

NOTES ON GREEK MANUSCRIPTS IN ITALIAN LIBRARIES

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Notes on Greek Manuscripts in Italian Libraries by Thomas William Allen

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THOMAS WILLIAM ALLEN

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ITALIAN LIBRARIES

BY
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MEMORIAE
IOANNIS BARONIS CRAVEN
CVIVS MVNIFICENTIAE
DEBEO
NON CODICES TANTVM INVENTOS

PREFACE.

THE following articles are reprinted from the *Classical Review* for February, June and October 1889, and March 1890. They are now corrected, and in some respects amplified. I may prefix a few words to explain the circumstances of their composition.

When in 1888 I was elected to a Craven Travelling Fellowship at Oxford, I proposed to my electors three lines of study, to be followed abroad; a collation of MSS. of the *Iliad*, a collection of materials bearing upon palaeography generally, and, in cases where it seemed useful, cataloguing of manuscripts. During the two years of my tenure, which were spent almost entirely in Italy, I found abundance of material to come under the last head; but, being tied by my other occupations, I had not the time to attain the completeness and exhaustiveness that are implied in a full Catalogue; I found myself therefore compelled to content myself with rather rough lists of anything that seemed to me of literary or technical interest. I hoped that though imperfect they might be found of service to persons who would be able to use the material. And in this expectation I have not been mistaken, and must here thank the kindly critics who have at different times given me private encouragement. I must also profess my acknowledgement to the well-known and exemplary 'Inventaires sommaires' of the libraries of Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, and the 'Notes on the MSS. of the British Museum' of M. Henri Omont, which

first suggested to me this department of enquiry, and to which these lists hold the place of rough memoranda to a finished book.

Since the last of these articles was written, I have continued to travel in Italy, and have had occasion to visit a good many libraries which do not possess printed catalogues. Of these, while I had not the leisure to make detailed lists, it may be as well to give some particulars here.

At *Brescia* the *Biblioteca Queriniana* is now open from 9 to 3, and it has a MS. catalogue in which the MSS. are arranged alphabetically without distinction of subject. There are the following Greek titles: Apollonius Rhodius, nonnulla de eo (F.V. 6), Areopagita, Dionysius (A. IV. 3), Aristotle Rhet. al. (A. VI. 3), Evangelia (A. IV. 10, D. II. 14, A. IV. 12, A. VI. 26), Gregor. Naz. (D. II. 13), Himerius, (B. VII. 7), C. Lascaris, de nom. et verb. (B. VII. 15), Lycophron (A. VI. 33), Sophocles (B. VI. 24). I inspected the Lycophron and the Sophocles, and both are of saec. xv. From the fact that there is at the end of the catalogue a list of the earlier MSS. under centuries, and that none of the Greek MSS. appear in it, I conjecture that the other books also will be of about the same age. MS. A. VII. 7 contains 'Tibullus, Poemata ext. cum Propertius.' I did not see it.

The *Biblioteca Civica at Ferrara*, in the University, has a small collection of Greek MSS. The catalogue is for all the MSS., and alphabetical. I excerpted the following titles, but there may be more: Aeschylus, Aristophanes (3), Aristoteles, Biblia, Emanuel Cretensis, Evangelia, Hymni Graeci, Joannes Chrysostomus, Lexicon, Maximus, Pindarus, Psalterium, Ptolemaeus, Vitae Sanctorum. Owing to the extreme cold (December 10, 1889), and the deficient service of the library, I did not examine more than the following MSS.:

253 N.B. 2, Aristophanis Plut. Nub. chart. s. xv.—xvi., miscellaneous notes at the end.

113 N.A. 4. chart. two books bound in one, each containing Ar. Plut. Nub.: at the end of the second τέλος, μανουήλ ἔγραφα ἔτους ζ̄ Ϟ̄ κ̄ ζ̄ N̄ ιβ̄. [1419].

