

# Consortium of European Research Libraries

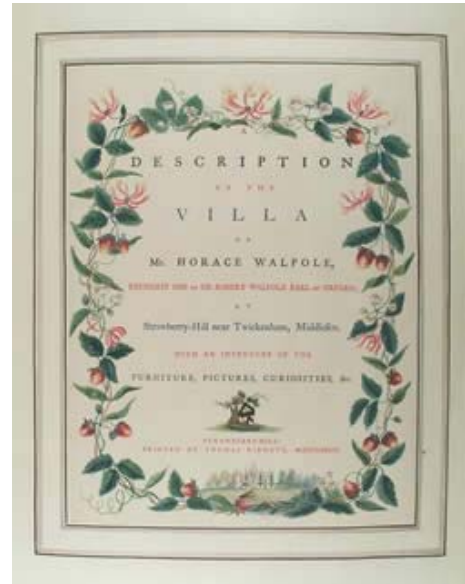
## Newsletter 9 June 2004

<http://www.cerl.org/>  
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### **New files on the Hand Press Book (HPB) database Yale University Library (over 270,700 records)**

The Yale University file contains records from all Yale libraries, including the Divinity School, the Beinecke Library and the Medical Historical Library. In part the records were retro-converted from catalogue cards, on other occasions books were catalogued to AACR1 standard. Since many of the records were created before Yale had a local online system, the file includes both multiple records for a title – where they were catalogued by separate agencies – as well as consolidated records listing more than one holding place. Currently the policy is as far as possible to have multiple holdings of the same title on the same bibliographic record. Apart from European printing (including serials), the file also contains American (both North and South) imprints. Annual updates of around 3,000 records are expected.

One of the interesting projects included is the Lewis Walpole Library's project to catalogue online its entire collection of 18<sup>th</sup>- and early 19<sup>th</sup>-century works. All materials in the collections of the Lewis Walpole Library record and support the ideas and culture of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Britain, focusing particularly on Horace Walpole and his world. Holdings cover such topics as Walpole and his friends, associates, and contemporaries; politics, history, geography, and travel; Great Britain; antiquarianism; bibliography; art, music, literature, and drama. Formats range from books and pamphlets to trade cards, almanacs, broadsides, periodicals, and maps. Highlights of a rich collection of highly illustrated volumes include several copies of Walpole's *Catalogue of the Royal and Noble Authors of England*, and the 1842 sale catalogue.



[http://www.library.yale.edu/walpole/html/research/library\\_collections.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/walpole/html/research/library_collections.html)

### **Updates recently loaded:**

- University of London Libraries (c. 7,075 records in the update, including 688 serials records)
- Oxford University Library (c. 68,450 records, including corrections to records already on the HPB)
- Warsaw University Library – Letters C and D (c. 1,000 records), the file on the HPB now contains 2,938 records
- Incunabula Short-Title Catalogue, British Library (a total of c. 29,400 records)

### **To be loaded shortly:**

- National Library of Hungary (c. 13,000 records)
- National and University Library, Croatia (update - c. 5,800 records)
- Three file updates of the National Library of Russia:
  - 2,689 records for 18<sup>th</sup>-century Russian material - letter T to end of Russian alphabet.
  - 25 records for European material
  - 7,896 records for the Cadet Corps collection

## Criteria for Inclusion of Records in the HPB: Consideration by the EC (March/June 2004)

### Background

From the beginning, the view was taken that the Hand Press Book database should be restricted to records of monographs (including broadsheets) and serials printed by hand from movable types from the beginning of printing in Europe to about 1830. Other materials were excluded. In particular, reproductions – facsimiles, microforms, etc. – were severely frowned upon. The minutes of the CERL meeting held during the IFLA Conference in Barcelona in 1993 stated:

#### Reproductions

There should not be a record of substitutes, but they should be recorded in a clear note field. ... The original should in every case be printed material produced before 1830. The credibility of the database depends on applying strict rules in this respect (e.g. no recordings of Mozart!)

At the start of investigations in 1991, the hand press period (before 1830) was selected as the core of the database. 1830 was identified as the date when mechanical printing began to be widely used; there was no suggestion that hand printing had ceased by then. Engraving, printed music, and cartographic materials were not considered eligible for various reasons: they did not form part of the original vision and they could be better served by their own specialised databases. Furthermore, in the implementation by the Research Libraries Group, the HPB was modelled on the RLIN Books (BKS) file in the days before USMARC / MARC21 format integration, and the handful of records for non-book materials which slipped through were marked as ‘error’ records, although they were still searchable.

**Title:** [Sun (London, England : 1792)] The Sun.  
**Published:** London [England] : printed by B[uchanan]. Millan, and sold at no. 112, in the Strand, opposite Exeter-Change; where advertisements, orders for the paper, letters for the editor, &c. will be received, [1792-1871]

**Physical Details:** v. ; 1° (49 cm.).

**Notes:** Daily (except Sunday)

Began with no. 1 (1 Oct. 1792); ceased with Feb. 25, 1871 issue.--Cf. NCBEL.

Title words separated by cut of a multi-rayed sun with motto: "Sol clarior astro".

Imprint from colophon.

Colophon varies; some later issues read:

"Printed for Buchanan M'Millan."

Price on date line.

Includes European, Parliamentary, naval and military news, medical and real estate advertisements, ship movements.

Some issues include reprinted material from the London Gazette.

Printed in four columns on two sheets.

Description based on: Number 96. (Saturday, January 19, 1793.); title from caption.

