

Early European Books

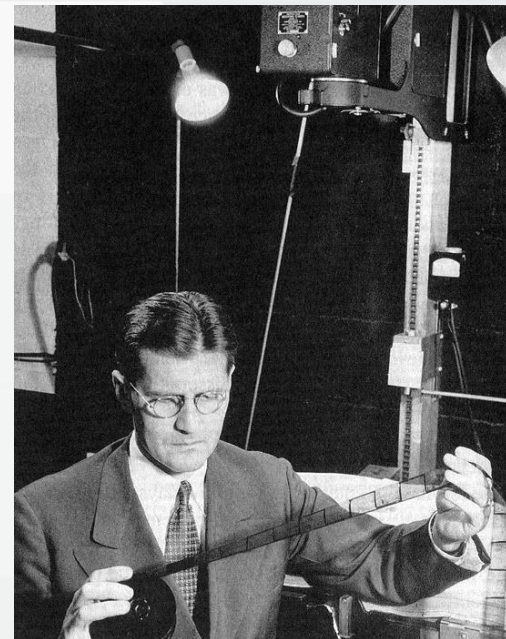
A Collaborative Approach to Digital Access

John Tsihlis, ProQuest



Pre-History: Early English Books Online

- *Early English Books* microfilm series begun by Eugene Power in 1930s
- University Microfilms founded 1938; filmed holdings of British libraries threatened by war damage, 1940-
- Bibliographic basis:
 - Alfred W. Pollard and G.R. Redgrave, *A short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland and of English books printed abroad, 1475-1640*
 - Donald Wing, *Short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and British America, and of English books printed in other countries, 1641-1700*
- Finite & well-documented bibliography: 125,000 books
- *Early English Books Online* (EEBO) published 1998, now available in 1,600+ sites worldwide
- 128,000+ books filmed and digitised to date



Pre-History: Early English Books Online



THE ESSAYES

Or
Morall, Politike and Millitarie
Discourses:

of
Lo: Michaell de Montaigne,

Knight

*Of the noble Order of S^t Michaell, and one of the
Gentlemen in Ordinary of the French king, Henry
the third his Chamber.*

The first Booke.
(* *)

First written by him in French.

And

now done into English

By

MICHEL
SEIGNEUR DE MONTAIGNE.

Printed for T. Basset M. Gilliflower & W. Hensman.

The essayes or morall, politike and millitarie discourses of Lo: Michaell de Montaigne...done into English by... Iohn Florio Printed at London : By Val. Sims for Edward Blount dwelling in Paules churchyard, 1603

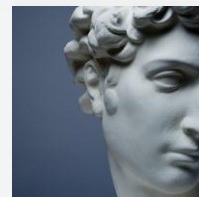
Bib Number: STC / 18041; **Copy from:** British Library

[Portrait from *Essays of Michael, seigneur de Montaigne in three books ...* London, 1685

Bib Number: Wing / M2479; **Copy from:** Huntington Library]

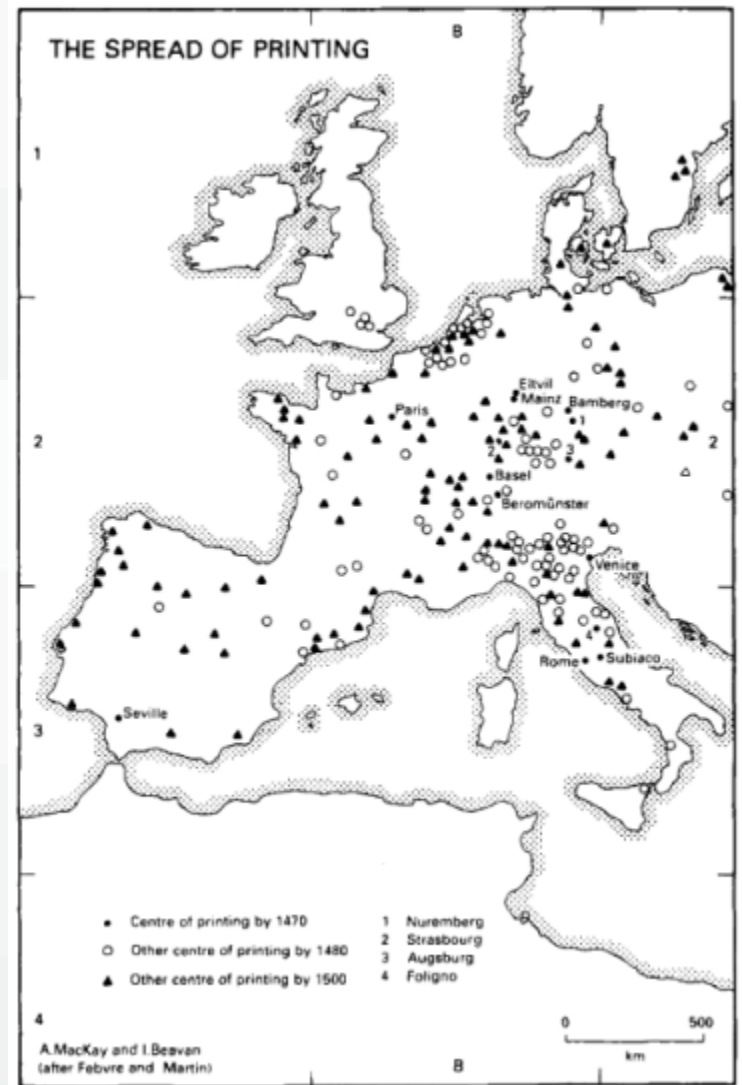
Early European Books: The Project

- Scope: all material printed in Europe or in European languages from the birth of printing (c.1455) to 1700
- Successor & complement to Early English Books Online (EEBO)
- Scan in colour from original volumes (not microfilm)
 - Scanning on site in libraries in Florence, The Hague, London, Copenhagen
 - Today's technology allows capturing every facet of the book in high resolution images
- Aim: to create a comprehensive digital library of the history of Western culture
 - EEBO's 125,000 books will become a subset of *Early European Books*



