

"The Rise and Fall of Alexandria", Howard Reid and Justin Pollard

Post by "Joshua" of November 20, 2020 at 7:17 AM

Galen wrote this in the 2nd century AD; I don't know whether he is the only ancient source.

Quote

Ptolemy the king of Egypt was so eager to collect books, that he ordered the books of everyone who sailed there to be brought to him. The books were then copied into new manuscripts. He gave the new copy to the owners, whose books had been brought to him after they sailed there, but he put the original copy in the library with the inscription "a [book] from the ships"