

VATICAN ARCHIVES HOLD UNNUMBERED VOLUMES AND MSS

ESTABLISHED 1900

**Cardinal Gasquet Tells of His
Labors Among Literary
Treasures.**

Comparative Tests Photographed as Preparation for Publication of Amended Vulgate.

at the present moment Cardinal Gasquet, who, in addition to many other distinctions, has for three years now been supreme charge of the enormous collection of archives that are housed at the Vatican, writes a special correspondent of the London Times. He officially called the "Prefect of the Vatican Archives," and his position not by any means a sinecure. Since his designation to the office in 1918

his accession to the throne. He has spent nearly all his time in assisting to arrange the manuscripts in the collection. They number very many thousands, and the whole body of the library was removed by Napoleon from Italy to Paris. They were returned after the treaty of Vienna, but naturally they were in a chaotic condition, and they have remained so ever since. Cardinal Gasquet personally sorted the whole

Phone 6823.

peal to the average person very much as I saw him yesterday in London. I was myself in a Londoner and was told that he lived in 1836. As I went in he was looking out of the window of his room in the unostentatious hotel with obvious delight.

"I have come over to London," said, "for a short holiday. My work has been practically finished by the week-end. I am now contented to hope to be able to tell you in their papers in a few days."

library." He went on to describe "holidays." In addition to a great amount of routine work, it includes visits to learned societies, and an important journey to Cambridge, where he is to discuss and lecture on his work in connection with the emendation of the Latin Vulgate Bible. He explains that he had been doing this work in spare time for fourteen years now, and

that explanation quite solved the problem as to why he regarded his present visit as a holiday.

Suffered From Pillage.

I asked him if he would mind telling me something about his work among the Vatican archives and something about the archives themselves. He began to talk rather diffidently, but very soon warmed to his subject, and it was obvious that he had illumina-

what must have been rather dreary labors with a very roseate enthusiasm. "It is difficult to compute the number of books of archives and manuscripts," he said, "that are officially under my care at the Vatican. There are many thousands of bound volumes, many hundreds of thousands of loose manuscripts that it is now our task to collect and bind into volumes. The Vatican suffered from successive popes."

The owners of any of the following properties will consider

Third, these also were innocent. The pope had been in the city. He removed the whole collection bodily. Paris. This must have been one of the last times that the pope was in the place they were returned—or at least a large proportion of them were. Many of the books were damaged, and a large number of others in different ways. Some of them were bound volumes of archives were taken away, and some of them were even now when I opened a volume of straw often drop from the pages. Some of the books were taken away more easily than the bound volumes, but an enormous quantity of them were lost. The books were, however, in an indescribable state of chaos.

Fourth, the library remained in a chaotic state for many years, and it was not until years ago that a systematic effort was made to put the library back on a bibliologically sound basis. A number of well-known

of whom I was in charge, set a sorting the manuscripts into sections dealing with the different countries. Each of us then took a country set to work to put them in chronological order. I took over the task of sorting the English manuscripts. I have practically finished my task. They are all sorted and pretty thoroughly indexed and by the end of this year they will be ready for publication."

P. WALSH'S BULLETIN

I asked whether there were any manuscripts of outstanding interest as the English ones that had come under his notice. "They are all of outstanding interest," he answered with enthusiasm, "although different manuscripts will appeal to different people. For example, there are two letters from Edmund Burke in his own handwriting. They are both written to the Van

and in one he urges with energy almost with violence the advantage of an alliance between this country and the Holy See. Then there is a letter from Nelson thanking the Pope for having given him permission to victual his ships at an Italian port, others from Hood. One particularly interesting manuscript gives a graphic description of the battle of Trafalgar. In addition there is a whole

of letters from Cardinal Erskine, was ambassador in England during the reign of George III. He kept the can very well informed of all his and movements and some of his ments on contemporary figures and temporary society are exceedingly interesting. It would not be too much say that no one who wants to study period in English history could

to neglect that series of letters, so
hundred in number, which have
been hidden away in the library
Vatican. There are also some ver
interesting letters in the archives of
countries, and the French archiv
the time of Napoleon are very in

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

**NOTICE OF AFFIDAVIT
FOR DIVORCE**

Notice is hereby given that W. Arthur Parish of the City of London the County of Middlesex, and Province of Ontario, railway employee, will apply to the Parliament of Canada at the next session thereof, for a bill of divorce from his wife, Caroline Christiana

ish, who formerly resided in the City of London, but whose present residence is unknown to the William Arthur Parish, on the ground of adultery and desertion.

McKILLOP & DOUGLAS,
156½ Dundas Street, London, O.
Solicitors for William Arthur Parish.
Dated at the City of London,
province of Ontario, this 30th day of
July, A. D. 1921. Oct. 22

the [unclear] [unclear]

[illegible]