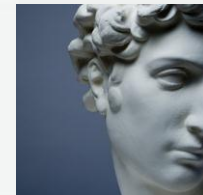
Early European Books: The Project

- EEBO only covers a fraction of books from the period:
 - By 1600, Europe had produced 345,000 books; only 4% are in EEBO
- No single catalogue for the whole of Europe
 - Efforts so far have been largely limited by national boundaries and collections
- Modern national boundaries are not relevant to this period
 - The modern states of France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands etc did not exist
 - Intellectual life was profoundly international



Early European Books: The Project

- Pilot collections:
 - The Royal Library, Copenhagen launched December 2009
 - Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze, November 2010
 - 2,500-3,000 books / 500,000-600,000 pages each
- Next phase, 2011-
 - Installed in 4 libraries by end of 2011
 - Digitise 4 million+ pages per year from 2012
 - 50,000+ books at BNCf
 - 28,500+ books at Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Den Haag
 - 15,500 books at Wellcome Library, London
 - More to be announced soon
- Collaborate with existing digitisation projects and other projects interested in early modern print culture
- Partnerships with CERL Thesaurus and Universal Short Title Catalogue (USTC)



The Collaborative Model

ProQuest funds the creation of digital files and metadata

- ProQuest returns master copies to the source library
- Library owns master copies and can use them for facsimiles, digitisation on demand

Free access in country where the collection is held

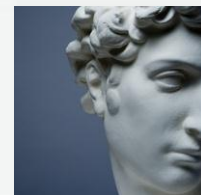
- ProQuest has commercial rights to the collection elsewhere
- Royalty paid to Library
- Commitment to eventual open access
- ProQuest can use geo-IP recognition to provide free access to a single country from launch

Close consultation between ProQuest, the library and the scanning company to decide:

- Physical location of operation
- Logistics of providing books to scan operators
- Protocols for book handling

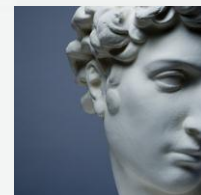
Early European Books: The Project

- Scan in high-res colour from original volumes (not microfilm)
- Include every page:
 - Covers, spines, blank pages, endpapers, loose inserts, fold-outs, spines & edges
- Captures vital information about each book:
 - format, ownership, annotations, history of publishing & readership
 - Information which is often missing from other microfilm & scanning projects
- Specialist search and display interface
 - Designed around the specific needs of researchers using rare books

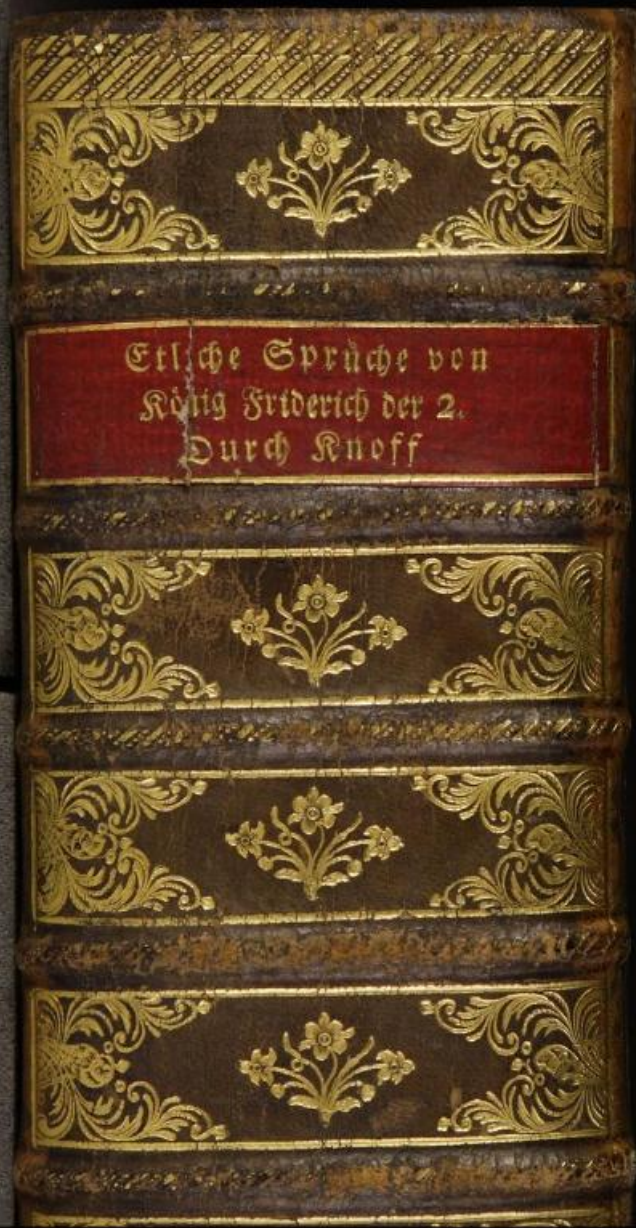


Early European Books: Challenges

- Book handling:
 - Fragile valuable items require expert handling
- Scanning:
 - Manual page turning required
 - Different sizes of books require different scanners
 - Fold-outs
 - Tight bindings mean some books can only be opened to 90 degrees
 - Capturing spines and page edges requires new photographing methods
- Metadata:
 - Accurately capturing page features (original page numbering, maps, portraits, illuminated letters)
 - Cataloguing, including copy-specific information



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LN 1360.4° copy 3



scroll



reset



zoom



rotate



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LN 870 8° copy 1

View Image:



