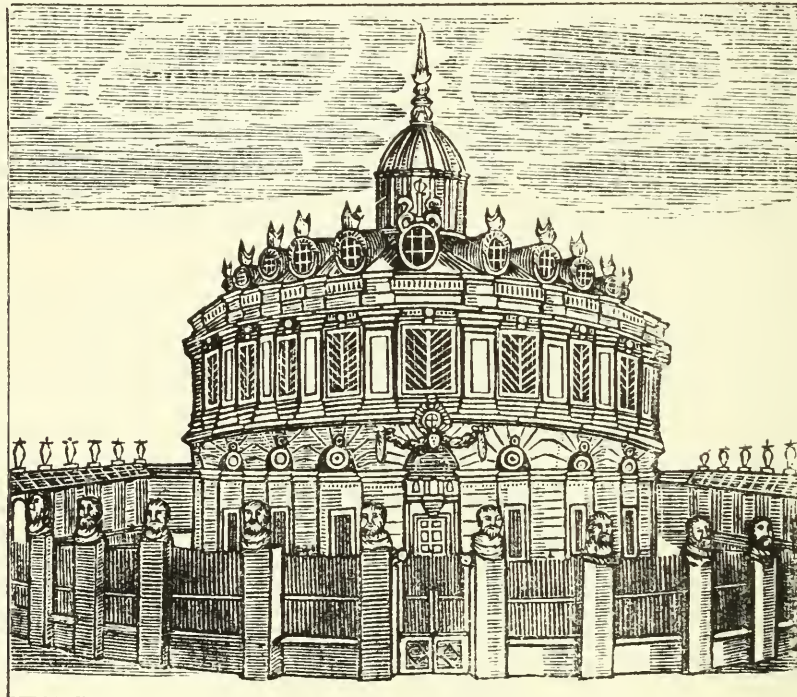
THE second of the great names in the annals of Oxford printing is that of Dr. John Fell, Student of Christ Church, 1637-60, Canon, 1660, Dean, 1660-86, and Bishop of Oxford, 1675-86, a great patron and reformer of the University, and an ardent promoter of learning and of the Learned Press. It was he who first established a regular type foundry at Oxford in 1667, having presented valuable matrixes in the previous year. It was he who encouraged the fitting up of a Paper-mill at Wolvercote. It was he who bore the brunt of the long struggle with the London Stationers and the King's Printers about the privilege of printing Bibles, Prayer Books, and Almanacks, which lasted from about 1660 till after Fell's death in 1686. And in 1671 he was the chief of a syndicate of four who took over the management of the Press, paying the University the accustomed £200 a year for it, and expending about £4,000 from their own resources. Lastly, he had the charge of the building of the new home of the Press, the Sheldonian Theatre, and is credited with having originally suggested the idea to the archbishop.

In 1669 the new Theatre was opened, and the Press installed in it. But every year during the Act and on other special occasions the latter was seriously disturbed in its work, and the presses hustled off into the basement, while the paper and printed sheets were placed between the ceiling and the roof. Moreover, as soon as 1688, the working of the heavy presses was found to be injuring the building, and the Learned Press was removed to 'Tom Pun's house' about twenty yards south-east of the Theatre, exactly where was once a bastion of the City Wall, while the new Bible Press moved to a house in St. Aldate's; but, strange to say, the Sheldonian imprint was still invariably used.

In 1693 the first of the Specimens of Types was issued from the University printing house (see Appendix II), and displayed a richer variety

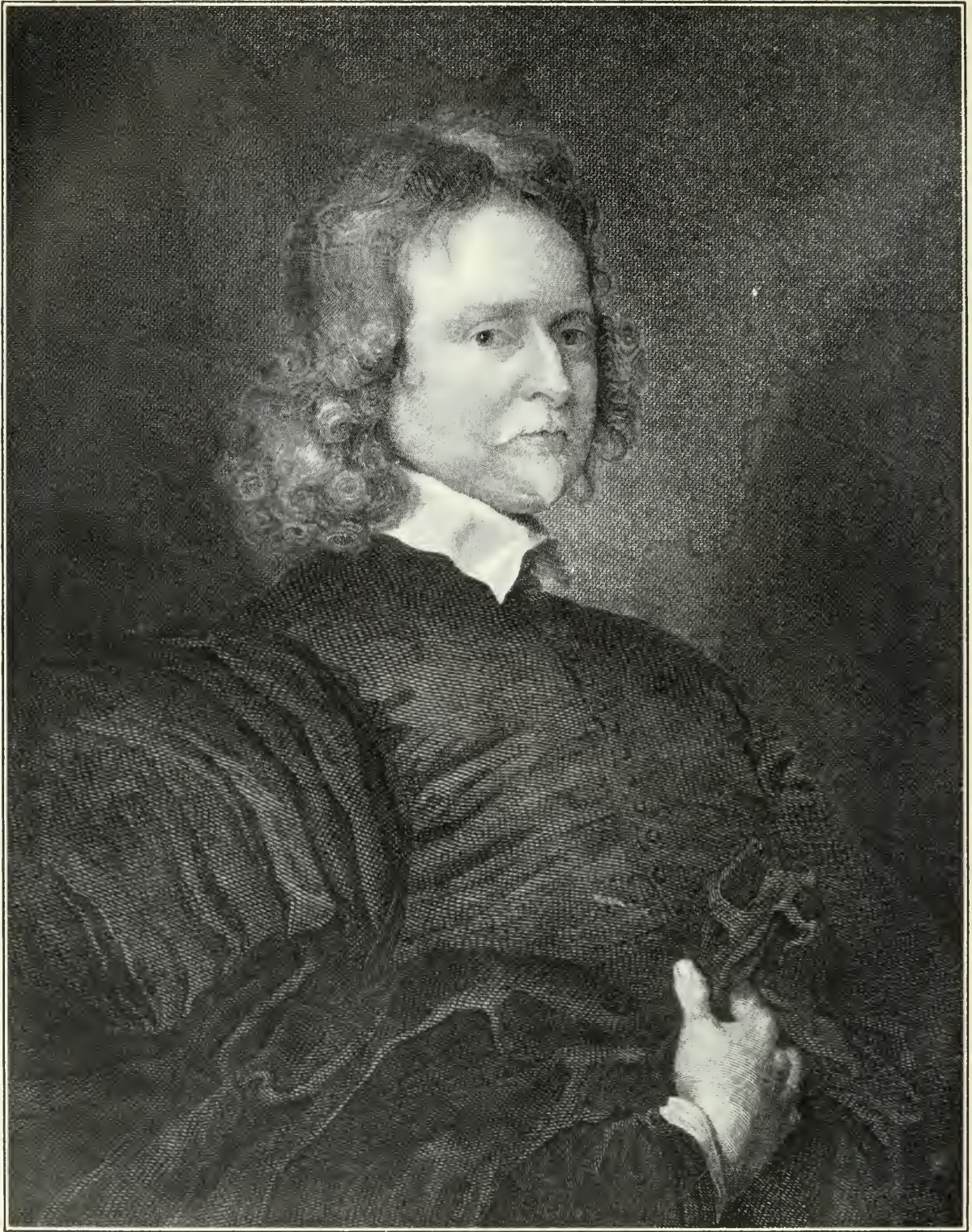
of languages and type than any other Press in the country could show. It was for this reason that when an edition of the Lord's Prayer in more than a hundred languages was published at London, in 1700 and 1713, pp. 9-24 (two sheets), containing Hebrew, Samaritan, Syriac, Coptic, Ethiopic, Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Gothic, Runic, Icelandic, and Slavonic type, were Oxford printing.

The chief works published after the Restoration, besides learned oriental works by Thomas Hyde and Edward Pococke, were many of Robert Boyle's scientific treatises, H. Savage's *Balliofergus* (1668), the first history of an Oxford College; Seaman's *Turkish Grammar* (1670); Robert Morison's *Plantae Umbelliferae* (1672-99); Anthony Wood's *Historia et Antiquitates Universitatis Oxoniensis* (1674); Robert Plot's *Natural History of Oxfordshire* (1677); Hudson's *Thucydides*, in Greek and Latin (1696), and the same editor's *Geographiae Scriptores Graeci Minores* (1698-1712), besides many editions and translations of Classics, and the usual volumes of academical verses.



THE SHELDONIAN THEATRE, FROM AN OLD BLOCK





EDWARD HYDE, FIRST EARL OF CLARENDON

(Died 1674: from him the Clarendon Press derives its name, see p. 11)

## CHAPTER IV

### THE CLARENDON PRINTING HOUSE

1713-1830

For some months in 1713 the classical printers had returned to the Sheldonian, since their temporary house had been demolished to make a clear space between the new Clarendon Building, then nearly finished, and the Quadrangle of the Schools. The new printing house derived its name from Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, author of the *History of the Rebellion*, from the profits of which the house was chiefly built. Owing to this peculiar connexion the University is still allowed to hold the perpetual copyright of Clarendon's great work. Curiously, the imprint of the Sheldonian Press continued to be not infrequently used, and is even found as late as 1783!

The eighteenth century was almost from beginning to end a period of inactivity, and the average of books issued yearly from 1700 to 1800 was actually less than during the second half of the preceding century, see p. 36. But as in the history of Oxford at large, so in this part of it, individual excellence, which does not show large in statistics, makes much amends for corporate deficiency; and though it is quite impossible in this brief sketch to give, as hitherto, a list of the chief productions of the Oxford Press, or indeed to create any definite impression of their kind and value, it is permissible to mention a few of the giant works which will occur to the mind of any one familiar with the period, such as Deau Hickee's *Linguarum Septentrionalium Thesaurus* with Wanley's list of Anglo-Saxon MSS. (1703-5); the folio edition of Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion*, with his *Life* and the *Clarendon State Papers* (7 vols., 1702-4, 1759, 1767-86); Chandler's *Marmora Oxoniensia* (1763); Kennicott's critical edition of the Old Testament in Hebrew (1776-80),

and Holmes and Parsons's companion edition of the Old Testament in the Septuagint Version (1798-1827).

The history of the Coptic New Testament, edited by David Wilkins and published in 1716 (see Plate X), illustrates the long continuity of the Press. It was issued at 12s. 6d., and all through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries its price seems not to have varied. At last in April, 1907, the last copy was fairly sold off at the original price, and this book, after 191 years of sale (during 130 of which there was no rival edition), drops from the Clarendon Press Catalogue into the less dignified class of second-hand books.

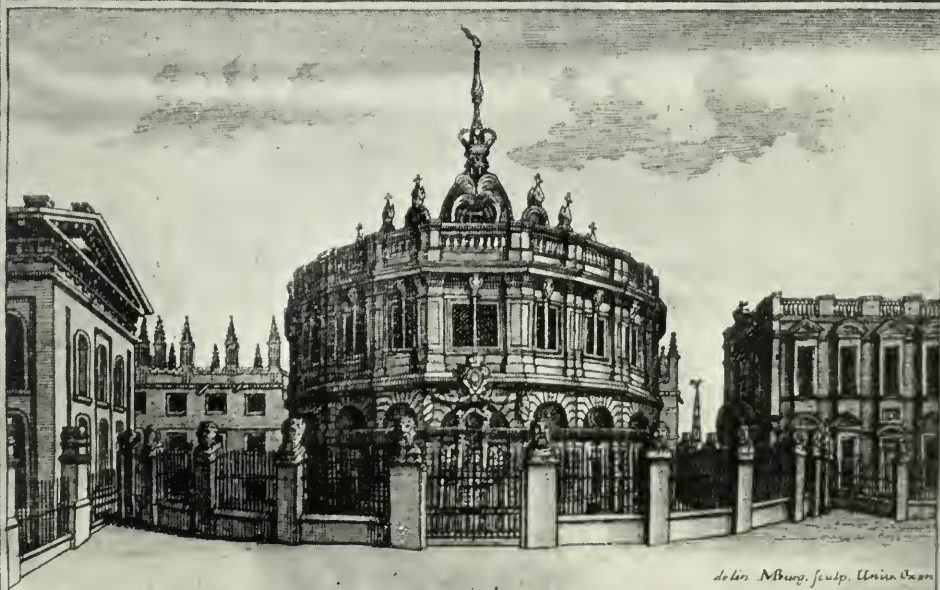
But besides the learned and ponderous folio editions which have been noticed, there is at least one series of smaller volumes which was of a high order of merit, and is even now by no means superseded, namely the fine collection of works on English history and antiquities edited by Thomas Hearne the antiquary, from 1704 to 1735. Among them may be mentioned Spelman's *Life of Alfred* (1709); Leland's *Itinerary* (9 vols., 1710-12), and *Collectanea* (6 vols., 1715); the well-known Graeco-Latin Laudian MS. of the Acts, in quasi-facsimile (1715); a *Collection of Curious Discourses* by Sir Robert Cotton and others (1720); the *Liber Niger Scaccarii* (1728); and the *Chronicles* of John Ross, Alfred of Beverley, Camden, William of Newbridge, Thomas Sprott, Robert of Avesbury, John de Fordun, Robert of Gloucester, Peter Langtoft, John of Glastonbury, Adam de Domerham, Thomas of Elmham, Walter Hemingford, and others (from 1716 onward). And Hearne's editorial work, though he was debarred from using the Bodleian Library, was so thorough and accurate that the series has always been a favourite with English historical students, and commanded a high price for at least a century after the editor's death.

The lowest point of efficiency at this time is disclosed in a pamphlet by Sir William Blackstone, himself a Delegate of the Press, published in 1757 ('*To the Reverend Doctor Randolph, Vice-Chancellor*'), where he speaks of 'the Oxford Press languishing in a lazy obscurity, and barely reminding us of its existence, by now and then slowly bringing forth a programme, a sermon printed by request, or at best a Bodleian catalogue'. A schedule of prices is given which shows that the price of printing 500 copies of an ordinary octavo sheet was 14s. in London, but 17s. at Oxford.



ⲬⲀⲚⲟⲩⲉⲣⲓ ⲛⲓⲧⲉⲛⲓⲡⲉⲗⲓⲥⲏⲩⲏ  
 ⲛⲓⲧⲉⲛⲓⲡⲉⲗⲓⲥⲏⲩⲏ  
 HOC EST  
 NOVUM TESTAMENTUM  
 ÆGYPTIUM vulgo COPTICUM  
 Ex MSS. BODLEJANIS descripsit,  
 Cum Vaticanis et Parisiensibus contulit,  
 et in Latinum sermonem convertit

DAVID WILKINS  
*Ecclesie Anglicanæ Presbyter.*



OXONII,  
 E Theatro Sheldoniano Typis et Sumptibus Academicæ, 1716.

