

NOTES AND QUERIES:

A

Medium of Intercommunication

FOR

LITERARY MEN, GENERAL READERS, ETC.

“When found, make a note of.”—CAPTAIN CUTLER

Whole vol. 581



FIFTH SERIES.—VOLUME TENTH.

JULY—DECEMBER, 1878.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED AT THE

OFFICE, 20, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.

By JOHN FRANCIS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1878.

CONTENTS. — N° 249.

NOTES:—Trevisa's Translation of the Bible, 261—J. Ramsay McCulloch, 262—Lucretius: Juvenal—Mr. Gladstone and Bp. Heber's, "Palestine," 263—The Grave of Cromwell, 264—The Influence of Republican Institutions on Language—The Turkish Spy: Charles Lamb—Boocaccio and Luther—Clarendon, the Historian, 265—An Enigmatical Epitaph—The Stopping of a Watch—The Empress of India—Folk-Lore—"Putting in Coventry"—A Waterloo Veteran, 266.

QUERIES:—Obscure Expressions—Clarendon, the Historian—MSS. discovered at Rushton Hall, 1828—Heraldic—Frenchmen and the Climate of France, 267—Cowper's "Homer"—Baroness de Lutzw—Livery Buttons—Keevil, Wilts—"The Critic": Harley—Noah Blisson—Dr. C. W. Wells—Wanted, a Map of India, 268—"Tam Marte (or Marti) quam Mercurio"—Raleigh's Cross, Brendon Hill, Somerset—Warre Family—"Palmer"—Campanology, 268.

REPLIES:—Private Property in Land in England, 269—The Harrisons of Norfolk, 270—"As," 271—The Battle of Fontenoy—"Jacobard"—The Lecturer of All Saints, Bristol—Dorothy Vernon, 272—Cure for Whooping Cough—"The Lay of the Last Minstrel"—Lane's "Waters of Noah"—A Mysterious Phrase, 273—"Commencing" v. "Beginning"—Flies, &c., Funeral—Conservative—Tory—Lines from an Album—John and Jacob Heins—"Vincent Eden," 274—"Novell": "Mariol," &c.—"Miminy-piminy"—Pin Wells—"Shack," 275—Drowned Bodies—"Eugennet"—Slang Phrases—Public-house Signs—Carrying a Child Upstairs—Hogarth—Funeral Armour, 276—Fascal—Oliver Cromwell—"Hudibras"—"Baddelrowes"—Cacology—Boncher's "Glossary"—New Year's Day Custom, 277—Gipsies, 278.

NOTES ON BOOKS:—Ebsworth's Brathwaite's "A Strappado for the Devil"—Oscar Browning's "Modern England"—Grenville Murray's "Round about France." Notices to Correspondents, &c.

Notes.

TREVISA'S TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.

John Trevisa, best known as the first translator of Higden's *Polichronicon*, was Vicar of Berkeley from about 1350 to 1412 and chaplain to the eighth, ninth, and tenth Lords Berkeley. Besides the *Polichronicon* he translated Glanville's treatise *De Proprietatibus Rerum*, Vegetius's *De re Militari*, and other works, and he is also said to have translated the whole Bible, but this has been much disputed. His translation of the Apocalypse was, however, inscribed on the walls and roof of the chapel in Berkeley Castle (some remains of which are still visible), and is referred to in the "Dialogue between a Lord and a Clerk" prefixed to his translation of the *Polichronicon*. That he translated the whole Bible is first affirmed by Caxton in the proeme to his edition of the *Polichronicon*, printed in 1482, seventy years after Trevisa's death, and it is repeated by Bale, Hollingshead, and Pits, by Smyth in the Berkeley manuscripts, and by the translators of the Authorized Version in their address to the reader; it is also mentioned by Ussher and by Wharton. Dibdin first expressed a doubt of the fact in a note amongst his additions to Ames's *Typographical Antiquities*, because Caxton does not give his authority for the statement, and because he did not think it at least as deserving of publication as the *Polichronicon*.

