

Reviews

TAKAMI MATSUDA, ed., *Codices Keionenses: Essays on Western Manuscripts and Early Printed Books in Keio University Library*. Tokyo: Keio University Press, 2005. Pp. 214. ISBN: 4-7664-1154-4. ¥ 5,990

For those interested in manuscripts and rare books the buzz of activity in Japan is most exciting. Keio University in Tokyo is home to the formidable HUMI (Humanities Media Interface) Project; in 2001 the exhibition and accompanying catalogue *Mostly British: Manuscripts and Early Printed Materials from Classical Rome to Renaissance England in the Collection of Keio University Library* (Tokyo: Keio University, 2001) celebrated Keio University's collection of Western manuscripts and rare books. The latest work to honor the rare books collection at Keio University, *Codices Keionenses*, is a compilation of five essays that developed from a lecture series in 2002–2003. Several of the objects that are discussed in these essays are being published for the first time.

Claudia Rapp offers her self-titled 'preliminary description' of the Antiochos manuscript, a twelfth-century Greek manuscript including the *Pandects* of Antiochos, a few works by Gregory of Nazianzus, and several unpublished poems. Rapp does an admirable job of establishing the setting from which the manuscript originates, but the fascinating aspect of her article is found in the description of the object itself. Rapp presents details on the content of the manuscript, listing each text, its foliation, author, and when the text is known, a citation to a published version. For the texts that are unknown, Rapp transcribes the title and incipit of each work, offering these intriguing new texts to scholars far-removed from Tokyo.

Yukie Baba and Neil McLynn focus their attention on the two remaining leaves of the *Speculum Novitii* that was added to a manuscript of Augustine's *Sermones de verbis domini et apostoli*. Baba and McLynn provide a transcription of the two leaves, and plates of all four folios accompany the article. The authors discuss the textual differences between the four previously known copies of the *Speculum* and the version at Keio, arguing that the Keio copy presents the most original version of the text. The article includes an apparatus detailing the textual differences between the versions and an appendix with an English translation of the Keio text.

In the next article A.S.G. Edwards offers the most comprehensive codicological study in the book, examining the fifteenth-century Hopton Hall manuscript of Middle English devotional texts, compiled by the scribe William Halls. Edwards

studies 'the form and contents of this manuscript...for what they can tell us about some of the circumstances of fifteenth-century English regional manuscript production' (69) and the contemporary devotional concerns of the laity. The texts include *The Lay Folk's Catechism*, *The Charter of the Abbey of the Holy Ghost*, Walter Hilton's *An Epistle of the Mixed Life*, and several other Middle English prose texts, a couple of which are apparently unique to this manuscript.

Mark Vessey looks at what seems to have been Erasmus' favorite word for nearly two decades: *lucubratio*. Twice, Erasmus used the word as a title for his works—*Lucubrationum aliquot* (Antwerp: Martens, 1503) and *Lucubrationes* (Strasbourg: Schürer, 1515). Erasmus acquired the word from Jerome, who also favored its usage, and as Vessey argues, used it to parallel and compare his own erudition with that of Jerome. 'Lucubrations' is a fitting non-descriptive title for these two compendia of texts, promoting Erasmus's multi-faceted and wide-ranging scholastic interests and capabilities.

The *Kalender of Shepherdes* is a compendium of temporal, medicinal, and simple devotional texts that was quite popular in fifteenth- and sixteenth-century England. Takami Matsuda and Satoko Tokunaga deconstruct the composite copy at Keio University and examine the various contents of all the printed fifteenth- and sixteenth-century editions of the text. There are seven appendices to the article, including a description and contents (text and image) of the Keio copy and a comparison of the Keio copy with fourteen printed editions. The authors state that their study of the *Kalender of Shepherdes* is a work in progress, but this article, particularly the appendices, will be very useful to anyone studying the genre.

The five essays in this book reflect a fraction of what the collections of Keio University have to offer. As the world shrinks, or maybe our own horizons are just broadening, scholars might have to start going East to reach the Medieval West. I hear Japan Air Lines is offering some good fares to Tokyo.

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