

THE Shaheen Antiquarian Bible Collection

in Special Collections, THE University of Tennessee Libraries

The University of Tennessee Libraries holds a collection of more than 300 early printed Bibles and other rare books from the collection of the late Naseeb Shaheen, noted Shakespeare scholar and professor of English at the University of Memphis for forty years.

The centerpiece of the Shaheen Antiquarian Bible Collection is a group of about 100 English Bibles dating from the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century when the Christian scriptures were first translated into the vernacular languages of Europe. These early printed Bibles, along with psalters, prayer books and homilies; Greek and Latin Bibles; and early editions of literary works dating from the 16th and 17th centuries, form the core of the collection used by Dr. Naseeb Shaheen in his studies of the Bible in literature.

Shaheen was an internationally known authority on Shakespeare's use of the Bible. His definitive series on biblical allusions in Shakespeare's plays, collected in his almost 900-page *Biblical References in Shakespeare's Plays*, compares apparent biblical references against all literary sources and versions of Scripture that would have been known to the Bard.

His collection of pre-King James Bibles was one of the largest in the world. The Shaheen Antiquarian Bible Collection includes more than 60 examples of the Geneva Bible, the Scripture most often referenced in Shakespeare, as well as early printings of the so-called Great Bible, Bishops' Bible, Matthew's Bible, the Douay-Rheims Version, and the King James Bible.

In addition to Bibles, the collection includes works by Milton, Dryden, Spenser, Jonson, and Plutarch.



Selections from the Shaheen Antiquarian Bible Collection

10. *Spenser's Faerie*. London: Printed for J. and R. Tonson in the Strand, 1758. PR2358.A3U6 1758
28. *Du Bartas his divine weeks, and works*. London: Printed by Humphray Lownes, 1621. PQ1616.E2S8 1621
29. [Bible in English (Matthew's Version)] At London: Imprinted by John Daye, dwelling at Aldersgate, and William Seres, dwelling in Peter College, xvii day of August M.D. XLJX. BS1501549
58. *The institution of Christian religion* written in Latine by M. John Calvin. At London: Printed by H. Midleton, for W. Norton, Anno Dom. 1587. BX9420.I6513 1587
80. *The Romane historie* by T. Liuius of Padua. London: Printed by Adam Islip, 1600. Oversize DG207. L5H6 1600
82. *Marcus Tullius Cicero, his three books of duties: to Marcus his sonne* by Nicholas Grimalde. London: Printed by Thomas Este, [1600?] PA6308.D5G6 1600
99. *Marcus Tullius Ciceroes three bookes of duties: to Marcus his sonne* by Nicolas Grimalde; London in Fleete Street within Temple barre at the signe of the hande and starre: by Richard Tottill., 1558. PA6308 .D5G6 1558
102. *Paradise lost. A poem in twelve books* by John Milton. London, Printed by S. Simmons, next door to the Golden Lion in Aldersgate-street, 1678. PR35601678
120. *The Duke of Guise: a tragedy: acted by Their Majesties servants* by Mr. Dryden, and Mr. Lee. London: Printed for J. Tonson, at Grays-Inn-Gate near Grays-Inn-lane, 1699. PR3415D8 1699
126. *The faerie queene: disposed into twelve books, fashioning XII moral virtues*. London: Printed for VVilliam Ponsonbie, 1596. PR2358.A1 1596
151. *The. XV. bookes of P. Ouidius Naso, entitled, Metamorphosis* translated out of Latine into English meter, by Arthur Golding, Gentle-man. Imprinted at London: By W. W[hite], 1603. PA6522.M2G3 1603
207. *Biblia Sacra: Vulgate Editionis Sixti Qvinti Pont. Max.* Antverpiæ: Ex Officina Plantiniana, Apud Ioannem Moretum, M.D. XCIX. (1599) BS751599
237. *Plutarch. Les vies des hommes illustres, Grecs et Romains*, A Paris: De l'Imprimerie de Pierre Cheuillot, demeurant deuant le petit Nauarre, à l'enseigne saint Iean l'Euangeliste, M.D. LXXIX. [1579] PQ1601.A6A3 1579
247. *The works of Benjamin Jonson*. London, Printed by Richard Bishop, and are to be sold by Andrew Crooke in St. Paules Church-yard, 1640. PR2600 1640
258. *Comedies and tragedies* by Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher. London: Printed for Humphrey Robinson at the three Pidgeons and for Humphrey Moseley at the Princes Armes in St Paules Churchyard, 1647. PR2420 1647
268. *Hecatommithi, ouero Cento nouelle di M. Giouanbattista Giralddi Cinthio nobile ferrarese*. In Vinegia: Appresso Enea de Alaris., M D LXXIII [1574]. PQ4624.H4 1574
271. *Orlando furioso* di M. Lodovico Ariosto; In Vinegia: Appresso Gabriel Giolito de'Ferrari et fratelli, 1555. PQ4567.A2 1555
304. *The Alcoran of Mahomet* translated out of Arabique into French by the Sieur du Ryer, Lord of Malezair, and Resident for the King of France, at Alexandria. London: [s.n.], Printed, anno Dom. 1649. BP109.D8 1649