WILKINS'S COPTIC NEW TESTAMENT

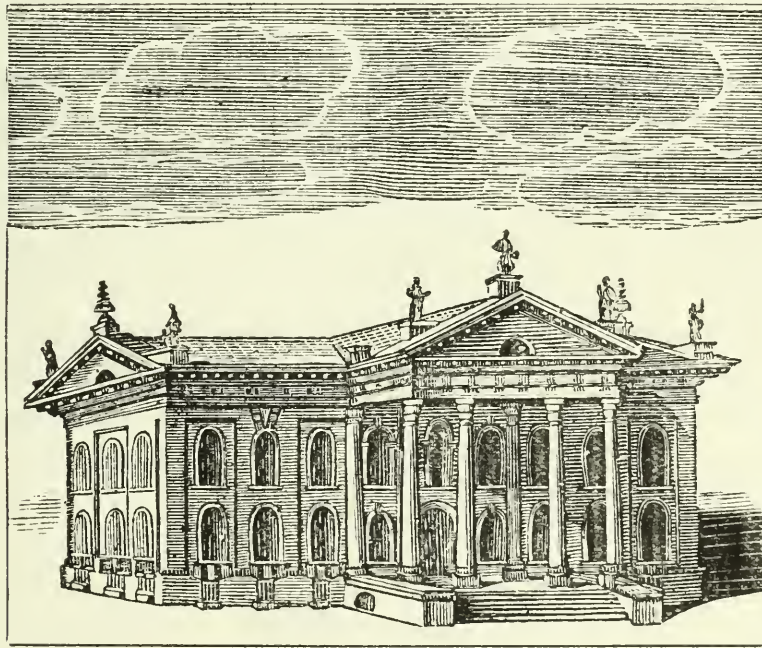
(View of the Sheldonian, with the old Ashmolean Museum on right : see p. 12)



## THE CLARENDON PRINTING HOUSE 13

He suggests various remedies, and there can be little doubt that much of the improvement of the second half of the century is due to the energy and sagacity of that great lawyer.

The annual output first reached 50 in 1807, if we omit the abnormal figures of the Civil War, and since 1846 has never fallen below 100, nor since 1885 below 200. Early in the nineteenth century great things were expected from improvements made by Lord Stanhope in the arts of stereotyping in plaster and of logotyping; but after much expense they produced little result, and while the latter was wholly dropped, stereotyping in papier mâché was not introduced till 1860.



THE CLARENDON PRINTING HOUSE, FROM AN OLD BLOCK

## CHAPTER V

### THE BIBLE PRESS

THE right of the University to print Bibles was first clearly admitted, as has been noted above (p. 6), in the deed of 1637, by which that right was bartered away to the Stationers' Company for an annual payment. Cambridge had claimed the privilege under its much earlier charter, granted by Henry VIII, and had occasionally exercised its right, as is witnessed by a New Testament of 1628, Bibles and Books of Common Prayer from 1629, and Greek Testaments from 1632. The last named edition was actually printed with types cast from Oxford matrixes, being the well-known 'silver' Greek type used in the Eton Chrysostom of 1610, and bequeathed by Sir Henry Savile to the University of Oxford. The matrixes of these were lent to Cambridge on June 30, 1629, so that Oxford can claim some connexion with the first Greek Testament issued by the sister University.

On its own account the Oxford Press went so far as to issue a *Liber Precum Publicarum in usum Ecclesiae Cathedralis Christi Oxon.* in 1615, 1639, and 1660, as well as a New Testament in Turkish in 1666; but these were not regarded as infringing the successive agreements that no Bibles or Prayer Books should be printed at Oxford, which extended from 1637 to 1642 and from 1661 to 1672, when renewal was at length refused.

Then, at last, when Dr. Fell had infused some of his own energy into the University, it began to awake not merely to the fact of its privileges, but also to the duties belonging to them. In 1675, three years after the last agreement with the Stationers' Company had lapsed, it issued a quarto English Bible (see Plate XII; begun to be printed in 1673), an octavo New Testament in Greek, a quarto Book of Common Prayer (see Plate XIII), and a quarto Psalter in Sternhold and Hopkins's English metrical version. The London printers at once imitated and undersold these editions, though at a pecuniary loss; and so persistently was this done that in 1678 it was found advisable to bring in some London booksellers into the Oxford business, and Oxford Bibles between 1679 and 1691 bear in consequence

T H E H O L Y  
B I B L E,

Containing the  
Old Testament

And the New:


Translated out of the Original  
Tongues and with the former Translations  
diligently compared and revised.

B Y  
His *Majesties* special Command.

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*Appointed to be read in Churches.*

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O X F O R D.

At the THEATER 1675.



the imprints of Thomas Guy, Peter Parker, Moses Pitt, and William Leake. It is possible that the List of Prohibited Degrees in Marriage, now so commonly found in Prayer Books, was first brought in by Dr. Fell; for it seems to occur first in the earliest Oxford Folio Prayer Book, that of 1681.

In 1688 at latest the 'Bible Press' and the 'Learned' or 'Classical Press' were separated (see p. 9), and the former was carried on in 'Fell's House' in St. Aldate's, the Bible printing being now leased for twenty-one years to the Stationers' Company—apparently by a kind of compromise which ended litigation. In 1690 a Folio Welsh Bible was printed, and in 1695 a Spanish Prayer Book.

During the eighteenth century the Bible Press seems to have flourished, while the Learned Side was managed with comparative want of success. At any rate the ordinary eighteenth-century Bible met with in catalogues is more often from Oxford than from London or Cambridge. When the new Clarendon Printing House began to be used, in 1713, the Bible Press occupied the eastern half, but during the century was driven to make use of three extensions, a storage room in the Schools Quadrangle (adjoining the north side of the Tower of the Five Orders, on the ground floor), a house at the west end of Holywell Street, where the Indian Institute now stands, and in London a Bible Warehouse in Paternoster Row (not later than 1770). From 1715 to 1768 the Bible Side was leased to members of the Baskett family, and for the rest of the century chiefly to W. Jackson, T. Wright, and W. Gill.

Among the remarkable Bibles and Prayer Books of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are the famous Greek New Testament of Dr. J. Mill (1707), which was absolutely the first to provide an apparatus criticus: the 'Vinegar Bible' of 1717, so called from an error in the running title at St. Luke xx, which should have been 'Parable of the Vineyard', as is found (corrected) in some copies; the first Oxford Hebrew Bible, edited by Nathaniel Forster (1750); the Folio Bible edited by Dr. J. Blayney in 1769, which was for many years the standard for the text of all Oxford Bibles, though it was itself by no means immaculate; the Small Pica 8vo Reference Bible of 1824, which has ever since been the standard; a Diamond 24mo Bible of 1842, which was the first book printed on real India paper (only twenty-four copies, none for sale, since the stock of paper was quite

inadequate); the polyglot English Bible, edited by Forshall and Madden, giving the early English versions in parallel columns (1850); the Caxton Memorial Bible of 1877, see p. 32; and the Revised Version of 1881, of which a million Oxford copies were sold on the first day. Several editions have nicknames from unfortunate misprints, such as the 'Vinegar' Bible mentioned on p. 15, the 'Murderers' Bible of 1801 (*murderers* for *murmurers* in Jude 15), the 'Ears to ear' Bible, 1807 (Matt. xiii. 43), and the 'Wife-hater' Bible of 1810 (*wife* for *life* in Luke xiv. 26). Of one Latin New Testament there is an interesting history. The title tells much of it:—*Novum Testamentum Vulgatae editionis . . . Sumptibus Academiae Oxoniensis, in usum Cleri Gallicani in Anglia exulantis. Cura et studio quorundam ex eodem Clero Wintoniae commorantium.* (Oxonii, e Typographeo Clarendoniano, MDCXCVI, 8vo.) Two thousand copies were printed by the University for free distribution among the French Refugee Clergy, and as many more were soon found necessary and were printed at the expense of the Duke of Buckingham.

Early statistics of the Bible Press are not easy to obtain, and all records of the number of editions are peculiarly deceptive, since of some editions a vast number were printed, and of others only a few hundreds. The following facts give some information, and refer to Bibles, Common Prayer Books, parts of them, and editions of the metrical versions of the Psalms:—From 1675 to 1700, about four *editions* a year were printed; from 1701 to 1750, less than three; from 1750 to 1800, about two. On the other hand, in 1815 it was ascertained that the *number* of Bibles printed in the preceding seven years was 460,500; of New Testaments, 386,600; of Common Prayer Books, 400,000; of Psalters, &c., 200,000, their total value being £213,000, while the output of the Classical Side for the same period was estimated as worth only £24,000. In 1822 there were on sale nineteen editions of the Bible, nine Testaments, and twenty-one Prayer Books, varying in price from £5 10s. for a Royal Folio Bible to 8d. for a Nonpareil 24mo Prayer Book. In 1870 twenty-six editions of the Bible were on sale; in 1895 seventy-eight editions, and ninety of the Prayer Book; while in 1907 the numbers had grown to ninety-eight editions of the Bible, and 101 of the Prayer Book.

The sale of Prayer Books fluctuates more than that of the Bible. In recent years the former have gone out from Oxford at rates varying from



61.7. ✓

THE  
**B O O K**  
 OF  
**COMMON PRAIER,**  
 AND  
**ADMINISTRATION**  
 OF THE  
**SACRAMENTS.**

AND  
 Other RITES and CEREMONIES of the  
 CHURCH of ENGLAND.

WITH THE  
 PSALTER or PSALMS  
 OF  
**D A V I D**

Pointed as they are to be sung or said in  
 CHURCHES.




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OXFORD.  
 At the THEATER 1675.

TITLE-PAGE OF THE FIRST OXFORD PRAYER BOOK

(See p. 14)



750,000 to 1,250,000 per annum, while the sale of Bibles has been as below :—

For the year 1875	.	.	.	500,000	copies.
„ 1885	.	.	.	700,000	„
„ 1895	.	.	.	1,000,000	„
„ 1905	.	.	.	1,120,000	„

The large Folio Bible for the reading desk sells at the rate of between thirty and forty per annum, and the Folio Prayer Book in like numbers, but the editions of the Bible and Prayer Book most in demand are disposed of at the rate of 250,000 and 350,000 per annum respectively.

Not until 1883 were the two sides of the Press united under one management, that of Mr. Horace Hart, the present Controller of the Press. Mr. Henry Frowde has been publisher of the Bible Side since 1874, and of both from 1880.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE CLARENDON PRESS IN MODERN TIMES

WHEN the Press moved in 1830 to its new and stately home in Walton Street, the Bible Press took the South Wing, and the Learned Press the North, and a great expansion of their varied activities took place, and indeed their work now becomes too complicated and extensive to be treated summarily. It may be noted that printing machines driven by steam were first used in 1840, modern stereotyping in 1860, electrotyping three years later, and photographing for illustrations in 1885. But it would be tedious and annalistic to chronicle the separate steps in the continuous progress of the business, and they may be best summarized in a few words on the present condition of the five parts which now make up the University Press.

The *Learned Press* employs about 300 persons, chiefly compositors and proof-readers, and sets up in type the numerous Classical, English, and Oriental works, for which the Press is famous. More than 150 languages, each with its appropriate type, can be offered to the prospective author or editor, including Eskimo, and even the Cretan or Eteo-Cretan characters lately discovered by Dr. Arthur Evans, the Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum. On this side are kept the Music founts, and a number of the old oak frames used for hand-printing in the Sheldonian days. The offices of the Secretary and of the Controller are also in this northern wing. The average production of the Learned Press is now about one book for every working day, that is to say about 320 a year.

On the opposite or South side is the *Bible Press* where about 400 persons, with sixty modern printing machines, produce on an average 3,000 copies of the Bible, not to mention Prayer Books, every day. Here, too, are the rooms for standing type, for folding and stitching the printed sheets, and for current binding work, such as is not sent to London for wholesale production. Electrotyping and stereotyping machines, and



PHOTOGRAPH OF A STRIP OF OXFORD INDIA PAPER THREE INCHES IN WIDTH  
SUPPORTING A VOLUME OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

(See p. 19)



the greatly developed photographic department, with lithographing and collotype appliances, occupy another part, and also the engines, boilers, and repairing works connected with the varied machinery used throughout the building. It is for Bibles that the Oxford India Paper, so extraordinarily thin, opaque, and tough, is chiefly used, and without it the 'smallest Bible', measuring  $3\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inches, and weighing less than 3 ounces, could not be produced. The sales of this particular edition from its first issue in 1874 to the end of 1907 have amounted to more than one and a half millions.

All Bibles, Prayer Books and Clarendon Press books are published and distributed by Henry Frowde at Amen Corner, Paternoster Row, London. The increasing size of the business has made it necessary from time to time to open branch establishments in different parts of the world; and the Oxford Press now has branches or *dépôts* at New York, Toronto, Melbourne, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

The wholesale *Binding* work is done in Aldersgate Street, London. Side by side are carried on in the Bindery, cloth binding, leather binding, and the binding of specially valuable books, the cost of which may be as much as £50 per volume. The skins of 100,000 animals are used every year for the covers of Oxford Bibles alone, and 400,000 sheets of gold are required for gilt lettering, to say nothing of gilt edges, for which a still larger quantity is employed.

The *Paper* is made chiefly at the Wolvercote Mill, two miles from Oxford, for which see p. 40.

The entire Press in all its branches is in the hands of a body of eleven Delegates, who are appointed by and represent the University, and the highest permanent officers are the Secretary to the Delegates (Mr. Charles Cannan), the Controller (Mr. Horace Hart, Printer to the University), and the Publisher in London (Mr. Henry Frowde).

The dominating personality of the last half-century, and the third of the great names connected with the Press, has been the Rev. Professor Bartholomew Price. No one who knew him could speak of his work without enthusiasm. An exceptional capacity for business and an enterprising spirit were combined in him with unaffected kindness of heart, and as was said of him 'he understood business because he understood men'. From 1861 when he became Delegate, and still more from 1868 when he

became Secretary to the Delegates, until his death in 1899, he was the life and soul of the institution. One of his great works was gradually to regain for the University the absolute control of the Press, which could only be done by buying out, as opportunity offered, the interests of the partners who ever since Fell's time had held certain proportions of the partnership. The well-known Clarendon Press Series began in 1867, the present London Warehouse was arranged in 1880, the Photographic Department and much besides were arranged and started in his time. And not the least of his achievements was the sound financial basis on which he settled the entire establishment.

It has been found quite impossible to select books for mention from the lists of nineteenth-century publications, but this essay cannot conclude without a mention of some of the Series which have been, and are being produced, and of that crowning work—over-topping perhaps all others, except the Bible—the *New English Dictionary*.

Of the Series may be mentioned the Works of the English Divines (Hooker, Butler, Barrow, &c.) published in the first half of the last century, the 'Anecdota Oxoniensia', the 'Oxford Classical Texts', the 'Rulers of India', the 'Sacred Books of the East', the 'Annals of Botany', and the 'Oxford Poets'; but as many more deserve a place in the list, if space permitted.