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LN 262:1 8^o copy 4



scroll



reset



zoom



rotate



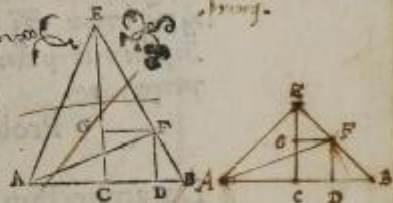
Reverendissimo ac illustrissimo
 principi et domino D. Friede-
 rico eius nominis Secundo
 Daniae Norvegiae Slesvici
 et Jomonicarum Regi, Duci
 Slesvici, Holsatiae Stormar-
 riae et Ditmarsiae, Comiti
 Oldemburgensi et Delmen-
 horstensi & Dno suo cla-
 rissimo, humillimus
 officii

Nicolai
 Hemmingii

ἀπὸ τῆς ἁλίσου τῆς ὅλης τμημάτων τετραγώνου,
 διπλασιάσει τῆτε ἀπὸ τῆς ἡμισείας, εἰ τὸ ἀπὸ τῆς
 μεταξὺ τῆς ἡμῶν τετραγώνου.

Theor. 9. Propo. 9.

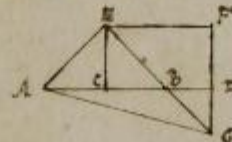
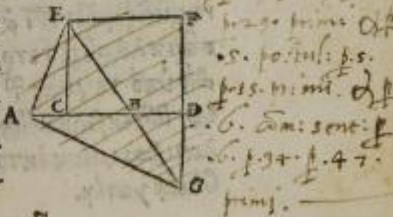
Si recta linea secetur in æqualia & non
 æqualia: quadrata quæ ab inæqualibus
 totius segmentis fiunt, du-
 plicia sunt & eius quod à
 dimidia, & eius quod ab
 intermedia sectionū fit,
 quadratorum.

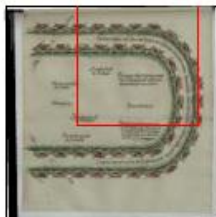
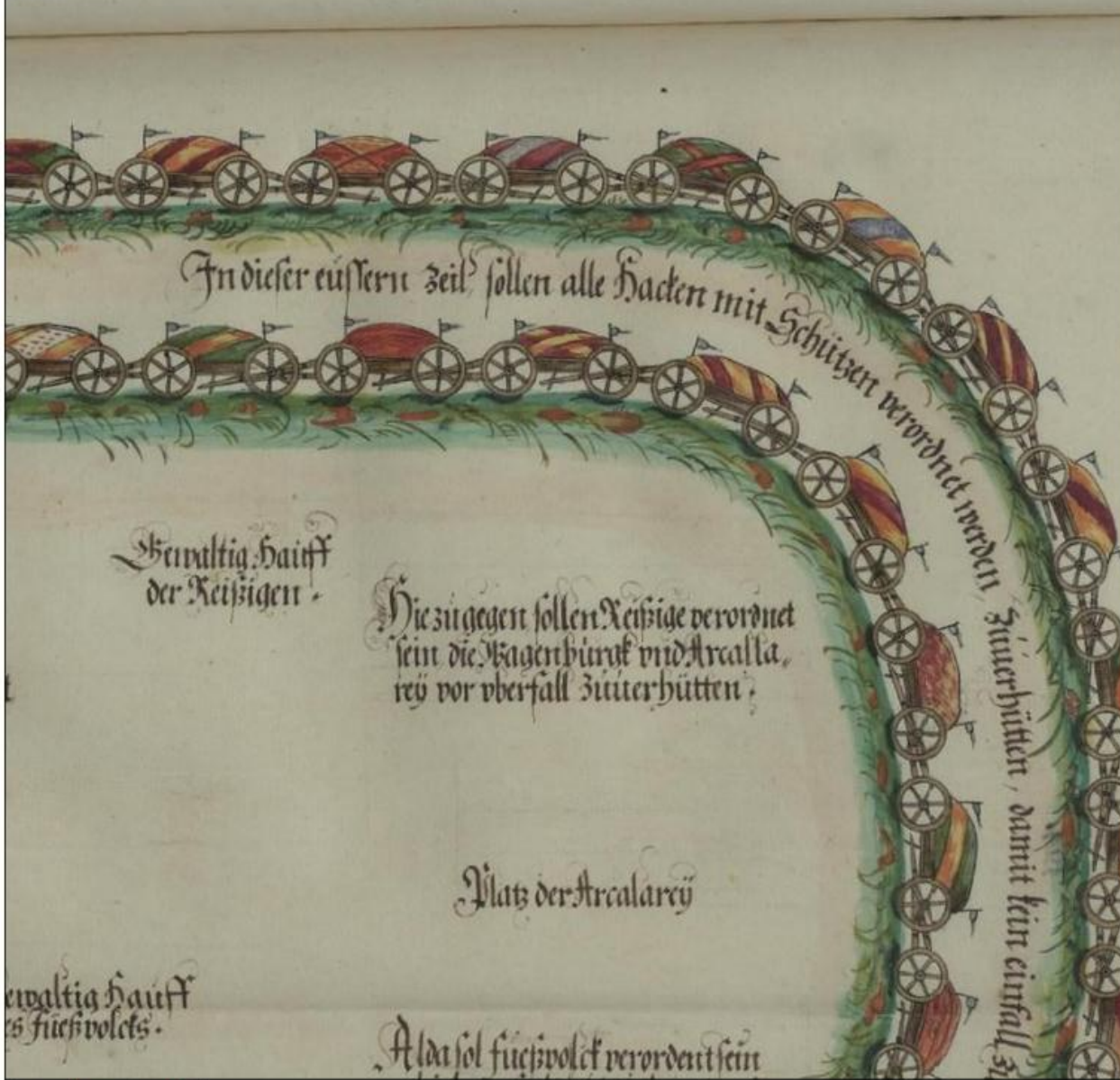


Ἐὰν διδῆται γωνιὴ τμηθῆ δίχα, προσεθῆ δέ τις
 αὐτῇ ὡς δῆα ἐπ' εὐθείας, τὸ ἀπὸ τῆς ὅλης σὺ τῆς
 προσκειμένης, καὶ τὸ ἀπὸ τῆς προσκειμένης τὰ σωμα-
 φότερα τετραγώνου, διπλασιάσει τῆτε ἀπὸ τῆς
 ἡμισείας, καὶ τῆτε ἀπὸ τῆς συνηκμένης ἔτε τῆς ἡμ-
 σείας καὶ τῆς προσκειμένης, ὡς ἀπὸ μᾶς ἀναγε-
 φάντ' ὁ τετραγώνου.