**References:** ESTC, P1706.

**References:** NCBEL, II:1338.

**References:** Times handlist, p. 109.

**Notes:** Microfilm. No. 96-2583 (19 Jan. 1793-31 Dec. 1800). Woodbridge, Conn. : Research Publications International. 14 microfilm reels ; 35 mm. (Early English newspapers; unit 17: reels 814-827). Merged With: Central press to form Central press to form Sun & central press.

**Other Entries:** Great Britain--England--London.

**Subjects:** Great Britain--Politics and government--1789-1820--

Newspapers.

Europe--History--18th century--Newspapers--Early works to 1800.

Europe--History--19th century--Newspapers--Early works to 1800.

**Genre Or Form:** Newspapers--England--18th century  
 Newspapers--England--19th century.

**Location:** Oxford University, Bodleian Library

**Source:** Oxford University - HPB.

**Record ID:** GBOC13719148-E

**Title:** [Bible. A.T. Psaumes. anglais. 1640.]  
 The Whole booke of Psalms faithfully translated into English metre. Whereunto is prefixed a discourse declaring not only the lawfullnes, but also the necessity of the heavenly ordinance of singing scripture Psalms in the Churches of God.

**Published:** [Cambridge (Mass.), Stephen Day.]  
 Imprinted 1640.

**Physical Details:** Sig. [ ]8, A-Z4, Aa-L14.

**Notes:** Reprod. en fac-simile, New York, Dodd, Mead & Company du "\\Bay Psalm Book\\". Trad. Nouvelle due à "\\thirty pious and learned ministers\\". Premier livre imprimé en Amérique du Nord.

**References:** STC B2738.

**Location:** Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, Impr.

**Other Information:** 16-A-422

**Source:** Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris.

**Record ID:** FRBC01415306X-E

CERL File Procedure 1 (FILPROC 1), approved by the Executive Committee in March 1999, essentially repeated these views, adding guidelines for records for multi-volume works beginning before and ending after 1830, files which used a later cut-off date, and so on.

CERL has now had ten years' experience of handling files contributed to the HPB, many of them with internal cut-off dates of 1840 or 1850, several of them containing small numbers of records for non-book materials and many of them containing records for reproductions in one form or another as well as the originals. Recently, we have been offered valuable files consisting solely of records of microforms, and it seemed right to accept them as well, provided that it is

made perfectly clear that these are records of reproductions. The originals are often in very poor condition or not easily accessible. European materials printed in geographical areas outside Europe (e.g. the Americas, North Africa) have also been included.

On the basis of a paper on FILPROC 1 presented by me to the Executive Committee at the CERL meeting in Lisbon in March 2004, the EC gave detailed consideration to the current criteria for inclusion of records in the HPB – both types of material and also dates of publication. After extensive discussion and varying viewpoints on date ranges, there was general agreement that the existing cut-off date of 1830 should be retained but that it should continue to be flexibly interpreted as at present. The Advisory Task Group was requested to examine some technical implications with particular reference to reproductions at its next meeting and to report back with a new draft of the document.

Accordingly a revised paper was presented to the ATG and then the Executive Committee at their meetings in Munich in June 2004, and the amended appendix to the paper was approved as the new version of FILPROC 1, which is now available on the CERL Web site at <http://www.cerl.org/HPB/hpb.htm>, select **FILPROC** in the left-hand menu bar. The main features of the revised document may be summarised as follows:

- The database remains primarily the record of European hand press printing 1450-1830.
- In the case of files where a Library's own internal cut-off date is later than 1830, please consult the CERL Secretariat.
- Continuing resources (serials and monographic series) with publication dates starting before and continuing after 1830 should be described by records for the sets as a whole and also by records (if available) for the individual volumes up to the cut-off date for the file.
- Small numbers of graphics, cartographic materials and printed music may be included if they form an integral part of a file that is being contributed, but such materials are normally better served by specialist databases.
- Records of printed facsimiles, microforms and digital reproductions may be included, especially if the originals are difficult to access for any reason. The records for the surrogates must contain bibliographic descriptions of the originals; records for the originals may contain details of or links to the surrogates.

The provisions of FILPROC 1 will be kept under review. Members' comments are welcome, and should be sent to the Executive Manager, who will be glad to answer members' questions and offer advice and assistance.

*Tony Curwen, CERL Consultant*

### **The HPB in RLG's new database infrastructure**

RLG is implementing a new support infrastructure for its online services. These changes affect all RLIN® users, institutions that search the RLG Union Catalog with Z39.50 clients, and those that import MARC records from the RLG Union Catalog, as well as CERL members who use RLIN to access the HPB database. To facilitate this new infrastructure, RLG has now introduced two new products:

- **RLIN21™ Web Interface** – this interface replaces RLIN Telnet, and is intended for search, display, and export of MARC bibliographic and authority records.
- **RLIN21™ Client** – this Windows-based software replaces RLIN Terminal for Windows, and is intended for cataloguing, archival processing, NACO Authorities work, and record maintenance in the RLG Union Catalog.