Of the *New English Dictionary*, edited by Dr. J. A. H. Murray, the *Times* said in 1897, 'It is the greatest enterprise which has ever been undertaken by the Clarendon Press, the greatest effort which any University, it may be any printing press, has taken in hand since the invention of printing . . . An exhaustive dictionary intended to equal or surpass the work which Littré completed for the French language was a labour which was beyond the scope of private enterprise. It will be not the least of the glories of the University of Oxford to have completed this gigantic task.' The subject of this eulogy is an attempt to survey on historical principles the whole of English literature from A.D. 1200. In the case of each word, the meanings are traced in their historical development, and illustrative quotations are given (with full references) not merely to every meaning but to almost every half-century of the usage of a word in any particular sense. Thus at both ends of the scale the Dictionary makes an immensely extended advance on previous attempts. At one end the





PROFESSOR BARTHOLOMEW PRICE  
(Died 1899 : see p. 19. 'Sic sedebat')



genealogy of the meanings is far more elaborate than can be found elsewhere, and at the other the details on which the principles are founded are overwhelmingly numerous. The latter point lends itself readily to statistics, and it can be shown that the number of words recorded is not far from twice as many as any single dictionary has hitherto given, while the quotations printed (which are only a selection from those actually accumulated) are six times as numerous. Nor has the vigour with which the scheme was embarked on in 1888 shown signs of relaxing. Of the ten massive imperial-quarto volumes projected, the equivalent of seven and a half has now been published, and 1912 should see the completion of the whole. And lastly, that nothing may be wanting to this noble work, the open page of any portion of it displays a more pictorial effect, owing to the skilful use of type of varying kind, size, and appearance, than any printed page elsewhere in existence. The praise, therefore, which is due to Dr. Murray and his coadjutors in this connexion, and to the Delegates and Officers of the Press, cannot well be exaggerated, and it is pleasant to end with an appreciation of the greatest literary work ever produced at Oxford.

## PART II

### INCIDENTS AND CURIOSITIES

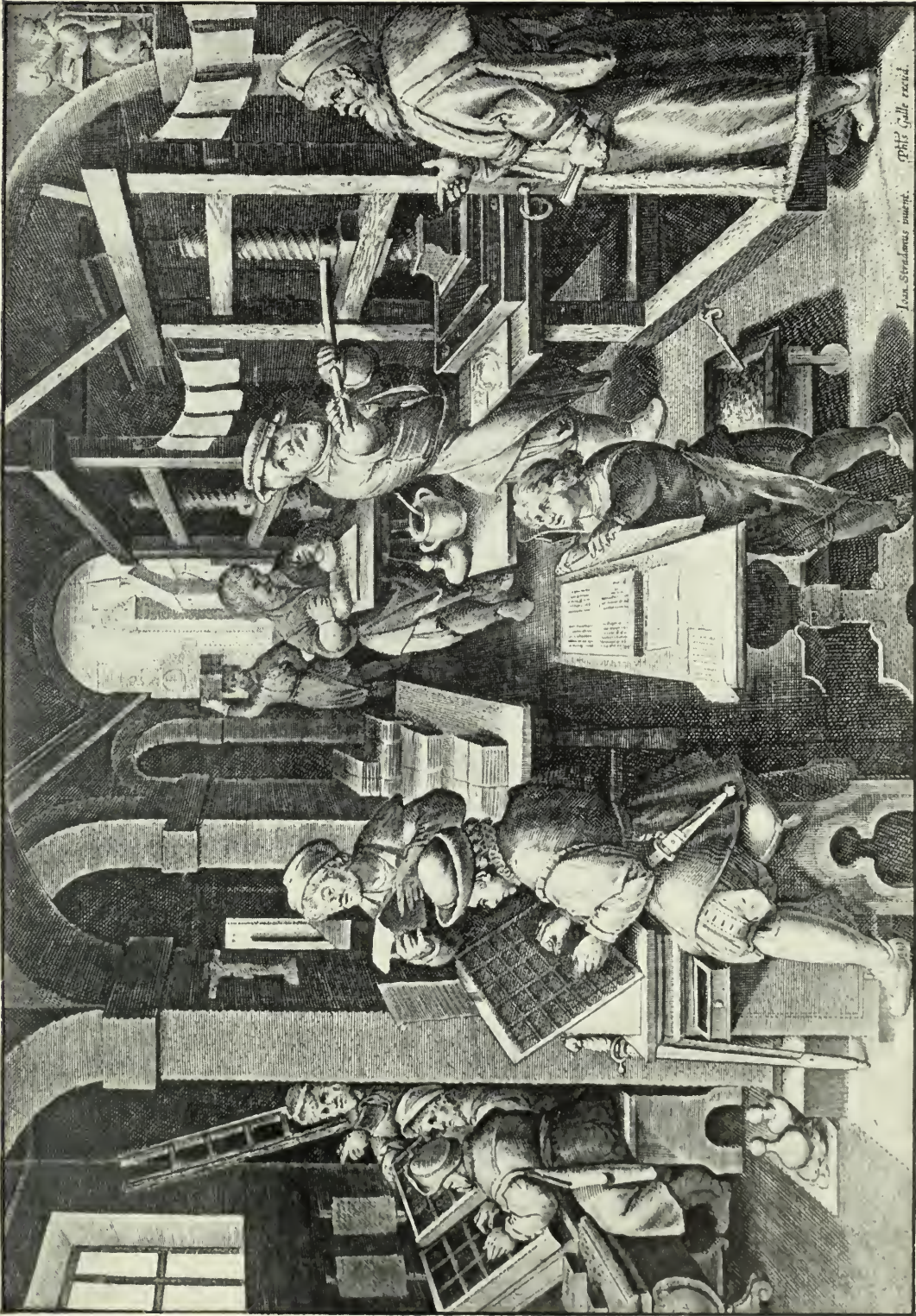
#### I. *The question of the '1468' book: see Plate III*

**I**N 1664 one Richard Atkyns, of Balliol College, Oxford, a Gloucestershire gentleman of some position, published a book to prove that the prerogative of printing belonged to the King, and introduced a clumsily forged tale about Oxford to prove his point. Archbishop Bourchier is stated to have induced Henry VI to procure some Haarlem printers and thus introduce the art into England as early as 1468. Only Frederick Corsellis could be prevailed upon to accept the offer, and he was privily taken to Oxford, and printed a Latin Commentary by St. Jerome (really by Rufinus of Aquileia) on the Apostles' Creed.

The whole fable breaks down on investigation, but the book remains, bearing a place and date, Oxford, 'M. cccc. lxxvij.' But in 1468 only Germany, Italy, and Switzerland possessed the art of printing: and the next Oxford book came out in 1479. It is therefore generally supposed that an 'x' has been omitted, by accident or design, in the date, and all the leading bibliographers have accepted this explanation. It may, however, still be interesting to have the question briefly posed.

*The book bears signatures, which are first found elsewhere in 1472 at Cologne.* Signatures, however, which are practically necessary to guide the binder to the right order of sheets, occur in manuscripts from the earliest dates. Some one had to invent the method of printing them, not, as in MSS., at the extreme edge, where they might be cut off by the binder, but, as the changed conditions of the new art required, close to the letterpress. Sporadically the Cologne printer at Oxford might have lighted on the idea and tried it. It was a mere question of shifting the necessary signatures to the only position where they could be printed.

*Scientifically observed, the book fits into its place, just before the 1479 book.* There are no doubt signs of progress which lead from the first



A PRINTING OFFICE OF ABOUT 1600, DRAWN BY STRADANUS

(See p. iv)



book to the second. But if the type were laid aside for ten years, we should not expect to find the full progress which would mark an ordinary decade occupied with printing. As a fact, the first book is uneven at the right-hand edge of the letterpress, it starts printing on sign. a l (not a 2), it exhibits a peculiar misuse of H and Q, and was printed page by page (not two pages at a time). In all these points it is a contrast to the second and succeeding books, and marks a greater advance than might be expected in a single year.

*The mistake of date is common.* This kind of error is found in several other early books: but it may be doubted whether any case exists of a dozen copies of a book with such an error *not corrected* in any one single copy with a pen. For instance, the bad grammar of the colophon of the *Aegidius* (Oxford, 1480) is in every known case corrected in ink. In no copy of the *Jerome* was the date even marked as dubious in early times. And I have the highest authority for saying that from the point of view of a printer the date is *not* a misprint—it is carefully and justly and deliberately composed. A printer would say that if it be a misprint it is a deliberate one.

The arguments from the type used and from the books found bound with the *Jerome* are at present inconclusive. But the fact remains that the greater the bibliographer the more certain he is that the true date is 1478.

## II. *Specimens of Oxford type in 1629: see Plate XVII*

An early specimen of type would not naturally be incorporated in a treatise on the Art of Oratory. But the mediaeval and scholastic love for minute logical subdivision was quite equal to this task. Charles Butler, in his *Oratoriae Libri duo*, printed at Oxford in 1629 and 1633, successfully accomplishes it. He divides speech into Words and Sentences. A universal characteristic of a sentence is Difference (*Distinctio*), which may be a difference in punctuation or in letters. Difference in letters varies according to their kind (Roman or Italic) or their shape (capital letters or small [lower-case] letters). It is in a note on the kind of letters that Butler states that they are distinguished by body (*corporum*

*proceritate*), which is either 'Primier [Long Primer], Pique [Small Pica], English, Great Primier, Double Pique, Double English, or Canon' the largest; and beneath Primier, Brevier, and, smallest of all, Nonpareil. Of these he gives a word or two in the actual type mentioned, as well as English Roman, English Italic, and English English.

### III. *Counterfeit Oxford Imprints in the Civil War*

The importance of the Oxford Press in the Civil War is due to that city being the chief residence of the King, his Court, his chief officers of State, his Law Courts and Royal Mint, and the head quarters of his Army, from 1642 till the capitulation of the city in 1646. The great bulk of the Proclamations, Messages, Declarations, and the like, as well of the Royalist pamphlets, were issued there, and the invaluable aid of the British Museum collection of Civil War Tracts made by George Thomason (who dated every pamphlet and paper he received) enables us to set in strict chronological order almost every product of the press, so that we can watch each change and eddy of public opinion, almost from day to day.

From 1642 to 1646 there were only two printers and publishers in Oxford, namely, Leonard Lichfield and Henry Hall, and one publisher and bookseller who was not a printer, William Webbe.

The most striking fact during these years is undoubtedly the number of London issues of books with counterfeit Oxford imprints. In the first month or two of the war, both Parliamentary and Royalist imprints at London might safely be used, but soon Royalist printers in the metropolis found it wiser to pretend that their pamphlets were received from Oxford, and after a Parliamentary Ordinance of November 18, 1643, even this was unsafe, and they fell back on 'Printed in the year . . .' The first counterfeit was published on November 9, 1642, and a palmary example of the course of procedure is to be found in the case of *The Humble Desires and Propositions of the Lords and Commons . . . with His Majesty's Gracious Answer thereunto*—which was a neutral piece, since it represented both sides. Accordingly after (a) the first genuine Oxford issue on February 4, 1642, we find (b) a London edition issued under an



Hic obiter observes, verborum Distinctiones, atque verba ipsa ab illis notata, iisdem dici nominibus: & verba quidam propriè; Distinctiones verò per Metonymiam: quæ nomen rei significatæ tribuit signo. Sic Periodus, & plenam Sententiæ Distinctionem; & ipsam plenam Sententiam, denotat. vt Orat. perf. § 45. Constat † *Periodus* & *plena Comprehensio*, è quatuor fere partibus. Sic dicimus, *Demptâ* \* *Parenthesi* aut *Parathesi*, integrum manere *Sententia sensum* & *constructionem*.



† i. Sententiæ  
\* i. Verbis Parenthesi aut Parathesi inclusis.

De Distinctionum Pronunciatione, vide Rhet. l. 2. c. 4.

(r) *Genere*. Genera literarum varia sunt: quæ corporum proceritate distinguuntur: *Primier*, *Pique*, *English*: & supra hæc,

*Great Primier*, *Double Pique*,

\* *Double English*: atque, quod

\* vel Demica-  
non.

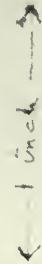
omnium maximum est, *Canon*: *Infrâ*

verò *Primier brevis*, quod ideo *Breuior*, & cuius respectu, prius illud, *long Primier*, vulgò dicitur: atque, quod minimum est, *Nonpareil*.

(s) *Species duplex*, *Rom.* & *Ital.* Additur etiam, in medijs generibus, pro sermone Anglico, *Anglica*: vt,

*English Roman*, *English Italicke*, *English English*,

(t) *Sentent. Princip*: Quodvis Sententiæ principium literâ majusculâ notatur





Ordinance of Parliament by John Wright, (c) Wright's edition with a counterfeit Oxford imprint, to catch Royalists, (d) a formal Royalist London edition 'by Robert Barker, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty', as well as two other editions. The Parliamentary edition alters 'His Majesty's Gracious Answer' to 'his Majesty's Answer'! In 1642, out of 191 Oxford imprints no less than 58 are counterfeit; in 1643, 41 out of 238; in 1644, 24 out of 145. From March 25 to April 17, 1644, there are as many counterfeits published as there are genuine imprints.

#### IV. *The Impressio Princeps of the Epistle of Barnabas in Greek, 1643*

*Habent sua fata libelli!* The earliest published edition of Barnabas is that of Menard (Paris, 1645), but before this was issued Isaac Voss and Archbishop Ussher had collaborated and printed an edition at Oxford, which consisted of a learned preface by Ussher and the text in Greek (so far as it was known to exist) and Latin. This was in 1642, and the sheets waited until the Epistles of Ignatius and Polycarp were ready which were to precede Barnabas in the combined edition in contemplation.

One copy of this triple issue, put together as far as p. 270 (sign. K K 4), and containing Ignatius, Polycarp, and *part* of Barnabas, was observed to have an error. The printer, when he had printed one side (containing four pages) of the sheet E, should have turned the sheet over and put it beneath another press to have the other four pages impressed. Accidentally, however, he not only inverted, but also turned the sheet *round*, so that when (thus printed) it was *folded* the pages all came wrong in one part of the sheet. This seems to have been discovered, and the imperfect copy was thrown aside, and probably taken home by the printer or compositor. The other copies quietly waited in the warehouse in what is now known as Queen Street. But on Sunday, October 6, 1644, a disastrous fire broke out in George Street, 'occasioned,' according to Wood, 'by a foot-soldier's roasting a pig which he had then stolen.' The soldier, as Mr. A. W. Pollard has suggested, seems to have anticipated

Lamb's Dissertation on Roast Pig by at least a century, but in this case the fire soon grew out of hand, and devastated almost everything between George Street and St. Aldate's Church, except St. Mary's College, which was built of stone. The whole of the printing establishment of Leonard Lichfield (the University printer) in Queen Street was burnt, and the entire stock of Ussher's book perished. The rejected imperfect copy is the sole but sufficient representative of the claim of Oxford to have first printed the Epistle of St. Barnabas in Greek. And what seemed certain destruction proved to be as a fact the condition of safety.

#### *V. Clarendon Press Keepsakes: see Plates XVIII, XIX*

It has long been a custom at the Press to print memorials or keepsakes to commemorate the presence of visitors. The earliest known bears the name of Thomas Marshall (afterwards Rector of Lincoln College and a well-known Orientalist), dated Sept. 30, 1640, just before he matriculated. The next is one of 1690. In 1696 the form used commemorated Corsellis bringing the art of printing to Oxford in 1459! By 1722 this fable has gone, and 1471 is mentioned as the date of the first English printing, in London. At this time a small fee to the printers at work was sufficient to produce a little memento with the name of the visitor, the date, and an ornamental border, as is described in Mrs. Danvers' *Academia* (1691).