Wanley also, who compiled the catalogue of the Harleian MSS., remarks that he "should be very glad to see one of them," i.e. copies of Trevisa's translation. The truth or falsehood of Caxton's assertion, made so soon after Trevisa's death, would, however, be well known to many persons, and it was not necessary at that period to bring forward proofs or anticipate objections. Caxton most probably had not access to Trevisa's manuscript; the Berkeleys were all of them faithful and devoted sons of holy Church, and it was not likely in those stormy times that they would allow Trevisa's translation to be copied and circulated, nor was it very likely that Caxton would have undertaken a publication which would have embroiled him with the authorities. The translation of the Bible had brought nothing but persecution, toil, and trouble to Wickliff, and its publication soon afterwards cost Tyndale a life of exile and a death at the stake.

That Trevisa really translated the Bible appears, I think, highly probable from a letter written by the Rev. John Hughes (who was chaplain and tutor at Berkeley Castle in 1805) to Dibdin, in answer to an inquiry of the latter whether any relics of Trevisa were in existence at Berkeley. In this letter, which is given at length by Dibdin, Mr. Hughes states that he is informed by the then Lord Berkeley (Frederick Augustus, fifth Earl), that Trevisa's MS. translation of the Bible was presented by one of his ancestors to the Prince (of Wales?) and that it is now in the Vatican. In confirmation of this story there is now in the evidence room at Berkeley Castle a draft or copy of a letter in the handwriting of George, the first Earl of Berkeley, addressed to James, Duke of York, afterwards King James II., in which Lord Berkeley begs the duke's acceptance of "a booke wh. is an ancient collection in manuscript of some part of the Bible," which he says "has been carefully preserved neare 400 years." This draft or copy is folded up in a sheet of paper, on which is an endorsement by the late W. F. Shrapnell, F.S.A. (who had the charge of the evidence room down to 1817), to the effect that it refers to Trevisa's translation of the Bible, "since in the catalogue of books in the Vatican at Rome." A thorough search at the Vatican might possibly result in the discovery of the long-lost MS., but without more precise information such a search seems to be impracticable. Such inquiry as is possible has, however, been made there by the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, of the Public Record Office, and more recently at the instance of Bishop Clifford, but without effect. It is, however, perhaps equally probable that the MS. went to Frascati, as the collections of James II. descended to Cardinal York, by whom they were bequeathed to the monastery there. I am informed, however, that at Frascati there now nothing of the kind,

and that numbers of old MSS. have been sold of late years to English and other collectors. Will any collector into whose hands Trevisa's MS. may have fallen inform us of the fact, and thus set this most interesting controversy at rest?

There is a remarkable, and I think hitherto unnoticed, coincidence between the lives of Trevisa and Wickliff, as well as a similarity in their pursuits. Born about the same time, they both entered as students at Oxford, where Wickliff became Master of Balliol, while Trevisa held a fellowship at Queen's College. Both threw themselves with ardour into the controversies then raging between the secular clergy and the monastic orders. Trevisa translated a sermon preached at Oxford against the mendicant friars in 1357 by Fitzralph, Bishop of Armagh; Wickliff in 1360 commenced his vigorous attacks on the friars, whose hostility in return soon drove him from his chair at Balliol. He subsequently occupied for many years rooms at Queen's, of which college Trevisa was a fellow. When Wickliff was presented, in 1374, to the Crown living of Lutterworth, he also held the prebend of Aust in the collegiate church of Westbury-on-Trym, in Gloucestershire, of which church Trevisa, then at Berkeley, was likewise a canon. With all these points of contact, however, neither Trevisa nor his patrons appear amongst the recognized followers of the great reformer. Probably the opinions of Wickliff, who in 1363 broke into open heresy, and in 1381 formally and publicly denied the doctrine of transubstantiation, soon became too advanced for the Lords of Berkeley and their chaplain, and thus the intimate association which doubtless prevailed between them in former years would be interrupted and destroyed.

J. H. COOKE, F.S.A.

JOHN RAMSAY McCULLOCH.

