Princeton University, Library
Department of Rare Books and Special Collections

Exhibition Catalogues
Number 9
CLASSICS OF GREECE AND ROME

Manuscripts • Printed books
Coins • Papyri • Inscriptions

An Exhibition

Princeton University Library
December 20, 1951 -- February 10, 1952
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MANUSCRIPTS • PRINTED BOOKS
COINS • PAPYRI • INSCRIPTIONS

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Princeton University Library
December 20, 1951 — February 10, 1952

Monday–Saturday: 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Sunday: 2–5 p.m.
CLASSES OF GREECE AND ROME

"The immortal Ancients," as President Samuel Davies called them in his catalogue of the Princeton Library printed in 1760, have occupied an important place in the library ever since the founding of the college in 1746. The mortality rate among the actual books of the first Princeton Library has, however, been high, and only some eight of them still survive. One of these is a volume of poetry by Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius, printed at Paris in 1685, which once belonged to Governor Jonathan Belcher, one of those "several public-spirited Gentlemen on both Sides the Atlantic" whose "disinterested Charity" endowed the infant college with a library. That the elegiac poets just mentioned should have survived, rather than other "Ancients," would doubtless surprise—and perhaps chagrin—the founding fathers. Since Governor Belcher's time other "Friends of Learning and Nassau-Hall" have made good the losses due to war and fire, and have gradually created the library as we know it today.

A brief tour through the open stacks on the third floor of the Firestone Library—where "the immortal Ancients" are now shelved—will give some idea of the University's rich resources in the field of Classical studies. The present exhibition aims, however, to call attention to the portion of these resources to be found in those "special collections" which form part of the non-circulating section of the Library.

The emphasis in this display is therefore upon manuscripts and early printed books, of interest for their intrinsic beauty or for their significance as landmarks in the transmission of ancient knowledge to the modern world. The grouping is by subject, with a few of the great names in each field represented. Under the heading of mathematics, for example, are shown: a manuscript of Euclid's *Elements* in Arabic, copied in 1330 A.D.; another manuscript of the same work in Latin, written in Italy in the fifteenth century; and the first printed edition, issued by Erhard Raudolt at Venice in 1482. A somewhat similar sequence has been followed in the case of other subjects and other writers. The Arabic manuscripts recall one of the routes by which the learning of Greece and Rome was transmitted to western Europe. The western European codices remind us that it is from such manuscripts as these, copied and preserved in the medieval monasteries, that our texts of the ancient authors are largely derived. Printed books of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries stress the role of printer-scholars—such as the Manzio family in
Venice or the Estienne family in France and Switzerland—in the
diffusion of Classical works. Also represented are such great transla-
tors as Jacques Amyot, Sir Thomas North, and George Chapman,
who brought the Greek and Latin texts to an even wider circle of
readers.

Geography is represented by Strabo and Ptolemy, medicine by
Hippocrates and Galen, natural history by Pliny the Elder. Plato,
Aristotle, Cicero, and Justinian suggest our heritage from the an-
cients in the field of political thought and law. History and biography
provide a rich harvest, with such names as Herodotus, Thucydides,
Xenophon, Plutarch, Caesar, Livy, Sallust, Tacitus, and Suetonius.
Vitruvius and several of the works inspired by his writings empha-
size our debt to Classical architecture. In the case of literature and
philosophy the selection has been difficult because of the abundance
of riches. The Library possesses, for example, in its Vergil collection,
presented by Junius S. Morgan '88, some eight hundred volumes,
beginning with medieval manuscripts and including a good propor-
tion of all the editions of Vergil's works printed from 1469 down to
1900. The collection of the works of Horace, presented by Robert
W. Patterson '76, is equally comprehensive, while the Greville
Kane Collection, acquired in 1946, supplies a wealth of Classical
authors from among its medieval manuscripts and its printed books
of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. From these and related
collections have been drawn the books displayed in the cases devoted
to belles-lettres: Homer, Vergil, Theocritus, Horace, and Ovid
among the poets; Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes,
Plautus, Terence, and Seneca among the dramatists. The latter
group provides a complement to the exhibition concerning "The
Theater in Ancient Art," currently on view in the Princeton Art
Museum.

The manuscripts and printed books which form the main part of
the display show the classics of Greece and Rome in the forms that
they were known to later ages. They are thus the contemporaries of
Columbus, of Montaigne, of Shakespeare, and of George Wash-
ton—but not of Vergil or of Caesar. An introductory section of the
exhibition, however, groups certain "vestiges" which have come
down to us from ancient Greece and Rome. These coins, fragments
of papyrus, and inscriptions on stone are actual documents, con-
temporary with the authors whose writings are shown elsewhere in
their later forms.
Attention is called to the printed guides to several of the collections represented in the exhibition. The papyri are listed and described in: Allan C. Johnson, H. B. Van Hoesen, E. H. Kase, Jr., and S. P. Goodrich, *Papyri in the Princeton University Collections*, 3 vols., Baltimore, Princeton, 1931-1942. For the Arabic manuscripts see: Philip K. Hitti, Nabih Amin Firis, and Butrus ‘Abd-Al-Malik, *Descriptive Catalog of the Garrett Collection of Arabic Manuscripts in the Princeton University Library*, Princeton, 1938. Western manuscripts are recorded in: Seymour de Ricci and W. J. Wilson, *Census of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the United States and Canada*, New York, 1939-1940; consult the listings under Princeton University Library, as well as those for "The Library of Robert Garrett, Baltimore, Maryland" and "The Library of Grenville Kane, Tuxedo Park, New York" (these two collections having been acquired by Princeton since the publication of the *Census*). The Library's Horace collection can be checked through: *Quintus Horatius Flaccus, Editions in the United States and Canada as they appear in the Union Catalog of the Library of Congress*, Mills College, California, 1938. Medieval manuscripts as well as printed books in the Grenville Kane Collection are discussed in the Autumn 1949 issue of *The Princeton University Library Chronicle* (vol. XI, no. 1). The *Chronicle* regularly records notable acquisitions in all fields, including that of Classical studies.
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"The immortal Ancients," as President Samuel Davies called them in his catalogue of the Princeton Library printed in 1760, have occupied an important place in the library ever since the founding of the college in 1746. The mortality rate among the actual books of the first Princeton Library has, however, been high, and only some eight of them still survive. One of these is a volume of poetry by Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius, printed at Paris in 1685, which once belonged to Governor Jonathan Belcher, one of those "several public-spirited Gentlemen on both Sides the Atlantic" whose "disinterested Charity" endowed the infant college with a library. That the elegiac poets just mentioned should have survived, rather than other "Ancients," would doubtless surprise -- and perhaps chagrin -- the founding fathers. Since Governor Belcher's time other "Friends of Learning and Nassau Hall" have made good the losses due to war and fire, and have gradually created the library as we know it today.


