

Renaissance & Reformation

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A bulletin with news of interest to Toronto scholars working in the fields of the Renaissance and Reformation. Send any items to N.Z. Davis, Department of Political Economy, University of Toronto.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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December 7-19-----Machiavelli's Mandragola in English (postponed from November), directed by Jacke Morbin, Colonnade Theatre (925-4573), 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 7--Professor M.A. Screech of University College, London and Visiting Professor of French at the University of Western Ontario will address the Alliance Francaise on "L'Esprit Comique de Rabelais", 8:30., room 562 Education Centre, 155 College Street (admission for non-members is 75 ¢, for students 25 ¢).

January 8-----Professor Screech will lecture to the Graduate School at 3 p.m., University College.

January-----An interesting collection of Renaissance bronzes, purchased in London, can be seen at the Laing Galleries, 194 Bloor Street West. Mr. Laing is now organizing the exhibition.

Friday, January 29---Informal luncheon of Toronto Renaissance and Reformation Colloquium, Faculty Club, 12:15-2:00.



SOME ITALIAN MATERIALS AT THE PONTIFICAL INSTITUTE

Although primarily interested in the mediaeval period, the Institute of Mediaeval Studies has the following items in the Renaissance period not held by the University Library: seventeen manuscripts on microfilm of Petrarch's Secretum, a complete set (1947-) of the Rivista di Storia della Chiesa in Italia with its indispensable bibliography on Italian Church history including Protestant materials, the Opera Omnia (1557) of Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, the Opera Omnia (Basel, 1567) of Pietro Pomponazzi, several sixteenth-century works of Pomponazzi's major antagonist, Agostino Nifo (Niphus), several sixteenth-century editions of the works of Tommaso de Vio (Gaetano), and the complete works of Robert Bellarmine. The Mediaeval Institute library also has a handsome facsimile edition of the Opera Omnia (1702-1710) of Erasmus, which the University of Toronto library has in the original. Finally, the only copy on campus that I could find of F.C. Church's fundamental Italian Reformers (1534-1564) is in St. Michael's College library.

Paul Grendler

THE WILL COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The collection of the late J. Stanley Will, former Professor of French at the University of Toronto, has approximately 12,000 books. This is one of the largest purchases made by the University Library in recent years. It is a rich addition to the Library's holdings in French literary, religious, political and social history from the end of the Middle Ages to the 20th century. Included are many essential reference works on French literature and especially on French Protestantism (such as Haag's La France Protestante, back issues of the Bulletin de la société de l'histoire du protestantisme français, Aymon's Actes of the Synods and Hagues, Synodes du Désert, etc.)

Approximately 380 works in the Will Collection were printed before 1700. A substantial proportion of these are edicts, memoirs, occasional pieces and religious tracts pertaining to the fortunes of French Protestantism from the outbreak of the Religious Wars through the 17th century.

The legislative material begins with a 1559 Mandement on suspect preaching in Paris, goes through numerous Pacification and persecution edicts to a 1657 Arrêt forbidding Huguenots to bury Catholics in their cemeteries to a 1682 Declaration forbidding Protestants to leave France and a 1690 Declaration on the disposal of their abandoned goods.

Among the memoirs and collections of letters are the Memoirs of d'Aubigné, Perroniana et Thuana, the Epistles of Isaac Casaubon, the Memoirs of Pomponne de Bellièvre and of Louis II de Condé.

The occasional pieces report and fight over the issues of the Religious Wars and Protestant uprisings of the 1620's. Louis Le Roy's Exhortation aux françois (1570) asks the French people to live in peace, while Artus Desiré's La Singerie des Huguenots (1574) defends Saint Bartholomew's Day. The principles of the League are argued in the famous Dialogue d'entre le Maheustre et le Manaut, in the Apologie catholique contre...les Liguez (1585), in the Discours sur les calomnies imposees aux Princes...Catholiques. Florimond de Rémond's L'Histoire de la Naissance, Progrez et Decadence de l'Hérésie and Simon Goulart's Recueil contenant les choses plus memorables advenues sous la Ligue are only two of many historical works viewing events from the Catholic or Protestant standpoint.

Of works of religious sensibility and theology, there are relatively few in the collection for the 16th century--nothing by Calvin and only a few pieces by Beza (such as an English translation of his Sermons on the Song of Songs). On the other hand, the Collection includes Philippe de Mornay's De la verité de la religion chrestienne (1585) and many 17th century works intended to convert the Huguenots or to defend their faith against such efforts. The Jesuit Cotton's proposals and Pierre Du Moulin's answers are there. Anonymous writings such as Instructions chrestiennes...où toute la doctrine de l'Eucharistie est...expliquee or L'examen de soi-mesme pour bien préparer à la communion suggest the numerous little pieces on the "life of the soul" in 17th century France.

Though the religious-political materials on French Protestantism are the largest coherent grouping in the Will Collection up to 1700, other materials in it go way beyond this theme. There are for the period before 1560 a small and valuable group of humanist writings. For instance, two works by Josse Clichtove, (De Veneratione Sanctorum and De Vera Nobilitate) and several works by Bude (including his De Asse in Latin and French summary and his De Contemptu Rerum Fortuitarum) mark the first appearance of original editions by these men in the University Library.

The Collection also includes a number of literary and philosophical works. Desperiers, Desportes, Du Bartas, Garnier, and Jodelle are here as is a rare copy of Béroalde de Verville's Apprehensions spirituelles, poèmes (1584). Pierre de La Ramée's Grammatica and Ciceronianus are there as well as Pierre Charron's De la sagesse in the 1607 edition. Several of Bodin's works can be found.

The wealth and diversity of this collection can only be hinted at here. There are quite a few books that do not fit into any of the above categories--such as Cardan's De Subtilitate or Palissy's Discours admirable de la nature des eaux, such as Guicciardini's La Historia d'Italia (1565) or Bernardino Lombardi's L'Alchimista (1602).

Only about one-half of the secondary source materials in the Will Collection have been catalogued as yet. Of the works before 1700 mentioned here, most of the 16th century materials are now catalogued, while a portion of the 17th century ones are not.

Natalie Z. Davis



REFORMATION MATERIALS AT THE KNOX COLLEGE LIBRARY

Caven Library at Knox College possesses an interesting and valuable collection of 16th century books, particularly in the area of the calvinist Reformation.

On order (publication overdue) is the Calvin section of the Corpus Reformatorum. Early titles by Calvin include his Latin commentaries on the Acts of the Apostles (1552), on the twelve minor prophets (1559) and on Isaiah (1559). In French are