*Propugnacula, seu Turris Sapientiæ;* one sheet, plano, Brit. Mus. (Sotheby, ii. 164).

Block-books of Netherlandish origin are :—

(1) *Biblia Pauperum* ; forty leaves (each bearing a signature ; *a* to *v, ∙a∙* to ∙v∙)∙ As many as seven editions have been distinguished by Sotheby (i. 43 ; see also Holtrop, *Monum. Typ.,* p. 3).

(2) *Ars Moriendi;@@*1 twenty-four leaves, small folio, thirteen con­taining text, eleven plates (see Sotheby, i. 69 ; Holtrop, p. 8).

(3) *Canticum Canticorum, Historia seu Providentia B. Virginis Mariæ ex Cantico Canticorum* ; sixteen leaves, in fol. (Sotheby, i. 77 ; Holtrop, p. 6).

(4) *Liber Regum, seu Historia Davidis* ; twenty leaves, folio (Sotheby, i. 120b). Some consider this to be a German work.

(5) *Exercitium super Pater Noster,* by Henricus de Pomerio ; ten leaves, small folio (Sotheby, ii. 137 ; Holtrop, p. 10).@@2

(6) *Temptationes Demonis Temptantis Hominem de Septem Peccatis Mortalibus* ; a single large folio leaf printed on one side. Two copies, one in British Museum, the other in the library at Wolfenbüttel.

(7) *Vita Christi,* or the *Life and Passion of Christ* ; thirty-six cuts, originally printed in a press on six anopisthographic leaves, 8vo. In the library at Erlangen (see Campbell, *Annales,* 746).

(8) *Historia Sanctæ Crucis* ; a fragment of one leaf (with signature *g*), preserved in the Weigel collection (ii. 92), which seems to be a proof-sheet only.

(9) *Alphabet* in figures (Holtrop, p. 11 ; Sotheby, i. 122).@@3

(10) *Pomerium Spirituale,* by Henricus de Pomerio or Henry Bogaert ; twelve leaves, having twelve woodcuts accompanied by MS. text, in the library at Brussels (Holtrop, *Mon. Typ.,* p. 9). It bears the date 1440 in two places ; but some contend that this refers to the date when the book was written,@@4 not when the engrav­ings were printed.

Besides the works of Sotheby, Holtrop, and Weigel, already quoted, consult W. Μ. Conway, *The Woodcutters of the Netherlands in the 15th Century,* Cambridge, 1884 ; Heineken, *Idée Générale,* Leipsic, 1771 ; J. Ph. Berjeau, *Facsimiles of the Biblia Pauperum, Canticum Canticorum, Speculum,* London, 1859-1861; and Id., *Catal. Illustré des Livres Xylogr.,* London, 1865.

*Early Printing at Mainz.*

When we, for the moment, leave out of sight the question as to when, where, and by whom the art of printing with movable metal types was invented, and take our stand on well-authenticated dates in such printed documents as have been preserved to us, we find that the first printed date, 1454, occurs in two different editions of the same letters of indulgence issued in that year by Pope Nicholas V. in behalf of the kingdom of Cyprus.

These two editions are distinguished respectively as the 31-line and the 30-line indulgence. The former, of which three different issues with the printed date mccccliiii., and a fourth with the printed date mcccclv., are known to exist, claims priority@@5 from a chronological point of view over the latter, of which one issue with the printed date mccccliiii., and two issues with the printed date mcccclquinto, are known to exist, because one of the sold copies that has been preserved was issued at Erfurt on 15th Novem­ber 1454, whereas of the 30-line indulgence the earliest sold copy that has as yet come down to us was issued at Cologne on 27 th February 1455, though it distinctly has the printed date mccccliiii., but altered with the pen to mccccliiiij. In the 31-line indulgence occur (1) a large church type usually regarded as identical with that of the 36-line Bible, and used for the rubrics of the absolutions, for the word with which the document commences, and for the Christian name of the pope’s legate ; (2) a smaller text or brief type, which was afterwards very closely imitated, if not actually used, at Eltville, in printing the 1472 edition of the *Vocαbulαrius ex quo* and an edition of the *Summa* *de Articulis Fidei* of Thomas Aquinas ; (3) a large initial V and two large initials M, which differ from each other. In the 30-line indulgence occur (1) a large church type, which is used as in the 31-line indulgence, and is usually re­garded as identical with that of the 42-line Bible ; (2) a smaller text or brief type, of which as yet no further trace has been found ; (3) a large initial U, and two large initials M, which differ from each other, the first being identical with the initial M of the second absolution of a 33-line indulgence printed by Peter Schoeffer in 1489 for “ Raymundus Peyraudi, archidiaconus Alnisiensis in

