A SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF AMERICAN IMPRINTS

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A Second Supplementary List of American Imprints by Samuel A. Green

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EARLY AMERICAN IMPRINTS.

With Notes and an Appendix.

BY

SAMUEL A. GREEN.

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CAMBRIDGE: JOHN WILSON AND SON. University Press, 1899.

EARLY AMERICAN IMPRINTS.

AT a meeting of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, held in Boston on Thursday, January 12, 1899, Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN presented the following paper: —

At a meeting of the Historical Society, held on February 14, 1895, I gave a list of all books, pamphlets, and broadsides belonging to the Library, which were printed in the American colonies either before or during the year 1700, with a collation of the same; and the list duly appears in the Proceedings (second series, IX. 410-540) of that meeting. In the following autumn, at the Annual Meeting of the American Antiquarian Society, held in Worcester on October 28, 1895, Mr. Nathaniel Paine presented a similar list of all the early publications belonging to that Society, which was also printed in the Proceedings (new series, X. 281-350) of that meeting ; though he gave a collation of those only which do not appear in my list. In the Historical Society's collection there are described 807 publications, and in the Antiquarian Society's there are described 156, of which none is a duplicate of any in the former list. To my paper I appended a description of six early titles found in my own library.

At a meeting of this Society, held on June 9, 1898, I gave some additional collations (second series, XII. 273-285), which include eight titles belonging to the Library, and fifteen broadsides found among the Massachusetts Archives at the State House. Another title, which has come into the Library within the past four months, is now added, of which the collation is as follows: —

1700.

The Everlasting Gospel. | — | The Gospel of | Justification | By the | Righteousness of God; | As 'is | Held and Preach'd in the Churches | of New-England: Expressed in | a Brief Discourse on that | Important Article; Made at Boston | in the Year, 1699. | — | By Cotton Mather. | — | And, | Asserted with the Attestations, of | several Reverend and Eminent | Persons, now most con- | siderable in those | Churches. | — || Boston, Printed by B. Green, and J. Allen, for | Nicholas Buttolph, and Sold at his Shop | at the corner of Gutteridges Coffee- | House. 1700. 16mo. pp. (32), 76.

Titlepage, surrounded by a border line, verso, "The Memorable words of Luther, | before he Engaged in the | Reformation," fourteen lines between two lines of S-shaped border pieces; 15 pp. "The Dedication. | — | To the Reverend Ministers | Of the Gospel in | London, | Sometimes Honoured with the Name | of United Brethren. | Reverend, and Honoured Syrs," signed "Cotton Mather," headpiece a line of a variety of border pieces; 2 pp. "To the Reader," signed "Increase Mather," headpiece a line of S-shaped border pieces; 9 pp. "To the Reader," signed "John Higginson," and dated "September 28. 1699," headpiece like the last; 4 pp. "To the Reader," signed "Samuel Willard," headpiece like the last; 1-73, "The Everlasting | Gospel," headpiece, a variety of border pieces, at the end "Boston-Lecture: 27. d. 5. m. | and 24. d. 6. m. 1699", "Finis" between two rules; headlines; 74-76, "Divine Hymns," headpiece a line of small border pieces.

I am led to make these remarks in recapitulation now, as within a short time I have gathered a few additional titles of early American imprints belonging to the John Carter Brown Library in Providence. This noted library contains by far the finest private collection of Americana in the country, and probably in existence. It is exceedingly rich in early printed books relating to America, and in those bearing early American imprints. Its collection of works printed in Mexico at a period long antedating the press in New England, considering the rarity of such books, is both choice and large. The library was begun by the late Mr. John Carter Brown, who for twenty years was a Corresponding Member of the Historical Society. For the generous use of its treasures on many occasions, Publishing Committees of the Society and other

owner. At the present time the library belongs to a son, Mr. John Nicholas Brown, also a Corresponding Member of the Society, who, inheriting his father's tastes, has kept up the traditions of the family, and is constantly adding to the noble collection. More than once I have been under great obligations to him for the use of rarities which could be found in no other library.

As instances of the extreme scarcity of some of the volumes in this remarkable collection, as well as of the liberality of the owner, I give extracts from two works well known to historical students.

