Gennadeion Gleanings, II. Bibliographical Notes on the Eighteenth Century

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Over the last three years the Gennadius Library has acquired several hundred Greek books of the eighteenth century, greatly enriching our holdings of works printed for the Greek East in this important period. In the course of cataloguing these works a number of problems arose and some interesting discoveries were made. It is a pleasure, on behalf of the Gennadius Library, to present the following notes on some of our findings by way of salute to the doyen of Greek bibliographers, D. S. Ghinis.

1. Among the undated books recorded by Ladas and Hatzidimos in Ελληνική Βιβλιογραφία, συμβολή στο δέκατο όγδοο αιώνα (’Αθήνα 1964), there is an έξομολογήταριον by Theodoretos Salouphas, their copy of which lacked the title-page, but which they correctly ascribed to Venice and to the early eighteenth century (no. 185). The Gennadius Library has recently acquired a complete copy of this work and it is now possible to reproduce (plate I) and to give a transcription of the title:

Ο' /ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΤΗΡ/ ΗΤΟΥΝ/ Εʼρμηνεία τών Πνευματικών διὰ νὰ ὑπηρετοῦσι/ μὲ ψυχικὴν ὁφέλειαν τῶν χριστιανῶν/ τὸ Μυστήριον τῆς έξομολογήσεως/. Συντεθείσα πόνω καὶ ἐπιμελεῖσα τοῦ/ Ταπεινοῦ Πρωτοσυγγέλου Θεοδωρήτου/ ΚΑΓ ΑΓΙΕΡΟΘΕΗΣΙ/ Τω Πανιερωτάτω καὶ Λογιωτάτω Αρχιεπισκόπω/ της Αγιωτάτης Αρχιεπισκοπής Ρέοντος/ ΚΥΡΙΩ ΚΥΡΙΩ/ ΓΑΚΩΒΩ/ ΕʼΝΕΤΗΗΣΙ. φιλζ/. Παρὰ Νικολάῳ τῷ Σάρφῳ. 80p. 15cm.

The verso of the title-page is blank.

2. The «baptism controversy» that racked the Orthodox world in the 1750’s, especially during the years 1755-1757, occasioned a number of polemical works, among them the Βιβλιαριον κατά Λατίνου of Eugenios Voulgaris (Legrand no. 479), the Βιβλιον καλομενον Ραντισμος στηλητευσις (Legrand no. 482), probably by Chri-
storphoros the Aetolian, and the 'Εγχεφίδιον περί βαπτίσματος of Eustratios Argentis (Legrand no. 485), all published in Constantinople in 1756. The second of these, to be sure, bears no imprint but is unmistakably, like the others, a product of the Patriarchal (or «Armenian») press; moreover, the second edition (Legrand no. 510), published in Leipzig in 1758, specifically states that the first edition was printed in Constantinople.

The 'Εγχεφίδιον was also reprinted, though under a new title ("Αγθος εὐσέβειας, ἤτω, Συνταγμάτων περί ἀναβαπτισμοῦ) and with the addition of the «Letter to the Serbians» by Voulgaris, at Leipzig in 1757 (Legrand no. 499). In this same year there also appeared a much less well-known work, the Βιβλίον χαλούμενον Φῶς τῶν ἐν σκότει, published anonymously and without indication of place. Legrand (no. 501) knew only a single copy, in the Metochion of the Holy Sepulchre at Constantinople, but the Gennadeion now has a copy and there is one also in Kozani. The catalogue of the Kozani Library ascribes it to Constantinople, but on grounds of typography alone this can be ruled out at once. In general the types closely resemble those used in the Greek presses in Venice and may well have originated there, but in view of the violently anti-Latin bias of the author it is hardly likely that the work could itself have been published in Venice.

The most striking feature of the book, typographically, is the use of large crude (14 mm.) capitals for the word ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ on the title-page (Plate II). Something similar is found on the title-page of Τὰ Ἀποστολικὰ Δόκτριν (Legrand no. 492), printed at Jassy only the year before, in 1756 (Plate III). Here even the larger (11 mm.) of the two sets of big capitals employed is smaller than those used in the 1757 volume and in consequence no single letters can be matched, but on both title-pages the large capitals give the impression of being hand-drawn rather than cast to a single mold (note the variation in the two B’s of ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ and in the O’s of ΤΟ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ). The type-face used throughout the text of both volumes seems to be identical. But though none of the small typographical ornaments found in one book can be matched in the other, fortunately a large floral ornament (Plate IV) used once in the 1757 book occurs a number of times in the volume of 1756. It seems highly probable, therefore, that...
ΠΝΙΤΣΙΚΩΣ ΠΑΤΗΡ.
Ηράνθ
Εφημερίς περί Πνευματικών Χαρών επιστρατεύμα
με φυσικά ἄφελμα τῆς Χριστιανικῆς
το Μυστήριον τῆς Εἰκοστῆς.
Συντεταγμένη πόνω γιὰ ἐπιμελεία τοῦ
Ταπεινῆς Πρωτοσωγγέλου Θεοδωρίτου
Σαλήφα τῆς Ἐκ Πελοποννήσου
καὶ Ἀφιερωθεῖσα
Τῷ Πανερβάτῳ Ὁ Δοξολογίτῳ Ἀρχιεπισκόπῳ
tῆς Λιταῖας Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ρέουτος
ΚΤΡΙΩ ΚΤΡΙΩ
ΓΑΚΩΒΟ
Ε'ΝΕΤΙΗΣΙ. οψ.
Παρὰ Νικόλαου τῆς Σάρας.
ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ
ΚΑΔΟΤ ΜΕΝΟΝ
Φῶς τῶν ἐν σκότει