The first of a more distinguished kind is that which commemorates the visit of 'John Adolph Prince of Saxe Gotha' on March 19, 174 $\frac{1}{2}$ , on which error is triumphant, for the first printing in England is assigned to 1447! Among later ones may be noticed the memorials of the visits of the Duchess of Kent and her daughter (afterwards Queen Victoria) on Nov. 8, 1832 (printed on silk, in pink or white), and of Queen Adelaide on Oct. 20, 1835 (also on silk). The last three of all record the presence of H. R. H. the Princess Alice of Albany on June 23, 1903, of the Hon. Joseph H. Choate, the American Ambassador, on Oct. 26 in the same year, and of the Chancellor of the University, Lord Curzon, on Nov. 13, 1907.



The Noble Art and Mystery of PRINTING was first Invented by JOHN

GUTTEMBERG of *Mentz*, a City of Germany,

Mr. John Shepherd.

OXFORD:

Printed at the CLARENDON Printing-House, July 4. 1722.

in the YEAR 1440: And brought into ENGLAND by JOHN ISLIP,

London, in the YEAR of our Lord 1471.

On  
Tuesday  
June 23



A.D.  
M.dcccc.iiij

*Her Royal Highness  
The Princess Alice of Albany  
Visited the University Press, Oxford  
and  
This Keepsake was Printed  
in her Presence*

OXFORD PRESS KEEPSAKE, 1903

(See p. 26)





VI. *Mercurius Aulicus*, 1643-5

The great Royalist paper during the Civil War was the *Mercurius Aulicus*, which began on January 1, 164 $\frac{2}{3}$ . Its able editors were Sir John Birkenhead and (for weeks 31-39) Dr. Peter Heylyn, who kept up a perpetual running fire on the misdeeds and misstatements of the Parliamentary army. From eight to sixteen pages were issued every week, and sometimes it had to be reprinted, until a semi-paralysis struck it, a few months after the great defeat of Marston Moor, and November 23, 1644, is the last date of its unbroken issue. But bibliographers have fought shy of this periodical because no complete set of it seemed to be known. The fact is that when it resumed publication early in January, 164 $\frac{4}{5}$ , its editor was so anxious to avoid the taunts of its enemy and detractor, *Mercurius Britannicus*, that he falsified the paging, so that its rivals could not be *sure* that the paper had really suffered an eclipse. And this policy was pursued whenever it was thought desirable to omit a week or more, the very signatures, as well as paging, being altered. Has any other paper ever attempted to conceal its failure to appear by such means?

As a result of a collation of the only two perfect copies of the paper at present known (that in the British Museum and that in Corpus Christi College at Oxford, but there may be others), the following brief scheme will have some interest for collectors.

*Mercurius Aulicus* was issued as a newspaper in small quarto form.

1.—1643. The first fifty-two numbers present little difficulty. The first is for January 1-7, 164 $\frac{1}{3}$ , and was issued no doubt on Sunday, January 8. All the succeeding numbers bore the number of the week, and were similarly issued on Sunday, the fifty-second coming out on Sunday, December 31, 1643. With No. 3 was issued a supplement of eight pages, containing an account of Hopton's victory in the south-west, which is included in the pagination and signatures. After page 210 a hundred numbers are omitted in the pagination. Of the fortieth week there are two issues: the genuine one called 'the fortieth week', and a spurious one ('the fortieth week') which is a Parliamentary issue intended to trap unwary Royalists. The latter was issued in London, probably just before the genuine number was due to arrive. Subject to these disturbances the collation is pages 1-750, signatures A-Z, Aa-Zz, Aaa-Zzz, Aaaa-Zzzz, Aaaaa-Kkkkk, in fours or twos.

2.—1644. The issues now no longer bear the number of the week, but only the date: it will be convenient, however, to continue the numbering within brackets. Nos. (53)-(99) were issued, presumably on Sundays, from Sunday, January 7, to Sunday, November 24. The collation is, pages 751-1274, signatures a-z, aa-zz, aaa-zzz, aaaa-gggg, in fours and twos.

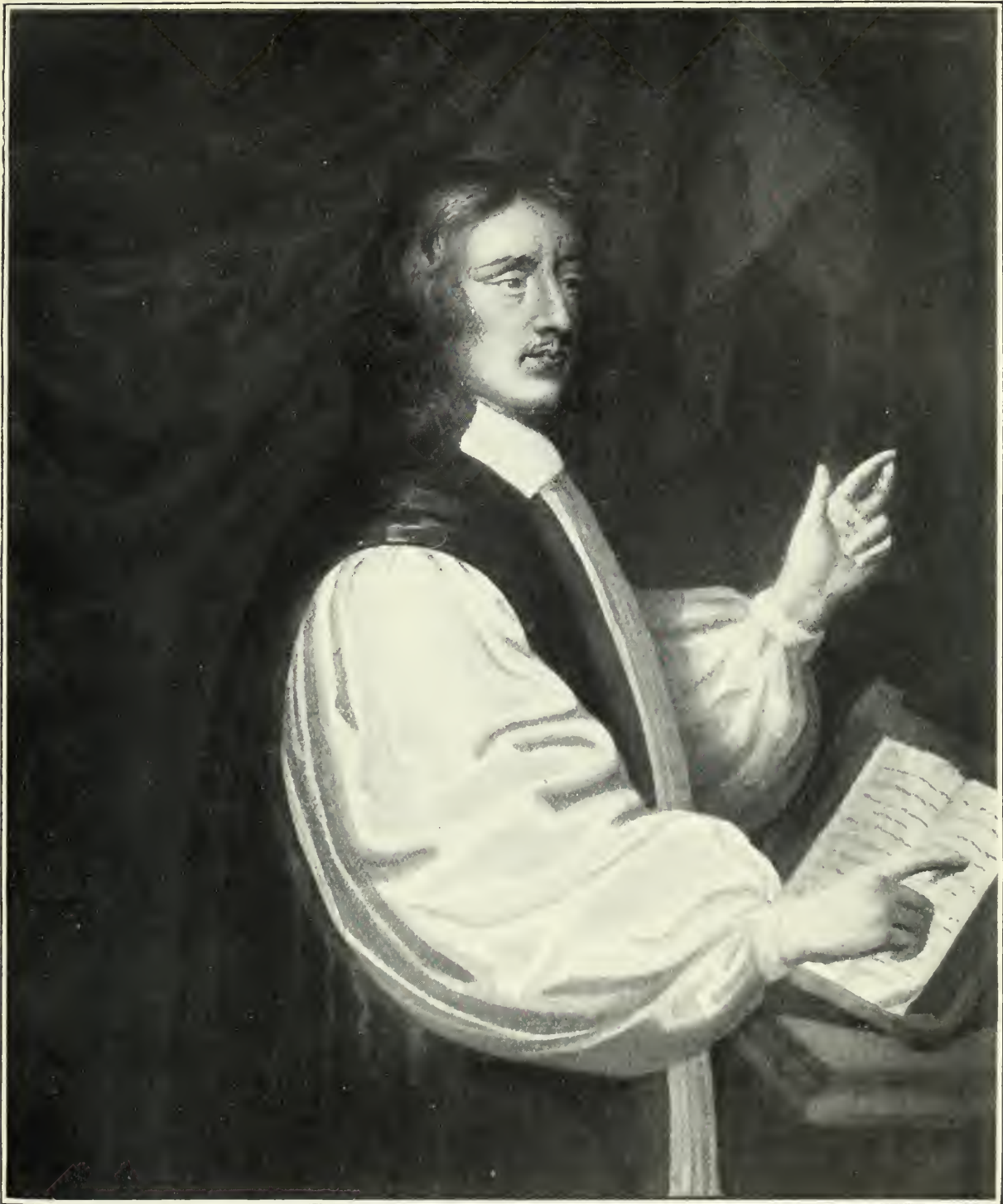
3.—1645. In this year the series is often broken, and paging and signatures falsified to give the impression of there being no gaps. As in 1644, there is no consecutive numbering, but the dates of each number are from Sunday to Sunday, taking eight days instead of seven. Thus No. (100) is December 29–January 5; No. (101) is January 5–12; (102), January 12–19, &c.

The following are the nineteen numbers of this year, the date assigned being that of the last day mentioned, a Sunday. The collation is A–Z (except E, O, R), Aa–Zz (except Cc, Dd, Hh–Mm, Pp–Rr, Vv, Xx), pages ‘1321’–‘1736’, with gaps.

(100) Jan. 5, 1644.	(111) April 20, 1645
(101) Jan. 12 —	(112) April 27 —
(102) Jan. 19 —	(113) May 4 —
(Gap of one week.)	(114) May 11 —
(103) Feb. 2, 1644.	(Gap of three weeks.)
(104) Feb. 9 —	(115) June 8, 1645.
(105) Feb. 16 —	(This large number embraced May 25–June 8.)
(Gap of one week.)	(Gap of five weeks following the defeat of
(106) Mar. 2, 1644.	Naseby.)
(107) Mar. 9 —	(116) July 20, 1645.
(Gap of one week.)	(Gap of three weeks.)
(108) Mar. 23, 1644.	(117) Aug. 17, 1645.
(109) Mar. 30, 1645.	(Gap of two weeks.)
(Gap of one week.)	(118) Sept. 7, 1645.
(110) April 13, 1645.	(The last number.)

## VII. Fell's New Year Books, 1661–1709

Among the many activities of Dr. John Fell, Dean of Christ Church, 1660–86, one of the most fruitful and admirable was a practice of interesting the more promising Students of the House in literary work, by proposing each year to them a classical author or work, to be edited with an introduction and notes. Every New Year's Day did the Dean present each member of the House with a brand new book, usually a thin octavo, containing the first attempt of one of their number to edit a Greek or Latin treatise, or sometimes a small work of his own. This was thoroughly in accord with Wood's character of the Dean, who ‘would constantly on several mornings in the week take his rounds in his College, go to the chambers of noblemen and gentlemen commoners, and examine and see what progress they made in their studies’. It might have been thought that such a series would have attracted attention, but Wood declares that he had ‘endeavoured to recover [a list of the volumes] that the titles might



DOCTOR JOHN FELL

(Dean of Christ Church, Bishop of Oxford : died 1686. See pp. 9, 28)



be known and . . . . set down, but in vain', though Wood was living in Oxford during their publication until his death in 1695. There is little doubt that a close study of the Oxford publications of the period would reveal them all, for Fell usually contributed 'an epistle, or running notes, or corrections' to each book. Imitation is the sincerest flattery, and both Dr. Henry Aldrich, Fell's successor in the Deanery (after John Massey's brief term of office), carried on the series from 1689 till his death in 1710, and Dr. Arthur Charlett, Master of University College, 1692 to 1722, is stated to have carried out a similar idea.

By far the best known product of this plan is the edition of the spurious Letters of Phalaris, produced at Aldrich's instigation by the Hon. Charles Boyle when only seventeen years of age. At the beginning of 1695 it was duly published, and contained a reflexion on Bentley's courtesy about a manuscript of the Letters, which eventually brought about the well-known Boyle and Bentley controversy, in the course of which the spuriousness of the Letters was conclusively proved by Bentley. As the historian of Christ Church admits, 'Boyle's cause was hopeless from the first, and the Cambridge scholar was incomparably superior to his Oxford antagonists, not only in learning but in dignity and even in humour.'

The following is a first attempt to reconstruct a partial list of the series known as 'Fell's New Year Books': 1667 *Alcinoüs*, 1671 *Nemesius*, 1674 a translation of *Scheffer's Lapland*, 1676 *Theocritus*, 1677 *Clemens Romanus*, 1679 *Zosimus*, 1680 *Epictetus*, 1681 *Cyprian*, 1682 *Athenagoras*, 1683 *Clemens Alexandrinus*, 1684 *Lactantius* or *Theophilus*, 1685 *Barnabas*, 1686 *Origen*. On July 10, 1686, Fell died, and Aldrich carried on the series: 1690 *Xenophon's Memorabilia*, 1691 his *Agesilaiüs*, 1692 *Aristeas*, 1693 *Xenophon's De re equestri*, 1695 *Phalaris*, 1698 *Aesop*, which contains a satire on Bentley, 1705 *Odyssey*, 1707 *Epictetus*, 1708 *Ignatius*, and, the last of all, *Palladio*, in 1709. Some even of the above are doubtful.

### VIII. *The Oxford Gazette*, 1665

The King and Court came to Oxford on Sept. 25, 1665, in preparation for the Session of Parliament held there, Oct. 9-31. But as the plague still raged in London, the Court remained when the Parliament

had been prorogued, and the King did not leave until Jan. 27, 166 $\frac{5}{8}$ . In the meantime he wisely determined to institute an official Gazette, which should contain all appointments, with court and general news. Accordingly, on Wednesday, Nov. 15, came out '*The Oxford Gazette*, Numb. 1. Published by Authority', containing news from Nov. 7 on a single leaf, with the colophon, 'Oxford, printed by Leonard Lichfield, Printer to the University, 1665,' but no other date. Number 21 (Jan. 22-25, 166 $\frac{5}{8}$ ) was the last printed at Oxford. Ever since that date the Gazette has been printed in London, but the title of *Oxford Gazette* was retained for two more numbers, and the first which bears the title *The London Gazette* is the 24th (Feb. 1-5, 166 $\frac{5}{8}$ ). The Gazettes, therefore, which bear an Oxford title exactly make up signatures A-Z, each a single folio leaf in double columns.

The *London Gazette* of May 5, 1908, bears the number 28134, and Oxford has the honour of having initiated the oldest newspaper still existing in England.

### IX. *Oxford Almanacks, 1674*

The year 1674 saw the beginning of the splendid series of Oxford Sheet Almanacks. The design of these sheets was to combine an academical calendar and list of the chief officers of the University with an engraving, either of an allegorical or emblematic nature (1674-1722, 1754-5), or (because the allegories were persistently twisted into political meanings) of a view of some part of Oxford—a design adhered to up to the present day. The only gap in the set is in 1675, when no sheet was issued.

The right to print almanacks was a monopoly of members of the London Stationers' Company from Queen Elizabeth's time, until Charles I in 1635 made Oxford a co-monopolist. As soon, however, as the Oxford printers began to exercise their right (in 1637), the Stationers' Company hastily bought the privilege from them by an annual payment—an arrangement which lasted till the Restoration. Thereafter, until 1834, there was a tax on sheet almanacks, which rose from 2*d.* to 4*d.* in 1781, and to 15*d.* before it was wholly abolished in 1834 (4 & 5 Will. 4, cap. 57).

Numb. 1.

# The Oxford Gazette.

Published by Authority.

**Oxon. Nov. 7.**  
**I** His day the Reverend Dr. *Walter Burnford*, Warden of *Wadham College* in this University, was elected, *Id.* Bishop of this See, vacant by the death of *Dr. Paul* late Bishop here.

