

ranean to the use of pen and ink. On certain of those shores at least there is scarcely any inconvenience that the majority of respectable and good-natured people will not tolerate—inconvenience to their neighbours be it understood—rather than put pen to paper for the purpose of preventing it.

X. VARIOUS TYPES OF TEXT OF MARCO POLO'S BOOK.

55. In treating of the various Texts of Polo's Book we must necessarily go into some irksome detail.

Four Principal Types of Text. First, that of the Geographic, or oldest French.

Those Texts that have come down to us may be classified under Four principal Types.

I. The First Type is that of the Geographic Text of which we have already said so much. This is found nowhere *complete* except in the unique MS. of the Paris Library, to which it is stated to have come from the old Library of the French Kings at Blois. But the Italian *Crusca*, and the old Latin version (No. 3195 of the Paris Library) published with the Geographic Text, are evidently derived entirely from it, though both are considerably abridged. It is also demonstrable that neither of these copies has been translated from the other, for each has passages which the other omits, but that both have been taken, the one as a copy more or less loose, the other as a translation, from an intermediate *Italian* copy.* A special

* In the following citations, the Geographic Text (G. T.) is quoted by page from the printed edition (1824); the Latin published in the same volume (G. L.) also by page; the *Crusca*, as before, from Bartoli's edition of 1863. References in parentheses are to the present translation:—

A. *Passages showing the G. L. to be a translation from the Italian, and derived from the same Italian text as the Crusca.*

	Page		
(1). G.T.	17	(I. 43).	Il hi se laborent <i>le souran tapis</i> dou monde.
Crusca,	17	..	E quivi si fanno <i>i sovrani tappeti</i> del mondo.
G.L.	311	..	Et ibi fiunt <i>soriani et tapeti</i> pulciores de mundo.
(2). G.T.	23	(I. 69).	Et adonc le calif mande par tuit les cristiez . . . <i>que en sa tere estoient.</i>
Crusca,	27	..	<i>Ora mandò</i> lo aliffo per tutti gli Cristiani <i>ch' erano di là.</i>
G.L.	316	..	<i>Or misit</i> califus pro Christianis <i>qui erant ultra fluvium</i> (the last words being clearly a misunderstanding of the Italian <i>di là</i>).