

and the leaves are almost as white and clean as when it was first issued. The book is so much in demand by collectors of early printing that it sells for a very high price and is rarely found in the possession of a lover of Greek.

It would not be proper to conclude this sketch of the Greek books in the Library without mentioning the interest of the late Provost Harrison in them. Some years ago there were bad gaps in our sets of archaeological periodicals, and, in some cases, these were totally lacking. I explained this situation to Mr. Harrison, who promptly raised a fund which he placed at my disposal. This fund enabled us to complete the defective sets and to acquire those that we did not have. It was one of Mr. Harrison's many benefactions to the University.

ARMINIUS UND THUSNELDA

By DR. DANIEL B. SHUMWAY

The Library has recently had the good fortune to acquire the first edition of one of the most curious and remarkable of the German novels of the seventeenth century, the baroque period of German literature. It is the *Arminius und Thusnelda* of Casper von Lohenstein, published in Leipzig, 1689-90. It consists of two large quarto volumes bound in stout vellum, and comprises 3208 pages, $9\frac{3}{8}$ by $7\frac{5}{8}$ inches in size, printed mostly in double columns. When one considers that the new Webster International Dictionary contains 2620 pages some idea of the tremendous size of the novel may be obtained. Because of its great length it has never been reprinted since the second edition in four quarto volumes, Leipzig, 1731. It contains three copper plate engravings, one the portrait of the author, the other two being allegorical title pages in the fashion of the time.

Like most works of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the novel has a long-winded title, reading as follows: Daniel Caspers von Lohenstein/Grossmüthiger Feldherr/Arminius oder Herrman/als/Ein tapfferer Beschirmer der deutschen Freyheit/nebst seiner/Durchlauchtigen/Thusnelda/In einer sinnreichen/Staats-Liebes- und Helden-Geschichte/Dem Vaterlande zu Liebe/Dem deutschen Adel aber zu Ehren und rühmlichen Nachfolge/In zwey Theilen/vorges-

tellet/Und mit annehmlichen Kupffern gezieret/Leipzig/
Verlegt von Johann Friedrich Bleditschen, Buchhändlern/
und gedruckt durch Christoph Fleischern/Im Jahr 1689/
Unter Ihrer Röm. Käyserl.Majestät sonderbaren Begnadigung. This, done into English, would read: "Daniel Caspar von Lohenstein's great-hearted General Arminius or Herrman, as a valiant protector of German liberty, together with his illustrious Thusnelda in an ingenious, political, heroic and romantic history for the love of the Fatherland and to the honour and the laudable imitation of the German nobility. Presented in two parts and adorned with pleasing copper plates. Published by Johann Friedrich Bleditsch, bookdealer, and printed by Christopher Fleischer, Leipzig 1689, with the special privilege of his Imperial Roman Majesty."

The author, Casper von Lohenstein (1635-1683), was one of the most prominent members of the second Silesian School, noted also as the author of six stilted Alexandrine tragedies modeled on those of the ancients and the French. He died before the completion of his tremendous novel. His brother continued it until prevented by illness when it was finished by Christopher Wagner (1663-1693). It has long been famous as the most extreme example of the so-called historico-gallant novel which originated in Germany, partly in imitation of the Amadis romances and partly after the model of the French novels of the age of Louis XIV. It is a curious mixture of pedantry and suggestiveness, but was intended to inculcate "wise arts" and the serious affairs of state, the love episodes being the sugar coating of the pill. It gives the detailed history of Arminius in his struggles against the Romans, and contrasts the integrity and morality of the Teutons with the corruption and immorality of the Romans. By the aid of prophecies Lohenstein succeeds in incorporating into his work not only the whole of Roman history, but of German history as well. Louis XIV is portrayed under the thin disguise of the Roman general Drusus, while the German emperor Leopold I appears as Arminius. The novel was such a storehouse of learned information on historical, geographical, and antiquarian subjects, that it has been called a cyclopedia of the knowledge of the time. The story was only the pretext for the introduction of long disquisitions on morality and virtue, such as were frequently found in novels of the eighteenth century. In France this type died out

rapidly under the withering satire of Boileau, but in Germany it lasted well into the eighteenth century and only disappeared before the sharp criticism of Gottsched, who showed the un-historical character of these so-called historical novels.

RECENT GIFTS AND PURCHASES

The following titles have recently been purchased for the Library with money contributed by members of "The Friends:"

BROWN, MRS. LOUISE N. *Block printing and book illustration in Japan*. London and New York, 1924. With 43 plates, of which 18 are in colors.

CONWAY, SIR WILLIAM M. *The woodcutters of the Netherlands in the fifteenth century*. Cambridge, 1884.

DARTON, FREDERICK J. H. *Children's books in England; five centuries of social life*. Cambridge, 1932.

GODWIN, FRANCIS. *A catalogue of the bishops of England, since the first planting of the Christian religion in this island, together with a brief history of their lives and memorable actions, so neere as can be gathered out of antiquity*. London, 1601.

GOLDSCHMIDT, ERNST P. *Gothic and renaissance book-bindings, exemplified and illustrated from the author's collection*. London and New York, 1928.

HERMANN, H. J. *Die frühmittelalterlichen Handschriften des Abendlandes*. Leipzig, 1923. With illustrations and facsimiles, many of them in colors.

PRYNNE, WILLIAM. *The perpetuities of a regenerate man's estate*. London, 1626.

Among recent gifts from Friends of the Library are more than thirty works in musical history and biography and the study of music, from Dr. Otto E. Albrecht and from Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Albrecht; and from Dr. Charles W. Burr a first edition of Poe's *Conchologist's first book*, Philadelphia, 1839, and a set of twelve American children's books, published between 1808 and 1828.

ARISTOTELIAN COLLECTION

Special mention should be made also of several notable additions to the Aristotelian collection, recently purchased for the Library by Dr. Burr, through whose generosity we are rapidly acquiring what seems likely to become an unexcelled