

**WING ITEMS IN THE STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA:
ADDENDA; WITH A NOTE ON SOME RECENT DISCOVERIES**

IN AN EARLIER ISSUE OF THIS *BULLETIN* I listed the 1,107 Wing items which I was at that time able to locate in the State Library of Victoria, with an appendix of 32 other eligible items not found in Wing.¹ It seemed certain, even then, that addenda would turn up in the course of time. Anyone who has worked among the rare books collection of a large library knows that a great deal of older material, especially slight or ephemeral or imperfect items which in the past have been regarded as too difficult or too insignificant to catalogue, can remain unnoticed for many decades, and the library may well have no bibliographical record whatever of some of its most interesting holdings. Between 1979, when the State Library's Wing holdings were listed, and June 1981 some 40 further items came to my attention: some of them as a result of the work of the ANZEIP Research Assistant for Victoria, Brian Gerrard; others missed previously because they were bound with works of a later date; and a few recent acquisitions. It was intended to delay publishing the addenda list until EIP recording at the State Library was complete. But the discovery of a batch of 35 hitherto unnoticed 1641-1700 items — including no fewer than eight which are not found in Wing — is perhaps sufficiently interesting to justify publication at this stage, with a note on how they came to light.

A staff member who had occasion to use some of the early volumes of the library's run of *The London gazette* noticed that serving as flyleaves at the front and end of the 1667-9 volume were two (identical) copies of a verse broadsheet, *The parallel*, printed for Walter Davies, 1682 — the copy at the end bound in upside-down. The broadsheet was identified as Wing P340. Another broadsheet was then noticed in the middle of the volume: *To the Right Honourable, the Lords spiritual and temporal. . . the humble petition and address of Edward Earl of Clarendon* (Wing C4427), bound in after the issue for 27 February 1668.² These discoveries prompted a leaf-by-leaf examination of the 20 volumes of the *Gazette* from 1665 (the library's holdings begin with issue no.1, the first 23 issues bearing the title *The Oxford gazette*) to 1700 and the first two volumes of the eighteenth century, to 1707. Most of the volumes are in late seventeenth-century bindings; a few have been rebound in the twentieth. The labour of the search was not without rewards. While some volumes yielded nothing, others contained clusters of as many as six broadsheets or folio pamphlets together; at the front of the 1689-91 volume were found Wing P1513, T2458, R279, N141, E3597 and J49. Elsewhere a single tract was discovered in the middle of a volume, sometimes bound in its exact chronological position (e.g. Wing A421, *An account of the victory obtained by the King in Ireland, on the first day of this instant July, 1690*, bound after the *Gazette* for 30 June 1690), but in other cases not, so that it is risky to infer dates for undated tracts on the basis of where in the run they are bound. Indeed it was the occurrence of many out-of-sequence items which prompted the examination of the 1701-07 volumes, leading to the discovery of a 1690 broadsheet, a relation of the last confession of the hanged kidnapper Sir John

Johnson (Wing A242), bound at the end of the 1703-07 volume — which also contains a cluster of political broadsheets and folio pamphlets of 1704-06.

The proportion of 'not in Wing' items will always be highest in the case of broadsheets and other slender tracts such as these volumes have yielded; their chances of survival in even one copy are impossible to estimate — and, as Brian McMullin has observed elsewhere,³ items which survive only in libraries on the periphery of the English-speaking world have tended not to get recorded. But many of these *rarissima* are among the most interesting printed relics of the period. The present batch contains two notable unrecorded fragments of economic history: a broadsheet offering *Reasons . . . why the importation of foreign-wrought figured, flowered, biassed, stitched and stripe silks and drугets, tameenes and estimenes, and other stuffs made of wool, should be prohibited* [1675?], and a quarter-sheet, sixteen lines only, containing a petition from the weavers of London and various provincial centres of their trade, with the same protectionist intent and with a manuscript note dating its delivery to the Commons 2 March 1677 (= 1676/7?). There is also a *Humble petition* to the King (apparently James II) from the prolific propagandist-printer Eleanor James, whom Nichols described as 'a very extraordinary character, a mixture of benevolence and madness'.⁴ This petition is not recorded by Wing, but it may be the same as that at Harvard listed in *NUC* (NJ 0032521), where it is dated '[ca.1685]'. At the end of the 1669-70 volume is a spirited piece of self-advertisement by one Gilbert Anderson, an eccentric and zealous deaf quack under whose name Wing has no entries. In two closely-printed pages Anderson gives a long account of his qualifications for the healing trade, mostly gained in the course of 35 years of remarkable adventures in heathen lands, during which he was afflicted with as horrendous a variety of diseases as his patients; from all of them — except permanent deafness — he was rescued in turn by the Almighty. The piece gives unusually detailed insights into the practices of the trade.

The number of 'not in Wing' items noted in the State Library of Victoria now stands at 46, or four per cent of the library's total holdings of English books 1641-1700. Seventeen of these 46 are broadsheets. I hope that this brief note on the latest finds may serve as an encouragement to others to scan possible hiding places for rare early material in our libraries, such as runs of newspapers and periodicals, and uncatalogued pamphlet collections.