**All RLIN Telnet users must switch to the RLIN21 Web interface by 30 June 2004.**

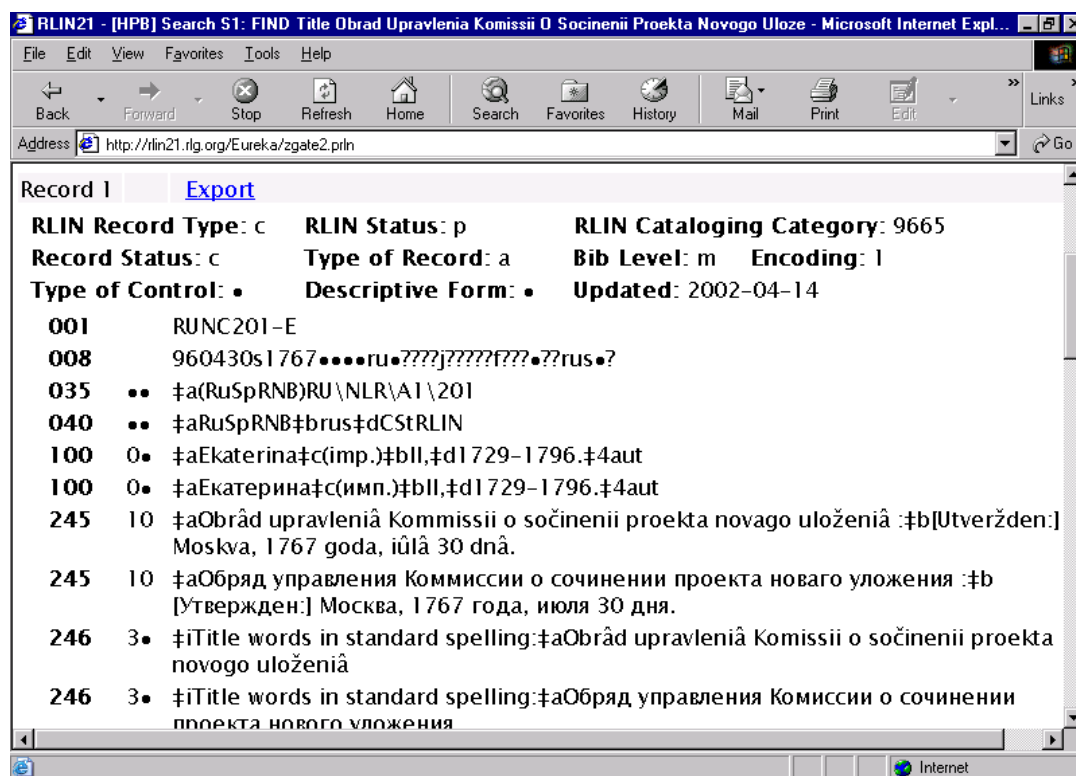
**All RLIN Terminal for Windows users must switch to the RLIN 21 Web interface or the RLIN21 Windows client by 31 August 2004.**

RLG's website offers detailed information (overview, timeline, and FAQ) at *New RLG Database Infrastructure & RLIN21*: [http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page\\_ID=386](http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=386). RLIN21 Searching guides may be found at: [http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page\\_ID=745](http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=745). In addition, articles describing RLIN21 Web and the RIN21 Client have recently appeared in the RLG *Focus* newsletter issues 67 and 68. Some important issues have been extracted from these sources:

<b>RLIN21™ Web Interface</b>	<b>RLIN21™ Client</b>
	Incorporates the RLIN21 Web search interface, and includes the features listed there.
All CERL accounts have been enabled, please point your browser to <a href="http://rlin21.rlg.org">http://rlin21.rlg.org</a> , and use your account and password to log on.	For a free download of the software go to <a href="http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=17361">http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=17361</a>

- See results (of 250 or fewer) sorted by publication date, with option to sort by author or title instead.	- New capabilities are aimed at streamlined creation and updating of bibliographic records in the RLG Union Catalog. Users who currently use RLIN only to search for source copy are encouraged to use the RLIN21 Web interface.
- Select and view multiple MARC records at one time; scroll through long records.	
- Return to previous search results or combine them without re-keying.	- Easy access to RLG's Subject and Name Authority Files.
- Click on any access point in a record to retrieve other clusters/records with the same access point.	
- See e.g. Arabic, Cyrillic, Hebrew, etc. scripts together, with a Unicode®-supported browser.	
Instead of the RLIN Pass or Put command, clicking on an 'Export' link sends a record to an FTP server – see also <a href="http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=14721">http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=14721</a>	In addition, the RLIN21 Client offers the option to export MARC records to a file on a PC hard disk rather than to an FTP server – see also <a href="http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=17381">http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=17381</a>
Non-Roman scripts (e.g. Cyrillic and Hebrew) are displayed in parallel fields linked to their romanised equivalents.	Keyboards for inputting non-Roman characters (e.g. Cyrillic, Hebrew) are also available for downloading from RLG's website.

Both products will be available 24 hours a day, every day, except Friday 21:00-24:00 Pacific Time.



RLIN21™: display of a MARC21 record containing Cyrillic script

### Zephyr / Z39.50 Users

Two additional infrastructure changes may affect searching of RLG databases with Z39.50 clients:

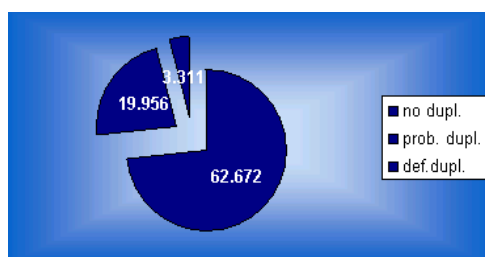
- Minor changes to the format of the RLG Union Catalog's MARC records presented in RLG's current Z39.50 service took effect on 16 April 2004. For details, see the table at <http://www.rlg.org/ric/21export.html>.
- On 1 June 2004, RLG changed its Internet service provider and became a sponsored participant in the Internet2 consortium. Data transmission bandwidth for all customers increased significantly as a result. **Please check your Z39.50 client configuration and make sure that RLG database targets have the domain name zinc.rlg.org. Any other domain names or IP addresses will not work after 30 June 2004.**

