

doubtedly Part IV, which deals with individual Argentine literary figures. With the exception of the authors mentioned in the preface, all major figures as well as many "minor" authors are included. Under the name of each author are listed all relevant works about the author and his works. From the librarian's viewpoint, an outstanding aspect of this part of the book is the references whose bibliographical accuracy and brevity add a quality of excellence to the entries.—*Antonio Rodriguez-Buckingham, Harvard University.*

The History of Book Illustration: The Illuminated Manuscript and the Printed Book. David Bland. 2d rev. ed. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1969. 459p. \$25.00.

The first edition of this book, published in 1958, reviewed the history of book illustration, by all techniques, from ancient Egypt until the 1950s. The second edition is largely a reprint of the first, although four new color plates have been added, the total amount of numbered illustrations increased from 395 to 412, the text updated and corrected in details, and some additions made to include more about Eastern Europe and the Orient. Throughout most of the book, the text and illustrations in the text have been reproduced without change by photolithographic offset. The original half-tone blocks seem to have been used to reproduce the original black and white plates by letterpress.

In reprinting the original color plates, the printer of the second revised edition apparently did not have the use of the progressive proofs used to control color in the first edition. In every case, the color tones are slightly different, with red and yellow generally more predominant in the first edition plates, black in the second. Both editions, however, are well printed in good register. Which of the reproductions is more faithful to any given original could be judged only by comparison with the original. The black and white illustrations in the text appear brighter in the second edition, largely because the paper is whiter. How much this difference in paper tone can be attributed to a change in printing fashions and how much to paper deterioration is hard to judge.

The major changes in text occur in the last thirty pages of the new edition, but some revisions occur throughout. In chapter 7, "The Nineteenth Century," revisions include the addition of a color plate for Henry Noel Humphreys and added examples of English, American, German, and Russian illustrations, all inserted so as to disturb as little as possible the original printing formes. Some errors in dating were corrected, but the revision was not always completed. On page 254 the date for an edition of William Somerville's *Hobbins* is corrected in the text but left uncorrected in the legend of the illustration appearing on the same page.

In other places, the insertion of new text fails to adapt to the old. On page 428 of the new edition, a subheading used on page 424 of the first edition, "Poland and Russia," is changed to "Poland and The Balkans" to allow for two paragraphs on the Balkans and a separate subheading for Russia alone. The text under the new heading, however, continues undisturbed: "Both these countries excel in two types of illustration." Which both?

In common with most historians of book illustration, Bland inadequately cites the printed books that contain his examples. One could give many instances, but "Vega: *Flos Sanctorum*, c. 1521" (Fig. 162), without any further elaboration of the author's name in text or index will send the searcher on a merry chase.

The first edition was a unique contribution to the history of book illustration. The second edition, though not greatly nor always carefully revised, is an improvement on the first.—*Howard W. Winger, University of Chicago.*

National Index of American Imprints Through 1800: The Short-Title Evans. Clifford K. Shipton and James E. Moon. 2v. Barre, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society and Barre Publishers, 1969. 1028p. \$45.00.

The subtitle of this publication is both overly modest and misleading. To see it only in relation to *Evans* greatly underestimates its contribution to research, valuable though it is when used with that "most important general list of early American publications." This beautifully bound, moder-

ately priced (about .8 mill per entry) book in two handy volumes, the format of which is a delight to the experienced librarian and the scholar-connoisseur of books, does much more. It not only adds to the 39,162 titles in *Evans* the 10,035 that have since been located; it incorporates "the tens of thousands of bibliographical corrections of the *Evans* entries turned up by the staff of the [American Antiquarian] Society in the course of fifty years of work." Even more important, it greatly assists the researcher in locating and examining the full text of every book, pamphlet, and broadside listed here as available in the United States or foreign countries. The work of the Society in making this possible has stretched over a century and a half. The work of its library staff has covered fifty years. A collaboration of almost twenty years with Albert Boni and the Readex Microprint Corporation has produced the microprint edition of the texts, now in the collections of almost two hundred institutions (and probably more) in the United States and abroad. Here indeed is God's plenty for the scholar working in early American materials.

For work on such materials Constance Evans in her 8th edition labeled the fourteen-volume *Evans* "indispensable in the large reference or special library." The *Short-Title Evans*, along with the Readex Microprint Corporation edition of *Early American Imprints*, would seem to open doors to an even wider range of library patrons than Winchell had in mind. One of the serious flaws in undergraduate instruction is the overreliance of students at every level on secondary source material. Through the *Short-Title Evans* and the Readex edition, students could have easy access to original material on topics relevant to a number of undergraduate courses. For example, even a cursory examination of the entries for Noah Webster, Jr., sends the student to information in Evans' 1790 volume on the teaching of the language arts in the United States prior to 1800 or on the state laws of Connecticut which forbade for a time free trade in spelling books across state lines. From here he can easily go to the original texts in Readex Microprint. Just how easily? Consider this example. The library of the four-year college in which the

reviewer teaches has both the fourteen-volume *Evans* and the *Short-Title Evans* under review. Within a radius of forty miles are four university collections which hold the microprint texts. One is a mile away, accessible by free transportation on the Consortium mini-bus. True, the *Short-Title Evans* is, as its very capable and scholarly editors point out, "a tool for making definitive bibliographies," and a valuable one. It is, however, much more.

The realization of that "more" sets one dreaming of what microforms—an exciting topic even now—can mean in the future; of the wealth of materials, otherwise unavailable, that the scholar-professor, the graduate student, the undergraduate can also have access to through microfilm, microfiche, microcard, and microprint, and through the ever smaller, ever less expensive readers that are being produced and the reader-printers that the advertisements assure us are "on the way."

The appearance of the *Short-Title Evans*, then, is a significant event in reference publication history. In an eminently successful manner it fulfills the purpose of the American Antiquarian Society "to preserve, describe, and publish the materials of American history." Moreover in this adroit union of old material with the most recent of techniques, the Society's members, staff, directors, and editors prove that they are antiquarian in their interests but, in the very best sense of the word, modern in their performance.—Sr. Hilda Bonham, I.H.M., *Marygrove College*.

A Guide to the Manuscripts in the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library: Accessions through the Year 1965. John Beverley Riggs. Greenville, Del.: Eleutherian Mills Historical Library, 1970. 1205p. \$15.00.

Here is a remarkable testament to the power of one family—Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours and his descendants—the main source and continuing financial bulwark (via the Longwood Foundation) of the manuscript library of 2,500,000 items described in this exhaustive *Guide*.

A most unusual collecting instinct by many of the family has preserved records spanning their history as far back as the fifteenth century. The bulk of the manu-