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A JOURNAL OF  
BOOK-LORE. VOL. IV**

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# THE BIBLIOGRAPHER.

*A Journal of Book-Love.*



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## P R E F A C E .



"To divert at any time a troublesome fancy, run to thy Books; they presently fix thee to them, and drive the other out of thy thoughts. They always receive thee with the same kindness."—FULLER.

**M**ONTH follows month so rapidly that when another opportunity comes for the Editor to say a few words of welcome to his readers he finds that four-and-twenty have passed since first he addressed them. Now that four volumes of the *BIBLIOGRAPHER* have appeared, Editor and subscribers may well congratulate themselves upon an achieved success, and they can look forward with an assured hope that a long row of volumes are still to follow.

The field of Bibliography extends over so vast a surface that it is no light labour to till it with success, and we can only hope to bring certain portions into cultivation. Most books have a history well worth the telling, and authors have long ago found that the vicissitudes of books form a subject of never-failing interest. But to tell all this would require a library itself; and we can only select. We trust that our selections have met and always will meet with the approval of our readers.

Of the past we may confidently say that every one dealing with Bibliography and Literary History must come to these pages; and with the ever present wish that they shall never come in vain it will always be the endeavour of the Editor to make this journal a store-house of information respecting everything that concerns the history of books.

The Editor feels, however, very strongly how much the success

of the BIBLIOGRAPHER is owing to the valuable help of the honoured contributors. It is not necessary to mention names, for these appear upon every page; but it is not the least pleasure which the Editor feels, in having an occasional opportunity of writing a letter to his readers, that he thus finds a means of expressing his warm thanks to these contributors.

H. B. W.







# THE BIBLIOGRAPHER.



## EDITIONS.

BY EDWARD SOLLY, F.R.S.



WHEN the Art of Printing was invented all the works which issued from the press were first editions; though, as there was then no law of copyright, any printer could at his pleasure reprint any book he met with, and which he deemed saleable, his impression being to him also a first edition,—but of course none of these books were called the first edition. A book must be reprinted, it must really be set up by the printers a second time, before the first issue can fairly be called the first edition. In this respect it is like a king who is the first of his name: he is not styled “the first” till after his death, and it is only when a successor of the same name ascends the throne that he comes to be spoken of as “the first”; King Charles the Martyr was never designated “King Charles the First” during his lifetime, though curiously enough he is sometimes designated as “King Charles the Second Monarch of Great Britain,” a style which is quite correct if there is a comma after the name Charles, but which becomes misleading if instead of that the comma is placed after the word Second. In the case of books—that is, all books which are printed more than once—it is often a matter of considerable interest to ascertain the date and particulars of the first issue. Amongst the early printed books the first edition often

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consisted only of a small number of copies; their number has been diminished by fire and the many other causes of destruction to which books are liable, and hence they have become rare and consequently of increased value. But besides this there are many other circumstances which may give a special value to a first edition: statements that may be quite true, but not prudent, are struck out in later editions, and many alterations which are in some respects not improvements introduced. Hence, he who studies the work of a great writer does always well, if he can, to compare the author's first edition with his latest. It is also evident that, in all questions depending on dates, it is most important to know the real date of the first edition. A point in history, which from the title-page seems to be printed in 1610, may be not only valueless, but misleading, if we are ignorant of the fact that that is only the date of a second or third issue, and that the book was really written and printed for the first time in 1590. In the majority of books printed before 1700 very little care was bestowed either by authors or publishers in stating the number of the edition upon the title-page, so that very often what is really a second or third passes as a first edition. As books became more common, and as the publication of each new edition was in truth an advertisement of a work, showing how well it was appreciated by the reading public, this was remedied; and if the words “third edition” on the title-page stamped the work as good, so “tenth

edition" was to some extent evidence that it was very good. In some instances this has led to the manufacture of editions—the printing of only a comparatively small number at first, in order that the book may be soon "out of print" and a second edition necessary.

There is a special trouble to those who are curious in editions, in the many spurious copies printed even during the lives of authors,—not those which writers like Pope have had printed on purpose, in order that they might be subsequently declared spurious, but distinct piracies by unscrupulous printers or publishers. Some of these things may be well illustrated by a reference to the collected issues of Prior's *Poems*, which first appeared in 1709. Here is a list of the first dozen issues:—

- 1709.—London, 8vo, Tonson, pp. 328.  
 1709.—London, 8vo, Tonson, *second edition*, pp. 328.  
 1711.—London, 12mo, Tonson, pp. 248.  
 1713.—London, 12mo, Tonson, pp. 248.  
 1717.—London, 12mo, Tonson, pp. 248.  
 1718.—London, folio, Tonson and Barber, pp. 506.  
 1720.—London, 12mo, T. Johnson, *new edition* [Hague], pp. 456.  
 1721.—London, 12mo, Tonson and Barber, 2 vols., pp. 257 and 238.  
 1725.—London, 12mo, Tonson and Barber, 2 vols., pp. 231 and 259.  
 1728.—Dublin, 12mo, Grierson, 2 vols., pp. 224 and 192.  
 1733.—London, 12mo, Knaplock and others, *fifth edition*, 2 vols., pp. 231 and 259.  
 1734.—London, 12mo, Birt and Peales, *fifth edition*, 2 vols., pp. 231 and 259.  
 1741.—London, 12mo, Lintot and Tonson, *sixth edition*, pp. 402.

There are twelve distinct editions, yet we seem only to have reached the sixth in 1741; those published in 1733 and 4 are the same edition, but with different names as publishers. Prior died in 1721, and shortly after his death Osborne brought out a short memoir of Prior with "a new collection of Poems on several occasions by Mr. Prior and others." There were several editions of this supplementary volume, into which other poems such as Hildebrand Jacob's "Curious Maid" were introduced, and it was not till many years

subsequently that at all a complete edition of Prior's *Poems* was published.