## CERL Thesaurus file



The number of records on the CERL Thesaurus increases steadily:

	12/6/02	11/3/03	5/3/04	In preparation	
<i>Personal Names</i>	12,173	62,436	85,948	<i>Personennamendatei (PND)</i>	c. 390,000
<i>Corporate Body Names</i>			1	Edit 16	c. 12,000
<i>Imprint Names</i>	6,068	12,252	13,804	Liste des sources citées (BnF)	c. 1,500
<i>Imprint Places</i>	2,808	3,624	3,642	Warsaw UL	c. 300
<i>Sources</i>	3	11	15	VD16 (duplicates)	c. 1,000
<b>Total number of records</b>	<b>21,037</b>	<b>78,325</b>	<b>103,410</b>	ESTC source references	c. 550
				<b>Total</b>	<b>c. 404,000</b>

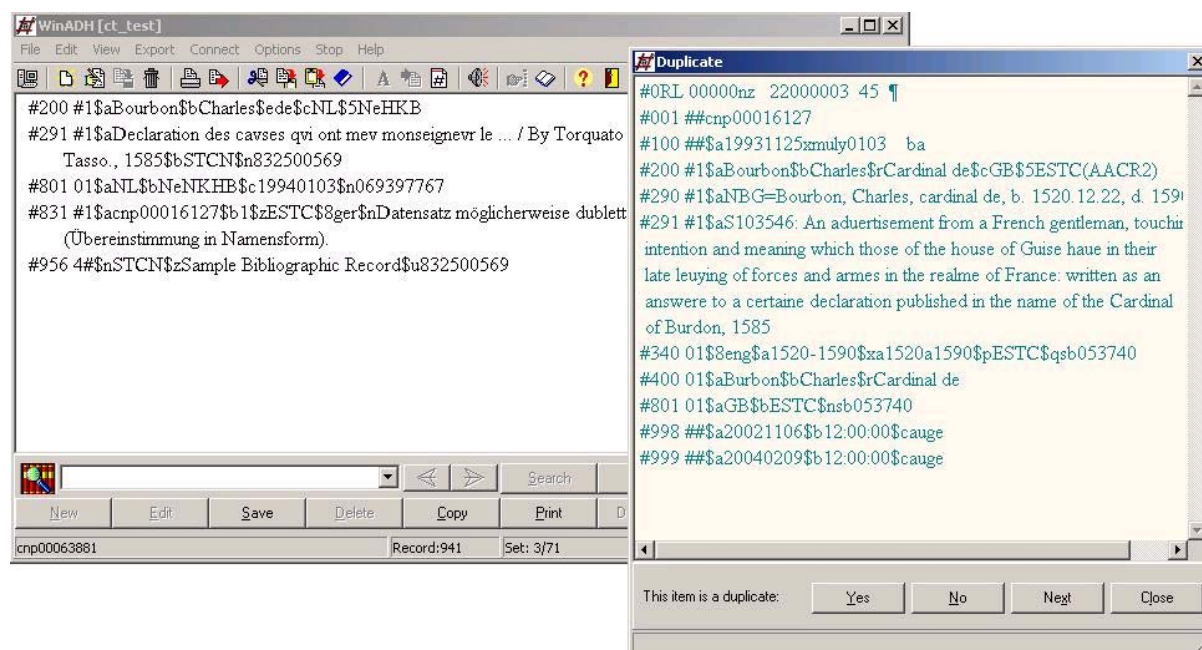


Personal Names

The Data Conversion Group has analysed the contents of the CERL Thesaurus. This analysis shows that for the personal names c. 4 % are duplicates, c. 23 % are possible duplicates, and 73 % are most certainly not duplicates.

In order to ensure that for each individual person, or single corporate body, there is only one record, the duplicate records will be merged.

Where records are certainly duplicates, a process of algorithmic merging will merge data to one consolidated record. In cases where records are potential duplicates, an editor will use software to authorise the merging of these records. Mrs Klier, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München, is currently testing the merging feature of the WinADH editing software (↓), which has been developed by the Data Conversion Group, Göttingen.



### CERL invites its members to participate in the editing of the CERL Thesaurus file.

Duplicate records for persons who worked in your geographical area or country are best edited by specialists. These are typically people from that geographical area or country, i.e. you or a colleague in your institution! Please contact the CERL Executive Manager if you are willing to help to de-duplicate CT personal names, or wish to contribute your institution's authority files for inclusion in the CERL Thesaurus.

The CERL Thesaurus is at <http://www.cerl.org/Thesaurus/thesaurus.htm>.

## Fictitious place names and false imprints

The problems of interpreting Latin place names in the imprints of early printed books are well known. Consultation of the place names file in the CERL Thesaurus (see above) will show that 'Herbipolis' is really just a translation of Würzburg and that 'Colonia Ubiorum' was a revival of one of the Roman names for Cologne (though there were other places called 'Colonia' such as Cologny (Switzerland) or Berlin (*Colonia ad Spreuvum*) or Geneva (*Colonia Allobrogum*).

But where is Eleutheropolis ('Free-town')? And Philadelphia ('Brotherly love'), which is found in European books well before the foundation of the American city of that name. Alethopolis ('Truth-town') is recorded as the imprint place for books which are thought to have been printed in Amsterdam, Augsburg, Toul, Regensburg, and Tübingen.

