with their history or use. However, I must admit to a feeling of horror that Roy Stokes has found, as he states in his Preface, library science students who have thought a Book of Hours was a book of ours, and have confused 'missals' with 'missiles.'

The only quibble I have with *A Bibliographical Companion* is its format. While I recognize all too well the financial realities of modern scholarly publishing, it is a shame that a volume, which often describes the beauties of the books and manuscripts of our history, should be published in the utilitarian format of photo-offset from a typescript. The use of a computer with publishing software would have enabled at least a less spartan appearance. For some entries, an illustration would have been appropriate.

Professor Stokes has edited three editions of Esdaile's *Manual of Bibliography*, most recently the 1981 edition, and published his own *The Function of Bibliography* in 1969 (2nd ed. 1982). In addition to these theoretical works, he has compiled the volumes on Michael Sadleir and Henry Bradshaw in Scarecrow's Great Bibliographers Series. He is working on a study of M.R. James for this series, and is continuing his study of the history and development of bibliographical studies. *A Bibliographical Companion* is a welcome publication, for it allows students and lovers of bibliography who have not studied with Roy Stokes to benefit from his wide-ranging knowledge of and pleasure in bibliography.

CHARLOTTE A. STEWART-MURPHY

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Janet Ing. *Johann Gutenberg and His Bible: A Historical Study*. Preface by Paul Needham. New York: The Typophiles, 1988. Typophile Chap Book 58. 154 pp.; US \$27.50 (cloth). ISBN 0-945074-00-X.

The earliest work to name Gutenberg as the inventor of printing, and to cite as his first book a large-type Latin Bible, was the *Cologne Chronicle* of 1499; but a precise identification of that great book, as well as its creator, was long delayed, for the work contained no imprint or other notice of its printer, place of issue, or date. Given initially this inexact reference, rumour and confusion soon prevailed, and indeed, in some measure, remains to the present day. Eventually, in 1760, a 36-line Bible (B36) was arbitrarily promoted by Johann Georg Schelhorn as the most likely candidate, only to be deposed three years later by Guillaume De Bure, who nominated Cardinal Mazarin's copy of a 42-line Bible (B42) as an exemplar of the original printing. Thereafter, in 1789, another copy of B42 at the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris was discovered to bear in each volume a rubricator's colophon dated 1456; and finally, in 1890, the priority of this book was firmly established on typographical evidence.

This definitive proof, advanced by the Göttingen librarian Karl Dziatzko in his *Gutenbergs früheste Druckerpraxis*, followed by a year Dziatzko's rediscovery and printing in facsimile of the 1455 'Helmasperger Instrument' (a legal proceeding affecting Gutenberg), thus providing certain grounds, both bibliographical and

biographical, for all subsequent research. Nonetheless, despite these and other disclosures, forged letters supposedly from Gutenberg published in 1830 could still be regarded as genuine by Arthur Koestler in 1964, and the supposed primacy of yet another undated book, the *Missale Speciale*, insistently urged by Otto Hupp as late as 1917, continued to withstand every challenge until it was exposed by Allan Stevenson in 1967. Even in the last two decades various advocates continue to disagree: a circumstance that reminded Dr. Paul Needham of a distinguished German incunabulist who decided to ignore the whole question of early printing 'because the mass of existing studies was on the one hand so formidably large, on the other so beset by conflicting and arbitrary opinions, that the entrance seemed to be effectively closed.'

As if in response to such complaints, whether from an expert or a novice, Janet Ing has judiciously surveyed and summarized all the significant information about Gutenberg and his rival claimants, the textual source of his Bible, the manufacture of type and ink, the number of compositors and pressman thereafter employed, and the size of the issue in its several states. In some of these particulars Dr. Ing refers to cyclotron 'milliprobes' of the ink, as reported by Richard N. Schwab and others in 1983-86, and to beta-radiographs of the watermarked paper published by Needham in 1985, but then she is obliged to admit that neither of these scientific analyses 'has answered all our questions.' When she then proceeds in her chronology, first to the rubrication and issue of this book, then to other early printing, Dr. Ing again concedes that it is perhaps 'guesswork,' unavoidable speculation in many of these matters, and concludes 'that in some ways it appears that we now know less about Gutenberg than we once thought we did.' Even so, every reader, however informed beforehand, will appreciate this adroit and graceful guide through all the intricacies of the Gutenberg mystique.

After the *Historical Study* there is a useful section of notes and sources, a list of works cited, an index, and finally a brief comment by Abe Lerner, general editor for the Typophiles, who rightly observes that this is 'one of the most important chap books in our more than fifty years of publishing.'

WILLIAM B. TODD

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William B. Todd and Ann Bowden. *Tauchnitz International Editions in English, 1841-1955: A Bibliographical History*. New York: Bibliographical Society of America, 1988. xxiv, 1078 pp.; US \$75.00 (cloth) postpaid in the US, for members of the BSA \$45.00 (foreign orders: add \$5.00). ISBN 0-914930-12-5.

This impressive, detailed volume provides a wealth of information about Tauchnitz publications, which included one of the most extensive, long-lived English-language