

Appendix A

Introduction written by Dr. G. E. Morrison

(Catalogue of the Asiatic Library of Dr. G. E. Morrison, 1924, pp. 1-5)

The following Catalogue records the result of an effort, sustained during more than twenty years, to form a comprehensive Collection of books, papers, pamphlets, prints and engravings dealing with the Chinese at home and abroad and with China and her Dependencies past and present in every subject in every European language.

Need forced me to form such a library. On my arrival in Peking in March, 1897, to take up the post of Correspondent of the London "Times" I found here no library worthy of the name; there were only scattered collections of books, more or less scanty, in various private hands. No library was accessible to a serious student. No serious library existed. There were no books on the Botany, Natural History and Geology of China; no attempt had been made to form a collection of works on any special subject other than the missionary question dealing with China. Sir Robert Hart had a few books-presentation copies mostly-of works of travel, and a meagre collection of Blue Books and Consular Reports. At the old Customs Mess there were a few books, including a set of the Chinese Repository (cut down and cheaply re-bound), formerly the property of General Gordon. Some of the missionaries had a number of books, dealing mainly with the language and with missionary enterprise in China.

At one time W. N. Pethick, the scholarly American for so many years in the service of Li Hung-chang in Tientsin, had formed a considerable library of English books with a few French books on China, but having decided to return to America he left his collection behind to be sold by a bookseller in Shanghai, who, ignorant of their value, dispersed the sets and sold even odd volumes. When later Pethick returned to the service of the ex-Viceroy, who had been transferred to Peking, he gathered together in Shanghai the unsold remnant of his collection and brought it with him to Peking, storing it in the temple known as the Hsien liang ssu. It is noteworthy that with the exception of my books and of this remnant of Pethick's library nearly all other foreign books in Peking perished during the siege of 1900.

On my arrival in Peking in March, 1897, as I have said, no books being available, I began to collect systematically, and at the time of the siege I had formed what was regarded as the most comprehensive collection of books then existing in North China. In those days books on China were at a discount. Compared with the prices that had to be paid for them later they cost a mere song. Only in after years, after the war between Japan and Russia, did the American libraries turn their attention seriously to China, and as soon as they came into the market prices increased enormously. By that time the foundations of my library had been laid. Most of the sets of magazines had been secured intact, and the difficulties forestalled which now confront even the richest libraries in forming such sets with any approach to completeness.

From the Catalogue an estimate can be formed of the completeness of the collection. Eleven languages are represented by considerable numbers of books, namely, English, French, German, Russian, Dutch, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish and Danish, while there are a few works in Norwegian and some in Hebrew, Finnish, Polish, Turkish, Hungarian and Welsh.

Among the books are many which do not directly belong to China. They are books dealing with Central Asia and Siberia, with Japan, Siam, Indo-China and the Straits and a few on the Philippines, a study of which has often been essential to the student of the China question. Some deal with sport in India, Burma, Siam and Ceylon. Instead of discarding these I have included them in my Catalogue. For this reason my library is described as an Asiatic Library, and not simply as a library of Books on China. In the library beside an early edition of the first volume is placed the first edition of the second volume of Robinson Crusoe, who, it will be remembered, in his "Father Adventures" made the journey across China from Nanquin to the Yamour. First edition are also placed on the shelves of "The Confessions

of an English Opium Eater” and “The Citizen of the World” together with rare broadsheets of Walpole which suggested the latter work.

In the library will be found sets (complete, unless otherwise stated) of a large number of serial publications either dealing directly with China or containing papers dealing with China. Were the system to be followed of recording every paper on China published in these serials the size of the Catalogue would be unduly increased. This system is followed in the Congressional Library of Washington, but there the collection of books on subject dealt with in my Catalogue is a comparatively small one. In my Catalogue one entry covers an entire serial publication, as, for example, the Chinese Recorder, yet two hundred cards might not be sufficient to cover all the papers on China in that publication. Every book is carefully catalogued, its defects, if any, noted, and its pagination, its illustrations or any special feature entered.

In one circumstance the books are specially fortunate, namely, in the climate of North China, and its freedom from insect enemies of books.

Some atlases are recorded, but my collection of maps has not yet been catalogued.

The following is a list in alphabetical order of the serials above referred to, detailed descriptions of which are given in the catalogue.

Journal of the American Asiatic Association (lacking several numbers).

The Annual Register.

Annales de la Propagation de la Foi.

Archivos e Annales do Extremo-Oriente Portuguez.