Catalogue entries and reference books suggest that books printed in 'Eleutheropolis' (44 books in the HPB printed between 1619 and 1791) might

actually have been printed in Amsterdam, Leiden or else The Netherlands. Fictitious imprints of this sort are commonly found in controversial books whose origins needed to be disguised by authors and producers who were fearful of reprisals by the authorities if their identities were known. The same is true for the publication of pornographic titles, such as 'Erotopolis' which is the fictional imprint place found in J.P. Moet's *Code de Cythère ou Lit de justice d'amour*, 1746. Other examples are Allopolis ('Somewhere else'),

### RLG's Eureka(HPB) -- FIND Imprint Place **Enfers**

1. *Almanach du diable : pour l'année 1738 ; avec la Clef au bas du texte. Aux Enfers*, [1738].
2. *Almanach du diable, : contenant des prédictions très curieuses & absolument infaillibles ... .. Aux Enfers [i.e. Paris] : [s.n.], [17--?] v. ; 12°.*
3. *La Critique et Contre-critique de l'Almanach du Diable pour l'année 1738. Aux Enfers*, s.a.

Utopia ('Nowhere') and Enfers ('Hell'). Some are definitely obscene and will therefore be fictitious: Bengodi ('Have a good time') was used for counterfeit editions of Aretino's *Ragionamenti* in "1584" (two printed in London and one in Amsterdam, all printed later).

Names of this sort are a problem in the CERL Thesaurus, as printers in several different towns may have used the same fictitious name. This makes these names unsuitable for use in Assisted Searching in the Hand Press Book database, as they would contaminate the search by bringing in variant names for several different towns.

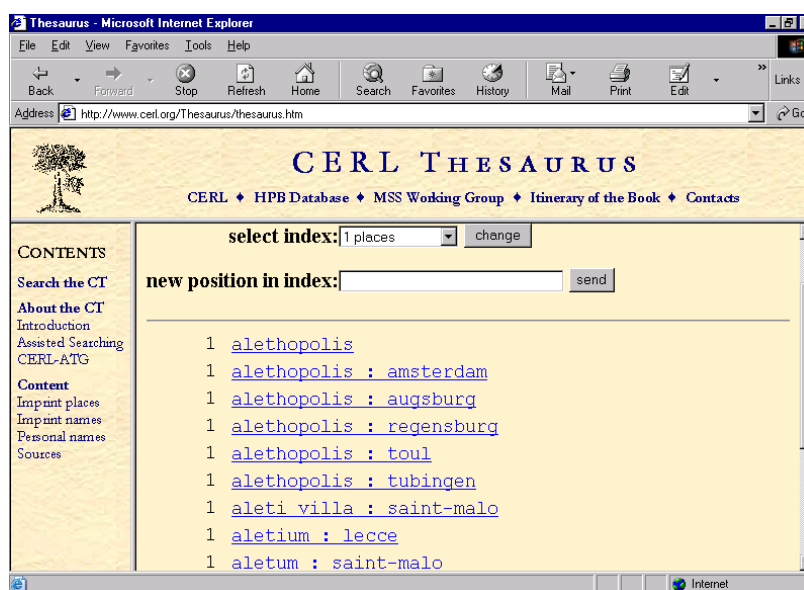
Another slightly different category is 'false imprints'; that is, the use of genuine place names to disguise a book's true origin. In the 18th century, there were many books printed in French with 'Londres' as their imprint town although they were in fact printed in France. Equally common is the opposite phenomenon: French books printed in London but claiming to be printed in Paris. In both cases the intention was to deceive the French authorities by disguising the true identity of the producers or distributors.

The existence of both fictitious and false imprints means that searching a database such as the HPB for statistics on printing towns can never be wholly accurate, and that there is a limit to the help which can be given by Assisted Searching using the CERL Thesaurus.

*David Shaw*

## Printers' Devices and the CERL Thesaurus

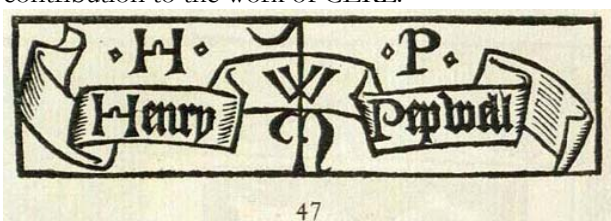
In collaboration with the Bibliographical Society in the United Kingdom, CERL has embarked on the digitisation of Ronald B. McKerrow. *Printers' & Publishers' Devices in England & Scotland 1485-1640* (London, 1913). The first results of this project are now available at <http://www.kb.dk/elib/bhs/mckerrow/>.



Here you will find a fully digitised copy of McKerrow, including the descriptions of devices, images, as well as all indexes. Selecting a device number allows you to open a page with a depiction or a description of the device.

CERL aims to ensure that this information can also be retrieved through the CERL Thesaurus. From a CT Imprint Name present in McKerrow, the user will be given the option to retrieve image(s) and text relating to the device(s) used by the printer or publisher. To this end, links in the CT – partly based on the indexes, partly based on the information in the device descriptions – are being created.

CERL very warmly thanks the Royal Library in Copenhagen for undertaking to digitise McKerrow, create links between images and text, and for creating the indexes that will enable the CT to link to this data. The Royal Library has also most generously undertaken this work without charge as a contribution to the work of CERL.



47. (25 × 93 mm.) Ornament or device with H. P., the name Henry Pepwell on a ribbon and a mark in centre.