Mr. Arthur Helps, author of "The Spanish Conquest in America" (London, 1857), in a footnote acknowledges the use of a rare book in the following words: —

Puga's Collection of Ordinances, printed in Mexico in 1563, in folio, is the earliest summary of Spanish colonial law, relating to the New World. It is a work of the highest rarity : there is not a copy known to exist in England. The one which I have made use of belongs to John Carter Brown, Esq., of Providence, Rhode Island, in America, who kindly sent it over to his friend, Mr. Henry Stevens, in order that I might be permitted to consult it. As far as I have been able to judge, the American collectors of books are exceedingly liberal and courteous in the use of them, and seem really to understand what the object should be in forming a great library. (III. 127, 128.)

Vice-Admiral C. R. D. Bethune, editor of Galvano's Treatise which appeared as the thirtieth volume (London, 1862) of the "Works issued by the Hakluyt Society," says in his preface:

This valuable work is the property of an American gentleman, Mr. John Carter Brown, of Providence, Rhode Island, who kindly permitted Mr. R. H. Major, of the British Museum, to have it copied; from this copy the Portuguese text has been printed. (Pages i, ii.)

At my request Mr. George Parker Winship, who is in immediate charge of the John Carter Brown Library, has kindly made for me a description of all the early American imprints in that famous collection which do not appear in the respective lists of the Historical Society and the Antiquarian Society, besides a description of two works in the Fiske-Harris collection of Brown University. These volumes number 18, and their collation adds materially to our bibliographical knowledge of early Colonial books.

In these several lists there are described 493 titles; and to this number should be added 18 other titles, described by Mr. Winship, and given below. The various collations, herein mentioned, amount to 511, and represent probably more than two-thirds of all the issues from the American press during the seventeenth century now extant. Some of these publications are unique, while others are supposed to be limited to a very few copies, and all are rare. The figures here given are subject to a very slight variation, as one or two titles may prove to have been printed in the mother country, though the weight of authority seems to favor New England as the place of publication. In this paper the words "imprint" and "title" are used synonymously to designate the work, whether it be a book, pamphlet, or broadside.

1647.

The | Whole Book | of | Psalmes, | Faithfully translated into | English Metre: | Wherennto is prefixed a discourse, declaring not | only the lawfulnesse, but also the necessity | of the heavenly Ordinance of sing- | ing Scripture Psalmes in the | Churches of God. | — | [Five lines from Col. iii. 16, and three lines from James v. 13] | — || Imprinted 1647. 16mo. pp. (14), 274.

Titlepage, verso blank; 12 pp. "The Preface"; 1-274, text, headpiece a line of border pieces; 274, lower half, "An Admonition to the Reader" in seventeen lines.

A facsimile of the titlepage, by type, is given in the Catalogue of the Library (Part II. 1600-1700, p. 600), No. 1635, where it says that this is "A reprint of the first edition [of the Bay Psalm Book] without additions, but with some changes in spelling." This volume is the copy mentioned as No. 850 in the Brinley Catalogue (Part I. 115).

1664.

A | Discourse | of the last | Judgement : | or, | Short Notes upon Mat. XXV. | from Ver. 31. to the end of the | Chapter. | Concerning the Judgement to Come, and our Pre- | paration to stand before | The Great Judge of Quick and Dead. | Which are of sweetest Comfort to the Elect Sheep, | and of most dreadful Amazement and Terrour | to Reprobate Goats. | And do Concern All to think Seriously upon, that | they may look the Judge in the Face with |

Comfort in the Great Day of His | Appearing. | — | By Samuel Whiting, Pastor of the | Church of Christ at Lynne in N. E. | — | [Three lines from Eccles. xii. 14, four lines from 2 Cor. v. 10, and two lines from Acts xxiv. 25.] | — || Cambridge : | Printed by S. G. and M. J. 1664. 16mo. pp. (14), 160.

