The beautiful and interesting collection of books which formed the travelling library of Sir Julius Caesar, master of the rolls in the reign of James I., consists of forty-four volumes, the largest of which measures 4½ inches by 2½ inches, and the smallest 2¾ inches by 2 inches. The case in which they are contained is 16 inches long, 11 inches wide, and rather more than 3 inches deep. It is made of oak, and is shaped to resemble a folio volume, the sides and back being covered with a light olive morocco, elegantly tooled; and the portion representing the edges painted green, with the word Bibliotheca written across it in gold letters. The case was formerly tied with ribands, but these have disappeared.

The interior contains three sets of books; the first and second sets standing upon two shelves, the third set being placed upon the bottom of the case. All of the volumes are bound in beautiful white vellum. The theological and philosophical works occupy the first shelf, and have an angel bearing a scroll with the legend "Gloria Deo" stamped on the sides of the covers, and a small floral ornament on the backs. They are also distinguished by the blue ribands with which the volumes are tied. The historical works are placed on the second shelf, and have a crowned lion rampant impressed upon the sides, with a flaming heart on the backs. The ribands of this set are red. The third row consists of the poetical works, the sides being decorated with two olive branches, and the backs, with a few exceptions, with a star. These volumes are tied with green ribands. The books are principally from the presses of Raphelengius, at Leyden, and Thomas Porteau, at Saumur, and were all printed between the years 1591 and 1619. The inside of the lid of the case is very handsomely illuminated, and bears the arms of the owner and those of two of his wives. It has also a list of the volumes written in gold. This beautiful library was purchased by the British Museum in 1842.

Sir Julius Caesar was the son of Cesare Adelmore, a native of Treviso, a city distant about twelve miles from Venice. This Cesare, who was a doctor of medicine in the University of Padua, went to England about 1559, and settled in London, where he speedily acquired a large practice as a medical man, and was eventually appointed physician to Queen Mary, and...
afterwards to her successor, Queen Elizabeth, by whom he was held in high estimation. He died in 1560, and was interred in the Church of St. Helen, Bishopsgate-street. His eldest son, who was born in 1558, received at his baptism the names of Julius Caesar, the latter of which he afterwards used as a surname, abandoning that of Adelmar. He was educated at the University of Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1575, and became M.A. in 1578. He remained at the University until the end of the following year, when he went to Paris, where he was admitted a doctor of both laws (civil and canon) in 1581, and in 1584 he took the degree of doctor of laws at Oxford. He had already been admitted a bencher of the Inner Temple, and in October, 1581, he received his first public appointment, which he informs us was that of “Justice of the peace in all causes of piracy and such like throughout the land.” In 1583, Caesar was nominated “Councillor to the City of London,” and a little later he became a master in chancery, and also succeeded Dr. Lewes as judge of the Admiralty Court. This last post appears to have been the reverse of valuable, for we find him in 1589 complaining that during seven years’ service he had not received “fee, pension or recompense to the value of one penny.” He also declared that during that time he had expended £4,000 out of his own purse in relieving the wants of poor suitors in his court—a very characteristic instance of the generosity of this good and charitable man. In 1591 the queen bestowed on him the office of master of requests, and in 1596 he obtained the mastership of St. Catharine’s Hospital by means of a bribe of £500 to the Scottish ambassador in England, Archibald Douglas, who used his interest with the queen to procure Caesar this appointment.

In September, 1598, Elizabeth honoured him with a visit at his residence at Mitcham, in Surrey, passing the night of the 12th there, and dining with him on the following day; and he tells us that the entertainment of her majesty, together with the presents which he offered to her, cost him £700. These presents consisted of “a gown of cloth of silver, richly embroidered; a black network mantle, with pure gold; a taffeta hat, white, with several flowers and a jewel of gold set therein with rubies and diamonds.” The queen always expected costly gifts on these occasions, and it is therefore not surprising that her courtiers regarded her visits with somewhat mixed feelings.

On the accession of James I. to the crown, Caesar was knighted, and in 1606 he succeeded Sir George Hume as chancellor of the exchequer and was sworn of the privy council. In 1614 he became master of the rolls. He lived until 1636, dying on April 18th in that year, aged seventy-nine, and was buried in the Church of St. Helen, where his monument, with a curious device (a deed poll, with the cord attaching the seal severed) and inscription designed and composed by himself, is still to be seen.

Sir Julius Caesar was married three times, his third wife being a niece of Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, who was present at the wedding and gave the bride away. He was also one of the supervisors of the will of Bacon, who, it is stated, wrote many of his works in Caesar’s house, and died in his arms. Sir Julius Caesar appears to have been a most just and honourable man, and Fuller, in his “State Worthy,” says “that he was a person of such prodigious bounty to all of worth or want that he might seem to be almoner general of the nation.” He was the author of several works, and left a considerable collection of books, which at his death was divided between his sons.—American Bookmaker.

In his patent “Memorial” bindings, Herr George Held, of Camberg, brings a pretty new article in the prayer and hymn book line into the market. They are books with double covers, which lie with the clasps one in another, and remain in this position when in use. If one lifts the outer back from the opened book, the insides appear; they are meant for the inscription of a dedication, or a photograph of the giver, as shown in our illustration, which explains the construction to the reader better than words. Contrary to expectation, the cover appears in no way coarse or awkward.

The International Press Exhibition at Brussels.—The official opening of this interesting exhibition, at Brussels, took place on May 8th last, and since that time reports shew that it has been a great success. The visitor finds the exhibition very different from ordinary exhibitions, for what he sees appeals to his intelligence, rather than charms the eye. All around are large numbers of journals of all periods, representing every grade of thought, opinion, science, art, literature, finance, and industry, and well indicative of that mighty power—the press—which soothes and excites the passions of nations, and which controls and gives expression to the movements of the world. Every country in the world is represented in some of the divisions into which exhibits have been divided, and it may be fairly claimed that the exposition represents in a very tangible fashion the history of journalism from its obscure origin to the immense developments of modern times.