Pasted continuously with separate title-page for each author. Contains Governor Belcher's autograph.
I. COINS

2. Gold-pieces struck during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian, 284 - 305 A.D.

   a. Celebrating the 3rd Consulship of Diocletian.
   b. Jove the Thunderer.
   c. Portrait of Emperor Diocletian.
   d. Celebrating the 4th Consulship of Diocletian.
   e. Jove the Preserver.

[Numismatics Collection]
II. PAPYRI

3. Soldier's expense account. [Princeton Papyrus No. 57.]
   This account may have been drawn up by the treasurer of a cavalry squadron. It represents expenditures for arms, clothing, and implements. 2nd century A.D. [AM8933]

4. Isocrates [Garrett Collection, Princeton Papyrus No. 113.]
   Antidosis ["Exchange of Properties," the discourse in which the orator defends his professional career. Written B.C. 353.] This fragment dates from the 2nd century A.D. [9D7527]

5. Homer [fragment at right][Garrett Collection, Princeton Papyrus No. 108.]
   Iliad. Book I, lines 209-239. 2nd century A.D.

   2nd-3rd century A.D.

7. Wage account. [Princeton Papyrus No. 96.]
   One of a large number of documents relating to the Aton family whose estates were located near Oxyrhynchus, in Egypt [modern Behnesa] The accounts shown represent payments to "Egyptian slaves, women, and others." 6th century A.D.

8. Tax receipt. [Garrett Collection, Princeton Papyrus No. 90.]
   Receipt for payment of a tax installment. 6th-7th century A.D.
III. INSCRIPTIONS


Aurelia Justa
se biva fecit sibi et
M[arco] Aurelio Marco
Aug[usti] lib[erto] coniugi et
lib[erto] filio dulcissimo
et lib[ertis] libertassir
pos[terisque] eorum.

(From the Epigraphical Collection gathered by Prof.
William K. Prentice)[No. 67]

Atelliae Myrtale
L[ucius] Atellius Sympho[rus]
[I]libertae et coniu[gi]
suae benemeren[ti]
recit
CD

(Epigraphical Collection: W.K. Prentice, No. 69)

Primo Apollinaris
qui vix[it] annis XXII
ne[n][ibus] VIII. Novia Agele
fratri dulcissimo
et Licinius Fortunatus cognatus
bene mer[enti] fecer[unt]

(Epigraphical Collection: W.K. Prentice, No. 68)

12. Found in a burial place (Columbarium) between the
Via Appia and the Via Latina, in Rome. (Epigraph. Coll. No.66)

Furiae L[ucii] l[ibertae] Rufhroynes [Rufi
Furiae S[uri] f[illiae] Bassae

(Epigraphical Collection: W.K. Prentice, No. 65.)

14. Fragment of a greek inscription. Relates to an imperial
ordinance dealing with the drafting of men for military
service and their deferment in return for a money pay-
ment.

Late Roman, or Byzantine period. Probably from Palmyra.

(Epigraphical Collection: W.K. Prentice, No. 60)
IV. GEOGRAPHY

Ptolemy

Ptolemy (second century A.D.) attempted to reform the map of the world by the addition of what had been known to earlier geographers and by the application to it of a more scientific system based upon astronomical principles. He adopted the theory of Hipparchus that a correct map of the world could be made only from direct astronomical observation. But the number of such observations was small and Ptolemy was required to depend also on the rough and inexact methods of earlier geographers.

"No trace is found in his work of such a physical description of the world, or of the different countries comprised in it, as the true geographer should propose to himself, or of a sense of the importance of mountain chains, rivers, lakes, and inland seas, as not only determining the configuration of countries, but influencing their climates, their natural productions, and the condition of their inhabitants."

The greater part of Ptolemy's Geography consists of tables of locations. It is not known whether the series of maps accompanying the work is based upon the actual maps prepared by Ptolemy himself or whether they were constructed by later geographers from the data furnished by the tables.

From the second century until the discovery of America Ptolemy was the supreme authority on geography. His error in extending Asia far to the east and in diminishing the extent of the unknown area separating that continent from Europe led Columbus to believe that the Land of Spices was far less distant from Spain than it actually was.

In spite of the fact that his is one of the best known names of antiquity and that his writings had an influence on science for over one thousand years second only to that of Aristotle, nothing is known of Ptolemy beyond the fact that he was an Egyptian astronomer and geographer who lived and wrote at Alexandria in the second century A.D.

First printed edition. Issued without maps.


The first edition printed in Germany. With 32 woodcut maps. The volume is opened to the map of the world. Note that Greenland is shown as an adjunct to Scandinavia.

17. Ptolemy. *Cosmographia*. Ulm, Johann Reger, for Justus de Albano, 1486. [Kane]

The second edition printed in Ulm, with the same maps as those in the first Ulm edition. All the maps in this copy, which is in its original fifteenth-century binding, have been colored by hand. The volume is opened to the map of France.


