

old Queen in a garden with Browne, the death of Sidney again, hear the music of the viols that went with Drake overseas. Infinite pains must be endured to produce this kind of writing. And pains are not enough. There must also be a vision, an appreciation of the whole that perhaps belongs to poetry as much as to history but is immensely harder to maintain during the scholar's travail. None of the dust of ancient library or record office has dimmed Mr. Rowse's joyous absorption in his chosen age, its heroes and its great deeds.

Does the dislike of fanaticism of most kinds of dogmatic theology seriously mar the book? Perhaps for some readers it will. Yet it is doubtful if it should. *The Expansion of England* owes its merit to the vigor and character of its author. His personal involvement in all he writes, his emphatic opinions about everything are part of the spell he binds on his readers as are his learning and his literary sense. He loves great deeds. He participates in the history. As he reads *The Tempest* he thinks of the pines and cedars of the Carolina coast. Like Donne he is fired by thoughts of sea, continents, planets. Even in a many-times-told story he will have the advantage over the less passionate colleague in his craft.

As a child I remember being puzzled by my grandfather's story often told of how he would wait with many other Londoners outside the publishing house for the next volume of Macaulay's history. But Mr. Rowse explains the magic wrought by the great historian when we had half forgotten that this was possible.

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

Caroline Robbins

## *Library News*

AUTOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS, LETTERS, AND DOCUMENTS  
ACQUIRED BY THE PIERPONT MORGAN LIBRARY, 1950-1955

The collection of autograph manuscripts in the Pierpont Morgan Library is unusually strong in materials relating to the Renaissance, and the addition of a number of important collections and single items during the past five years has greatly added to this strength.

The Charles Fairfax Murray collection of autographs, a group of 296 letters and documents of the period from 1402 through the early 1700's acquired in 1950, though miscellaneous in character, does have

letters of first-rate importance from such leading Renaissance figures as Machiavelli, Pietro Bembo, Castiglione, Aretino, Vasari, and Guicciardini. Among the English figures represented are William Camden; Thomas Bodley; Robert Devereux, second Earl of Essex; and Lady Arabella Stuart. A check-list of this collection is available in the Library.

The diplomatic correspondence of Philip II, King of Spain, and members of the Hapsburg circle with Philip's ambassador to Queen Elizabeth I, Don Diego Guzman, acquired in 1952, contains hitherto unpublished material on the relationship of Spain and England in the period 1564-69. There are thirty-one letters from Philip on such matters as the re-establishment of Roman Catholic supremacy in England, Elizabeth's marriage plans, attacks on Spanish shipping by English seamen, and Philip's plans to visit the Spanish Netherlands. The ambassador's notes on conditions in England as prepared for the King reveal, with considerable perception, details of life at the English court. A check-list of this collection is also available at the Library.

Two English manuscripts from the period of the Renaissance are a contemporary manuscript copy of Richard Crashaw's 'A Hymn to S. Teresa', with textual alterations possibly in the hand of the author, acquired in 1951, and the complete autograph manuscript of Sir Philip Sidney's *Defence of the Earl of Leicester*, acquired in 1953. The Crashaw manuscript appears to be the only surviving authoritative manuscript of this poem and a detailed description of it by L. C. Martin appears in the *Times Literary Supplement* for April 18, 1952. Sidney's *Defence* is one of the most important surviving documents of Elizabethan literature and certainly the author's most important surviving manuscript; it has not been used directly in the preparation of modern critical editions of the work. Sir Philip's defence of his uncle was circulated in reply to *Leicester's Commonwealth* which appeared anonymously in 1584. It was acquired with the generous assistance of the Fellows of the Pierpont Morgan Library.

The most significant individual items added to the Library during this period are two autograph letters from Erasmus and one from Guillaume Budé addressed to Guy Morillon, secretary to the Emperor Charles V. These letters are from the Ortelius Sale of February, 1955, and are a gift to the Library from the Fellows with the special and most generous assistance of Mrs. Landon K. Thorne and Mr. Al-

fred Ogden. The Erasmus letters of 1524 and 1534 (Allen nos. 1431 and 2965) speak of Luther and comment on the sad state of intellectual liberty in England. In a letter of 1540, Budé deeply regrets that he has had to give up his philological studies.

