John Dee’s Library Catalogue
Additions and Corrections

New series

92  Fr  Thomæ Aquinatis Summa co[n]tra gentiles f°. Paris 1519

Dee’s copy is now Cardiff University Library Special Collections, BX1749.T4. It is signed ‘Joannes Dee 1556. 21 feb. Londini’. This copy appeared in J. & J. Leighton’s Catalogue part XV, c.1910, no.7946. It was acquired by Cardiff University from Cardiff City Council in 2010 as part of the Cardiff Rare Books Collection formerly housed at Cardiff Central Library.

Katie Birkwood
Library, Archive and Museum Services
Royal College of Physicians, London


The title page of the copy in the Herzen Library (Kirov, Russia) has the inscription ‘Joannes Dee 1568 : Januarij : 9’. The book was formerly in the library of the Vyatka Theological Seminary and entered the Herzen Library after the closure of the Seminary in 1917. The identification of Dee’s signature by Elizaveta Malysheva in 2009 is documented on the Herzen Library’s web site.

The book has many marginalia in Dee’s hand.

Dee was in Poland in 1584–1585. His son Arthur was in Moscow in 1621–1635 as doctor to the Tsar Michael I. Though it is not known how the book reached the Theological Seminary at Vyatka (former name of present-day Kirov), most probably its provenance is connected to Ukrainian churchmen who were instrumental in the establishment of the Seminary in 1735 and 1758 (before 1654 Ukraine was controlled by Poland).


Elizaveta Malysheva, Herzen Library, Kirov
490 Fr Vite de piu eccelle[n]ti artichitetti, pittori &c da Giorgio Vasari: 4°. 2 tomis flor. 1550.


Dr Barry Taylor
Curator, Romance Collections
British Library
(blog https://dwl.ac.uk/view.php?page=319 with images)

980 T Georg. Purbachij Theoricæ planetar[u]m cu[m] Scholijs Erasmi Reinholdi 8° Wittb. 1553

The copy at the Royal College of Physicians, London, D1/46-e-23 (formerly D40/6, 46e) is inscribed on the flyleaf opposite the title page in a hand which looks like Dee’s: ‘Ephemeris Erasmi p[er] dece[m] futuris annis. in epitaphio p[ri]mo 3. fol.’. It is in a contemporary blind-stamped calf binding.

Katie Birkwood
Library, Archive and Museum Services
Royal College of Physicians, London

1349 Fr Joh. Baptistæ pignæ in Horatij artem poetica[m] f°. ven. 1561

The copy in the Middle Temple Library has an inscription on the title page ‘Johannes Dee’.

Renae Satterley
Middle Temple Library, London

1766 Fr Hectoris Boetij historia Scotica f°. paris, 1574

Inscription on title page: ‘Joannes Dee 1575’. With ms. annotations, probably in Dee’s hand.

Binding: perhaps seventeenth century. Some of the annotations cropped. Listed in Dee’s catalogue as unbound.

Gold-tooled armorial binding stamp (18th cent.?), two bends sable, a demi-griffin holding a key and a helmet of an Esquire: Kay (http://armorial.library.utoronto.ca/stamps/KAY001_s1).


‘1003 Thin’ in ink, in ms., on final leaf verso, possibly James Thin, Bookseller in Edinburgh.

Bookplate of James Aeneas George Mackay – donated to Edinburgh University Library, 1911.

Elizabeth Quarmby Lawrence Centre for Research Collections Edinburgh University Library

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**The Book of St Albans**


The manuscript is apparently not listed in Dee’s catalogue.

Andrew Dunning
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow
Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies
According to James Carley, ‘Richard Boreman, the last abbot of St Albans, sold former St Albans books to John Dee in the 1550s.’ (James P. Carley, ‘Monastic collections and their dispersal’, *The Cambridge History of the Book in Britain*, volume 4, p. 341). MS 177 was one of those acquired from Dee’s library by Archbishop James Ussher and left to Trinity College Dublin after his death.

David Shaw