Theor. 10. Propo. 10.

Si recta linea secetur bifariam, adiciatur
 autē ei in rectū quæpiā re-
 cta linea: quod à tota cū
 adiuncta, & quod ab ad-
 iuncta, utraque simul qua-
 drata, duplicia sunt & e-





scroll



reset



zoom



rotate



scroll



reset



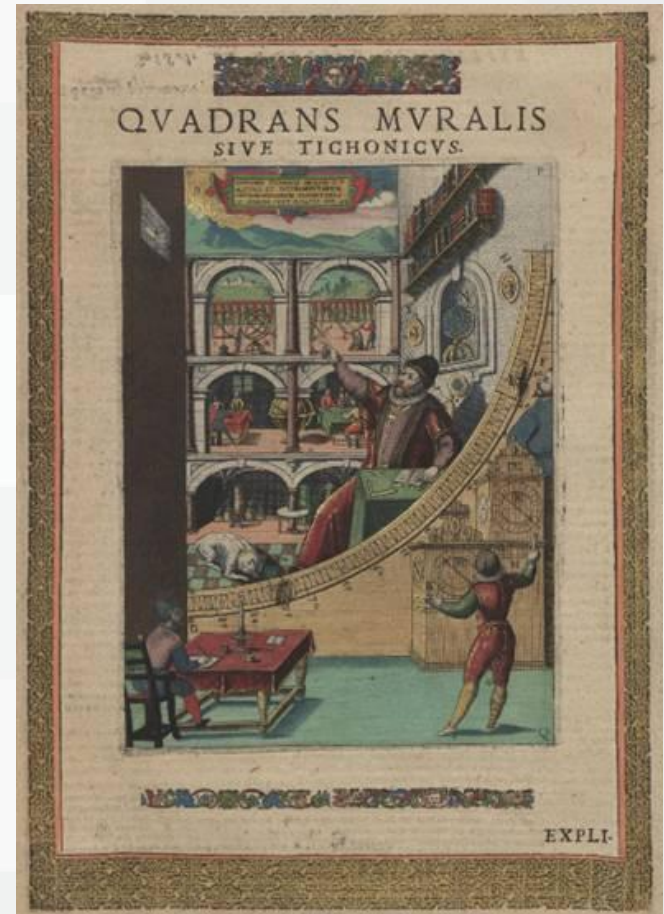
zoom



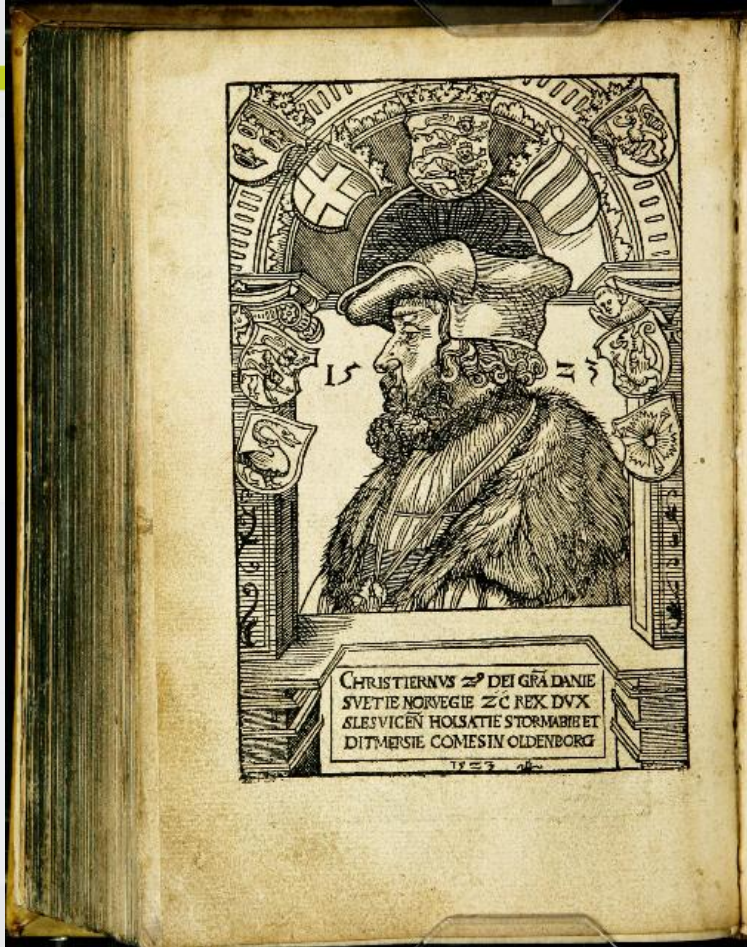
rotate

Early European Books: First Pilot

- Partnership with Royal Library, Copenhagen
- Released 2009
- 2,600 books, 500,000 pages
- Includes the library's entire holdings of items listed in the national bibliography, Lauritz Nielsen's *Dansk Bibliografi 1482–1600*
- Also includes 16th and 17th-century imprints by the Danish astronomer and alchemist Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) and follower Johannes Kepler (German, 1571-1630)