Other important items include an autograph letter signed from Luigi Pulci to his friend Lorenzo de' Medici, then in Rome, dated March 12, 1465, mentioning the death of Francesco Sforza, the gift of Dr. Sylvain S. Brunschwig. Two letters signed from the Emperor Charles v, dated 1524 and 1528, to the Duke of Arcos on military matters and one letter signed from the Emperor to Melchior Zobel, Bishop of Würzburg, dated July 10, 1548, the latter the gift of Mr. John J. Slocum, raise to thirty-five the number of letters and documents of this great figure of the sixteenth century now in the Library. A letter from Castiglione to his mother, dated July 30, 1520, acquired in 1954 is the earliest of six of his letters in the collections.

Two English letters received in 1954 also add materially to existing collections: a letter from Henry VII to Gian Galeazzo Sforza, Duke of Milan, December 21 [1490], written in the handsome calligraphy of Petrus Carmelianus, who is credited with introducing the Italian hand into England, is the third letter from his pen in the Library; an autograph letter signed from Sir Nicholas Bacon, father of Sir Francis Bacon, dated Gorhambury, April 14, 1576, and addressed to another son, Nathaniel, the gift of Mr. Roland L. Redmond, is a notable addition to the Bacon collection which he has so generously helped to create.

Corneille Gailliard, King of Arms to the Emperor Charles v, compiled a *Blason des Armes*, which the Library was fortunately able to acquire this year. It was written in Bruges in 1557 and appears to be mainly in the hand of the author; it contains a list of the noble families of Flanders with illustrations of their arms in color and much supplementary material on royalty and heraldry.

In October, 1955, the Library received as a gift from Mrs. Louis M. Rabinowitz a group of autograph letters and documents of the Italian Renaissance which includes a receipt with the autograph signature of Antonio Pollaiuolo, dated February 1, 1487, acknowledging his salary for a month's work on the tomb of Pope Sixtus IV, and an autograph letter from Ercole I d'Este, Duke of Ferrara, dated June 21, 1495, to Lodovico Sforza, concerning the invasion of Italy by the

French king, Charles VIII. Both these figures were previously unrepresented in the collections of the Morgan Library. Also included are an autograph letter from Francesco Filelfo written about 1468 to his patron Galeazzo Maria Sforza, Duke of Milan, pleading for an advance on his insufficient pension; an autograph letter from Lorenzo de' Medici to Ludovico Sforza, Duke of Milan, stating that he is sending an agent to take possession of an abbey in the name of his twelve year old son, Giovanni, who was later to become Pope Leo X; and a letter from the Bolognese painter, Guercino, asking payment for a painting executed for Cardinal Mazarin.

Herbert Cahoon

Two books related to the James Ford Bell Collection in the University of Minnesota Library are being published by the University of Minnesota Press this fall. One is the first English translation of an account published in 1505 in Rome, *Copy of a Letter of the King of Portugal Sent to the King of Castile Concerning the Voyage and Success of India*. The document purported to be a copy of a letter of Manuel the Fortunate, King of Portugal, but some doubt exists among scholars as to whether it might have been simply a news publication. The document is historically significant because it gives a contemporary account of the first commercial sea voyages to India by the Portuguese. The translator was Sergio J. Pacifici of Yale University.

The second is a catalogue of 393 works, *The James Ford Bell Collection: A List of Additions, 1951-1954*, compiled by John Parker, curator of the Bell Collection. The works listed with brief annotations include exploration accounts, trading company information, maps, and other geographic literature.

## Conferences

THE NEW ENGLAND RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE held its annual meeting at Tufts University on November 18 and 19, 1955. After a greeting from President Wessell, the audience listened with interest to three papers: Miss Nancy Roelker, of the Winsor School, presented 'A Comparison between a major and a minor *moraliste*: Montaigne and L'Estoile'; Mr. G. R. Elliott, of Brunswick, Maine, read a