Journal of the Society of Arts (All papers on China).

Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Transactions of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society of Japan (All papers on China).

Transactions of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Journal Asiatique (Complete set).

The Asiatic Journal.

The Asiatic Quarterly Review.

Asiatic Researches (The first eleven Volumes only).

The Babylonian and Oriental Record.

The Bible in the World.

Bulletin de l'Association Amicale Franco-Chinoise.

Le Bulletin Catholique de Pékin.

Bulletin du Comié de l'Asie Française.

Bulletin de l'Ecole Française d'Extême-Orient.

Calendrier Annuaire.

Canton Miscellany.

The Canton Register (The first nine Volumes of the first paper published in China).

The Celestial Empire (The first six Volumes).

Proceedings and Papers of the Central Asian Society.

Central China Prayer Union Letter.

China and the Gospel.

The China Punch (Hongkong, lacking several numbers).

China: a Quarterly Review.

The China Review.

The China Times (First English paper published in Peking).

China's Millions.

China's Young Men (lacking one number).

Chine et Belgique.
 Chine et Ceylon (lacking several numbers).
 La Chine Nouvelle (lacking one number).
 The Chinese Miscellany.
 The Chinese Recorder.
 The Chinese Repository (also more than 200 numbers of the 240 in the original coloured wrappers).
 The Chinese and Japanese Repository.
 The Chinese Times.
 Cornhill Review (All papers on China).
 The Cosmopolitan (Hongkong).
 The Cycle.
 The East of Asia.
 The East and the West.
 The Eastern Sketch (lacking the first Volume).
 The Edinburgh Review (all papers on China from 1802 to 1859 and many subsequently).
 Emmanuel Medical Mission to China.
 Transactions of the Institute of Civil Engineers (all papers on China).
 The Far East (Shanghai).
 The Far East (Russian).
 The Far East (Detroit).
 The Far East (Berlin,—Quarterly).
 The Review of the Far East.
 The Far Eastern Review (lacking the earlier numbers).
 The Fortnightly Review (All papers on China).
 The Geographical journal and Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society.
 The Journal of the Manchester Geographical Society (All papers on China). The Geographical Magazine.
 The Scottish Geographical Magazine (All papers on China).
 The Journal of Geography of the Tokyo Geographical Society (Papers on China in Japanese).
 The Journal of the Geological Society of Tokyo (Papers on China—in Japanese).
 Illustrated London News (All cuttings on China, 1842–1864).
 The Indo-Chinese Gleaner.
 The Korea Review.
 The Korean Repository.
 Lettres Edifiantes (Complete Sets of the various issues).
 The China Medical Journal.
 The China Medical Missionary Journal.
 Mémoires de la Société des Etudes Japonaises, Chinoises, etc., (The first 10 Volumes).
 Mesny's Chinese Miscellany.
 The Messenger (lacking the first fifteen numbers).
 Transactions of the American Institute of Mining Engineers (All papers on China).
 Transactions of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy (All papers on China).
 Les Missions Catholiques.
 Missions en Chine et au Congo.
 Missions Overseas.
 Missionstidningen—Sinims Land.
 Mitteilungen des Seminars für Orientalische Sprachen.
 The National Review (Shanghai—lacking some earlier numbers).
 The Nineteenth Century (All papers on China).
 Notes and Queries on China and Japan.
 The Anti-Opium Magazines:—The Friend of China, Britain's Opium Harvest, National Righteousness.

Ostasiatische Zeitschrift.
The Pacific Era.
La Politique de Pékin.
Peking Gazette (English Translation, 1872–1900)
Journal of the Peking Oriental Society.
The Phoenix.
The Quack (Shanghai).
The Quarterly Review (All papers on China).
Questions Diplomatiques et Coloniales.
The Journal of Race Development (All papers on China).
The Rattle (Shanghai).
The Republican Advocate of China.
La Revue Jaune.
Revue de l'Extrême-Orient.
Revue de l'Orient.
Revue des Troupes Coloniales (Papers on China).
The Journal of the Siam Society.
Social Shanghai.
The Straits Chinese Magazine.
Le T'oung pao.
United States Foreign Relations (All papers on China from 1861 to date).
Variétés Sinologiques.
The West China Missionary News (lacking one number).
Bulletin of the Diocese of Western China.
Woman's Work in the Far East (lacking several numbers).
The World's Chinese Student's Journal.
Bulletin de la Société Zoologique d'Acclimatation (All papers on China from 1854–1888).