

Solomon Islands—Various publications in Native dialects; Melanesian Mission Press—Publications in Native dialects, Solomon Islands; Mrs. Douglas Blair—Original stories by Pacific Waters; Neilson Barry—“Columbia River Exploration”; F. Lockwood—*Practical Magazine*: a Cyclopaedia of Industrial Information (6 vols.); G. B. Wilson—“Sketch-history of Tararua, Rimutaka, and Haurangi Reserves,” and copies of *Tararua Trampler*; A. G. Adams—Set of *AI Magazine*; R. W. de Montalk—“Voyage Autour de Monde . . . sur la Corvette ‘La Coquille,’” par M. Lesson, 1839 (4 vols.); Estate of J. C. Hannah—Logbook of the “Seahorse”; Lancelot Watson—“Story of Oxford (Canterbury, N.Z.)”; John Moore—“The Works of Josephus”; A. C. Hanlon—Original poems (three series); J. Prendeville—“Jubilee of Rugby Football in Wellington”; E. Vine—“Ideas upon . . . painting in Oil” (MS.); Kate Gerard—Original verses; F. W. Petterd—“Catalogue of Minerals of Tasmania”; G. Young—“Bible in Erse”; F. W. Reed—“Review of the Voyage of the ‘Astrolabe’”; Dr. W. E. Redman—“Mysteries of Paris” by E. Sue, and the “Redmans of Levens and Harewood”; Mrs. H. A. Hurrell—“The Self-interpreting Bible” (4 vols.), “Poetical Works of Ed. Young,” “Henry Kirke White”; James Macdonald—“Journalist,” by Nicoll and others”; K. Murray—Photos of old Auckland, &c.; G. N. Thomson—“Pioneer Medical Men of Taranaki”; W. N. Willis—*The Freethought Review*, complete in two volumes; Miss A. W. M. Busby—Six wash drawings, Taranaki and Auckland; Deaconess E. Hope—Letter journals and correspondence of Captain (later Rear Admiral) C. W. Hope during the time the “Brisk” was in New Zealand and Pacific waters, 1865–68.

Particular attention is drawn to the historical value of the Hope journals and of the wash drawings from Miss Busby. “The Voyage of the ‘Coquille,’” presented by Mr. de Montalk, is an edition that was not previously on the shelving of the library. Warm appreciation is expressed to all the donors who have been so liberal in times when the collection otherwise can be added to only sparingly.

Readers and Students.—Sixty-six new readers’ permits were issued, and students have been working regularly in the library through the year, day and evening. The principal subjects studied were New Zealand politics, aspects of Maori life and history, provincial and district histories, and biographies of various New Zealand statesmen. The classics and English literature, including drama and poetry, have as usual been much used. As noted before, students come from the chief towns of New Zealand to obtain information for theses, and authors for information of various kinds. An interesting student was Professor Waldo H. Dunn, Professor of English Literature, University College, Wooster, Ohio, who spent about three months in the library in search of material for writing a life of the late Sir Robert Stout, and who expressed his delight at the discovery of not only material for this work, but much that helped him in his own professorial work. Prior to his departure he made a statement in the press, part of which might well be quoted here:—

“The thing I should like to impress on the public of New Zealand is that the Turnbull collection is not like that of the ordinary library, but contains rare books—books which cannot be found outside the world’s greatest centres, such as the British Museum, the Bodleian Library, the Congressional Library at Washington, and the libraries of Yale and Harvard. If this library were in America it would be placed in charge of a competent board of trustees, real book-lovers and enthusiasts, who would endeavour to keep the general public carefully informed as to its needs and possibilities.”

Visitors.—There were about one thousand visitors, as compared with about six hundred and thirty in the preceding year.

Correspondence.—Many inquiries have been received regarding books and pictures and their values, historical subjects, &c. Inward and outward communications number about two thousand.

CONCLUSION.

To all the officers of the Department I wish to convey my appreciation of their loyalty and of the assistance extended to me at all times. I also wish to thank those officers of other Departments with whom I have been associated for their co-operation and material help.

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