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FROM MY DIARY

A couple of things have held my attention in the last few weeks. Firstly I have been working on the QuickLatin codebase. The migration to dotNet is complete, and it is now a question of firing stuff at it and finding why it breaks! I've also updated the dictionaries to the latest version.

Basically I can now enhance it as I like; which was the purpose behind doing all this in the first place. It might be an idea to merge into it some translation tools that I have created over the years. The main user of this will undoubtedly be me, so I may as well make myself comfortable.

The other piece of work is the ongoing translation of the very ancient *Life* of St George. This is in 21 chapters. The translator has done a draft of chapters 1-12, which I have revised and made ready for release. I have in turn prepared a draft of chapters 18-21, which I have sent to the translator for comment. I am now working on chapter 17, and using bits from it to test out QuickLatin. The completed translation will of course be released online as public domain once it is done.

Easter is now behind us. I had meant to do an Easter post, but somehow I got distracted. I spent quite a bit of my downtime on Twitter fighting the "Easter is pagan" jeer that is circulated every year by the malicious and their innocent dupes. This year the fight really got some traction behind it, and a number of people were patrolling and posting corrective links. Alas it is probably an unwinnable battle, at least while the false story is agreeable to a certain sort of influential person; but it is something to have tried.

I have enquired about access to the Ipswich Museum files in Suffolk Record Office, in order to locate the survey of the Roman fort by the 1969 sub-aqua expedition. The archivist has now looked at these, and found nothing. It looks very much as if the report has been mislaid in the last 20 years. However I can't even go and look at the files; I'm told that permission to view the items must be obtained from Ipswich Museum, and their response time is six weeks (!) I have written of course. But it is a forlorn hope.

We must always be grateful for the internet and the ready availability of research materials on the web. I certainly am!