Titlepage, surrounded by a line of border pieces, verse blank; 6 pp. "To | the Christian | Reader," signed "Samuel Whiting," headpiece two lines of border pieces, running headlines "The Epistle" and "To the Reader"; 6 pp. "To | the Reader," signed "John Wilson Senior," and "Jonathan Mitchell," headpiece, two lines of acorn-shaped border pieces, headlines; 1-160, "A | Discourse | of the | Last Judgement," | on | Matth. 25. 81. to the end," headpiece a line of similar border pieces, running headlines.

1666.

Abraham's | Humble Intercession for Sodom, | and | The Lord's gracious Concessions | in Answer thereunto : | Containing sundry | Meditations | upou | Gen. XVIII, from Ver. XXIII, | to the end of the Chapter. | Wherein many things are spoken of concerning Be- | lievers drawing near to God, and the Efficacy of | their Prayers: and how they may be Princes and | Prevailers with God, and with what boldness they | may come before him, and what ground they may | get of him by their Prayers, and what sweet com- | muning they have with him. | With sundry other things worthy of our | most serious thoughts, helping us to be more Spi- | ritual and Heavenly, which may prepare us for that | everlasting Communion and Fellowship that we | hope to arrive at, and come to in a blessed state | of Glory by Jesus Christ. | -- | By Samuel Whiting, Pastor | of the Church of Christ at Lyn in N. E. | -- | [Three lines from James v. 16, and ii. 28.] | -- || Printed and Sold at Cambridge. 1666. 16mo. pp. (8), 349, (1).

Titlepage, surrounded by a line of border pieces, verse blank; 6 pp. "To the Reader," signed "Samuel Whiting," headpiece a line of urnshaped border pieces, headlines; 1-349, text, various headlines; 1 p. of Errata, "The Authors distance from the Press, and difficulty of the Copy, having occasioned the following Errata's;"... twelve lines, sixteen mistakes to be corrected or insertions to be made.

Cotton Mather, in his Magnalia, makes the following references to these two titles: "Now our Whiting published a Volume of Sermons upon that Prayer of Abraham; wherein he does raise, confirm, and apply Thirty two Doctrines, which he offered unto the Publick (as he says in his Preface) as the

Words of a dying Man; . . . But that which encouraged him unto this Publication, was the Acceptance which it had, before this, been found by another Treatise of his upon The Day of Judgment it self . . . and he has given us Forty two Doctrines thereupon, so handled as to suit the Edification of all Readers. The Notes are short, and but the concise Heads of what the Author prepared for his Weekly Exercises; nevertheless Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Mitchel, observe in their Preface thereunto : That the Reader by having much in a little Room, is the better furnished with variety of Matter, worthy of Meditation, for want of which many a Man does digest little of what he reads. They say, 'It is a good Saying of one, That the Reading of many diverse Heads, without some interlaced Meditation, is like eating of Marrow without Bread. But he that shall take time to pause upon what he reads (where great Truths are but in few Words hinted at) with intermixed Meditations and Ejaculations, suitable to the Matter in hand, will find such Truths concisely delivered, to be like Marrow and Fatness, whereof a little does go far, and feed much'" (Book III. 160).

The | Indian | Grammar | begun: or, | An Essay to bring the Indian Language | into | Rules, | For the Help of such as desire to Learn the same, for | the furtherance of the Gospel among them. | — | By John Eliot. | — | [Two lines from Iss. xxxiii. 19, two lines from Isa. lxvi. 18, two lines from Dan. vii. 14, one line from Psalms xix. 3, and two lines from Mal. iii. 11.] | — || Cambridge: | Printed by Marmaduke Johnson. 1666. 12mo. pp. (4), 65, (1).

Tidepage, surrounded by a line of border pieces, verso blank; 2 pp. "To the Right Honourable, | Robert Boyle Esq; | Governour: | With the rest of the Right Honourable and Christian | Corporation | For the Propagation of the Gospel unto | the Indians in New England," signed, "John Eliot," headpiece a line of fourteen urn-shaped border pieces; 1-65, "The | Indian Grammar | Begun," headpiece a line of border pieces like those on titlepage; 1 p. contains an explanation of "how I found out these new Wayes of Grammar, which no other Learned Language (so farre as I know) useth," headpiece a line of border pieces like the last.

Reprinted in the Collections (2d series, IX. 223-312, i-liv) with Introductory Observations by John Pickering, and Notes