Ἐν δὲ περίχοντων Μαρτυρίων, ἡ Ἀποδείξεις
θείων Πάτερων, ἰδίᾳ μέσῳ τῆς θείην τοῖς Ἀποστόλων οὖν ἐποίησαν ἡ καθώς ἡ ἀμαρτία, ἔτι ἂς ἑκατέρως ἐκπέφασαν τοῖς λατινοῖς ἡ ξώδες ἡ ἡλιστήριον ῥάντισμα, ἀπό τοῦ ἐπίκαιρος καθὼς ἡ μόνη ἡ καθαρεύον ἄλλα καὶ μοι λοιπὸν τῆς ῥαντικοσμίων, ἐς ἀλλότριον ἡ διόχη
γενεσίας ἡ ἀποστολικὴ παραδόσεως. Ἔμπεθεν παράτινης ἀλαβάτις ἱερομοναχῶν θυν
σίς τίνα τῆς Ἀναστασικῆς ἰκανότητος ἐκ ἐπιστολῶν τῶν ἀρετικῶν λατινῶν, ἢ ἡ ἡμείς τῶν ἐρευνῶν χριστιανῶν.
Καὶ νῦν ἡ πρώτη τύπος ἐκδεθίην.
ο ᾖ ν ζ.
ΤΟΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΝ
ΔΥΚΤΙΟΝ
ΗΤΟΙ.
ΛΟΓΟΙ ΨΥΧΟΦΕΛΕΙΣ ΕΙΣ ΤΗΝ ΑΡΓ'ΑΝ.
ΚΑΙ ΜΕΓΑΛΗΝ ΤΕΞΑΡΑΚΟΣΤΗΝ. ΚΑΙ ΕΙΣ
ΤΗΝ ΤΕΞΣΑΡΑΚΟΝΘΟΝ ΕΡΕΩΝ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑΝ
ΤΩΝ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΤ ΓΕΝΝΩΝ.

Συντάχθηκεν, καὶ ἐγκαταστασὶν ἡ πανίνα ἡ περίπλοκη,
ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΤ ΜΑΥΡΟΒΙΩΝ ΤΗ ΚΕΦΑΛΗΝΙΕΩΣ.
Τ' ἑδαπαν τ' ἰπτην ἐκδώστηκε πρὸ ἀφίλλων των χριστιανων.

Καὶ αὐθεντὴς τ' ἑδαπανα τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ἡ Θεοφιλεστάτη,
ΚΤΡΙΟ ΚΤΡΙΟ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟ ΜΙΧΑΗΛ ΦΑΚΟΒΙΤΖΑ
Χαλκοῦ. Ἡ Πηγή τοῦ Ἑυαγγελισμοῦ πάσης Μαθησίας.

Ἐν ἱερῷ τῆς Μαθησίας.
Ἐν ἑσπερίῳ ἤψυχον.

Plate III
πέσκω να τα δεχθεί «συνιστο» κάθες κατά το ανάγκη γνωρίσει ευκαιρίας μειν αποκλειστικώς να απέλεπον τον τέως προσμόν της συγγραφέως, δεά μενοι υπερ είμαι κατά κριτικό σπουδαίως παρα βλέποντας τον πολλάς μας άμαρτίας να με ικανοποίηση απο της παράδος τον πολυπλοκό διαμάχη και να με αξίωση μετα πάντων ύμων και της ευ τον τό βασιλείας έρριβε προκάτερον είς παν έργον αγαθον και οί δαμα νάντες κατ' αμφότερα.
Α μην.
both books issued from the same press and the anonymous Φως τῶν ἐν σκότει may safely be ascribed to Jassy.