The first printed edition.

A collection of "Remarkable things" compiled largely from Pliny. Under the title of each country are given descriptions of its more interesting and peculiar characteristics and productions. Solinus (third century A.D.) added little to the information recorded by earlier geographers, but he attained considerable popularity and much of the learning of Pliny was transmitted to the Middle Ages through his work rather than directly from Pliny himself.

The first printed edition, from the press of the first printers in Italy.

The most important geography surviving from antiquity and considered the first general compilation of all the geographical knowledge obtainable at the time. It gives for each country a description of its character, physical characteristics and natural productions, as well as its geographical configuration.

Strabo (ca. 63 B.C. - after A.D. 21) was a Greek historian and geographer about whom little is known beyond the meager information derived from his writings.


The earliest Roman geography and, with the exception of the geographical section of the elder Pliny's *Historia Naturalis*, the only geography in classical Latin which has been preserved. It is a popular compendium containing descriptions of the general form and location of countries, their boundaries and main natural features and their physical character and climate. For the lesser known countries brief accounts of their manners and customs are given. Mela accepted the fables concerning the Amazons, the Blemmys in Africa without heads, the goat-footed Aezipanes, and other freakish creatures.

Of Mela (fl. A.D. 50) nothing is known except that he was born in Southern Spain.

The edition exhibited is the first edition of Mela to contain a map, which is a reproduction, on a reduced scale, of the world map of Ptolemy.

The first printed edition.

A poem which gives a brief account of the seas, islands, and countries of the known world, with such information concerning them as an educated reader of the Greek poets should know. It is valuable mainly as a compilation of geographical ideas accepted from the fourth century A.D. to the Age of Discovery. In spite of its shortcomings both as a poem and as a geography, it was a popular manual for many centuries.

The life of the Greek grammarian (fourth century A.D.) who wrote this poem is, like the lives of many of the geographers of antiquity, shrouded in obscurity.


After having considered the opinions of scholars who believed the world to be flat, drum-shaped, or cylindrical, Aristotle demonstrated in his treatise De Celso et Mundo that the world was a sphere.

The doctrine of the earth's sphericity was transmitted by the Greeks to the Romans and by the Romans to the scholars of the Middle Ages, but it is doubtful if it became widespread among the people until the voyages of the explorers of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries proved it to be true.
V. ASTRONOMY

23. Aristarchus of Samos. De Mundi Systemate. In Marin
Hersenne, Noverum Observationum Physico-Mathematicarum,
Paris, Antoine Bertier, 1647. [Ex 8207,636.3]

Aristarchus of Samos (fl. 250 B.C.) Greek astronomer,
was the first to maintain that the earth moves
around the sun.

24. Marcus Manilius. The Five Books of M. Manilius. Lon-
don, Jacob Tonson, 1697. [2883.1932, Ex 2883.2697]

Marcus Manilius, a Roman poet who lived in the
reign of Augustus or Tiberius, was the author of
a poem called Astronomica, a work of great learning,
representing the most advanced views of the ancients
on astronomy - or actually astrology. Of Manilius
himself virtually nothing is known; he is not even
quoted or mentioned by any of the ancient writers.
His most famous editor was the English poet and
scholar A. E. Housman.

Exhibited are the first edition in English, trans-
lated by Thomas Creech, and the "Editio Minor"

Edited by Hugo Grotius, Leyden, Christophorus Raph-
leungius, 1600. [Ex 2583,1600]

Aratus, of Soli in Cilicia, was a Greek didactic
poet who lived in the second century B.C. Although
not an astronomer himself, his most famous poem
(Phenomena) was favorably accepted by such astrono-
mers as the Greek Hipparchus (second century B.C.),
who wrote commentaries on it. The Romans thought
highly of the poem, and Cicero translated it into
Latin. The Phenomena, which is based largely on
the work of the Greek astronomer Eudoxus (408–355 B.C.),
provides all the principal features of modern stellar
nomenclature.

1482. [Kane]

The second printed edition, important for its wood-
cuts of the constellations and figures of the planets.

An elementary treatise on astronomy and the myths
connected with the stars, based largely on Eratosthenes.
Hyginus (first century B.C.), superintendent of the Palatine Library, was a prolific author of works on topography, agriculture, biography, and literature, all of which have been lost. The numerous mistakes found in this treatise and its poor literary style have led scholars to believe that it is an abridgement of Hyginus' *Genealogiae* made by an unknown grammarian of the latter half of the second century who added the section on mythology, and is not the work of Hyginus himself.
VI. MATHEMATICS

Euclid

Euclid was a Greek mathematician who lived in the third century B.C. Little is known of his life. Parts of the Elements, particularly the first six books, have served as an introduction to geometry for the past twenty centuries. "Though they are now to some extent superseded in most countries, their long retention is a proof that they were, at any rate, not unsuitable for such a purpose. They are, speaking generally, not too difficult for novices in the science; the demonstrations are rigorous, ingenious, and often elegant; the mixture of problems and theorems gives perhaps some variety, and makes their study less monotonous; and, if regard be had merely to the metrical properties of space as distinguished from the graphical, hardly any cardinal geometrical truths are omitted. With these excellencies are combined a good many defects, some of them inevitable to a system based on a very few axioms and postulates. Thus the arrangement of the propositions seems arbitrary; associated theorems and problems are not grouped together; the classification, in short, is imperfect. Other objections, not to mention minor blemishes, are the proximity of the style, arising partly from a defective nomenclature; the treatment of parallels depending on an axiom which is not axiomatic; and the sparing use of superposition as a method of proof." (John S. Hackett).


