

## PREFACE.

SOME fifteen years have elapsed since the publication of the "Catalogue of the Philatelic Library of the Earl of Crawford, K.T." took place.

The death of the late Earl which occurred on January 31st, 1913, was a grievous loss to Philately and to philatelic bibliography. Collectors and students of these fascinating pursuits will ever hold his memory dear and acknowledge the debt of gratitude they owe him for his generosity in bequeathing his philatelic library to the British Museum. They were proud and gratified to learn that this library, which is universally recognised as the finest and most complete ever formed of the history of stamp-collecting, would be preserved in its entirety and be placed at the disposal of students for reference purposes in one of our national institutions.

The library was removed from the late Earl's London residence to the British Museum on March 14th and 17th, 1913, and the books have been arranged on some of the shelves, which are constructed in the form of alcoves, in the gallery running round what is known as the North Library of the building. The library has long since been made available for the use of students, who can procure in the reading-room of the North Library of the Museum, any of the works they are desirous of consulting.

The library was continued down to the late Earl's death in 1913 and contains most of the works published to the end of 1912, and the Museum authorities have added others since that date. But the ephemeral literature of the years 1913-25 is I fear to a very large extent unrepresented.

During the period that has intervened since the publication of the "Catalogue" in 1911 I have neglected no opportunity of taking notes of works not entered in the lists and of making corrections and additions to the entries wherever I have found that this was needed. The "Catalogue" and "Supplement" now give a full description of every work contained in the library down to the dates to which the lists were carried: i.e., to the end of 1908 for PART I. and to the end of 1906 for PART II., and also include particulars of works published to the same periods, which are not represented in the collection. To give an illustration of the growth of the library since the "Catalogue" was published it will be sufficient, I

think, for me to state that the two series of bound volumes lettered "Miscellaneous Stamp Journals" and "Miscellaneous Stamp Pamphlets," which contained in 1911, respectively, 154 and 129 volumes, now consist, respectively, of 172 and 180 volumes.

It is a source of much regret to me, that owing to the Great War and the difficulty of obtaining descriptions of publications issued abroad during that period, I have found it impossible to continue the catalogue to the present year. I must, consequently, leave to others the compilation of a list of the philatelic literature that has appeared since the dates at which the two parts of the catalogue terminate. All that I have been able to do in that direction is to carry some of the journals current at the end of 1906, which have ceased publication since, to the close of their careers where I have been able to obtain the necessary information.

In conclusion I add a list of the names of the many kind friends who have assisted me in the compilation of the "Supplement":

- Mr. P. J. Anderson, M.A., L.L.B. (Aberdeen).
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- Mr. John A. Klemann (New York).
- Mr. Eugene Klein (Philadelphia, Pa.).
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- Mr. W. R. Ricketts (Forty Fort, Pa.).
- Mr. B. T. K. Smith (London).
- Mr. S. E. Turner (New Cross).
- Mr. P. de Worms (London).

To one and all of these I tender my grateful thanks for the help they have so willingly rendered me whenever I have appealed to them for their aid.

E. D. BACON.

April, 1926.

A few  
impressions  
of Periodicals  
were about  
found, & a  
few pamphlets  
presented  
to Mr  
Bacon

Periodicals