- 1520 per H. PEPWELL. *Christiani hominis institutum* (end).  
*Bibliographica*, i. 180.
- 1523-4 (Idibus Feb.) in aed. H. PEPWELL. Whittington (R.). *De Odo Partibus Orationis*.  
*Bibliographica*, i. 184.
- \*[? 1525] by H. PEPWELL. *Exoneratorium Curatorum* (end).  
Dated in *Bibliographica* 1520; in *B.M. Cat.* 1530?

#### Further electronic repositories of printers' devices:

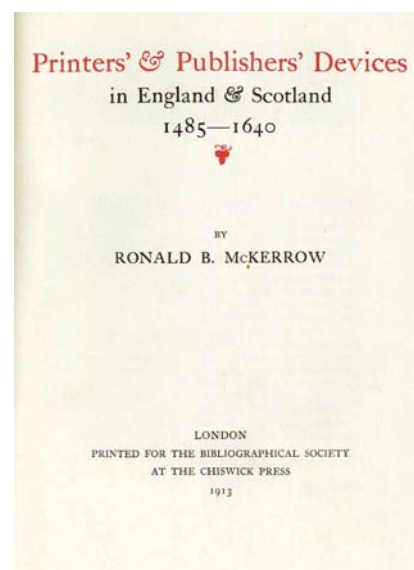
- Dept. Of Special and Area Studies Collections at the University of Florida – Rare Book Section  
<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/rarebook/devices/device.htm>
- Universitat de Barcelona – Marques d'Impressor  
<http://eclipsi.bib.ub.es/imp/impeng.htm>
- P. van Huisstede & J.P.J. Brandhorst, *Dutch Printer's Devices 15th -- 17th century; A Catalogue with CD-ROM*. Nieuwkoop: De Graaf Publishers, 1999 (3 vols).
- *Census of the Italian Editions of the 16th century*  
<http://edit16.iccu.sbn.it/>

#### Provenance description and access

##### Proposal for an inventory of works by Portuguese authors in Europe (16th–19th centuries)

The Portuguese National Library (BN) and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (FCG) have agreed to set up a project to create an inventory of editions of Portuguese authors published in Europe from the 16th to the 19th centuries. The point of this exercise is to allow us to formulate a more precise answer than has been possible previously to the important question of the spread of Portuguese culture beyond its own borders and its own language, keeping in mind the small number of translations made from Portuguese, which on the whole have tended to attract the interest of literary historians.

Our idea is to offer an analytical perspective of this diffusion, which will not be limited to translations, through the indirect, but complementary means of the diffusion achieved by international publishers and booksellers, whose catalogues supply interesting details, and on the other hand, to follow the trail of the actual distribution of works to collectors and readers of the time, attempting to locate existing copies of these works in the major European libraries.



Ronald B. McKerrow. *Printers' & Publishers' Devices in England & Scotland 1485-1640* – Title Page

It is important to expand this project and add further electronic descriptions and images of printers' and publishers' devices. Linking this type of information to the CERL Thesaurus will serve to enhance the Thesaurus, and make it an even better tool for researchers of the early printed book.

**We invite CERL members to contact the CERL Secretariat** if you have suggestions for other reference works that could be included in this project, or, ideally, if your institution would be willing to undertake the digitisation of such a reference work (e.g. R. Juchhoff, *Drucker- und Verlegerzeichen des XV. Jahrhunderts* – various countries (1927), or H.W. Davies, *Devices of the early printers, 1457-1560* (1935)).

In addition to traditional resources such as bibliographies, catalogues and inventories, we intend to use electronic resources, such as those available on CD-ROM, online resources, such as union catalogues and national library catalogues, and above all, the new resource offered by the HPB resource, a powerful tool which is now available to libraries which belong to CERL.

We have tried to use the information obtained from these various sources in a wider perspective, in order to

BARBOSA, Agostinho, 1590-1649  
Summa apostolicarum decisionum extra Jus Commune vagantium.... – Lugdunum: sumptibus haered. P. Prost, P. Borde & L. Arnaud, 1645. – BM, I, 59 (continua Collectanea bullarii...). – CCBF. – HPB

- Venetiis: P. Baleonium, 1646
- Genevae: Ionannes de Tournes, 1650
- Lugdunum: P. Borde, P. Arnaud, C. Rigault, 1658
- Lugdunum: L. Arnaud, P. Borde, Joannis & Petri Arnaud, 1680
- Lugdunum: P. Borde, J. Arnaud, 1703
- Venetiis: Natalem Feltrini, 1712
- Lugdunum: Anisson & Possuel, 1722

BARBOSA, Agostinho, 1590-1649  
Collectanea bullarii, aliarum ve Summarum Pontificum constitutionum.... – Lugduni: sumptibus Laurentii Durand, 1634. – BM, I, 58-59 (seguiu com o título Summa apostolicarum decisionum...). – CCBF. – HPB

- Venetii: Iacobum Sarzinam, 1636
- Lugdunum: Laurentii Durand, 1637
- Venetii: Iacobus Sarzinam, 1640
- Lugdunum: Annison & Possuel, 1721
- Venetii: Dominicum Lovisa, 1726; 1735

establish a corpus of material in which an effective systematisation of the bibliographical references is achieved through a database (PORBASE 5, developed at the Biblioteca Nacional) in which the entries will be presented succinctly but cumulatively, using a chronological criterion of the first edition of each work, and listing the subsequent editions chronologically by place of publication, and noting individual printers and printing companies, etc.