**Oxon. Nov. 12.** This Day His Majesty in Council according to the usual custom, having the Roll of Sheriffs presented to him, pricked these Persons following to be Sheriffs for the succeeding Year, in their respective Counties of *England* and *Wales*.

- Berks.* Basil Brens, Esquire.
- Bedford.* Tho: Snagge, Esq.
- Buckingham.* Symon Bennet, Esq.
- Cumberland.* Sir William Dalton, Baronet.
- Chester.* Sir John Arderne, Knight.
- Cambridg.* Sir Tho: Willis, Kt. and Baronet.
- Cornwal.* Tho: Dorkes, Esq.
- Devon.* John Kelland, Esq.
- Dorset.* Roger Clavels, Esq.
- Derby.* Sir Samuel Sleight, Knight.
- Yorkshire.* Sir Francis Cobb, Knight.
- Essex.* Sir Heneage Fetherston, Baronet.

*seur de Canillac* having been put to death by the Commissioners of the *Grands Jours*: It seems they had laid some new Taxes or Impositions on those parts: There are Troops marching against them, and it is thought they will soon be reduced. My Lord *Aubigny* Lord *Almoner* to her Majesty, having layen sick some time here of an Hydroptic attended with a Flux, is this week dead.

**Paris Novemb. 18.** The *Marschal de Thyenne* arrived here on Sunday last from the Frontiers, whence he brings account that the Successors intended against the Prince of *Munster* had passed in small parties, and that they had been received at *Maeffricht* by *Monsieur Bevering* in the name of the States General.

*Guernsey, Octob. 30.* Yesterday came into our Road the *Unity* Frigate, Captain *Trafford* Commander, who brought in a Prize Captain *Iohn Gilson* of *Fleetsing*, being a Privateer of 7 Guns, and 45 Men.

**Chattham Nov: 4.** Captain *Elliot* Commander of the *Sabbire* has taken 3 Busses, two of them out of 50 at the *Dogger-lands*, under the Protection of four of their Men of War. In his passage home, as said, he saw several tops of Ships, Masts, &c. which seemed to be the effects of some Wreck, which God be thanked we doe not heare to have been any of the *English* Ships.

(The upper part only of the folio page: see p. 29)





It was probably on account of this tax and the tax on paper that an attempt was made to evade it by printing the almanacks *on silk*, of which examples are found between 1676 and 1776. In 1775 the Court of Common Pleas decided that there was no monopoly in almanacks, and Oxford was granted (in 1781) compensation for the loss occasioned by the decision.

The 1674 sheet is the largest and finest of all, being four sheets conjoined, measuring in all 39 in. by 30 in. In subsequent issues we almost always find the engraved picture or view at the top and the almanack in the lower part. The emblematic pictures were generally on an Italian model, but the designer found it difficult in Jacobite Oxford to avoid exciting suspicion of a hidden political meaning, as in 1706, 1711, 1712, and 1754. In 1716 (see Plate XXII) there is a curious mixture of the two kinds of almanack, allegorical and topographical. The figures and the position of the chief buildings are still imaginary or emblematic, but in the centre is a singular anticipation of the Radcliffe Library, which was not begun till 1737. Behind it is the Quadrangle of the Schools, but without the Divinity School. It would appear that Dr. Radcliffe's Trustees had almost from the first contemplated, not only the position, but the very style of building which was subsequently erected. Mr. C. F. Bell has pointed out that the figures in the foreground are partly from Raphael's cartoon of the Death of Ananias, and partly from the same painter's picture of the Transfiguration! In 1723 began the fine series of illustrations of Oxford topography, and so great was the demand for these almanacks that from as early as 1703 till 1767 two plates had to be engraved. J. M. W. Turner contributed the designs for 1799, 1801-2, 1804-8, 1810, and 1811, the chief earlier artists having been Michael Burghers and George Vertue.

### X. *The Corpus Statutorum Universitatis, 1768*

The Laudian Code of Statutes issued in 1634 was believed to be unalterable by any action of the University, and in the eighteenth century was found to be a grievous burden, owing to the complete change of manners and life since the Civil War. The original printed copies of the

Code contained only draft Statutes, and the complete Statutes were only to be found in the printed draft *as corrected* and supplemented by hand in certain copies in 1636. It was obviously desirable that there should be a reprint of the authentic Code, and in 1768 a fine quarto volume was issued from the Clarendon Press, containing the Laudian enactments with some minor changes and additions, bringing it up to date. The curiosity about the book is that it is still going on, the Addenda having at present (1908) reached p. 1,124. This is surely a rare example of a book (not a periodical or serial) continuing for one hundred and thirty-five years, 'necdum finitus.'

The parts of this remarkable book are as follows:—

*Corpus Statutorum Universitatis Oxoniensis* (Oxf. 1768, 4°).

— *Addenda ad Corpus Statutorum* (Oxf. 1800, 4°).

— — *Addenda ad Corpus Statutorum* (Oxf. 1825, 4°). This is in effect a second edition of the Addenda above.

This 1825 Addenda is followed by a series of separate issues of statutes or groups of statutes, nominally paged from 227 to 790.

— — — *Addenda ad Corpus Statutorum*. Pars II ab anno 1870 (Oxf., no date, large quarto). Still in progress.

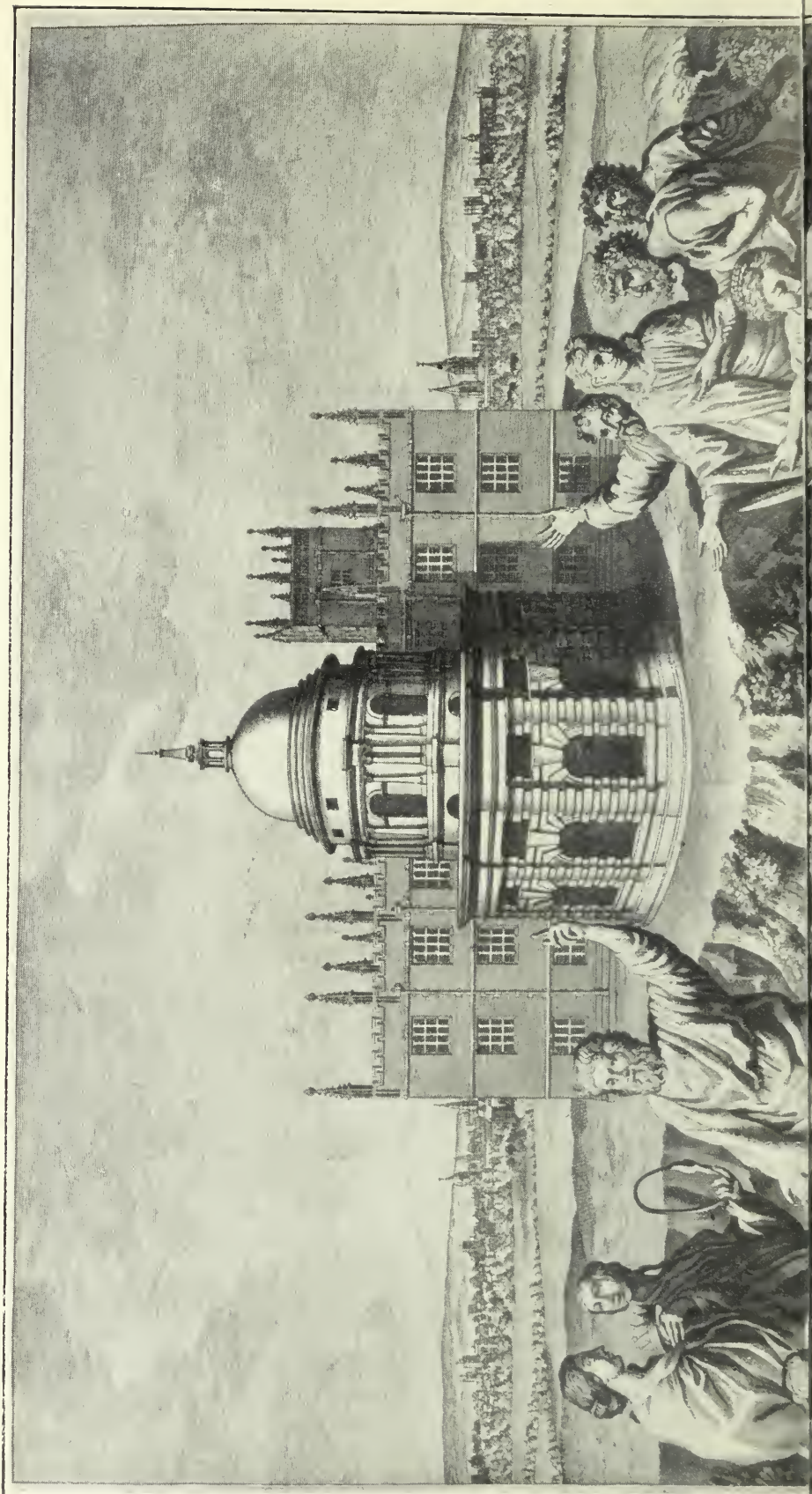
### XI. *The Caxton Memorial Bible, 1877*

The Caxton Exhibition was opened on June 30, 1877, with a speech from Mr. W. E. Gladstone. The list of Bibles in the Exhibition was headed by the first Bible printed (1450-3?), and ended with one printed and bound within the twelve hours which preceded Mr. Gladstone's speech.

The printing at Oxford actually began at two on that morning, from movable type which had not been used for some years. Exactly one hundred copies (each containing 1,052 pages) were printed, and numbered consecutively; the sheets were artificially dried and sent up to London by the nine o'clock morning express. They were at once bound at the Oxford University Press Bindery in London, in turkey morocco, with gold lettering and the arms of the University on the side, and a parcel containing ten copies was taken to the Exhibition by two o'clock in the afternoon.



PLATE XXII





**THE  
OXFORD ALMANACK**  
for the Year of our Lord God MDCCCLXXVI  
*being Bissextile or Leap Year.*

THE VEAL	TABLE SINCE	THE CONQUEST
12 in	The Line of York	Q. Elizabeth 1558
12-2	Edward I	The Union of the Crowns
12-3	Edward II	James I
12-4	Edward III	Charles I
12-5	Richard I	Charles II
12-6	Richard II	James II
12-7	The Line of Lancaster	William III & Mary II
12-8	Henry IV	George I
12-9	Henry V	George II
12-10	Henry VI	George III
12-11	Henry VII	George IV
12-12	Edward I	George V
12-13	Edward II	George VI
12-14	Edward III	George VII
12-15	Richard I	George VIII
12-16	Richard II	George IX
12-17	The Line of Lancaster	George X
12-18	Henry IV	George XI
12-19	Henry V	George XII
12-20	Henry VI	George XIII
12-21	Henry VII	George XIV
12-22	Edward I	George XV
12-23	Edward II	George XVI
12-24	Edward III	George XVII
12-25	Richard I	George XVIII
12-26	Richard II	George XIX
12-27	The Line of Lancaster	George XX
12-28	Henry IV	George XXI
12-29	Henry V	George XXII
12-30	Henry VI	George XXIII
12-31	Henry VII	George XXIV

JANUARY XXII	FEBRUARY XXIV	MARCH XXVI	APRIL XXVIII	MAY XXXI	JUNE XX	JULY XXXI	AUGUST XXXI	SEPTEMBER XXXI	OCTOBER XXXI	NOVEMBER XXV	DECEMBER XXXI
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31

THE OXFORD SHEET ALMANACK FOR 1716  
(Showing the transition from the old to the new style : see p. 31)

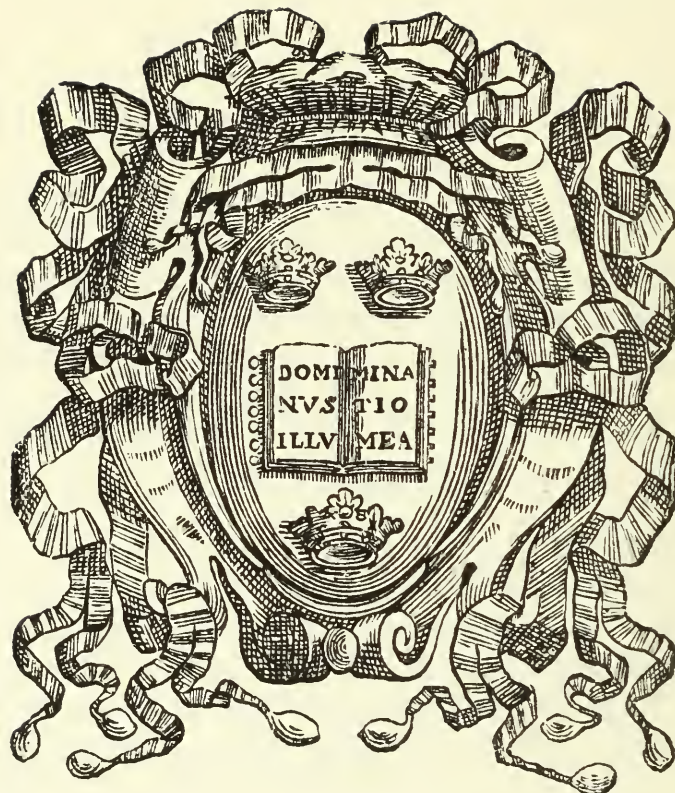


Mr. Gladstone considered that this feat might be called 'the climax and consummation of printing'. The credit for the scheme may be divided between Mr. Henry Stevens of Vermont, who suggested it, Mr. Henry Frowde, on whom the burden of the special arrangements fell, and Professor Bartholomew Price, who decided that the idea could be carried out.

## XII. *The Golden Gospel*, 1881.

It is seldom that even a privately printed edition or issue consists of three copies only. In 1881, Major-General Gibbes Rigaud, desiring to benefit a lady with failing sight, experimented with various colours and types in order to ascertain what combination of the two could be read most easily and with least strain to the eyes by persons in that condition. He found that the glint of 'Franklin' type (of which this is an example) printed in dull gold letters on a dark olive-green background best fulfilled the required conditions, and arranged with the Press to have the Gospel of St. John so printed. This was done at the close of 1881, and only the copy supplied to the lady at Sandgate and two others, one reserved by one of the partners of the Press and one by the Press itself, were produced. The first is lost, and the one remaining exemplar outside the Press deserves to rank as a curiosity, being a representative of the most restricted issue and actually the rarest book produced at Oxford since the fifteenth century.

The title is '*The Gospel according to St. John* [University Arms]. Oxford: at the Clarendon Press, 1881', large octavo.



ARMS OF THE UNIVERSITY PRINTED FROM THE ACTUAL WOODBLOCK  
USED IN THE OXFORD FOLIO BIBLE DATED 1701



## ANTIQUARIII COLLECTANEA.

545

of Cruelte, Philip shortely dyed, and eche of his Sunnes reignid but a wile after hym.