3. As no. 164 of their 'Ελληνική Βιβλιογραφία, Hatzidimos and Ladas describe a copy of the Μηνιαΐον του Ἰούλιου [sic] published by Glykys in 1781 and demonstrate that only the title-page and pp. 15 - 16 were printed by Glykys, all the rest of the volume consisting of sheets from the Saros edition of 1776 (or its reprint of 1777). The Gennadius Library, however, has recently acquired a copy of the volume which has none of the peculiarities noted by them and is consistent throughout with the style of the two pages (15 - 16) that they acknowledge as by Glykys. Evidently their copy is a composite, the title-page and its conjoint leaf (A1 and A8) of the Glykys edition of 1781 having been added to a defective copy of the Saros edition of 1776. The 1781 Glykys volume, recorded by Legrand (no. 1051) though not seen by him, must remain, therefore, as an independent and verified publication.

4. Legrand, no. 1070, records a curious Greek-Russian book, Διάλογος και Διηγήσεις, printed in St. Petersburg in 1782. The description, however, is at second-hand, based on a «communication de Constantin Bernardakis». The Gennadius Library now owns this copy and since the printed description is somewhat misleading a few comments are in order.

As noted, the book is in two parts, of 63+[1] and 231+[1] pages respectively. The half-title of the second part, given erroneously in Legrand, actually reads: Υπομνήματα [not Υπομνήμονεύματα] τοῦ πρώτου μέρους. The text, in Russian and Greek on facing pages, is printed in double columns, each text appearing twice. The explanation of this «curieuse particularité» is, however, simple. In the first column the words are printed to show the division by syllables (as in the Greek title) — evidently as a help to young readers— while in the second column the same text appears in normal fashion. Finally, it may be noted that in the second part the interest is primarily in the geography of Russia and its neighbors, in contrast to the moralistic tone of the first part.

5. A 1790 edition of the Γραμματική of Konst. Laskaris is recorded by Legrand (no. 1244), citing one copy only, then in the collection of Athanasios Vernardakis. This copy is now in
the Gennadius Library, but the date has unfortunately at some time been partly obliterated by the erasure of two digits, leaving only the first and the fourth: 1[— — 0]. Beside the printed date some one has pencilled in the date 1790, but whether this was done before or since the volume was recorded is uncertain.

Obviously, the date could be verified only by comparison with some other copy. One point, however, raised an immediate doubt as to whether 1790 was even a likely date: the fact that at this period Glykys normally printed the date of Greek books both in Greek and in Arabic numerals, whereas here only the latter were used. Earlier, to be sure, this does occur, as in the Στηρυολογία [sic] τεχνολογία of Bessarion Makris of 1764 (Le- grand no. 611), but from 1780 - 1790 I have found no clear-cut example (Legrand no. 1035 omits the Greek date though it is in fact present in the book; no. 1076, though probably by Glykys, is hardly a case in point, since neither the place nor the printer’s name appears; no. 1126 gives the title in both Italian and Greek and hence is not a purely Greek book). For the period 1791 - 1799 we are on less sure ground, but of the titles listed in Raste’s Ελ­ληνική Βιβλιογραφία for this period the earliest examples of the omission of the Greek date that I have been able to verify by autopsy are not until 1798 (no. 184, the edition of Diogenes Laer­tios by Glykys, and no. 187a, Κατάλογος της Τυπογραφίας Νικο­λάου Γλυκύ). Thereafter the practice of using Arabic numerals only becomes increasingly less rare.

It is noteworthy, too, that the book does not have the customary Con Licenza de’ Superiori or some equivalent at the foot of the title-page. This continued, so far as I have been able to establish by checking from our shelves, to be mandatory, or at least customary, on books printed at Venice through 1806.

Finally, no other eighteenth-century edition of Laskaris recorded by Legrand or Ladas-Hatzidimos includes the additional texts from Herodianos, Pythagoras, Solon, and Phokylides found in this volume. Some at least of these appear in an edition of 1795 printed also by Glykys, recorded (somewhat faultily) by Raste, no. 105. Later editions containing these additions appear in Ghinis-Mexas from 1801 on.

Of the nineteenth-century editions of Laskaris by Glykys
only one, however, satisfies the conditions of having a title identical with our «1790» edition, of being dated in a year ending in zero, and of having the proper number of pages. This is no. A 508, an edition of 1810 reported by G. Veloudis from a copy in the Bibliothèque de l’Ecole nationale des Langues orientales vivantes. We sent to Paris photocopies of several pages of our volume, selecting those which offered some peculiarity such as an obvious misprint, and these were checked for us by Mr. Basilios Panagiotopoulos, who reported that they corresponded exactly with the Paris copy. There seems to be no doubt, therefore, that the original date on the Vernardakis-Gennadeion copy was also 1810 and that, in consequence, Legrand’s 1790 edition should be stricken from the record as a ghost item.

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