27a. Euclid. Elementa Geometriae. Venice, Erhard Rattolt, 1482. [Kane]

The first printed edition of Euclid, one of the most celebrated books produced in the fifteenth century, and the first book to contain a continuous series of geometrical illustrations. There are over 420 woodcuts and about 200 diagrams, which may be formed by lead lines. The text itself, unfortunately, is an inadequate one.


Archimedes was a Greek mathematician and inventor whose writings on geometry, physics, mechanics, and hydrostatics were widely read by scholars for over seventeen centuries. He was born at Syracuse, in Sicily, in 287 B.C. and was killed in 212 when the city was captured by the Romans.


A commentary on the Introduction to Arithmetic of Nicomachus of Gerasa by the Syrian Neoplatonist Iamblichus (fl. 300 A.D.). Nicomachus was a Neopythagorean philosopher and mathematician who lived in the first century A.D. His Introduction to Arithmetic, a metaphysical account of the theory and property of numbers, is the first work in which arithmetic is treated independently of geometry. A popular treatise, it was used as a schoolbook down to the Renaissance.
VII. NATURAL HISTORY

Pliny the Elder
23 A.D. - 79 A.D.

Pliny's great compilation, his Natural History, is divided into eight sections designed to cover the whole of physical knowledge. Cosmology, geography, anthropology, zoology, botany, medicine, mineralogy and art are all considered. Pliny was an erudite and much travelled man, although somewhat uncritical if judged by modern scientific standards. Gibbon described his Natural History as "that immense register where Pliny has deposited the discoveries, the arts and the errors of mankind."

Pliny drew upon many previous writers - many of whose works are now lost - as well as upon personal observations. Many of the animals and plants he discusses, for example, were those brought to Rome from all parts of Europe. "Nature and earth," he writes, "fill us with admiration ... as we contemplate the great variety of plants and find that they are created for the wants or enjoyment of mankind." And further, "It is mere folly to inquire into the nature of God...ridiculous to suppose that the great head of all things regards human affairs." Pliny the Elder perished in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, in 79 A.D. - in an attempt to examine more closely this extraordinary natural phenomenon.

30. Pliny the Elder. Naturalis Historia. Venice, Johannes de Spira, 1469. [Kane]

This is the first printed edition of Pliny's Natural History. Only one hundred copies were printed. It is a fine example of the early use of what we call "Roman" type. The ornamental initial and borders, shown here, have been added by hand. Forty-three editions of Pliny's work were printed between 1469 and 1536. It was for centuries considered one of the great oracles of science.
31. Pliny the Elder. *Historia mundi naturalis*. Frankfurt, Sigismund Feyerabendt, 1582. [Ex 2904.1582q]

This edition of the *Natural History* includes many attractive woodcuts, by Jost Amman and others.


The translator, Philemon Holland (1552-1637), an English scholar and doctor of Coventry, also published translations of many other Classic writers, such as Plutarch, Suetonius, Livy and Xenophon.
VIII MEDICINE

Hippocrates
c. 460 B.C. - c. 357 B.C.

Hippocrates, the most celebrated doctor of antiquity, has remained the legendary type of the perfect physician. The "Hippocratic oath" has been the watchword of the medical profession down through the ages. Although many of the writings grouped together as the "Hippocratic Corpus" are treatises by different hands and cannot be definitely attributed to Hippocrates himself, his name stands as the symbol for them all.

The several editions shown here suggest the continuing influence of the Hippocratic writings upon the science of medicine.


This manuscript on glazed oriental paper, was probably copied during the fourteenth century.

Arabic translations of Greek medical works were an important factor in the preservation and transmission of ancient learning during the Middle Ages.

34. Hippocrates. Opera omne extant, Graece et Latine, Venice, Giunta, 1588. [Ex 2678.1588q pt. 1-2]

This edition of the Hippocratic writings, giving the Greek and Latin texts in parallel columns, is illustrated by a wealth of woodcuts, which provide an interesting commentary on medical practices in the sixteenth century.

35. An edition of Hippocrates with paralleled Greek and Latin texts published at Leyden in 1665 [2678.1665, v.1]

Open to the "Aphorisms" - beginning with the famous first maxim: "Life is short, the art long, opportunity fleeting, experience treacherous, judgment difficult. Not only must the physician show himself prepared to do what is needed: he must make the patient, the attendants, and the surrounding circumstances cooperate with him."
36. *Hippocratis ac Galeni libri aliquot, ex recognitione Francisci Rabelaesi.* Lyons, Grypius, 1532. [Ex 2673. 2532s].

This Latin edition of selected medical writings of Hippocrates and Galen was edited by François Rabelais. The latter, who had pursued medical studies in several universities, was at the time established in Lyons where he lectured on anatomy at the Hôtel Dieu and pursued various literary activities. The following year - 1533 - Rabelais published the first volume of his *Pantagruel*.


Open to the "Aphorisms."
Galen
130 A.D. - c. 200 A.D.

Although Galen and Hippocrates are often spoken of together as the greatest of the ancient physicians, they were in fact separated by six centuries. To Galen, indeed, Hippocrates was an "Ancient."

Galen (a Greek-speaking Roman citizen) was an encyclopaedist who brought together in his works the essentials of medical science as it had developed from the time of Hippocrates to his own. In addition to his writings on medicine and anatomy, he also contributed treatises on logic.

38. An Arabic version of nine of the medical works of Galen (beginning with the *Aps Parva*). The translation is the work of Hunayn ibn-Ishaq (died 837 A.D.), famous Nestorian physician and translator, better known to the Latin West as Joannitus. The manuscript was copied in 1176/7 A.D. [Catalogue No. 1075].


Open to Galen's commentary on Hippocrates' treatise on fractures.

Dioscorides

Dioscorides, a Greek physician who accompanied the Roman armies on campaigns in many countries, collected a vast amount of information on plants and their medicinal properties.

For fifteen centuries or more the work of Dioscorides was the chief source from which herbalists of all nations drew their inspiration.