The number of the so-called spurious editions of books—not merely pirated copies, but those which have been distinctly repudiated by the authors—is great; and they often lead to considerable confusion. There are few more interesting volumes printed in the reign of Charles II. than Andrew Marvell's *Rehearsal Transpros'd*, a book of which it has been said with much truth that it will be read with pleasure long after the book to which it was a reply has become wholly forgotten. The title of this book was *The Rehearsal Transpros'd, or Animadversions upon a late book Intituled "A Preface shewing what grounds there are of fears and jealousies of Popery."* London, Printed in the year 1672, Sm. 8vo, 16 pages to the sheet: pp. 1—326, and list of errata at end.

The same year there appeared what was called a second edition; it had precisely the same title-page as the first, but at foot was "The Second Edition, corrected, London, printed by A. B. for the Assigns of John Calvin and Theodore Beza at the sign of the King's Indulgence, on the south side of the Lake Lemane, 1672," 12mo, 24 pages to the sheet, pp. 1—181. In this the misprints of the first edition were corrected, and there was no list of errata.

Immediately afterwards there appeared a third issue, the title-page of which was in all respects the same as that last mentioned, with this one exception: the last line ended after Lake Lemane "and Sould by N. Ponder in Chancery Lane, 1672." Sm. 8vo, 16 pages to the sheet, pp. 1—326. On the back of the title-page there is the following note:

"An Advertisement from the Bookseller. This book having wrought itself thorow many difficulties, it hath newly incourted with that of a counterfeit impression in 12<sup>mo</sup>, under the title and pretence of the 2<sup>d</sup> edition corrected. Whereas in truth that impression is so far from having been corrected, that it doth grossly and frequently corrupt both the sence and words of the cobby. N. P."

From this it would seem that there are two second editions in existence, the first spurious in 12mo, the second genuine in sm. 8vo; but here is the curious circumstance

which does not seem ever to have been explained: the spurious copy is said to be printed "for the assigns of John Calvin," etc., yet this quaint imprint is copied and adopted word for word into the author's real second edition! There is so little difference in size between old small 8vo and 12mo, that size alone will not show whether a copy of Marvell's *Rehearsal*, Parts I. and II., consists of the two genuine editions, or of one genuine and the other spurious. The name of N. Ponder on the title-page as publisher or vendor, and the sixteen pages to the sheet, indicate what is called the genuine edition of the first part.

But besides the uncertainties which surround the publication of many important works, the questions of which are the earliest and which are the best editions, and the number of surreptitious or pirated editions, there is yet another and a very serious evil to which attention may well be directed, and that is what by some have been styled "Title editions." I will illustrate this by a reference to the poems of William Broome, who though his name is seldom mentioned now, and his poetical works are perhaps hardly ever looked at, yet was mixed up with others in a way which will ever give him a place in the history of English literature. The man with respect to whom it was said, in reference to Pope's translation of the *Odyssey*,—

"Pope came off clean with Homer; but they say  
Broome went before, and kindly swept the way,"

and whom Pope subsequently, having employed him and not too liberally paid him for his labours, thought fit to introduce into the *Dunciad*, though he subsequently struck his name out, must always have a place, if only a subordinate one, amongst our minor poets.

Johnson, who gives a brief memoir of Broome, mentions the work which he did for Pope, the rather meagre payment which Broome received, his complaints, and the coldness which consequently sprang up between the two, adding, "I have been told that they were afterwards reconciled; but I am afraid their peace was without friendship. He afterwards published a *Miscellany of Poems*." I am desirous of drawing attention to this *Miscellany*, which, however, was

not published after the name of Broome had been inserted by Pope in the *Dunciad*, as Johnson observes, but certainly previously, as it was printed in 1727. Lintot, under date 22nd Feb. 1726-7, has an entry of £35 paid to Mr. Broome for his *Miscellany Poems* [Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes* viii. 294]. The title of the book is:—

*Poems* | on | several occasions, | by William Broome, | chaplain to the Right Honourable Charles | Lord Cornwallis, Baron of Eye, Warden, | Chief Justice, and Justice in Eyre, of all His | Majesty's Parks, etc., on the south side of Trent | [motto—*Nos otia vita Solamur Cantu. Stat.*] London | Printed for Bernard Lintot, at the Cross | Keys between the Temple gates, in Fleet Street, | MDCCLXXII.—8vo.

Dedication six pages, Contents three pages, Advertisement one page; pp. 1—248.

The work contains in all forty pieces, amongst which is a short but highly complimentary poem "to a gentleman who corrected some of my verses." Broome published a second edition of this *Miscellany* in 1739, with the following title:—

*Poems* | on | several occasions, | by William Broome, LL.D., | chaplain to the Right Honourable Charles Lord | Cornwallis, Baron of Eye, in Suffolk | [motto as before]. | The second edition | with large alterations and additions. | London, | printed for Henry Lintot, MDCCLXXXIX, 8vo.

Dedication six pages, Preface thirteen pages, Advertisement one page; pp. 1—280, including four pages of contents at the end.

This second edition contains ten poems not in the previous one; and amongst other alterations the complimentary lines to a gentleman appear as "To Mr. A. Pope, who corrected my verses."

Broome died in 1745, and another issue of his poems was brought out a few years subsequently. The title-page is precisely the same in all respects as that of the second edition of 1739, with this single exception: in place of "printed for Henry Lintot" there appears "printed for Henry Lintot and sold by J. Wren at the Bible and Crown, near great Turnstile Holborn MDCCCL." It is always rather startling to find two second editions of a book with an interval of eleven years between the dates of their issue, and