The list which follows contains the items found in these volumes and others sighted elsewhere in the library's collections which were omitted from the 1979 list. Those in the *London gazette* run are so noted, with the closing date of the issue after which they are bound (each issue bears the starting and ending date of a three- or four-day period). Items with 'before' dates are bound at the beginning of a volume.

A

242 (LG 12 May 1707)
 258 (LG 5 Oct 1691)
 421 (LG 30 June 1690)
 1159
 3505
 3949 (wanting t.p.)

B

268
 275
 317
 4502
 4721

C

1069 (LG 25 Mar 1675)
 1825
 3082
 3684
 3691
 3937
 4427 (LG 27 Feb 1668)
 4833

D

162 (v. 1 only)
 164
 166
 777
 1078
 1923
 2825 or 2826 (imperfect)

E

3597 (LG before 3 Oct 1689)
 3604 (LG before 3 Oct 1687)

F

723 (LG 4 Feb 1697)
 920
 1363
 1395

G

231 (wanting t.p.)

G

777
 845
 1149
 1978 (LG before 3 Oct 1687)
 2251 (wanting t.p.)

H

875 (wanting t.p.)

I

61

J

49 (LG before 3 Oct 1689)

L

2215
 2882
 3136 (LG 20 Oct 1673)

M

843A
 2146
 2151
 2154 (2 copies)
 2162 (2 copies)
 2177 (2 copies)
 2712B (LG 27 Aug 1691)

N

141 (LG before 3 Oct 1689)
 244 (LG 13 July 1682)
 478 (LG before 1 Jan 1674)

O

31A
 417 (LG 26 May 1692)
 723 or 724 (wanting t.p.)

P

340 (2 copies; LG beginning and end of 1667-9 vol.)
 1513 (LG before 3 Oct 1689)
 3533 (LG 13 July 1682)
 4218

R		S	
279	(LG before 3 Oct 1689)	6330	
395			
538	(LG 30 Sept 1689)	T	
815A	(LG 31 July 1693)	250	
1516	(LG 13 July 1682)	253	
1564		2458	(LG before 3 Oct 1689)
		2787	
S		3489	(LG 14 Aug 1693)
2121	(sig.B only)		
2490		W	
3235	(LG 13 July 1682)	667	

The following should be deleted from the 1979 list: C18, D1924, 162, O29.

Items not in Wing

- 1 **[Anderson, Gilbert]**. All praise and glory be given to God, for it belongs to Him alone. [*London*, c.1670?] brs. (LG 9 Feb 1671)
- 2 **Diodate, Giovanni**. Pious annotations upon the Holy Bible. Third edition. *For Nicholas Fussell*, 1651. fol. (cf. Wing D1507)
- 3 A farther account of the victory obtained by the English and Dutch fleet over the French. *By Edw. Jones*, 1692. brs. (LG 26 May 1692)
- 4 A farther account of the victory obtained by their Majesties and the Dutch fleet over the French. *By Edw. Jones*, 1692. brs. (LG 26 May 1692)
- 5 **Freinsheim, Johann**. A supplement of the second decad of Livie's Roman history, Newly translated into English. *For Joshua Kirton, Abel Roper, Gabriel Bedell, and George Sawbridge*, 1659. fol.
- 6 **Giles, William**. A defence of Dr. Sherlock's preservative against Popery. Fourth edition. *For B. Aylmer*, 1688. 12°.
- 7 **[Gilpin, Richard]**. Daemonologia sacra: or, a treatise. The third part. *By J.D. for Richard Randel, and Peter Maplisden, in New-Castle upon Tine*, 1677. 4°. This is bibliographically independent of Pts. 1-2 (Wing D777).
- 8 **James, Eleanor**. To the Kings Most Excellent Majesty. The humble petition of Elinor James. [*London*, c.1685?] brs. (LG 20 Sept 1686)
- 9 A letter from a Dissenter to the petitioning Bishops. [colop:] *For N.D.*, 1688. brs. (LG before 3 Oct 1687)

- 10 **Percy, James.** The humble complaint of. [*London*, 1676?] brs. (*LG* 23 Nov 1676)
- 11 Reasons humbly offered, why the importation of foreign-wrought figured, flowered, biassed, stitched and stripe silks and drugets, tamenenes and estimenenes, and other stuffs made of wool, should be prohibited. [no imprint (cropped?): *London*, 1675?] brs. (*LG* before 29 Mar 1675)
- 12 **Rivière, Lazare.** Four books of. *For George Sawbridge*, 1678. fol.
- 13 **Tavernier, Jean Baptiste, Baron d'Aubonne.** The six travels of . . . The second part. *Printed in the year*, 1678. fol.
- 14 The weavers of London, in behalf of themselves and others . . . do most humbly beseech the honourable House of Commons. [*London*, 1677.] brs. (*LG* 25 Mar 1675)

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¹ 'Wing items in the State Library of Victoria', *BSANZ Bulletin*, no.15 (November 1979), 151-62.

² Dates used here are New Style.

³ 'A peripheralist view of Wing', *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* 72 (1978), 435-54.

⁴ John Nichols, *Biographical and literary anecdotes of William Bowyer* (1782), p.609.

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