Charles, the yongest Sunne of King Philip that was King of Navar, his Father lyving, had but one Doughter by his Wife Heir of Navare, that after was maried to the Counte of Everus, that after was King of Navar.

Isabel, Doughter to King Philip, her 3. Brethern beyng deade with owte Issue Male, was countid the next Heire to the Kingdom of France, wher apon the Right cam to Eduarde her Sun by Eduarde the secunde her Husband.

Thomas Gray, Warden of the Castel of Couper and of Fife of the Kinge of Englandes Part in Scotland, cumming from Edwardes Coronation toward the aforefaide Castel, was layde for privile by Gualter Bickirkton, Knight of Scotlande; that had prive Intelligence when, and by what way, he could cum, and lay yn waite with 400. Menne of Armes with hym. The which thing being told to Thomas Gray at hand, that had with hym but 26. Men of Armes, wel appointid and wel horfid, caufid his Varlettes to cum yn Sight behynd with a Baner, and with his smaule Band roode thorough the Rankes of Scottes by Force, and bak agayn by Force thorough them, killing dyvers of them. And then they espying Grayes Verlettes cumming toward them, fledde alle, and levyng theyr Horfes tooke the Marrefis, or Bogges. And Thomas drave their Horfes a way for his Pray to the Castel of Couper.

Pag 784.

A nother tyme Alexander Frefile a Scotte, Frend to Robert Bruse, was set with in a litle of Couper Castel with an Embuschement, and cauffid certen of his to pille a Village ther by, so supposing to bring Thomas Gray in to a Trappe: the which hering the Cry went to Horfe to se what it was. The Embuschement feyng that, roode of Force to the very Castel Gates. Thomas feing this returnid his Horfe, and cam faire and softely thorow the Toun of Couper, and then laying Spurres to his Horfe, and rode thorough them, and got with in the Barres of the Castel, wher he founde his oune a Meny cumming out to help hym.

King Edward caullid a gayn Peter Gaverston, a yong Man of Gascoyne, afore exilid by his Father; cauffing Thomas Erle of Lancastre, with other, to swere to the Accomplisshement of the Banischment, and cauffid hym to take to Wife the Doughter of his Sister and the Erle of Glocestre, and made hym Counte of Cornewalle.

Peter Gaverston maryed Johan of Acres Doughter.

Peter Gaverston then became noble, liberal, and gentil in summe Fascions: but after ful of Pride and Disdayne, of the which the Nobilles of England tooke great Despite.

\* Sic.

Tom. 1. Par. 2.

Z z z

It



# APPENDIX I

## IMPRINTS AND STATISTICS

### SEQUENCE OF SOME UNIVERSITY IMPRINTS

Oxoniae, '1468'-1480.

Oxoniiis, 1479.

In alma universitate Oxon., 1481.

In alma universitate Oxoniae, 1485.

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In academia Oxoniae, 1517.

In celeberrima universitate Oxoniensi, 1518-9.

Oxoniae, 1518.

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From 1585 the usual imprint is 'Oxoniae' or 'Oxonii' (the former more usual till 1670, the latter after the Sheldonian Press was established). Before the Civil War common expressions are 'ex officina . . .', 'excudebat . . .', 'typis . . .'.

'Oxford', 'At Oxford' (the former common at all times).

'Rhydychen' (for Welsh books, at all times from 1595).

'Bellositi Dobunorum' occurs in 1628, 1662, and 1663.

'E typographia Sheldoniana' occurs on the first book printed at the Sheldonian in 1669, but not after that year.

'E theatro *or* typographeo Sheldoniano' ('At the Theatre,' &c.) is the common imprint from 1669 to 1713, and in lessening degree to 1783.

'E typographeo *or* prelo Clarendoniano' (*or* 'Academico') is found at all times from 1713: with 'at the Clarendon (*or* University) Press'.

## STATISTICS

The following figures give the total and average output of the Oxford Press in successive decades and half-centuries, and taken in connexion with the details to be obtained by inspection of the Chart, will supply the chief facts about the productiveness of Oxford as a place of printing, so far as they can be expressed in figures. If allowance be made for books not yet recorded in my lists or not here registered, the whole number of books printed at Oxford from '1468' to the end of 1907 may be estimated at not less than twenty-two thousand. This includes all the printing establishments in Oxford, but until the nineteenth century the printing other than academical is almost negligible, and is at present perhaps about 20 per cent. of the whole, if works are counted, but if the number of copies issued be considered, it is perhaps less than 5 per cent.

	Total number of books produced.	Average per year.		
'1468,' 1479-1486	15	2	'1468'-1600.	Total 148.
1517-1519	7	2		
1585-1590	50	8		
1591-1600	76	8		
1601-1610	97	10	1601-1650.	Total 1161. Average 23 per year.
1611-1620	134	13		
1621-1630	135	14		
1631-1640	248	25		
1641-1650	547	55		
1651-1660	296	30	1651-1700.	Total 1428. Average 29 per year.
1661-1670	282	28		
1671-1680	323	32		
1681-1690	294	29		
1691-1700	233	23		
1701-1710	284	28	1701-1750.	Total 1108. Average 22 per year
1711-1720	266	27		
1721-1730	207	21		
1731-1740	155	16		
1741-1750	196	20		

## Κεφ. 2. ΠΡΟΣ ΡΩΜΑΙΟΥΣ. 421

18 παύη τῷ νόμῳ, καὶ καυχᾶσαι ἐν Θεῷ, <sup>† καὶ † Phil. 1. 10.</sup>  
 γινώσκεις τὸ θέλημα, καὶ δοκιμάζεις τὰ δια-  
 19 φέροντα, κατηχούμενος ἐκ τοῦ νόμου· πέποι-  
 θάς τε σεαυτὸν ὁδηγὸν εἶναι τυφλῶν, φῶς  
 20 τῶν ἐν σκότει, παιδευτὴν ἀφρόνων, διδάσκα-  
 λου νηπίων, ἔχοντα τὴν μὲν μορφῶσιν τῆς γνώ-  
 21 σεως καὶ τῆς ἀληθείας ἐν τῷ νόμῳ· <sup>8 Psal. 50.</sup> ὁ οὖν δι-  
<sup>10, 8c. Matt.</sup> δάσκων ἕτερον, σεαυτὸν οὐ διδάσκεις; <sup>22. toto.</sup> ὁ κη-  
 22 ρύσων μὴ κλέπτειν, κλέπτεις; ὁ λέγων μὴ  
 μοιχεύειν, μοιχεύεις; ὁ βδελυσσόμενος τὰ εἴ-  
 23 δωλα, ἱεροσυλεῖς; <sup>† ὁς ἐν νόμῳ καυχᾶσαι, 19. 4.</sup>  
 διὰ τῆς παραβάσεως τοῦ νόμου τὸν Θεὸν ἀτι-  
 24 μάζεις; <sup>† τὸ γὰρ ὄνομα τοῦ Θεοῦ δι' ὑμᾶς</sup> <sup>11 2 Sam. 12.</sup>  
<sup>14. Exa. 22</sup> βλασφημεῖται ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσι, καθὼς γέγρα-  
<sup>5. Ezekh. 30.</sup>  
<sup>20, 23.</sup>  
 25 πται. Περιτομὴ μὲν γὰρ ὠφέλει, εἰς νόμον  
 πράσεως· εἰς δὲ παραβάτης νόμου ἦς, ἡ περι-  
 26 τομὴ σου ἀκροβυστία γέγονεν. εἰς οὖν ἡ ἀκρο-  
 βυστία τὰ δικαιώματα τοῦ νόμου φυλάσσει,  
 οὐχὶ ἡ ἀκροβυστία αὐτοῦ εἰς περιτομὴν λο-  
 27 γισθήσεται; καὶ κρινεῖ ἡ ἐκ φύσεως ἀκροβυ-  
 στία τὸν νόμον τελούσα, σὲ τὸν διὰ γράμμα-  
 28 τος καὶ περιτομῆς παραβάτην νόμου. <sup>† οὐ γὰρ</sup> <sup>19. 7. Joh.</sup>  
<sup>8. 39.</sup> ὁ ἐν τῷ φανερῷ Ἰουδαῖός ἐστιν, οὐδὲ ἡ ἐν τῷ  
 29 φανερῷ ἐν σαρκὶ περιτομῆ· <sup>† ἀλλ' ὁ ἐν τῷ</sup> <sup>7 Deut. 10.</sup>  
<sup>16. et 30. 6.</sup> κρυπτῷ Ἰουδαῖός, καὶ περιτομὴ καρδίας ἐν  
<sup>Jer. 4. 4.</sup>  
<sup>Col. 2. 11.</sup> πνεύματι, οὐ γράμματι· οὐ ὁ ἔπαινος οὐκ ἐξ  
<sup>Phil. 3. 2, 5.</sup>  
<sup>1 Pet. 3. 4.</sup>  
<sup>1 Cor. 4. 5.</sup>  
<sup>1 Thess. 2. 4.</sup>  
 Γ' 3 ἀνθρώπων, ἀλλ' ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Τί οὖν τὸ  
 περισσὸν τοῦ Ἰουδαίου, ἢ τίς ἡ ὠφέλεια τῆς  
 2 περιτομῆς; <sup>2</sup> πολὺ, κατὰ πάντα τρόπον. πρῶ-  
<sup>2 2. 18. et 9. 4.</sup>  
<sup>Deut. 4. 7, 8.</sup> τον μὲν γὰρ ὅτι ἐπιστεύθησαν τὰ λόγια τοῦ  
<sup>Psal. 147. 19,</sup>  
<sup>20.</sup>  
 3 Θεοῦ. <sup>†</sup> τί γὰρ, εἰ ἠπίστησάν τινες; <sup>†</sup> μὴ ἡ <sup>19. 6.</sup>  
<sup>Num. 23. 19.</sup>

P P

FIRST PAGE PRINTED AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

(Part of a Greek New Testament, 1830; see p. 18)



	Total number of books produced.	Average per year.	
1751-1760	267	27	} 1751-1800. Total 1365. Average 27 per year.
1761-1770	270	27	
1771-1780	263	26	
1781-1790	251	25	
1791-1800	314	31	
1801-1810	462	46	} 1801-1850. Total 4449. Average 89 per year.
1811-1820	616	62	
1821-1830	874	87	
1831-1840	1141	114	
1841-1850	1356	136	
1851-1860	1485	149	} 1851-1900. Total 9816. Average 196 per year.
1861-1870	1531	153	
1871-1880	1952	196	
1881-1890	2126	213	
1891-1900	2722	272	

	Total number of books produced.	
'1468'-1600	148	} Total 19475.
1601-1650	1161	
1651-1700	1428	
1701-1750	1108	
1751-1800	1365	
1801-1850	4449	
1851-1900	9816	

*First occurrences of unusual type, &c., at Oxford.*

First colour printing in England: Oxford, 147 $\frac{7}{8}$  $\frac{9}{10}$  (Aegidius).

First woodcut border used in England: Oxford, 1481.

First use of Greek type, 1586.

First use of Hebrew type, 1596; the first Hebrew book in  
Hebrew type, 1655.

First use of Arabic type, 1648.

First use of Anglo-Saxon type, 1659.

## CLARENDON PRESS AT OXFORD

First use of Music type, 1660.

First use of Syriac type, 1661.

First Armenian type acquired, 1667.

First Coptic type acquired, 1667.

First Samaritan type acquired, 1667.

First Slavonic type acquired, 1667.

First Runic type acquired, 1677.

First Gothic type acquired, 1677.

First Icelandic type acquired, 1677.

First Ethiopic type acquired before 1693.

First use of Etruscan type, 1738.

First use of Sanskrit type, 1840.

The use of Hand-presses for Bibles and Prayer Books abandoned, 1840.

Steam-power driving introduced, 1840.

First Chinese type acquired, 1858.

First Gurumukhi type acquired, 1876.

First Pahlavi type acquired, 1883.

First Tibetan type acquired, 1884.

First Zend type acquired, 1884.

Gas-power driving introduced for certain departments, 1885.

First Bengali type acquired, 1888.

First Russian type acquired, 1888.

First Tamil type acquired, 1889.

First Burmese type acquired, 1890.

Type of Hieroglyphics (Lepsius) acquired, 1900.

Prehistoric Script (Cretan or Eteo-Cretan) produced in 1901 for use in the books of Dr. A. J. Evans.

Steam-power driving completely discontinued, 1902.

Gas-power driving adopted throughout, 1902.

First Sinhalese type acquired in 1904.

First Cyrillic type acquired in 1906.

Walpergen Music type for Short Score, and in smaller size, adapted and first cast in 1907.

International Phonetics (the form adopted by L'Association phonétique internationale) first produced in 1907.



Mufick, Two line Double Pica.

The image displays a handwritten musical score for a piece titled "Mufick, Two line Double Pica." The score is arranged in two systems, each consisting of two staves. The first system begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#), with a second sharp (C#) appearing below the staff. The second system starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings such as *w* for *ritardando*. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a decorative flourish. The final system features a treble clef with a key signature of six flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, Cb) and a common time signature (C). The notes are heavily obscured by a series of sharp signs (#) and wavy lines, indicating significant damage or corruption to the original manuscript.

