

of item 852 one copy remains of 3000 printed) that obviously much printing must have been done of which neither copy nor record survives. Perhaps it would be safer to say "survives in libraries," for even during my investigations certain items came to light, were bought by libraries and were reported to me.

Description of each item attempts to be detailed enough so that anyone having a copy can identify it and determine its completeness. Title pages are described as fully as possible. The collation includes signatures in nearly all cases. Supporting evidence for imprint information is supplied whenever found. Reference is made to inclusion in other bibliographies, including Sabin (who notes less than one in six of the items). Location of copies is shown by means of the symbols developed by the American Imprints Inventory; underlinings indicate copies seen.

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Any undertaking of this sort depends greatly on the degree of cooperation shown by libraries holding copies of the items under study. During the preparation of the present volume I have been pleased to find that members of the library profession everywhere have been more than willing to assist. Although it is entirely impossible to mention here all those who have labored to locate obscure items, transcribe title pages, make collations and verify data, I cannot close without expressing appreciation to certain ones.

At the Library of Congress Mr. Charles G. LaHood, then of the Union Catalog Division, was indefatigable in answering questions of detail regarding the American Imprints Inventory slips, and Mr. Vincent Eaton of the Rare Books Division did everything possible to facilitate my work there.

In Baltimore, Miss Elizabeth Litsinger and her staff in the Maryland Room of the Enoch Pratt Free Library were consistently helpful, and Mr. Fred Shelley of the Maryland Historical Society put the extensive resources of the Society at my disposal.