Shown were:

40. An illustrated Latin edition of the treatise *De Medicinali materia*, published at Frankfurt in 1543. [Ex 2647.2545q].
41. An edition of the same work published at Venice in 1598, with Greek and Latin parallel texts. [Ex 2647.1598g].


All three editions are open to the same passage of Book III.
IX THE LAW

Justinian the Great
Emperor of Constantinople
527 - 565 A. D.

Justinian's name is attached to the great compilations of laws which were drawn up at his orders by a commission of jurists. The four legislative works so compiled (the Institutiones, and elementary treatise on the law; the Digesta (or Pandectae), a collection of the most valuable earlier legal writings; the Codex, a collection of the imperial constitutions; and Novellae) are included under the general name of Corpus Juris Civilis.

The Corpus represents Roman law in its final state, and forms the basis for that part of modern European law that rests on the Roman tradition.

43. The Institutes of Justinian, translated from Latin into French by Gilles de Langres: a manuscript written in France in the second half of the thirteenth century. Coened to fol. 14, illuminated initial. [Med. & Ren. Mss. Kane No. 49].

44. The Digest of Justinian, with Commentaries: a manuscript written in Northern Italy in the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century. [Med. & Ren. Mss. Princeton No. 61].

45. The Institutes of Justinian, printed by Giunta, in Venice, 1560.


X. HISTORY

Herodotus
484 - 425 B.C.

The works of Herodotus, "the father of History -- dealing with the wars between the Greeks and the barbarians, and the struggle between Greece and Persia -- have been published in many editions and translated into many languages.

Shown here are two early printed editions:

47. A Latin translation by the Italian humanist, Lorenzo Valla, printed by Jacobus Rubens at Venice in 1474; [Kane] and
48. The first printed edition of the original Greek text, published by Aldus Manutius at Venice in 1502. [Kane].

The latter is one of the many fine Greek texts to issue from the Aldine presses -- the creators of the Greek characters here used.

Thucydides
c. 471 - 406 B.C.

Somewhat younger than Herodotus, Thucydides ranks with his elder among the foremost Greek historians. His History of the Peloponnesian War; he stated, was addressed to "those who desire an exact knowledge of the past as a key to the future, which in all probability will repeat or resemble the past. The work is meant to be a possession for ever, not the rhetorical triumph of an hour."

Shown here is the first printed edition of Thucydides' History in Greek text, printed by Aldus Manutius at Venice in 1502. [Kane].

50. Beside it is placed a much later edition, giving the Greek text with Latin translation on opposite pages, published in Glasgow in 1759; [Wit 2788.311].

This edition once belonged to John Witherspoon, president of the College of New Jersey (Princeton) from 1765 to 1794.
Xenophon  
Greek historian, 434?-355? B.C.

51. Two volumes from an edition of Xenophon's works printed at Oxford in 1703. [2795.1703.]

Tacitus  
55?-117? A.D.

The extant works of the Roman historian Tacitus include his Life of Agricola (his father-in-law); a history of his own times issued under the title Historiae; Annales; and a description of the Germanic nations, De Moribus et Populis Germaniae.

The two editions of Tacitus shown here are:

52. An edition printed by the Aldine Press in Venice in 1534 (note the device of this press on the title page). [Kane].

53. An edition in two small volumes printed at the Elzévirian Press in Leyden in 1640. [Ex 2933.1640].

Livy  
59 B.C. - 17 A.D.

Livy's great History of Rome extending from the foundation of the city to the death of Drusus in 9 B.C. - has come down to us in incomplete form. The 142 "Books" are divided into "decades" of ten books each.

Shown here are:

54. A manuscript of Livy (Decas prima) written at Bologna, in Italy, in 1425. [Med & Ren. Ms/No. 113.]

55. An edition of Livy (Decades tres) printed at Rome by Ulrich Han in 1470. [ExT 2377.1470].

Julius Caesar  
100 - 44 B.C.

During his eventful career Julius Caesar found time for the prosecution of literature, and was the author of many works. Of these, the only survivor is his Commentaries, relating to the history of the Gallic War and of the Civil War.

From among the countless editions of Caesar's Commentaries, four early ones are shown here:
56. Caesar, De bello Gallico, etc: a manuscript written in Italy in the fifteenth century. [Med. and Ren. Mss. Kane No. 40].

57. Caesar. De bello Gallico, Civili, etc: a manuscript written in Italy in the fifteenth century. [Med. and Ren. Mss. Kane No. 41].

58. Caesar. Commentaria, Venice, Jenson, 1471. [Kane]

This is the second printed edition of Caesar's Commentaries. The first had been printed at Rome, two years earlier, in 1469. [Kane].


An Italian translation, illustrated with 42 copper-plate engravings of maps and plans of battles, after designs by Palladio.

Sallust
86 - 34 B.C.

The fortunes of the Roman historian Sallust were closely linked to those of Caesar. His chief extant writings are his history of the conspiracy of Catiline, and his history of the war against Jugurtha, King of Numidia.

The four editions of Sallust shown here include:

60. A manuscript written in Northern Italy about 1450; [Med. and Ren. Mss. Kane 32].

61. A manuscript written at Florence in Italy about 1470; [Med. and Ren. Mss. Kane 33].

62. The first printed edition, Venice, Wendelin of Speier, 1470. [Kane].

63. Another early printed edition, Paris, Gering Krantz and Friburger, about 1470-1471. [Ex1 2917.1472].
Suetonius
fl. about 100 A.D.

The most popular work of the Roman historian Suetonius, is his Lives of the Twelve Caesars. As private secretary to Emperor Hadrian, he had access to the Imperial archives, but his biographies depend to a great extent upon court gossip of the time. Suetonius also wrote, in his De Viris illustribus, lives of the writers, Terence and Horace.