155 N.A. 5. chart. Theocr. c. schol. Hes. O. D., c. schol.; after the Hesiod in cipher, τέλος τοῦ ἠσιόδου βιβλίου. Phrynichus, Planudes, grammatica. At the end ἐτελειώθη τὸ παρὸν βιβλίον ἐν ἔτει ζ̄ ω̄μ...[1332] βασιλείοντος τοῦ κραταιοῦ καὶ ἀγίου ἡ.....αυ.....βασιλέως ἀνδρονίκου τοῦ παλαιολόγου. ν̄ ε̄.....A later hand has inserted a scribe's name, which however I cannot read.

116 N.A. 4. chart. s. xv. Aeschyl. P.V., S.c. Th., Pers., Hesiod O.D., Theocr. (part): at end *Liber mei Lianozii Canonici Bon. professoris* !!

178 N.A. 6. Ptolem. μεγάλη σύνταξις. s. xv. well preserved.

At *Messina* in Sicily the University possesses a collection of 175 Greek MSS. from the suppressed Basilian convent of S. Salvatore, the buildings of which are passed on the road to the Faro. A full and accurate catalogue has been prepared of them by the late Father Matranga, who died unfortunately before he had finished the task of deciphering the palimpsests that underlie several of the MSS. His catalogue remains in slips in the library, but the librarian assured me that it would be published by the Italian Government, an intention that it is to be hoped will be carried out: for the row of dated MSS., and the local character of many of them, make this collection of importance for the palaeographer. Accounts of it are given by Diehl, *Mélanges d'Arch. et d'Hist. de l'École franç. de Rome*, 1888, ff. 309 sq., 'Notice sur deux manuscrits à miniatures de la Bibliothèque de l'Université de Messina,' and Rühl,

Philologus 1889, 'Bemerkungen über Bibliotheken in Sicilien.' I visited the library in the hope that, as the scribes were mainly Basilian monks, there might be some specimens of the tachygraphy that was familiar to their order to be gathered. In this I was to a great extent disappointed. In the notices mentioned above, the three classical treasures of the collection are given—a fine 10th century Galen (no. 84), an equally fine x-xith cent. Hermogenes (no. 118) and another copy of Hermogenes (no. 119) of s. xii.-xiii. The number of dated MSS. is very remarkable: e.g. A.D. 961, 963, 1017, 1061, 1064, 1105, 1107, 1116, 1117, 1127, 1132, 1148, 1153, 1281, 1308.

At *Palermo*, at the Biblioteca Nazionale, there are a dozen or so Greek titles in the alphabetical MS. catalogue. I took notes of the following. 1. E. 10 *Andreas Cretensis al.*, sermons: membr. 8½ x 7 in., s. xii. 1. E. 15 membr. Nomimon; written in 1689, and a good specimen of a native Greek hand of that time: subscription, ἤρησθαι αὐτῆ ἢ βίβλος μετα πολλοῦ ἐνταύθα ἐν τῇ περηφήμῳ καὶ νέα ρώμη. τῇ βασιλευούσῃ τῶν πόλεων κωνσταντινουπόλε. ἐπι τοῦ καλῶς πρὶ ἀρχιεπισαντος, κυρίου, κυρίου, καλλιῶκου. ἐγράφει δὲ παρεμοῦ ἐλαχίστου ἐν κροδιάκονοις κυρ γερασίου. ἐκ τῆς νύσσου κνπρ ἐν ἐτῇ ἀπο ἀδάμ ζρωζ ἀπο δὲ χύ α χ π θ. Other notes in the book relate to different owners of it; the last appears to bring the book to Italy, if not to its present resting-place: ἐπάρχη τὸ παρὸν ἰωαννικόν κρομονάχου ἐκ νίσου κρήτης ἐκ τῆς μονῆς τοῦ βροντισίον ἀπο καπιλή προσιτωα διὰ γγ ῆ τον [?] ἔλαβα. The last few words are translated in a Latin note,—*Brondisi e Castello Priotia Tarentis (vel unciis) septem accipi.* I. E. 11. membr. s. x.—xi. S. Paul, Epistles. There is also a xvth century Psellus.

At the Biblioteca Comunale I was informed that there was nothing of Greek. In the Museum there is a Greek MS. of the New Testament kept in a glass case;