

Sir Leoline JENKINS 1625-1685

Sponsored by the antiquary Sir John Aubrey, Jenkins attended Cowbridge School in Glamorgan and went up to Jesus College in 1641, where he was taught by the metaphysical poet Henry Vaughan. He returned to Wales as a private tutor during the Civil War, but was forced to leave after his host's house was confiscated. Disillusioned with republican Oxford, he taught in France, Germany, and the Netherlands before moving to Shropshire, where he studied civil law. After the Restoration Jenkins was made a Fellow of Jesus College and served as Principal between 1661 and 1672. Widely considered the College's second founder, he was responsible for organizing and funding building work, including the present Fellows' Library.

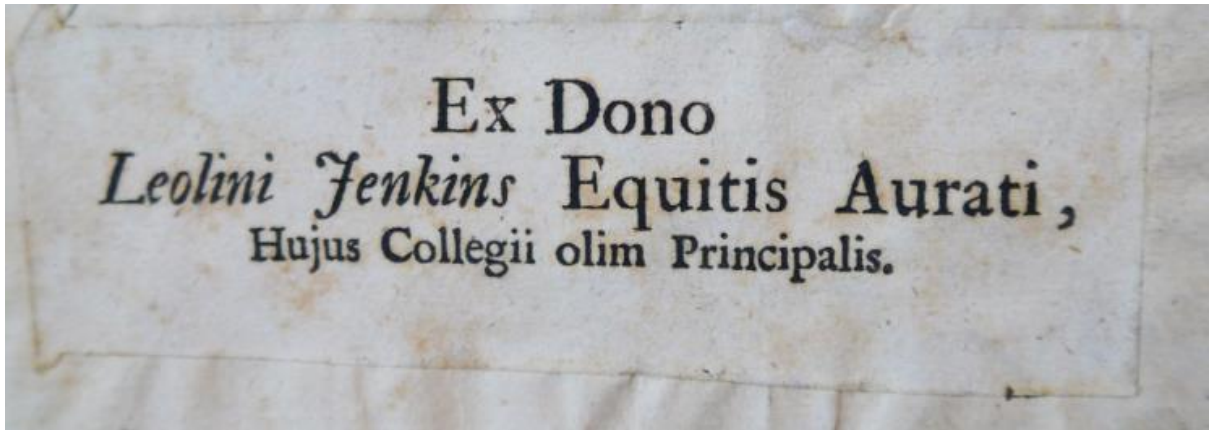
Jenkins also found success as a practising lawyer. He became a respected authority on maritime law and was promoted to Judge of the Admiralty, during which time he was instrumental in the development of prize law. He also served as a diplomat in the Anglo-Dutch war peace negotiations and was appointed ambassador to the Netherlands. He was made Secretary of State in 1680, for which he was considered an able administrator. During his career, Jenkins also represented Hythe and Oxford University as a Member of Parliament.

Books

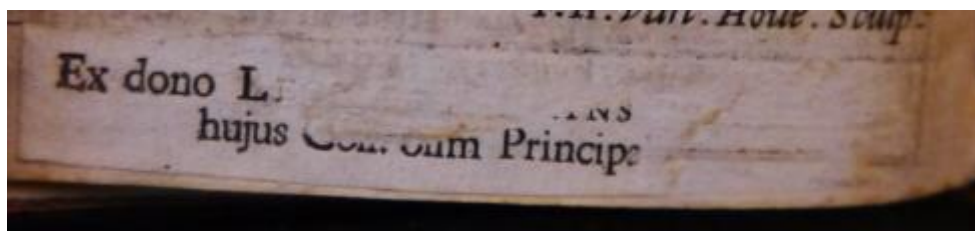
807 titles in Jesus College Fellows' Library have been catalogued with Jenkins provenance information. Most are works on maritime and canon law, but the collection includes some theological and historical texts too. Notable books include early issues of the *Le Mercure Galant* gazette (1670-78) and a set of almanacs bound in red morocco bearing Charles II's cipher.

Characteristic Markings

The most common provenance evidence for Jenkins's ownership are the two bequest book labels commissioned by Jesus College, which read 'Ex dono Leolini Jenkins Equitis Aurati, Hujus Collegii olim Principalis'. Two of the books also display Jenkins's armorial binding of three cocks a mullet for difference. Some books contain marginalia, although it is difficult to confirm that these are in Jenkins's hand. One book also contains notes about the cost of the book and of the binding. No signatures or mottos have been found.



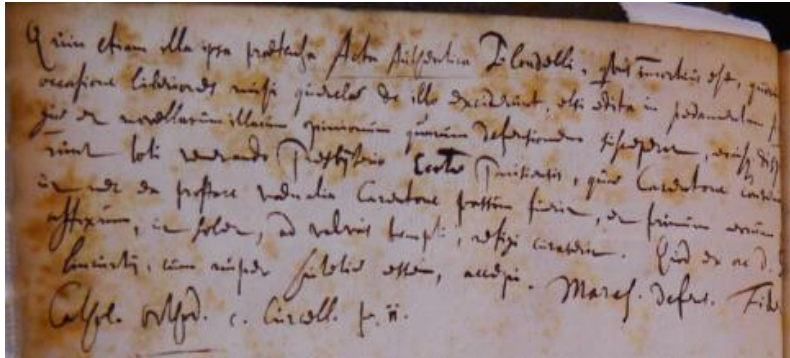
K.8.5 title-page



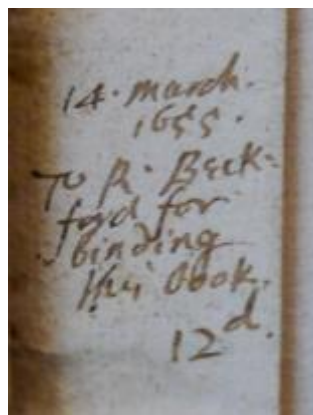
Q.8.29 front board verso



O.15.2 front board



I.7.33 flyleaf verso



L.4.14 flyleaf stub

Bibliography

British Armorial Bindings, 'Jenkins, Leoline, Sir (1623 - 1685) (Stamp 1)'

<http://armorial.library.utoronto.ca/stamps/JEN001_s1> [accessed online 8 July 2014]

Fordyce, J.C. and Knox, T.M., *The Library of Jesus College, Oxford, with an Appendix on the Books Bequeathed Thereto by Lord Herbert of Cherbury*, Oxford: Oxford Bibliographical Society, 1937, p.17

Jesus College Fellows' Library Benefactors' Book

Marshall, Alan, 'Jenkins, Sir Leoline (1625–1685)', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, 2004

Draft: July 2014