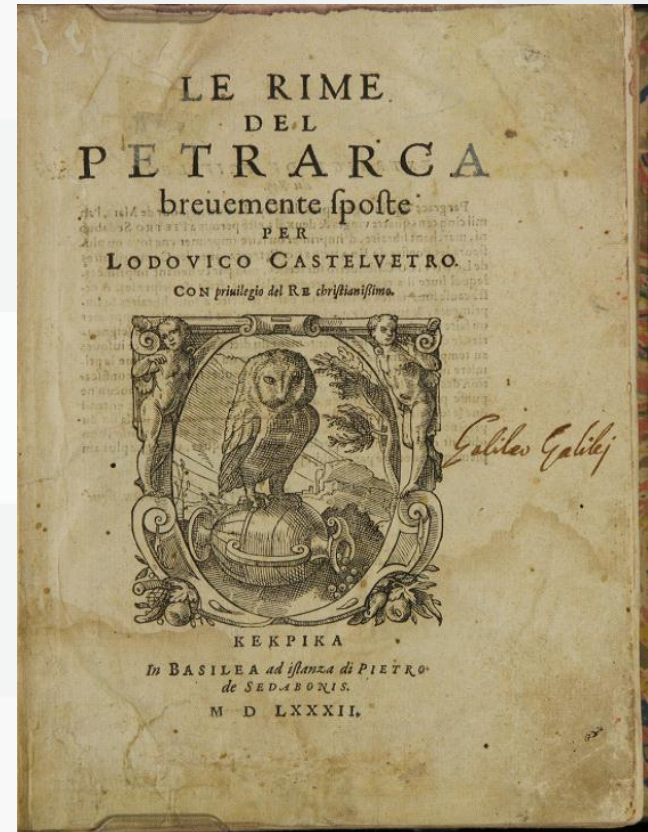
Collection 1 Highlights



- First books published in Denmark
 - *Breviarium Ottoniense* (Odense Breviary). Odense: Johan Snell, 1482
 - *De obsidione et bello Rhodiano* ('On the siege and war of Rhodes'). Odense: Johan Snell, 1482
- Very rare New Testament
 - First New Testament in any Scandinavian language, printed Leipzig, 1524
 - Commissioned by exiled King Christian II, a Lutheran convert
 - Woodcut of Christian II by Lucas Cranach (opposite) caused the book to be banned in Denmark, and was removed from most surviving copies
- Saxo Grammaticus
 - Several editions and translations of the *Gesta Danorum*, 1514 onwards

Early European Books: Second Pilot

- Partnership with Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (BNCF), Italy
- Released November 2010
- 3,000 volumes, 600,000 pages
- March 2011 onwards:
 - Next phase – digitization of all BNCF holdings pre-1700
 - 50,000+ books



Collection 2 Highlights



- Galileo's personal annotated copies of works by Euclid, Petrarch and others
- Every major early edition of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, including:
 - First printed edition, Foligno 1472.
 - First edition with modern commentary, Florence 1481.
 - First authoritative edition, Aldine Press, Venice, 1502
 - First edition with woodcut illustrating circles of Hell, Aldine Press, Venice, 1515
- First printed edition of Boccaccio's *Decameron* [1470?]
 - Only four surviving copies listed in Incunabula Short-Title Catalogue
- Alciati's *Emblemata* (pictured), which created the genre of the 'emblem book'
 - *Andreae Alciati Emblematum libellus*. Aldine Press, Venice, 1546.

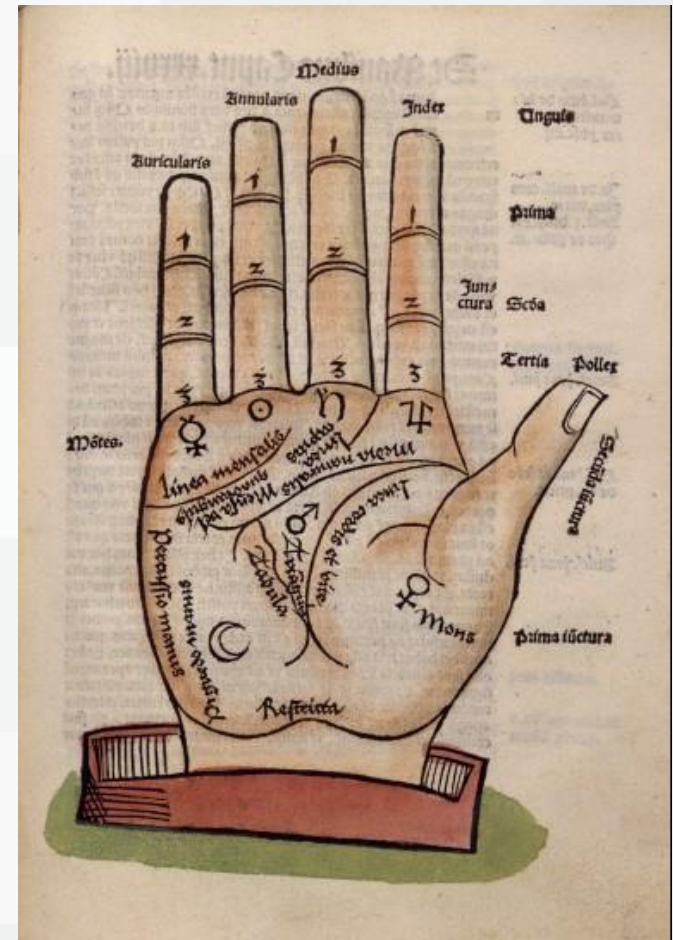
Early European Books: KB Netherlands

- Starting April 2011
- Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, Netherlands
- 28,500 books printed in the Netherlands to 1700
- 11,000 pamphlets from 1468 onwards
- Largest collection of Dutch incunabula in the world (45% of all known editions)
- Songbooks, occasional poetry, popular prose tales (chapbooks), atlases and surveys, bookbindings
- Possible addition of KB's non-Dutch pre-1700 holdings: a further 30,000 books