The following list of articles contributed by the late J. R. McCulloch to the *Edinburgh Review* was copied from a MS. kindly lent me for that purpose by a relative of the great political economist:

1. On Ricardo's Principles of political economy and taxation, art. ii. June 1818.
2. On Ricardo's Proposals for an economical and secure currency, art. iii. Dec. 1818.
3. On Commercial embarrassments and trade with France, art. iii. July 1819.
4. On Taxation and the corn laws, art. ix. Jan. 1820.
5. On Restrictions on foreign commerce, art. iii. May 1820.
6. On Plan for commutation of tithes, art. iii. Aug. 1820.
7. On Effects of machinery and accumulation, art. vi. March 1821.
8. On Pernicious effects of degrading the standard of money, art. xi. July 1821.
9. On Agricultural distress, causes, and remedies, art. vi. Feb. 1822.

10. On Comparative productiveness of high and low taxes, art. viii. Feb. 1822.
11. On Ireland, art. iii. June 1822.
12. On East and West India sugar, art. x. Feb. 1823.
13. On Duty on slate and stone carried coastwise, art. xii. Feb. 1823.
14. On the navigation laws, art. xi. May 1823.
15. On the funding system, British finances, art. i. Oct. 1823.
16. On Woollen manufacture and duty on foreign wool imported, art. vi. Oct. 1823.
17. On Combination laws, restraints on emigration, &c., art. iii. Jan. 1824.
18. On East India Company's monopoly of tea, art. viii. Jan. 1824.
19. On Standard of national prosperity, rise and fall of profits, art. i. March 1824.
20. On Disposal of property by will, entails, and French law of succession, art. iv. July 1824.
21. On Duties on wine, restrictions on the wine trade, art. vi. July 1824.
22. On Abolition of the corn laws, art. iii. Oct. 1824.
23. On Ireland, art. v. Jan. 1825.
24. On Reduction of the duties on coffee, art. x. Jan. 1825.
25. On Colonial policy and value of colonial possessions, art. i. Aug. 1825.
26. On Absenteeism, art. iii. Nov. 1825.
27. On Progress and present state of the silk manufacture, art. iv. Nov. 1825.
28. On Fluctuations in the supply and value of money, banking system of England, art. i. Feb. 1826.
29. On State of the timber trade, duties on timber, art. iv. Feb. 1826.
30. On Commercial revulsions, art. iii. June 1826.
31. On Abolition of the corn laws, art. ii. Sept. 1826.
32. On Emigration, art. ii. Dec. 1826.
33. On Duties on brandy and Geneva, art. vi. Dec. 1826.
34. On Revenue and commerce of India, art. iv. March 1827.
35. On Complaints of the shipowners, reciprocity system, art. viii. March 1827.
36. On Rise, progress, present state, and progress of the British cotton manufacture, art. i. June 1827.
37. On Taxation, retrenchment, reduction of the public debt, art. v. Oct. 1827.
38. On Progress of national debt, best method of funding, art. iii. Jan. 1828.
39. On Poor laws, art. ii. May 1828.
40. On Institution of castes, India society, art. ii. Sept. 1828.
41. On Prussian political economy, art. v. Sept. 1828.
42. On American tariff, art. iv. Dec. 1828.
43. On Importation of foreign wool, state of the woollen manufacture, art. vii. Dec. 1828.
44. On Census of the population, law of mortality, &c., art. i. March 1829.
45. On Sadler on Ireland, art. ii. June 1829.
46. On Malt and beer duties, licensing system, art. iv. June 1829.
47. On French commercial system, art. iii. Oct. 1829.
48. On Sugar trade, duties on sugar, art. vi. Jan. 1830.
49. On Impolicy of increasing the duties on spirits, art. viii. Jan. 1830.
50. On Duty on coal, coal trade, art. viii. April 1830.
51. On Finance, the budget, art. x. April 1830.
52. On Rise, progress, and decline of commerce in Holland, art. v. July 1830.
53. On East India Company, China question, art. i. Jan. 1831.
54. On Causes and cure of disturbances and pauperism, art. ii. March 1831.