WALPERGEN'S MUSIC TYPE, 1695  
(Specimen only, not musically correct)



## APPENDIX II

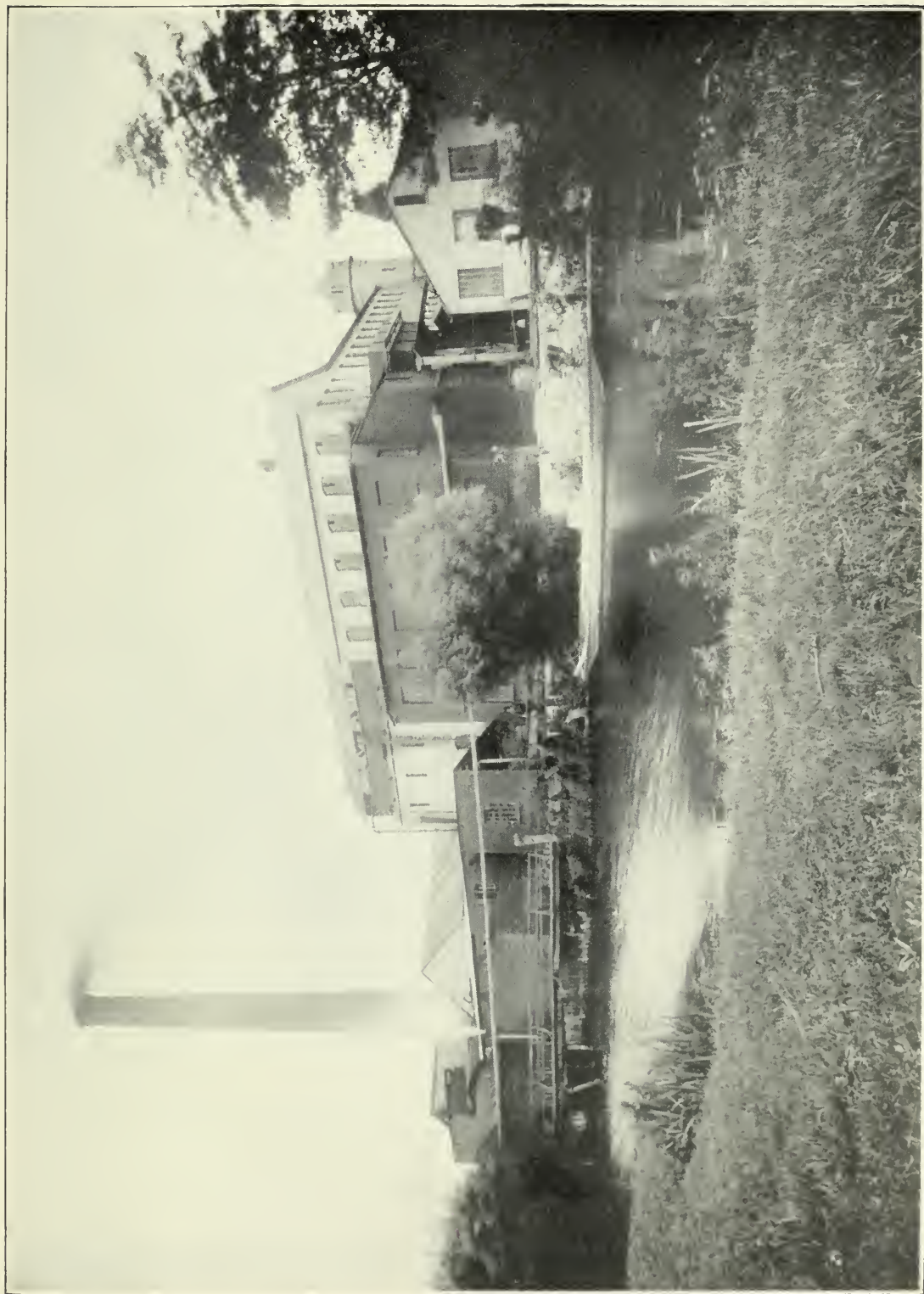
### TYPE-FOUNDING, MUSICAL TYPE, AND PAPER-MAKING

IT is clear that the earliest printers in England obtained their first type from abroad, and that Caxton, for instance, printed at Westminster for at least a year before he founded letters. The first Oxford type also is from Cologne, and not till between 1586 and 1637 did the trade of letter-founder become a distinct one. But it appears that the honour of establishing the first high-class type foundry, properly equipped, belongs to the University Press at Oxford, in connexion with the splendid gifts of matrixes by Dr. Fell, procured in Germany, France, and Holland, about the year 1667. In 1677 Francis Junius augmented Fell's gifts by presenting matrixes of Gothic, Runic, and Anglo-Saxon; and the foundry was so well supplied that in 1693 it issued a first Specimen of Types, exhibiting more than sixty varieties. The 1695 edition is the first specimen produced anywhere in which a particular passage of Scripture (in this case the Lord's Prayer) is reproduced in polyglot.

The two first type-founders at Oxford were Dutchmen, one being named Peter Walpergen, who was succeeded by his son, who died in 1714, and he by Sylvester Andrews, whose foundry was removed to London in 1733. The fount of Coptic type in the Oxford foundry was given by the Burgomaster of Amsterdam. The actual founding took place in the basement of the Sheldonian as soon as that was ready, and for some years previously in a private house hired by Dr. Fell. The dates of the Oxford Specimens of Type, or 'Letter' as they were then called, are 1693, 1695 (two issues), 1706, one broadside undated, 1753, 1768 (also issued with additions in 1770 and 1775), 1786, and 1794. These have been reprinted, with much valuable and original matter, by Mr. Horace Hart in his *Notes on a Century of Typography at Oxford 1693-1794* (1900).

Not the least interesting part of the Fell donation is the Music type, generally called Walpergen's type, which is reproduced in the 1695 Specimen, and in Mr. Hart's *Notes*, pp. 58-9, 142, see Plate XXV. Seventy Music matrixes were in the gift, but musical printing was not unknown at an earlier date at Oxford, having been used first by Professor John Wilson in his *Cheerful Ayres*, printed by William Hall in 1660; while as early as 1609 some *engraved* music is to be found in Charles Butler's *Feminine Monarchie*. But Hall's type was very rough and incomplete, and not to be compared with Walpergen's, the first date of the use of which, however, cannot at present be stated.

No earlier mention of paper-making at or near Oxford can be found than Dr. Fell's encouragement of an engraver named George Edwards in the latter's plan of fitting up a paper mill at Wolvercote, about 1670. Hearne mentions it in 1718 as being worked by John Beckford, saying of it that 'some of the best paper in England is made at Wolvercote Mill': and throughout the eighteenth century it maintained a high repute. In the nineteenth century it changed hands several times, being owned by Mr. James Swann, by the Duke of Marlborough, by Mr. Combe, who rebuilt it soon after in 1855, and finally by the Clarendon Press, which bought it in 1870.



WOLVERCOTE PAPER MILL, NEAR OXFORD  
(Where most of the Oxford paper is made: see p. 40)



## EXPLANATION OF THE CHART

THE Chart is intended to exhibit the number of books printed or published at Oxford, both average and actual, up to the year 1900 inclusive, and to distinguish in each year the number of theological, of classical or learned, and of miscellaneous books. The principles of construction have been as follows :—

The lines on the Chart indicate by upward direction an increase of output, and by direction from left to right chronological sequence from year to year.

As far as the records make it possible, every book, pamphlet, or report which contains more than four pages, has been included, but there is no doubt that many editions of the Bible have not been yet registered. Works consisting of more than one volume are counted as more than one book, the general test in such a case being the number of separate title-pages.

The shaded part bounded by a continuous black line indicates at each year the average product of that year and the year preceding and the year following. Up to 1752 the year is necessarily counted as beginning on March 25.

The thick broken black line indicates the actual product of each year.

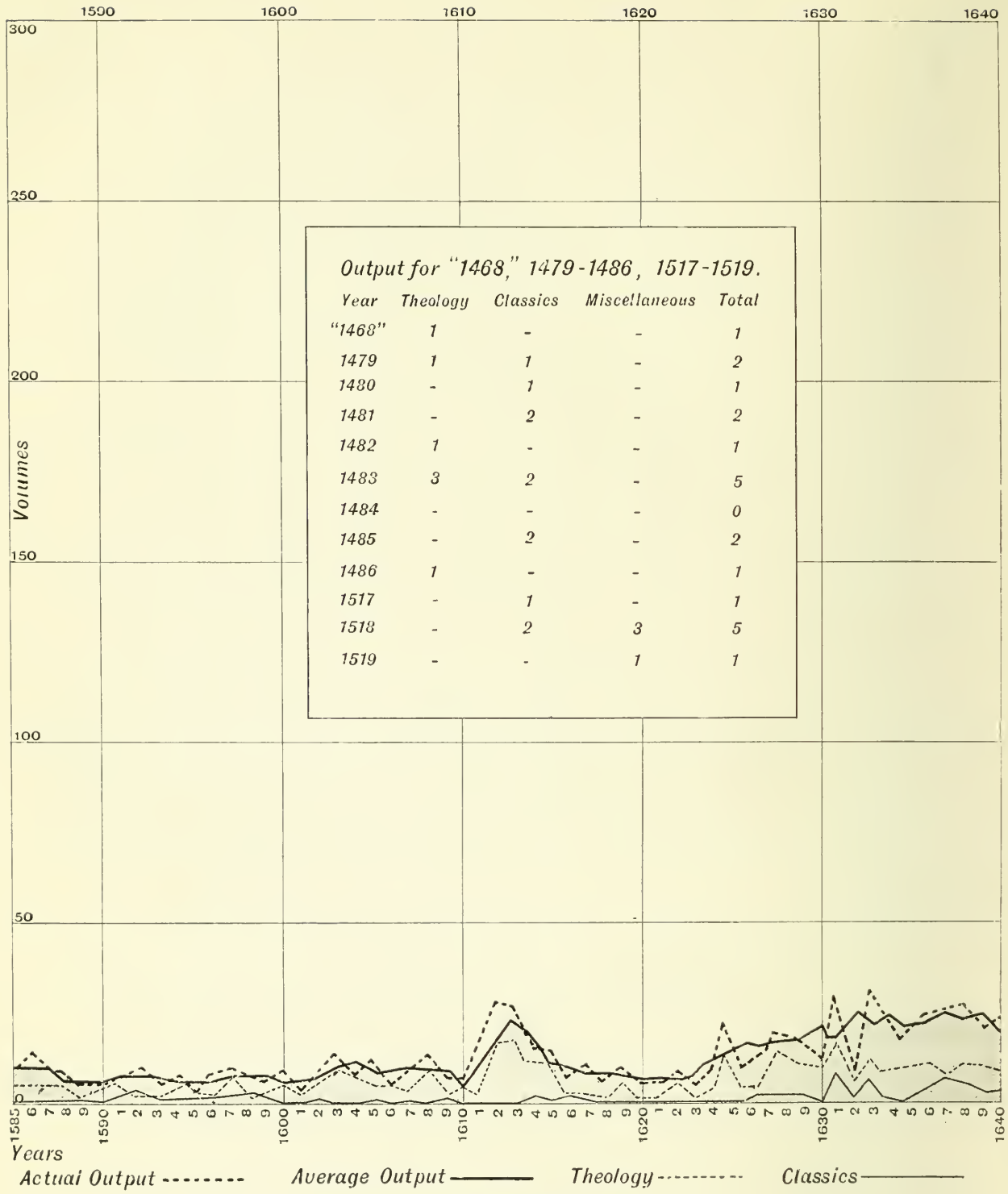
The thin broken line indicates the number of *theological* books, *reckoned from the base line*, for each year. These include controversial pamphlets, but not Eastern religions.

The thin continuous line indicates the actual output of *classical* or learned books, *reckoned from the base line*. These comprise Latin books on classical logic, rhetoric or philosophy, as well as classical authors, translations or commentaries on them, and books on classical archaeology. Also books in Eastern languages or translations of them (except Hebrew) are included, but modern Latin compositions, or books *on* Oriental authors, are excluded. The idea has been to show the extent of what may be called learned literature, other than theological.

The *miscellaneous* can be calculated, as being the remainder of the output, when the theological and classical books are deducted. The only deliberate omissions have been tradesmen's catalogues, prospectuses and testimonials, after about 1800.

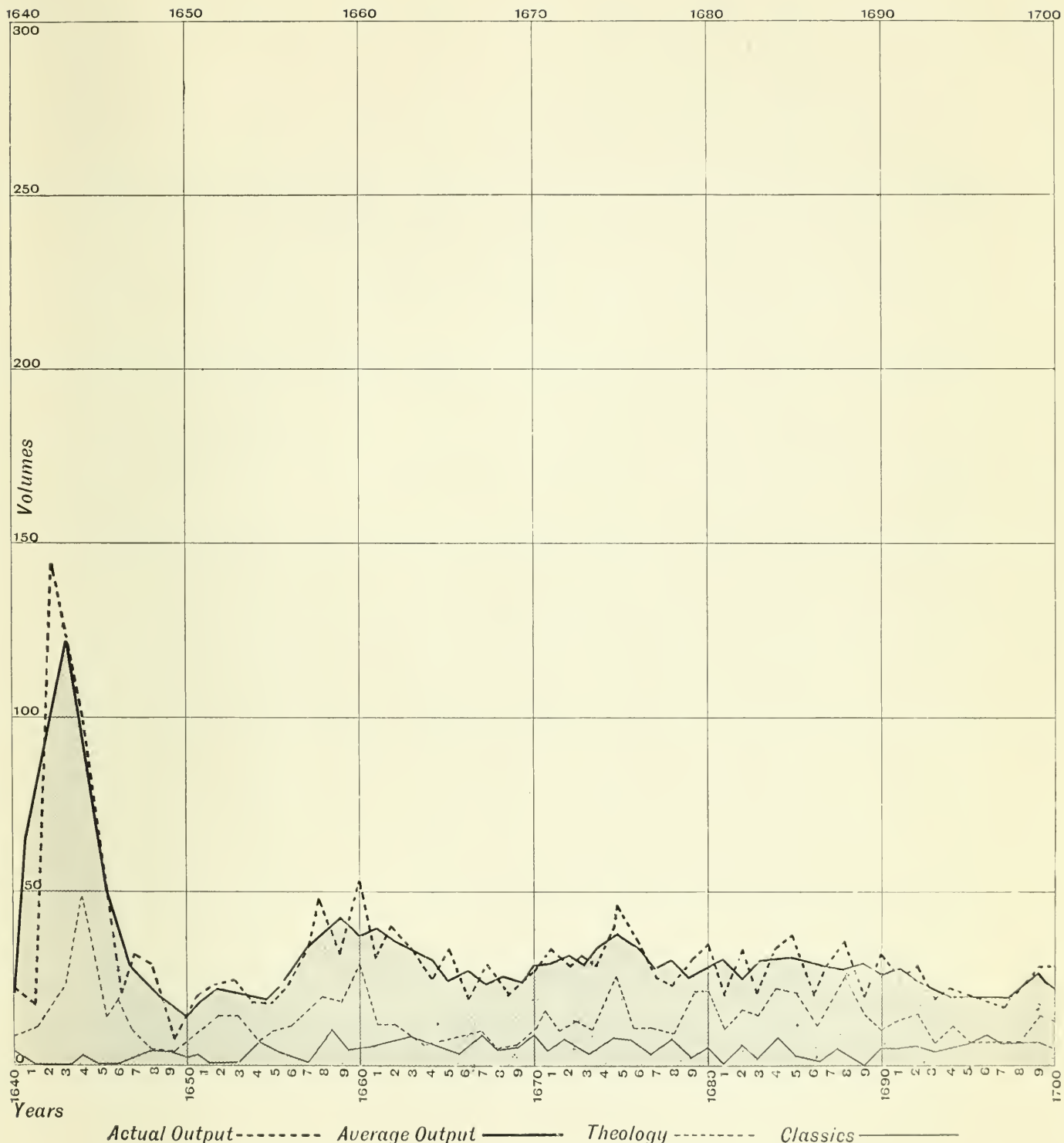
The *undated books* of each century, when they could not be assigned to a particular year, have been spread evenly over the century.

*Periodicals* have been counted as one work in each year of their issue. *Reports* of Societies and Institutions have been taken in tens, each group of ten counting as a volume at the earliest date in the group. Other series have been counted by volumes, or ten parts have been regarded as a volume, according to the size.