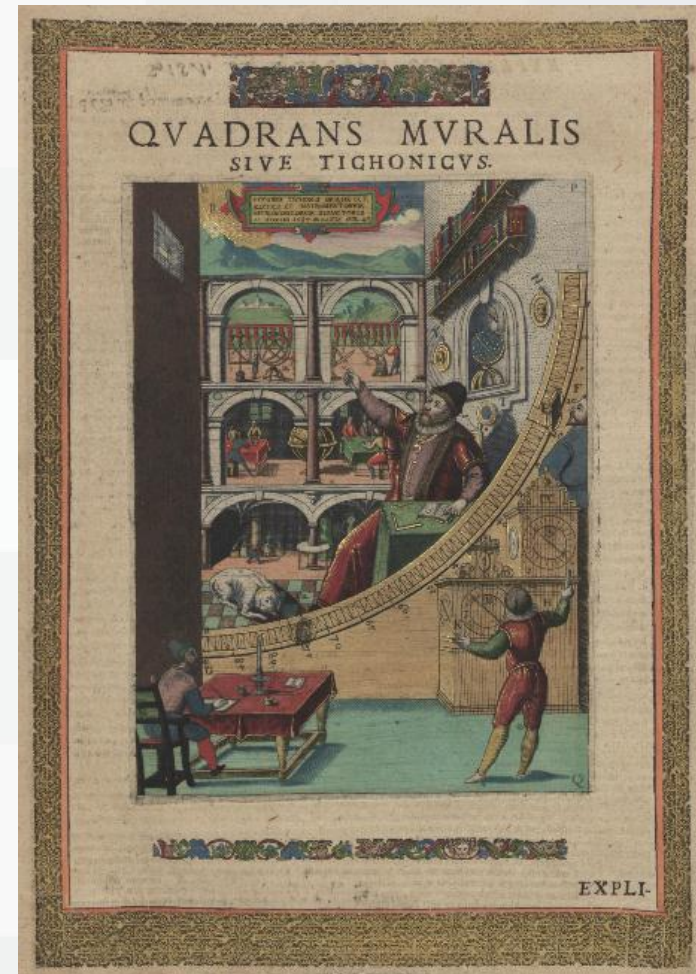
Early European Books: Wellcome Library

- Starting July 2011
- Wellcome Library, London
- 15,500 books printed in Europe to 1700
- Specialist collection of books related to medicine and science
- ‘From alchemy to zoology’
- Encyclopedias, illustrated works of anatomy, botany and natural history
- Works previously owned by William Morris, Sir Hans Sloane, John Dee, Florence Nightingale



European Culture: Science

- Nicolaus Copernicus
 - From Turon, Royal Prussia (now in Poland).
 - *De Revolutionibus* (Latin, Nuremberg, 1543; EEB has Basel 1556 edition from BNCF)
- Tycho Brahe
 - From Scania (was Denmark, now Sweden)
 - *De Nova Stella*, Latin, Copenhagen, 1573 (EEB copy from KBDK)
- Johannes Kepler
 - From Free Imperial City of Weil der Stadt, in the Holy Roman Empire
 - *Epitome astronomiae Copernicanæ*, Latin, Linz (Austria), 1618 (EEB copy from KBDK)
- Galileo Galilei
 - From Duchy of Florence
 - *Discorsi e dimostrazioni matematiche*, (Italian, Leiden, 1638; copy in Wellcome)



Early European Books. The Interface.



Early European Books

printed sources to 1700

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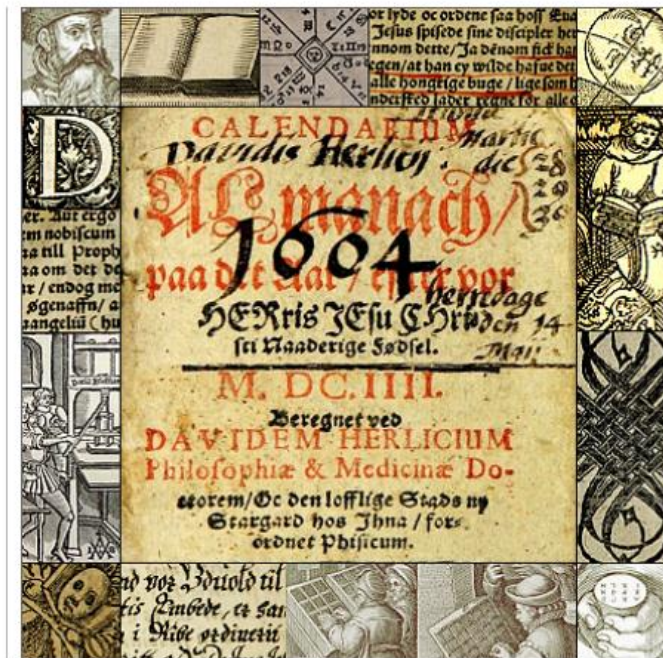
Dansk

Italiano

Welcome to *Early European Books*

Early European Books traces the history of printing in Europe from its origins through to the close of the seventeenth century, offering full-colour, high-resolution facsimile images of rare and hard-to-access printed sources.

[Read more about *Early European Books*](#) or find out [what's new](#)



Featured content

Tycho Brahe (1546–1601), *Epistolæ astronomicæ* ('Astronomical Letters'), printed on Tycho's private press at Uraniborg, on the island of Hven, and issued in 1596 (Lauritz Nielsen 430 / USTC 302833).




