

there are many books in that collection of another nineteenth-century bibliophile, Frances Mary Curren.

Simple, and with the barest information as the entries in this catalogue are, there is much to be praised about the timely appearance of the volume. It is important both for the information it provides, and also as a preliminary document for the projected *History of Print Culture in New Zealand*. Such is the politics of funding for special collections in New Zealand, however, that this catalogue and, indeed, the entire Early Imprint Project were the result of the voluntary labours of many people over a great many years. It is to be hoped now that the principal libraries will take a larger view of the desirability of completing the project and publish the records for Auckland, Dunedin, and elsewhere as soon as possible, providing at the same time an errata list of items accidentally omitted from the present volume. For inevitably there are errors and omissions – perfection, as the original editors of the original *Short-Title Catalogue* realised, is less important than making the information available for the first time. Amongst those items that were not catalogued is an incunable of the Cologne Chronicles (Goff C476), a copy of Sir Thomas More's *Workes* (STC 18076), a very fine copy of Donne's *Pseudo-Martyr* (STC 7048), the first and second editions of Richard Rowland's *A Restitution of Decayed Intelligence* (STC 21361 and 21362), which were lost through the cross reference to Verstegan, all the New Testaments printed in both Latin and English (STC 2815, 2816, 2816.7, 2817 and 2821), and a fine copy of Congreve's *Works* from 1710. The decision to catalogue unknown authors by the first initial (e.g. A., S. rather than S., A.) was decidedly odd and some of the cross-referencing might helpfully have been deleted. Similarly some of the bibliographical references need to be corrected. Also the locations and the references in the preliminary matter could usefully have been separated. These are, however, issues that can be addressed once the second volume of this project has been printed and an integrated catalogue with more detailed information is finally contemplated. Robert Petre, Ross Harvey, Vic Elliott, Rachel Salmond, Kathleen Coleridge, as well as all the other (often silent) voluntary helpers, are to be congratulated on having seen this work through to completion, providing for the first time a means of assessing quite what Turnbull, and subsequent benefactors to that and other libraries in the Wellington region, have left to the people of New Zealand by way of early printed books.

The early printed collections, however, are only one part of the story. The other aspect is the far larger collection of material that Turnbull bequeathed concerned with the early history of New Zealand, and it is unsurprising that 'the lands and people of New Zealand' is the principal focus of the current collections policy. Rachel Salmond's *Government Printing in New Zealand, 1840 to 1843* in one sense addresses the other aspect of the history of the book in New Zealand and thus an important concern for Turnbull as a collector, for it describes the origins of the press as a mechanism of political control. More than a decade ago, in his presidential