A few test searches using quite different examples have produced encouraging results, such as the following:

the well-known 18th-century doctor, Ribeiro Sanches (1699-1783), whose works were printed many times in French and Russian in a variety of editions and translations; and secondly, an obscure 17th-century canon lawyer, Agostinho Barbosa (1590–1649), author of over a hundred and fifty Latin works.

Of course, we are only able to set out here the basic outline of this inventory project, whose exclusive aim is to make available a research tool accessible to all who would benefit from its use, while for our part being open to receive additional records and improvements as the project progresses. For this reason, our intention is to put the results of this long-term project online a little at a time, as soon as we have consistent sections for a particular author or a particular period.

*Manuela D. Domingos (Biblioteca Nacional, Lisbon)*

### Cross-searching Manuscripts and Early Printed material

In continuance of the work of the Manuscripts Project, at the CERL AGM in November 2004, two companies will present a pilot demonstrating cross-searching of three manuscript databases, in combination with the Hand Press Book database. The companies have also been asked to investigate whether, and if so, how, the CERL Thesaurus could support this cross searching of files.

In addition to the HPB database, the following three MSS files will be included in the pilot:

- Digital Scriptorium  
The file contains records of medieval manuscripts and is in Access format. There is no remote access to this file (although the DS project group has plans to set up Z39.50 access), and for the duration of the pilot the Digital Scriptorium records will be held on the server of the pilot developers. It is expected that a number of manuscript databases will be unable to offer remote access immediately, and it was therefore decided to test the option of having a file hosted.
- Royal Library, The Hague  
The manuscript descriptions as held in the KB OPAC have been made available for the project. These records are accessed through the SRU protocol.
- National Library of the Czech Republic, Prague  
This is a MASTER file, with XML mark-up, which will offer Z39.50 access shortly. The file contains a mixture of descriptions of manuscripts, early printed books and maps, totalling 29,559 records, from 27 Czech, Polish and Slovak libraries (including archives and museums).



### **Manuscripts Working Group**

The MSS Working Group held its first meeting in Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, on 19 April 2004. Present were Dr Lotte Hellinga (Chair), Dr Consuelo Dutschke (New York), Dr Dirk Imhof (MPM, Antwerp), Dr Anne Korteweg (The Hague), Prof. Cristina Misiti (Rome), Prof. Andrew Prescott (Sheffield), Dr Fabienne Queyroux (Paris), Dr Zdeněk Uhlř (Prague), Drs Marian Lefferts, CERL, with apologies from Dr Hans-Joerg Lieder for Dr Jutta Weber (Berlin) and Dr Fernanda Campos (Lisbon). The meeting started with a brief overview of the project by the Executive Manager. Those attending gave brief updates about the present state of Manuscript projects in their countries. The meeting received a presentation about the system one of the pilot developers could offer and discussed access points, the role of the CERL Thesaurus in the project, and ended with a discussion regarding potential pilot evaluators, and the scaling up of the pilots to the full projects.

The meeting discussed a draft list of common access points which is still tentative and at this stage of the project is reduced to a minimum of 15. The meeting provisionally agreed on the following search terms: Keyword, Author, Title, Other names related to the document, Incipit / Initia, Language, Present location, Shelfmark and/or nickname, Date, Place of origin / Place of writing, Scribe / copyist, Artist / Illumination / Illustration, Material description, Binding, Former owners / provenance. 'Script' may be included in the pilot, but the meeting was divided about its practicability. Both pilot developers wish to map these search terms to Dublin Core; we are now investigating whether CERL can make use of the TEL qualifier scheme, labelled Extended Dublin Core.

### **List of Manuscript projects on the CERL website**

Last year M. Ghosh (University of London Libraries) offered to keep the list of MSS projects (currently displayed on the CERL website) up-to-date. On 2 July 2004, the first revised MSS list was posted on the CERL website. In subsequent, monthly reviews of the MSS list on the CERL website, Ms Ghosh will add references found on the Humbul Humanities Hub (<http://www.humbul.ac.uk>), and add details of new projects when she comes across those projects in the line of her normal duties. See also [http://www.cerl.org/Manuscripts/manuscripts\\_working\\_group.htm](http://www.cerl.org/Manuscripts/manuscripts_working_group.htm).

### **Services Working Group**

The report of the Services Working Group, under the chairmanship of Dr Claudia Fabian (BSB München), was approved by the Annual General Meeting at St Petersburg in November 2004. It was agreed that the first priority should be the members' questionnaire prepared by the Working Group. The purpose of the questionnaire is to consult members about -

- services for researchers they would wish to see developed through the CERL website, and in the longer term through the development of a CERL portal for early books and related materials;
- the priority that members would wish to assign to individual services and facilities;
- additional services or facilities not covered in the present questionnaire that may be sought by members;
- steps to assist members to promote the Hand Press Book (HPB) Database to researchers;
- information on individual library policies that members may wish to share.

The questionnaire will be sent to the Directors of CERL member institutions by mid-July 2004, and your responses will help to shape the future programme of work that CERL will undertake.

### **Membership Working Group**

The Membership Working Group was set up following a paper presented at the 2003 AGM in St Petersburg. Mrs Gunilla Jonsson (KB Stockholm) was asked to become its Chairman, and a remit based on the paper presented at the Annual General Meeting in St Petersburg was prepared by the CERL Chairman and Mrs Jonsson:

1. To investigate possible forms of membership that will enable libraries with significant historical collections in countries affected by severe long-lasting economic pressures to benefit from and participate in the work of the Consortium.
2. To establish mechanisms that will achieve this objective but which will not result in any disadvantage to existing members.
3. To make recommendations for widening membership that are compatible with ensuring and protecting the continuing future stability of the Consortium's finances.
4. To recommend the specific terms of membership that should apply to any forms of membership that are proposed.