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*e.g. Martin Luther or Melancthon, Philipp,
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Title keyword(s):

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Printer/publisher name:

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Bibliographic number:

[Abbreviations reference](#) ▶

*e.g. Lauritz Nielsen 39; LN 430 or USTC
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e.g. ethics

Language:

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e.g. Danish and Latin

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Colour | <input type="checkbox"/> Plate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogical table | <input type="checkbox"/> Portrait |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handwritten page/insert | <input type="checkbox"/> Printed marginalia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illuminated lettering | <input type="checkbox"/> Printers' marks – colophon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illustrated page borders | <input type="checkbox"/> Printers' marks – title page |
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You searched for:

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Including variant spellings**

Sorted by:

Alphabetically by author


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15 results

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Author: Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601

Title: [Magnifico, amplissimo nobilissimoque viro, sapientia doctrina omnimodaque virtute præeinenti, D. Nicolao Kaasio, Domino de Taarup ... amico suo inprimis observando](#)

Imprint: Uraniburgi: 1585

Date: 1585

Bibliographic Number: Lauritz Nielsen 427 (LN 427)
USTC 302829

Physical Description: [4] bl.

Shelfmark: LN 427 2°

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1.

Author: Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601
Title: [Magnifico, amplissimo nobilissimoque viro, sapientia doctrina omnimodaque virtute præeminenti, D. Nicolao Kaasio, Domino de Taarup ... amico suo inprimis observando](#)
Imprint: Uraniburgi: 1585
Date: 1585
Bibliographic Number: Lauritz Nielsen 427 (LN 427)
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2.

Author: Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601
Title: [Epitaphium clarissimo et omnigena eruditione virtuteque ornatissimo viro D. Johanni Pratensi Aarusiensi Medicinæ Paracelsicæ et Galenicæ Doctori excellentissimo ob ingenitam naturæ bonitatem ... Obiit Anno 1576](#)
Imprint: Uraniburgi: 1584
Date: 1584
Bibliographic Number: Lauritz Nielsen 431 (LN 431)
USTC 302834
Physical Description: 1 bl.
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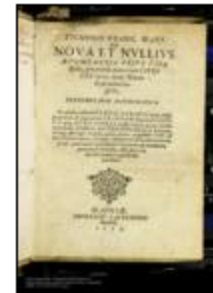
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[15 items]
- Illustration
[11 items]
- Chart
[9 items]
- Illustrated page borders
[7 items]
- Printers Mark - Title Page
[6 items]
- Coat of arms
[5 items]
- Map
[5 items]
- Portrait
[5 items]
- Clasps, ties or other closures
[4 items]
- Colour
[4 items]
- Plan

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Full Record

- Title:** De nova et nullius ævi memoria prius visa stella jam pridem Anno a nato Christo 1572 mense Novembr. primum conspecta, contemplativa mathematica, cui præter exactam eclipsis lunaris, huius anni, pragmatiam et elegantem in Uraniam elegiam, epistola quoque dedicatoria accessit, in qua nova et erudita conscribendi diaria meteorologica methodus
- Alternative title:** De nova stella
- Author:** [Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601](#)
- Date of Publication:** 1573
- Imprint:** Hafn.: 1573
- Place Of Publication:** Copenhagen [[View variants from the CERL Thesaurus](#)]
- Physical Description:** [54] bl. Fig.
- Bibliographic Number:** Lauritz Nielsen 429 (LN 429)
USTC 302831
- Language:** Latin
- Subject:** Astronomi
Astronomy
- Country:** Denmark
- Contains:** Chart
Handwritten page/insert
Illuminated lettering
Illustration
Manuscript (i.e. handwritten) marginalia and other annotation
Printers Mark - Title Page
- Shelfmark:** Hielmst. 1612 4° (LN 429 4° copy 2)
- Source Library:** Det Kongelige Bibliotek / The Royal Library (Copenhagen)

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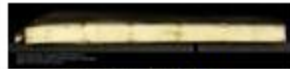
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Spine



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Back Board



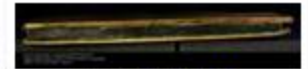
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Head edge



[Image 5 of 118](#)

Tail edge



[Image 6 of 118](#)

Foreedge



[Image 7 of 118](#)

Front Endpaper



[Image 8 of 118](#)

Front Endpaper

Manuscript (i.e. handwritten) marginalia and other annotation



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Handwritten page/insert



[Image 10 of 118](#)

Title Page

Printers Mark - Title Page



[Image 11 of 118](#)

Illustration



[Image 12 of 118](#)

Page 2

Illuminated lettering
Manuscript (i.e. handwritten) marginalia and other annotation



Thumbnails

Author: Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601

Title: [De nova et nullius ævi memoria prius visa stella jam pridem Anno a nato Christo 1572 mense Novembr. primum conspecta, contemplatio mathematica, cui præter exactam eclipsis lunaris, huius anni, pragmatian et elegantem in Uraniam elegiam, epistola quoque dedicataria accessit, in qva nova et erudita conscribendi diaria metheorologica methodus](#)

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Chart



[Image 37 of 118](#)

Chart



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Chart



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Page E

Chart



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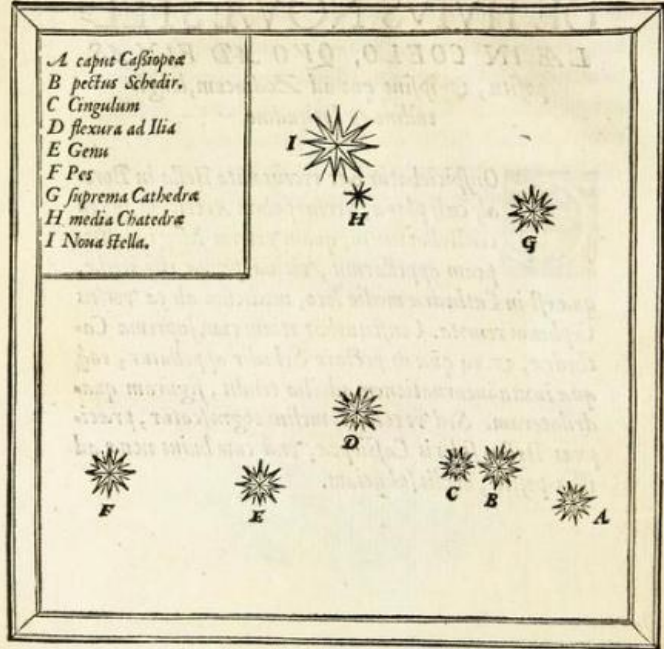
Chart



