

Please return at your convenience

## The Bibliographical Society.

~~T. J. Ware~~  
President: ~~FALCONER MADAN.~~

Hon. Treasurer:

R. F. SHARP,  
9, NORTHWICK HOUSE,  
ST. JOHN'S WOOD ROAD, N. W. 8.

Hon. Secretaries:

ALFRED W. POLLARD,  
40, MURRAY ROAD,  
WIMBLEDON, S. W.

R. B. MCKERROW,  
ENDERLEY, GREAT  
MISSENDEN, BUCKS.

9 November 1922.

My dear North,

I must ask you mercy. I have hunted high and low for that letter of yours about a Dictionary and I can't find it, nor has my treacherous memory any remembrance of it. The truth is that my official work now provides just as much as a man of my age can easily do, and that I find the Bibliographical Socy's work, the Short Title Catalogue of Eng. Books to 1640, my Professorship of Eng. Bibliography, + various Committees of different kinds, some trust business and a large correspondence, makes total so varied & so heavy that I

probably don't get half as much done  
as I might do if I tried only to do  
half as much. Result: I am always  
behaving badly to somebody and  
feeling ashamed of myself therefor.  
Twenty months hence I shall have  
finished my Museum work & I don't  
like therefore to throw up the Bib. Soc.  
or any of my other jobs, in all of which  
I am interested & for which I ought then  
to have plenty of time; so I struggle on  
just present and when I'm treated  
anyone specially badly, as I have you, I  
have to explain & throw myself on his  
mercy.

We have got a copy of Gleditsie's book  
at the B.M. and I have one at home &  
there is another for the Bib. Soc. library  
so our interests have all been looked  
after. What a fine book it is. I want  
to write on it in the library, but can't get time. The  
Bib. Soc. over here continues to increase its member-  
ship without any special effort on my part & if  
members came along equally well in your half  
of the world I think that by 1924 we might

# The Bibliographical Society.

President: FALCONER MADAN.

Hon. Treasurer:

R. F. SHARP,  
9, NORTHWICK HOUSE,  
ST. JOHN'S WOOD ROAD, N. W. 8.

Hon. Secretaries:

ALFRED W. POLLARD,  
40, MURRAY ROAD,  
WIMBLEDON, S. W.

R. B. MCKERROW,  
ENDERLEY, GREAT  
MISSENDEN, BUCKS.

2

close our roll one man with a membership of 500, the maximum, I think, at which we could work without a paid staff. On the other hand I had unusual difficulty this year in making up my programme of six papers, and no one seems anxious to bring forward anything important for us to print. Perhaps this is fortunate, as with the Short Title Catalogue and Gress full dress bibliography of Plays, to 1642 we shall soon have plenty to do with our money, though for 1923 we have a nothing much in hand.

I lectured last week at Kings College (London) on the bibliographical aspects of King Lear. In my old age I find I

Can lecture quite well as long as  
I know my subject well enough to  
trust to a few notes and don't try to  
write anything out. Various things  
went wrong last week up to the mo.  
ment I began to talk, but I pulled  
it off all right.

We are having horrid weather over  
here but my wife continues well and I  
hope she may escape bronchitis this win-  
ter and get off to Alessio at the end of  
January with no lost ground to make  
up. She picked up finely as soon as she  
got out last February, so I am anxious  
she should go out again & have promised  
to join her there towards the end of March  
& bring her home. I shall have to  
arrange a Shakespearean exhibition & write  
a guide to it before I go out, also write  
my Shakespearean lecture for the British  
Academy, which Gollancz wants

# The Bibliographical Society.

President: FALCONER MADAN.

Hon. Treasurer:

R. F. SHARP,  
9, NORTHWICK HOUSE,  
ST. JOHN'S WOOD ROAD, N. W. 8.

Hon. Secretaries:

ALFRED W. POLLARD,  
40, MURRAY ROAD,  
WIMBLEDON, S. W.

R. B. MCKERROW,  
ENDERLEY, GREAT  
MISSENDEN, BUCKS.

3

delivered somewhere about April 27.  
But the two things ought to help  
each other so that at present I am  
hopeful. I trust Mrs North keeps  
well and you also. I always admire  
your catalogues when I get them very  
much. They have quite an individual  
touch about them which is very pleasant.  
By the way I don't at all agree with  
you that Folger's Shakespear Collection  
has any kind of primacy. He has got  
a lot of copies of the Folio and some of  
the Quartos, but he has nothing like  
the range of Huntington's collection  
which from a student's point of view  
I put slightly above the B.M.'s, though

owing to so many of the Devonshire copies being cropped and mounted I think ours would fetch much more money if they both came under the hammer. Our new First Folio is a good addition from the money point of view, and I am very glad to have it, as it has become such a tradition with us to keep the Grenville Folio in reserve that we have never hitherto had a copy of which we could exhibit the portrait-titles and verses, which I take to be the two paper people expect to see. Now we have a first class copy on view and in our Shakespeare show can exhibit it & the Grenville side by side to show the two states of the portrait. Mrs. Cobden Sanderson has also given us some nice examples of her husband's bindings, so we have done well the last few months.

The best of good wishes, dear friend. Send me a card about the Dictionary if it be not too late.

Sincerely yours,

Henry W. Rollard