ecclesia Xanton,” who issued it at the order of Pope Innocent VIII., “pro tuicione orthodoxe fidei contra Turchos.” These two different editions are usually regarded as having been printed at Mainz ; and, so long as there is no evidence to the contrary, we may assume that such was really the fact. But we must at the same time conclude that about November 1454 there were at least two rival printers at work there,—(1) the printer of the 31-line indulgence, whose name has not yet transpired, but who may have been Johan Gutenberg, perhaps subsidized by Johan Fust ; (2) the printer of the 30-line indulgence, who was no doubt Peter (Schoeffer) de Gernss- heym, on account of the connexion of this indulgence with that of 1489, which was unquestionably printed by him. Latterly four written copies of the same indulgence have been found, which re­spectively bear the dates,—Frankfort, 10th April 1454 (in the pos­session of Herr Lais, Wiesbaden) ; Frankfort, 11th April 1454 (Frankfort archives) ; 11th July 1454 (place unknown ; Darmstadt archives); Lübeck, 6th October 1454. As their dates precede by a few weeks only the earliest known printed date (15th November 1454), they mark, perhaps, the exact time when printing made its appearance at Mainz in an already advanced state of perfection.

In following up the basis afforded by the above indulgences we may give a short chronological view of the early printing at Mainz, so far as it is at present known, referring for minute details to J. H. Hessels, *Gutenberg: Was he the Inventor of Printing ?* 1882, p. 150 *sq.*

Types 1 (large church type) and 2 Lord Spencer’s library, in the Brit.

(smaller brief type), used by an un- Mus., at Jena, Leipsic, Antwerp,

known printer, 1454. &C.@@6

(i.) 31-line indulgence ; three different Types 3 (large church type) and 4 issues (A, B,C), with the printed (smaller brief type), used by Peter year mccccliiii., and one issue (D) Schoeffer de Gernssheym. 1454-1455. one issue (A)

with the printed year mccccliiii., and B no sold copies have yet come

to light, Three unsold copies of All

each are preserved at (1) Bruns- printed year mcccclqumtθ. All

printed on vellum. Of issue A

. A·i ∖r 1 has been discovered,

Hanover (Culemann). Of issue C now in Lord Spencer’s library. It eight sold copies are known to exist ,. t Aolotme on p√b 2T

⅛⅛lte⅛ T∙1±tBe tTâ withdat s^from Marte,∙11455 m^nr8 sold coPie8> ''ith dates Apr. 11 and with dates from Mar. <1455 to Apr. on iλa∏ u.ft

known and f°ur u"used c°p'es ale and the Brit. Mus. Of issue C two sold coι>ies, with dates Feb.

Type 1, *continued* ; for type 2 2J\* and Apr. 24 1455, are at Hanover

see below \* (Culemann) and Wolfenbüttel. An

(ii.) *Manung Widder die Birke.* An al- c0^ is at Hauover <Cule\*

manac for Jan. 1455, in 4to, 5 '-

leaves, 20 and 21 uneven lines. Type 3, *continued* (till about 1457);

The only copy known was dis- of type 4 no further trace is found,

covered at Augsburg, and is now (jj.) *Donatus* of 24, 25, or 26 lines, 24 in the Munich library. (?) leaves ; one leaf (the 8th or

(in.) *Conjunctiones et oppositiones Solis* Sth?) in the Mainz library.