5. To specify the benefits and obligations that should attach to any recommended forms of membership.
6. To identify whether there are any sources of funding (at national, European or international level) that could be approached for membership support.

The Working Group members are working by e-mail communication but also met before the Executive Committee meetings in Lisbon in March 2004 and in München in June 2004. The Working Group's recommendations will be pre-circulated to members and discussed by the membership at the 2004 Annual General Meeting in November.

### Post-2006 contract preparations

In September 2006 CERL's current contract with the Research Libraries Group (RLG) for hosting the Hand Press Book database will expire. In 2005, CERL will invite competitive bids from several companies. In preparation for this process, a Specification Group, chaired by Dr David Shaw (CERL Secretary), is drawing up a Specification.

The Specification document will be outlined to the members at the Edinburgh Annual General Meeting, and distributed to selected potential service providers shortly thereafter. Proposals received from potential service providers will be examined by the Assessment Group, chaired by Dr Kristian Jensen (BL London). The Assessment Group will shortlist the most suitable candidates, based on the information provided by the candidates, relevant selection criteria and the weighting of these criteria.

### Security Conference – Bibliothèque nationale de France

Under the auspices of the BnF and LIBER, a day Conference on 'La coopération internationale au service de la sûreté des collections' was held in the BnF on 14 May 2004. It was a well-attended meeting, with an open session in the morning attracting over a hundred participants, followed by a closed session restricted to research libraries in the afternoon. The morning papers addressed the issues that need to be dealt with across Europe – coping with differing criminal laws and customs laws in European countries; improving systems for identifying stolen materials; and enhancing co-operation among European countries in tackling thefts of cultural materials. The new threats from the role of the Web, and the increase in organized crime syndicates operating in Europe, were also highlighted. The Conference delegates decided that meetings of this kind should now be organized on a regular basis in Europe in order to keep the issue of library security at the forefront of attention.

A recurrent theme during the day's discussions was the need for research libraries to give a high priority to all aspects of collections security. The LIBER Security Network, which has been set up as a safe information and communication network for European Library Directors and Heads of Security, and is hosted by the Royal Library, Copenhagen, was also presented. CERL strongly supports this initiative for improving security information among European research libraries, and encourages members to join the Network. Further information is available at <http://www.kb.dk/liber> (go to 'LIBER Current Professional Initiatives', and then click on 'LIBER Security Network'). Libraries that are already LIBER members need only register using the online application form. Other libraries may join the Network by first joining LIBER (details available on the LIBER website).

*Ann Matheson*

### Organisational news

#### Annual General Meeting, Edinburgh 13 November 2004

The 2004 Annual General Meeting will take place in the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh on Saturday 13 November 2004.

To mark the tenth anniversary of the Consortium's formal inauguration as a company in 1994, we have invited as our guests a number of those colleagues who have contributed significantly to the Consortium's history and development.

We also warmly invite you to join us, and the Consortium's guests, for dinner on the evening of Saturday 13 November 2004, in the Raeburn Room,



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Old College, University of Edinburgh. Reservations for dinner will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, and since accommodation is limited, we strongly suggest that you complete as early as possible the reservation form which will be circulated shortly, and return it to the CERL London office by 30 September 2004. Full details will be given on the reservation form.

### New CERL Members

We are delighted to report that Åbo University Library, Finland, has become a Full CERL Member. Twelve CERL Full Members have now set up Clusters, through which 90 additional libraries have access to the HPB and ESTC. The latest Cluster Libraries to have been added are:

- Kungliga Biblioteket, Stockholm | Strängnäs Domkyrkobibliotek (Cathedral Library), Sweden
- National Library of Scotland | Advocates Library, Edinburgh  
Perth and Kinross Council  
Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh  
Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Isle of Skye  
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow  
National Museums of Scotland Library

**Members are encouraged to invite other potential CERL members in their countries to contact the CERL Secretariat** for further details of how they can become members, and to arrange for a trial period of use of the HPB Database.

*For a full list of all current CERL members, see <http://www.cerl.org/CERL/cerl.htm>.*

### Promotion of CERL

#### Presentations in 2004

- January 2004 – *CERL*, Oxford, United Kingdom
- April 2004 – *Biblioteca Baltica*, Greifswald, Germany
- May 2004 – *CERL/ENSSIB*, Chantilly, France
- June 2004 – *Bayerische Staatsbibliothek*, München, Germany
- July 2004 – *SHARP conference*, Lyon, France
- July 2004 – *Edinburgh University Library*, British Book Trade History Conference
- September 2004 – *NLR 6th annual workshop*, St Petersburg, Russia
- November 2004 – *CERL/NLS*, Edinburgh, Scotland: *Books and their owners: provenance information and the European cultural heritage.*

#### CERL Annual Seminar – Preliminary programme:

Marianna Czapnik (Warsaw UL),

Provenance Research as a Method for Reconstruction of Historical Collections;

James Knowles (Scottish Institute for Northern Renaissance Studies, University of Stirling),

Provenance research in Scotland: a new project;

David Pearson (University of London Research Library Services),

Provenance and rare book cataloguing: its importance and its challenges;

Marina Venier (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Rome),

The computerised archive of owners in the older publications database of SBN:

the experience of the Central National Library of Rome;

Bettina Wagner (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München),

The world's largest collection of incunables and their provenances;

National Library of Scotland, Rare Books staff,

Cataloguing the Fort Augustus Collection.