Shown here are:

64. An edition of the Lives of the Caesars printed at Rome by Sweynheym and Pannartz in 1470 [Kane].


The text was written and signed by the scribe, Milanus Burrus; the miniatures were also executed in his atelier.
XI. BIOGRAPHY

Plutarch
c. 46 - 120 A.D.

The celebrity of the Greek writer, Plutarch, is due mainly to his forty-six Parallel Lives, although he wrote many other works on a variety of subjects (grouped under the general title of Opera Moralia).

Plutarch's design in the Lives was to group in pairs biographies of illustrious Greeks and Romans - Theseus and Romulus, for example, or Alexander and Caesar. Few works of antiquity have been so widely read in later centuries as Plutarch's series of portraits.


67. Le Vie des Hommes Illustres Grecs et Romains, Printed at Paris in 1559 in 2 volumes. [Ex 2742.321.559q.]

This translation directly from the Greek into French was made by Jacques Amyot, whose preface is dated at Fontainebleau, February 1558. Opened to "Cicero," p. 1035.*

68. The Lives of the Noble Grecians and Romans. [2742.321.676q].

"Translated out of Greek into French by James Amiot...and out of French into English by Sir Thomas North." North's translation, shown here in an edition printed at London in 1676, was first published in 1579. It was in North's translation that Shakespeare read Plutarch, from whom he drew material for many of his historical plays.

* The portrait of Cicero on this page was used as a decorative device on the cover of the descriptive leaflet of the exhibition.
XII ARCHITECTURE

Giovanni Marcanova

69. Antiquitatem. Manuscript was executed in Northern Italy; the dedication to Novello Malatesta, Prince of Cesena, is dated 1465. [Med. and Ren. Mss. Garrett No. 158]

The text is by Marcanova, one of the early Renaissance archaeologists who gathered inscriptions and studied monuments, many of which are no longer extant.

This volume is generously illustrated with sepia drawings by an anonymous master, of monuments, statues, pageants and ceremonies. At the beginning are fifteen full-page illustrations, several showing the monuments of Rome. Still half-mediaeval in character, they provide an interesting contrast to the drawings of the same monuments made a century later, when archaeological studies had acquired a more "scientific" character.

Vitruvius
1st century B.C.

Vitruvius's celebrated treatise on Architecture, was "re-discovered" in the fifteenth century. From this period down to the present its influence has been remarkably great. Throughout the period of the classic revival Vitruvius was the chief authority studied by architects. Bramante, Michelangelo, Palladio, Vignola were all careful students of Vitruvius's treatise, which through them has influenced the architecture of Europe and the Americas.

70. Vitruvius, De Architectura, Venice, Johannes de Tridino, 1511. [NA 310.V83q (SAX)].

First illustrated edition.

71. An Italian translation of Vitruvius, published at Cono in 1521. [Lent by Mr. Charles de Tolnay].
XIII. LITERATURE

Greek Drama - Tragedy

Greek tragedy originated in the choral lyrics which were performed, in honor of Dionysus, in a circular dancing-place (orchestra) by a chorus of men dressed in goatskins (hence the term tragodia - goat-song). The plays were produced in groups of four (tetralogy) - three plays in a unified theme followed by a lighter play associated with the worship of Dionysus.

The three great Greek writers of tragedy group themselves about the Battle of Salamis (480 B.C.) - the great victory of the Persian Wars. Aeschylus fought with the infantry; Sophocles danced with a boy's choir to celebrate the triumph and Euripides was born on the actual day of the Battle.

Aeschylus
525-456 B.C.

Aeschylus is considered to be the real creator of the drama. In the annual competitions at Athens he won, the first prize thirteen times. Of his many plays (perhaps ninety in all) only seven have survived. Aeschylus was responsible for alterations in the composition and dramatic representation of tragedy such as adding a second actor, increasing the dialogue and reducing the importance of the chorus.

72. Aeschylus. Tragoediae Sex. Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1518. [Kane].
First edition. Open to Seven Against Thebes.

Sophocles
496 - 406 B.C.

Sophocles is believed to have written over a hundred and twenty plays of which only seven are extant. He was defeated by Aeschylus for the prize
for tragedy in 468 B.C. but won this prize altogether about twenty times. Sophocles is responsible for adding a third actor to the Greek tragedies, increasing the dialogue, decreasing the importance of the chorus, inventing scene painting and making each play of the trilogy an organic unit rather than having all three deal with a unified theme.

73. Sophocles. Tragoediae septem cum commentariis graecae. Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1502. [Kane].

First edition. Open to Oedipus Tyrannus (or Oedipus Rex.)

74. Sophocles i Tragoediae. Cambridge, Joannes Field, 1665. [Ex 2767.1665. vol. 1.]

This copy of Sophocles' tragedies belonged to Thomas Jefferson and has his mark of ownership a "T" inscribed before the "I" on the signature bearing that mark.

Euripides 480 - 416 B.C.

Euripides, a scholarly recluse influenced by the Sophistic movement, was the most cosmopolitan and most modern of the Greek tragedians. Less popular than Aeschylus and Sophocles during his own time, Euripides, perhaps, ranks the highest of the three with later generations.

75. Euripides. Tragoediae (Eighteen plays) Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1503. [Ex 2656.1503. vol. 1].

First edition of fourteen plays, the other four tragedies (Medea, Hippolytus, Alcestis and Andromache) had been previously published in Florence in 1495.

Open to Iphigenia in Tauris.

Greek Drama - Comedy (Old)

The choral element in Greek comedy originated in the orgiastic ceremonies held at the festival of
Dionysus and the dramatic element originated in the Doric mimes, hence the term comedy—song of revelry. The chorus (twenty-four in number) dressed in fantastic costumes, wore masks and sandals instead of buskins (shoes with high soles) worn by the actors in tragedies.

Aristophanes
448 - 380 B.C.

