

"*felicis memoriae*". A study of the bibliography of his writings would carry the student through the whole range of literature and science to the middle of the sixteenth century. Even to handle the "*Bibliotheca Universalis*" is an inspiration! Wonderful man! with that rare gift of friendship, which mocks at death and the passage of time. To know his books is to love the man, and every true student mourns him to-day as tenderly as did Caius at Cambridge his "*mors inopinata*"! Some years ago I pasted on the fly-leaf of my copy of the "*Bibliotheca*" the following account—I know not from whom:—

"Conrad Gcsner, who kept open house there for all learned men who came into his neighbourhood. Gesner was not only the best naturalist among the scholars of his day, but of all men of that century he was the pattern man of letters. He was faultless in private life, assiduous in study, diligent in maintaining correspondence and good-will with learned men in all countries, hospitable—though his means were small—to every scholar that came into Zurich. Prompt to serve all, he was an editor of other men's volumes, a writer of prefaces for friends, a suggestor to young writers of books on which they might engage themselves, and a great helper to them in the progress of their work. But still, while finding time for services to other men, he could produce as much out of his own study as though he had no part in the life beyond its walls."<sup>1</sup>

To come to modern times—who will attempt to interpret Shelley without a consideration of his bibliography? A sympathetic lecture on the vicissitudes of "*Queen Mab*," 1813, would unlock the heart of the young reformer.

The dryness is not in the subject, but in the authors of our bibliographies. Do you wish a model? Read a "*Bibliography of Samuel Johnson*," by William Prideaux Courtney, which we have recently issued from the Clarendon Press. It is really the literary life of the great lexicographer, and makes a fine supplement to Boswell. And in the department of medicine we too have a model—the *Two-letter Bibliography* of James Atkinson, a Surgeon of York, who finished

<sup>1</sup> If any reader knows the source of this, please let me know.