*et Lun«.* A calendar for 1457, (iü.) *Donatus* of 32 lines, 14 (?) leaves, a broadside sheet, printed on one the 10th (?) in the Mainz library.

side. The upper half of the only *({v.) Donatus* of 33 lines, two leaves copy known was discovered at ⅛ the Paris library.

Mainz, and is now in the Paris *(v.) Donatus* of 35 lines, folio; printed, library. according to the colophon, “per

(ιv.) *Der Cisianus* (not Cisianus) *zu* Petrum de Gernssheym, in urbe

*Dutsche.* A broadside sheet, printed Moguntina cum suis capitalibus.” on one side, 36 lines, besides (vi.) 42-line Bible (also called Mazarine separate head-line. The Tross Bible), printed before Aug. 15

copy, mentioned in Suppl. to 1456, as the binder of the paper

Brunet’s *Manuel* (1878, s.v. “Cis- copy in the Paris library states

lanus ”), was bought in 1870 for the that he finished its rubrication

Cambridge university library. on that day. 2 vols, fol., 641 leaves

(v.) and (vi.) *Donatus.* Two different of 2 columns of 42 lines each, ex­editions of 14(7)leaveseach, 27lines cept that in some copies the

(B. Mus., C. 18.e 1, Nos. 2 and 5). columns of pp. 1-9 contain 40 lines

(vii.) *Donatus* of 30 lines, 12 (?) leaves; only, while the 10th page has 2

a fragment of the 8th (?) in the columns of 41 lines each, though

Mainz library. the difference in the number of

(viii.) 36-line Bible. 2 vols, fol., 882 lines makes no difference in the

leaves, with 2 columns of 36 lines space which they occupy.@@7

each on a page. Some biblio- (vii.) 42-line *Cantica ad Matutinas.* graphers call this the Pfister Bible, The first and only leaf known is

assuming that Pfister printed it. in the Paris library. It is printed

The Paris library possesses a paper on vellum, and corresponds in

copy, and also a separate copy of every respect to the 42-line Bible,

the last leaf, which bears the MS. having double columns, 42 lines,

date 1461. Other copies exist in &c.

The above four types and the books printed with them (besides a few others printed by Albrecht Pfister at Bamberg) are the only ones that stand in close connexion with the question regarding the introduction, or the possible invention, of printing at Mainz. It has been pointed out above that one of the initial M’s of the 30-line indulgence of 1454 occurs again in an indulgence of 1489, printed by Schoeffer ; hence types 3 and 4 and the books printed with them must be ascribed to this printer, in spite of the fact that the capital P found in the indulgence does not seem to occur again in the 42- line Bible. No further trace of the brief type 4 has yet been found, and perhaps Schoeffer melted it down for his other types. As Schoeffer. in the colonhon of the *Donatus* (v.) which bears his

@@@1 Heineken enumerates six editions, of which one has inscriptions in German. See also an article by Guichard, in -BaZZ. *du Bibliophile,* Paris, 1841.

@@@2 See also W. Μ. Conway, *Notes on the Exercitium super Pater Noster,* 1887.

@@@3 There is one copy in the British Museum and another in the library at Basel, this last having the date 1464 engraved on the letter A, which is mutilated in the former. A similar alphabet preserved at Dresden seems to be a copy made in Germany.

@@@4 Mr W. Μ. Conway is of a different opinion; see *Notes on Exercitium.* Dumortier testifies to having seen another copy unaccompanied by MS. (“Notes sur l'Imprimerie,’’ in *Bull. Acad. Roy. de Belg.,* vol. viii., 1841).

@@@5 No inferences can be drawn from this priority, as it merely rests on the date of a sold copy that has come to light.

@@@6 See Hessels, *Gutenberg,* p. 160 ; and Bernard, *Origine,* ii. 31.

@@@7 For other copies, see Bernard, *Origine,* i. 164,177-192 ; and Hessels, *Guten­berg,* 170.