Aristophanes is considered the greatest of the writers of Old Greek Comedy and in wit, in inventiveness and in lyric ability he is considered one of the foremost masters of all time. His satirical expression of his conservative prejudices against the trends and personalities of his day was possible only in a democracy. Of his more than forty comedies only eleven have survived.

76. Aristophanes. Comediae Novae. Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1498. [Ex 2598.1498 and Cg 2550.5914. Vol. 2]. This is the first edition of the first nine comedies of Aristophanes, edited by Marcus Musurus who did not supply the Scholia but copied it from the manuscripts of previous commentators. The volume is opened to the Frogs.

Theocritus

Theocritus, a Greek poet of the third century B.C., is considered to be the originator of pastoral poetry. Little is known of his history but he was reputedly a native of Syracuse and is regarded as the greatest poet of the Alexandrine period. The works of Theocritus include about thirty eclogues and a number of epigrams.

77. Theocritus. Elogiae Triginta. Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1495. [Ex 2778.1495a c.2. and Ex 2778.1946.2] This anthology containing the thirty eclogues of Theocritus is one of the earliest books to come from the press of the celebrated Italian scholar-printer Aldus Manutius. With the exception of the title, the preface and the colophon
the thirty eclogues are printed entirely in Greek. The type font was based not on the older Greek book-hand but on the ordinary cursive writing of the fifteenth century.

Seneca
3 B.C. - 65 A.D.

Drama up to the appearance of the first modern play (Fernando de Rojas' Celestina, 1499) meant chiefly Seneca's tragedies and the comedies of Plautus and Terence.

Seneca, stoic philosopher, statesman and poet, son of a distinguished rhetorician of the same name, was a tutor and minister of the Roman Emperor Nero. His works cover a wide field in both prose and verse. Besides his philosophical essays, Seneca wrote ten tragedies which were not intended for stage presentation but were designed for recitation. These tragedies were extremely popular throughout the Middle Ages, and had a good deal of influence on later French drama.

Seneca was ordered by Nero to commit suicide because of suspected complicity in a plot against the Emperor though there was no real proof that he was actually involved in the conspiracy.


Open to Medea.

79. Seneca. Opera Philosophica et Epistolae. Treviso, Bernardus de Colonia, 1478. [Kane]

This is the second dated edition of Seneca's Philosophical Works and Letters and is the second of three books known to have been printed by Bernardus de Colonia.

80. Seneca. Tragoediae. Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1517. [Kane].
Plautus
254 B.C. - 184 B.C.

Plautus is considered to have been the most popular playwright of the Roman people. He adapted many of his plays from Greek originals but his characters speak and act like genuine Romans. Many of Plautus' plays have served as models for later writers including Dryden, Addison and Molére. Shakespeare’s *Comedy of Errors* resembles the *Menaechmi*. A modernized version of his *Amphitryon* adapted by Jean Giraudoux, has been successfully produced in recent times.


First edition. Open to *Amphitryon*.

Terence
196 B.C. - 159 B.C.

Terence, born at Carthage and taken to Rome as a slave was given his education and his freedom by a generous master, Terentius Lacanus. Much of his work was modeled upon material taken from the Greek playwrights Meander and Apollodorus. His six plays were written and produced before he was twenty-five when he left for Greece "in order to become better versed in Greek manners and customs" - a voyage from which he never returned.

82. Terence. *Comœdiae, cum Cratione Philippi de Verona pro initio Terentii et de ejusdem Terentii Vita*, Manuscript. Germany, fifteenth century. [Kane].

Open to *Heautontimoroumenos*.

Homer

Various dates, ranging from 850 B.C. to a date as early as 1200 B.C. have been assigned to this great epic poet of Greece. Antiquity ascribed the Iliad and the Odyssey to Homer but a school of modern criticism holds that these epics on the Trojan War and the wanderings of Odysseus were not two complete poems but the composite products of many poets who contributed independent poems through many generations to the growth of these epics to their final form.


This is the first printed edition of Homer's works. The dedicatory letter of Bernardus Merlius is dated the thirteenth of January, 1488-1489 and praises the editorial labors of Demetrius Chalcondylas.

The first volume contains besides the Latin preface in Greek by the editor, Chalcondylas; the biography of Homer, from Herodotus; the preface to Plutarch's biography of the poet; and the Iliad. The second volume contains the Odyssey, without a preface.

The numerous manuscript notes in Greek and Latin were made by the Abbé Bignon (born 1589) to whom the book was presented by Vincent F. Jeune of Marseilles.

86. George Chapman. The Whole Works of Homer: Prince of Poetts In his Iliads, and Odysseyes. Translated according to the Greeks ... London, Nathaniell Butter [about 1616]. [Ex 2631, 2616].


First edition. Open to Keats', "Ode on First Looking into Chapman's Homer."
Horace
65 - 8 B.C.

Quintus Horatius Flaccus, lyric poet and satirist, was educated at Rome and at Athens where he was influenced by the Greek lyric writers and the Epicurean philosophy. After a period of acute poverty he acquired a villa in the Sabine Hills where he spent the rest of his life with occasional visits to Rome. His works include the Epodes, the Satires, the Odes, the Exultations (including the famous Ars Poetica) and the Carmina Saeculare.

Horace ranks in popularity second only to Vergil as a classical poet.


90. Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Autograph manuscript of her translation of the Ninth Ode of Horace's Third Book. [PTT 2865.321.8502].


Ovid
43 B.C. - 18 A.D.

Ovid was educated for the law but devoted himself to literature. For a number of years he enjoyed the favor of the Emperor Augustus until for some unknown cause, possibly the writing of the Ars Amatoria, he was banished to Tomi, near the Black Sea, where he died in exile ten years later. His chief works were the Metamorphoses, a narrative poem recounting legendary transformations; the Amores which appeared in five books; the Heroides; and a number of elegies.