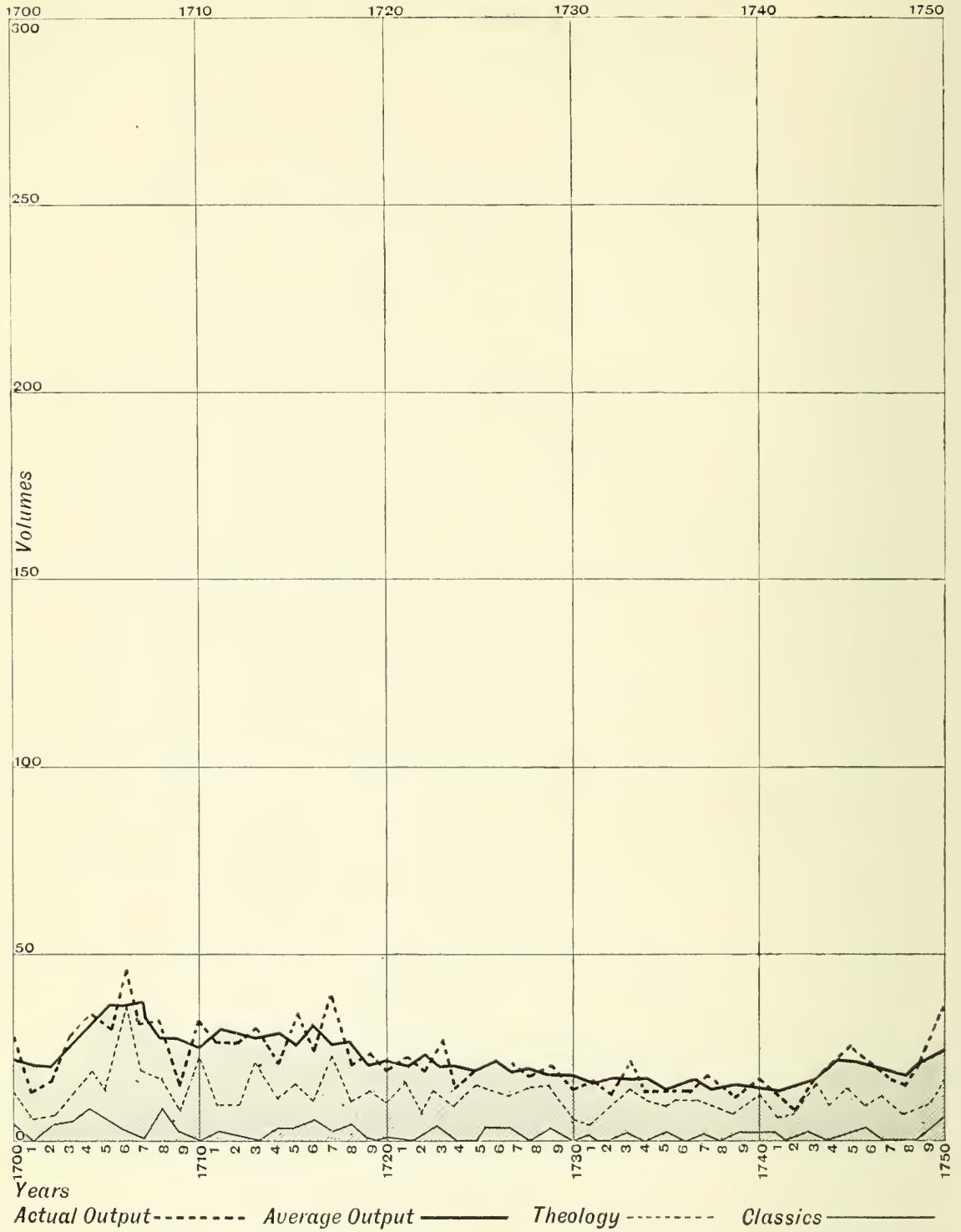


PRINTING AT OXFORD, '1468'-1640

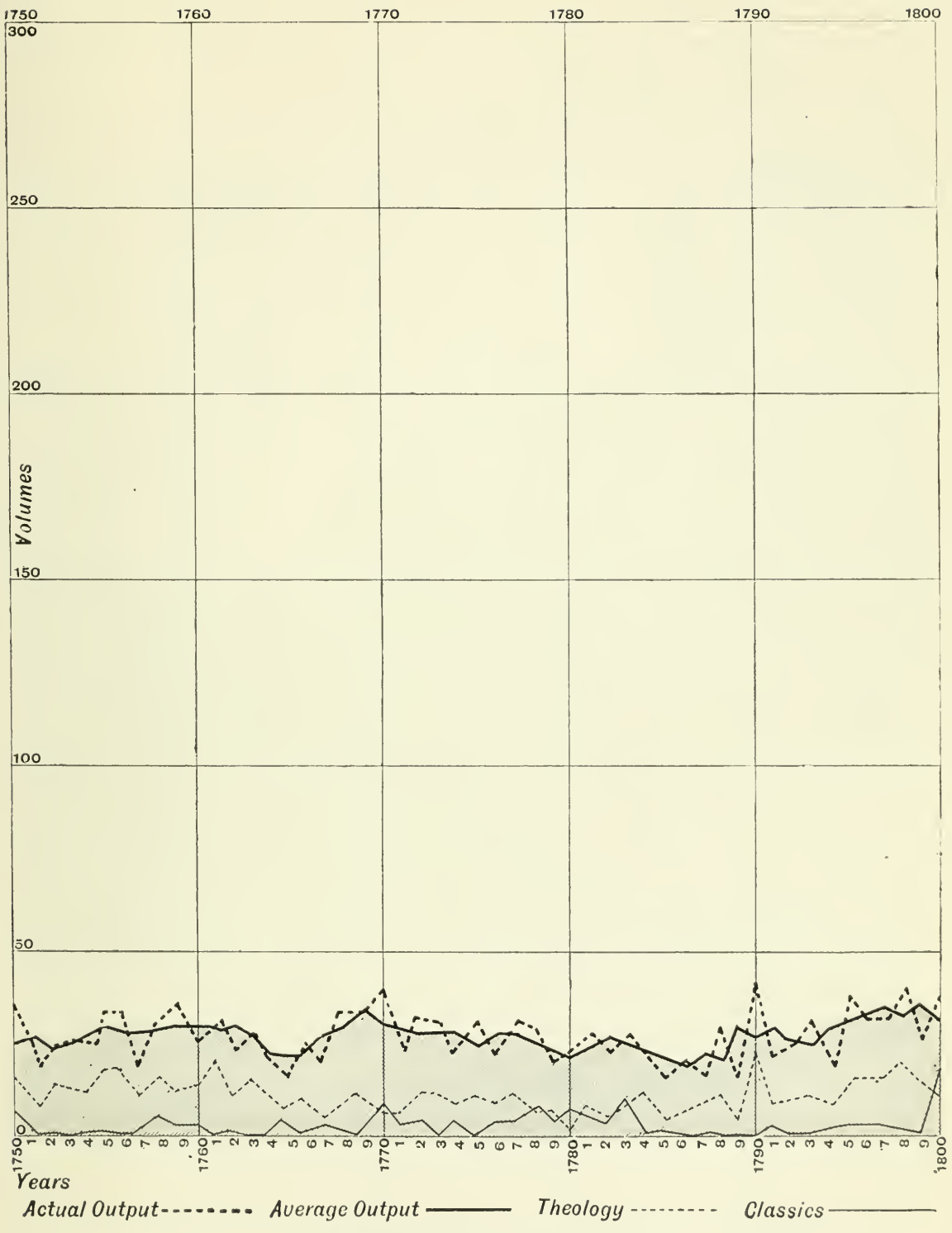




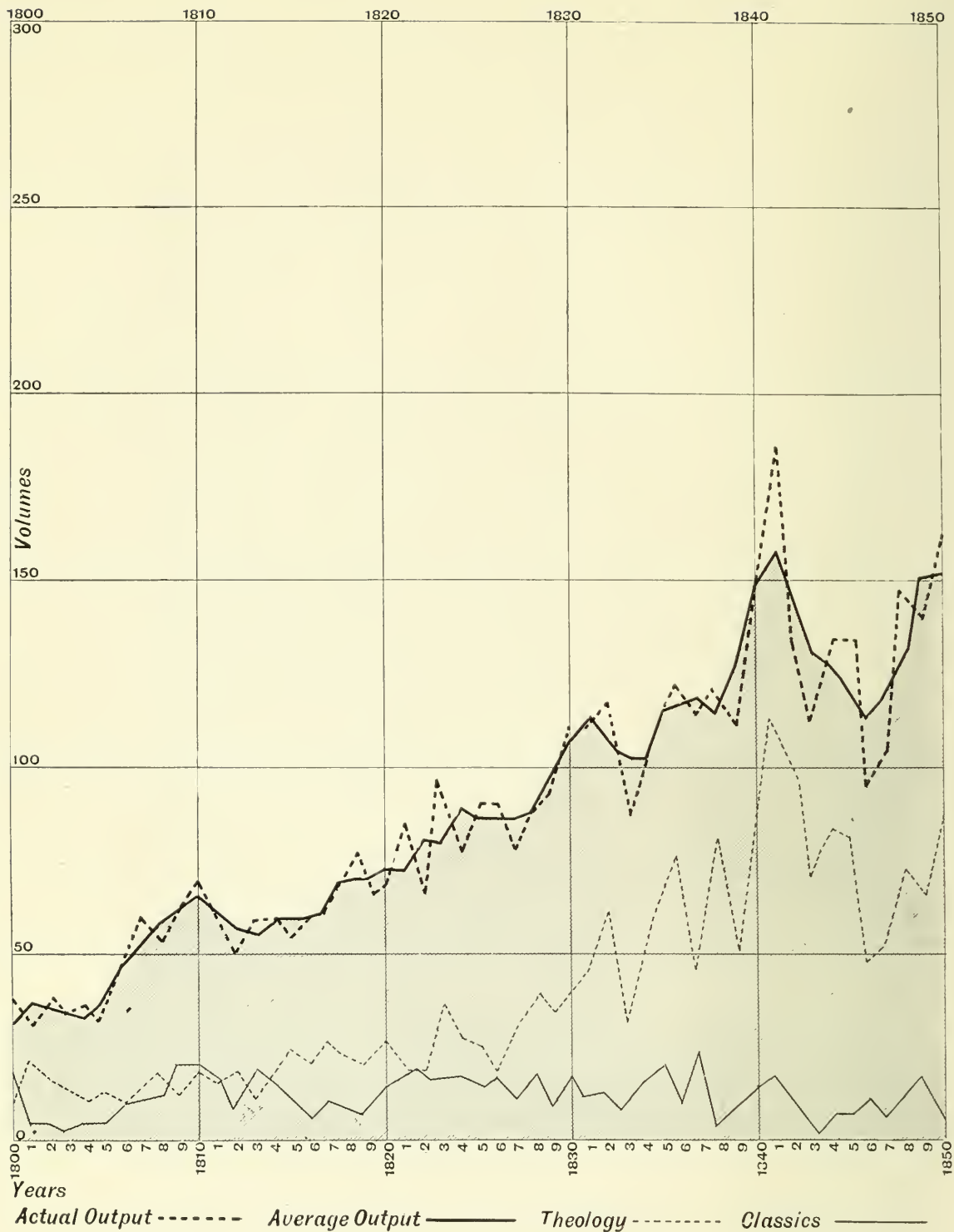
PRINTING AT OXFORD, 1640-1700



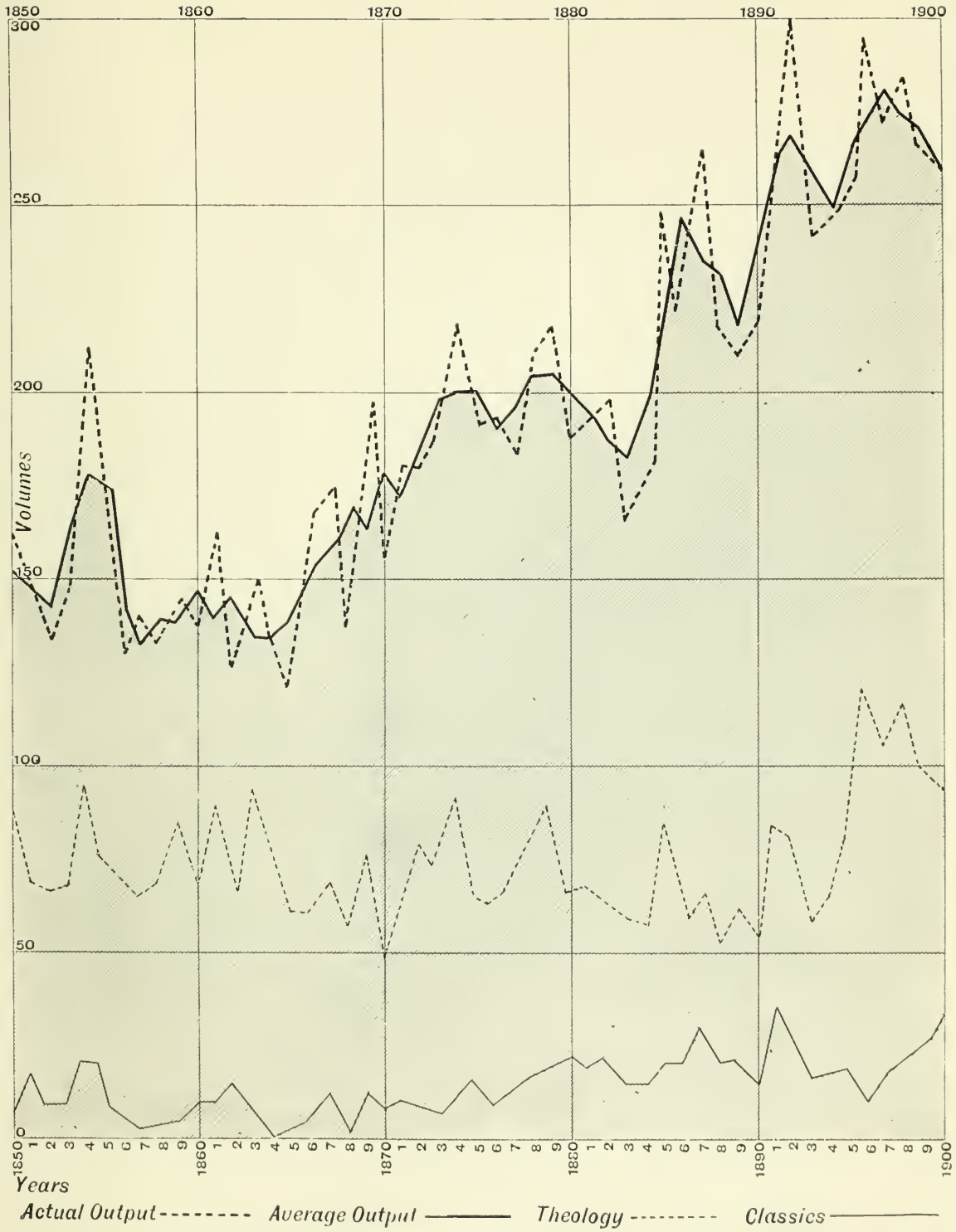
PRINTING AT OXFORD, 1700-1750



PRINTING AT OXFORD, 1750-1800



PRINTING AT OXFORD, 1800-1850



PRINTING AT OXFORD, 1850-1900

11/10  
6/10/19

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Oxford: Horace Hart, M.A.  
Printer to the University

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11/10  
6/10/19