Publicius Vergilius Maro, friend of Horace, and member of the literary circle of Maecenas, Octavius Augustus. His chief works are the Eclogues or Bucolics, (pastoral poems), Georgics, didactic poems glorifying peasant life and duties, and the Aeneid (great epic built around the legend of Aeneas after the fall of Troy and his settlement in Latium).

The greatness of the Aeneid lies not only in its artistic execution but in Vergil's interpretation of the ideal of imperial Rome. Vergil's popularity in the Middle Ages was due to the fact that he was to a certain extent recognized by the Church. The Aeneid was held by some to be an allegory of sacred things.


This is the first printed edition of Vergil's works. Of the 275 copies originally printed by Sweynheym and Pannartz only six copies are still in existence, of which this is the only one located in the United States.


The arms shown are those of the first owner, probably a member of the Bianchini family of Ferrara.

96. Vergil. Opera. [Venice]. Vindelinus de Spira, 1470. [Vrg 2945.1470q].

This is the first edition of Vergil's works to contain a printed date. This volume is an exceptionally fine example of the combined arts of printing and hand-illumination. It is one of eight known copies printed on vellum and contains forty-nine initial letters in gold.
    
The format, page design and script of this little manuscript were used by the printer Aldus Manutius as a model for his pocket classics.

    
    This volume shows the printers’ mark of William Caxton at the foot of the title page.

    
    Arms of the Parliament of Normandy on the front cover.

    
    Arms of James I on the front cover.

    
    This volume bound by Derome and Loiseau bears the arms of Madame de Pompadour on the front cover.
HIV. PHILOSOPHY

Plato
427? - 347 B.C.

Plato, philosopher and disciple of Socrates, founded in Athens a school of philosophy known as the Academy which was later endowed to become the first university known in history. It flourished until closed by Justinian in 529 A.D. Plato created the dialogue form of philosophic exposition of which the basic principle was the theory of ideas. His works include the Republic (generally regarded as his greatest work); Laws; Phaedrus (attacking prevailing conception of rhetoric); Timaeus (embodying a theory of the universe and containing the story of the lost Atlantis) and the Apology (purporting to give Socrates's speech in his own defense at his trial).

102. Plato. Opera. (Greek) Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1513. [Ex 2740.1513q].

Aristotle
384 - 322 B.C.

Aristotle, pupil of Plato and tutor of Alexander the Great, established the Lyceum at Athens in 335 B.C. This school considered to be the second university to be established, was known as the Peripatetic School because Aristotle was in the habit of walking around the courtyard of the school while he lectured.

Aristotle's treatises, consisting in large part of lectures delivered to his pupils, may be classified as works in logic, metaphysics, natural science, ethics and politics, rhetoric and poetic. Among his writings on logic (called later the Organon) are Prior Analytics, Posterior Analytics and Sophisms. His great philosophical work is Metaphysics in thirteen books.

103. Aristotle. Opera. (Greek) Venice, Aldus Manutius, 1498. [Ex 2599.1495 c.l.].

Includes Theophrasti De Causis Plantarum.

**Lucretius.**

967-55 B.C.

Lucretius, Roman philosophical poet was a disciple of Epicurus. His *De Rerum Natura* (six books) is a didactic and philosophical poem treating of physics, psychology and ethics according to the Epicurean doctrine.

105. Lucretius. *Della Natura Delle Cose Libri Sei Tradotti dal Latino in Italiano da Alessandro Marchetti*. Amsterdam, a Speese del'Editore Toto 1754. [Ex 2881.2754 v. 1].

**Epictetus.**

Epictetus, the Greek Stoic philosopher, originally a native of Phrygia and a slave, taught philosophy at Rome until he was expelled in 90 A.D. by the Emperor Domitian. Epictetus left no writings but his philosophy is known through the Discourses and Enchiridion of his pupil Flavius Arrian.


This copy of the Enchiridion belonged to James McCosh, the eleventh president of the College of New Jersey. (Princeton).

**Marcus Aurelius.**

121-180 A.D.

Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor, one of the most eminent of Stoic philosophers was the author of Meditations (written in Greek), a collection of precepts of practical morality.


This copy of the Meditations belonged to John Witherspoon, sixth president of the College of New Jersey (Princeton) and bear his signature on the title page.
Cicero

Marcus Tullius Cicero, Roman orator, statesman and philosopher was one of the outstanding figures of the Golden Age of Roman Literature (17 - 43 B.C.). In addition to his orations (57 extant) and his letters (many to his friend Titus Pomponius Atticus) his works include Rhetorica, De Oratore, De Republica, De Legibus, De Officiis, De Amicitia etc.


Lyceophon.

Lyceophon, a Greek poet of Alexandria, lived during the third century B.C. His only extant poem is the Alexandria, in which Cassandra prophesies the fall of Troy and the later adventures of the Greek and Trojan heroes.


This is John Milton's well annotated copy of Lyceophon which contains on the flyleaf, his name, the price and year of purchase: "Sum ex libris Jo: Miltoni pre: 13s 1634." (as shown in the photostat). It is possible that this volume cost Milton only three shillings as the figure 1 is not characteristic of Milton's writing and was possibly added at a later date.

This inscription and some sixty marginal notes are all in Milton's small writing and uniformly show the Greek E, a form that virtually ceased to appear in Milton's writing after 1638. The marginalia would therefore seem to belong to the later part of the Horton Period (1632-1638) when Milton, after leaving Cambridge, retired to his father's summer home outside of London and devoted these years to hard study of the classics and history.
XV FRAMED ITEMS

111. Piranesi. Veduta del tempio della Sibilla in Tivoli. [E 7168].

112. Piranesi. Avanzi degli Aquedotti Neroniani. [E 7169].

113. Piranesi. Veduta degli avanzi superiori delle Termi di Diocleziano. [E 7171].


115. Antiquae urbis Romae inago. Undated. [Map Division.]