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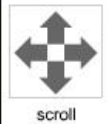
Chart





Distantiam verò huius stelle à fixis aliquibus in hac Castiopeiæ constellatione, exquisito instrumento, & omnium minorum capacj, aliquoties observavi. Inveni autem eam distare ab ea, quæ est in pectore, Schedir appellata B, 7. partibus & 55. minutis: à superiori verò

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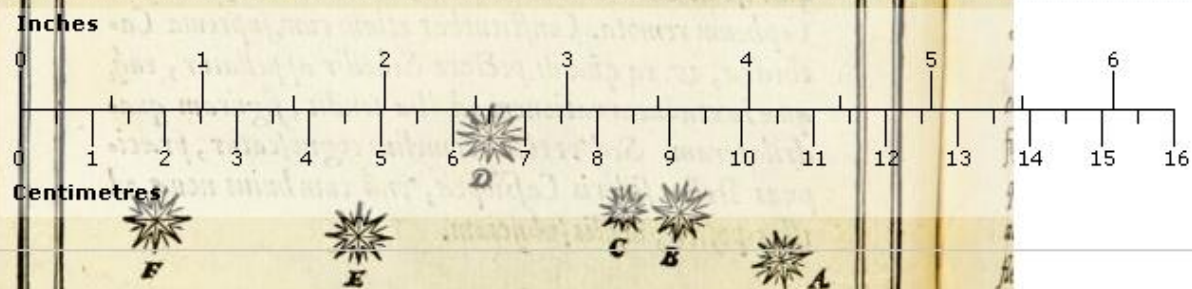
A caput Cassiopee
B pectus Schedir.
C Cingulum
D flexura ad Ilia
E Genu
F Pes
G suprema Cathedra
H media Chatedra
I Nova stella.



A caput Castiopeæ
B pectus Schedir.
C Cingulum
D flexura ad Iliã
E Genu
F Pes
G suprema Cathedra
H media Chatedra
I Nona stella.



Click and drag the scale over the image to get an idea of size.



Distantiam verò huius stelle à fixis aliquibus
 in hac Castiopeiæ constellatione, exquisito instrumento,
 & omnium minorum capacj, aliquoties obseruauì. In-
 ueni autem eam distare ab ea, quæ est in pectore, Schedir
 appellata B, 7. partibus & 55. minutis : à superiori
 verò



Searching: CERL Thesaurus

Created by the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)

- Database of variants of place names, author names & printer names
- Includes Latin forms and abbreviations (Venetii, Ventiis), historical variants (Venegia, Veneza), modern European forms (Venice, Venise, Venedig)
- Contains 70,000 records

Enhance searchability

- ProQuest's partnership with CERL allows us to integrate this data into our search
- We display one standardised form in the record, but users can search on any variants and get hits



Contribute to the Thesaurus


- When we find new variants in the EEB data, we feed this back to CERL for inclusion in the Thesaurus

Full Record

Result 1 of 344 results

[Next result](#)

- Title:** Dialoghi di amore, composti per Leone medico, di natione hebreo, et dipoi fatto christiano.
- Author:** [León, Hebreo, b. ca. 1460.](#) [[View variants from the CERL Thesaurus](#) 
- Other Author:** [Lenzi, Mariano](#)
- Other Author:** [Manuzio, Aldo, 1449 or 50-1515](#)
- Date of Publication:** 1545
- Imprint:** In Vinegia: in casa de figliuoli di Aldo 1545
- Place Of Publication:** Venice [[View variants from the CERL Thesaurus](#) 
- Printer/publisher name:** [Manuzio, Aldo, 1449 or 50-1515](#)
- Physical Description:** 8°. [2], 261 [i.e. 241], [1] c.
- Bibliographic Number:** UCLA catalogue: 336
- Note:** Il nome del curatore Mariano Lenzi si ricava dalla dedica
Il nome del tipografo si ricava dalla marca sul front
Errore di numerazione delle cc.: da c. 134 passa a c. 155
Marca (Z43) sul front. e in fine
Cors. ; rom
Segn.: A-2G8 2H4.
Fingerprint: si:& e,ol reue inti (3) 1545 (R)
Marca: Ancora accollata da un delfino. Ai lati Aldus
- Language:** Italian
- Country:** Italy
- Contains:** Coat of arms
Illustration
Manuscript (i.e. handwritten) marginalia and other annotation
Printers Mark - Colophon
Printers Mark - Title Page
- Shelfmark:** Ald.1.4.24

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CERL Thesaurus: variants list - Early European Books - Mozilla Firefox

http://eeb.

ProQuest | Early European Books
printed sources to 1700

CERL Thesaurus: variants list


The CERL Thesaurus lists the following historical or linguistic variants for "Venice":
[Read more about this feature](#)

- Venedig
- Benetczih
- Benetia
- Benetiai
- Benetikes
- Bneci
- Bnezi
- Cytheropolis
- Enetia
- Enetiai
- Enetiesi
- Enetiesin
- Enetinesin achxs
- Henetie
- Henetiesi

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Early European Books: Responses

- LIBER is delighted to be associated with ProQuest's Early European Books project and with the vision to include all imprints from across the whole of Europe between 1475 and 1700. It is a compelling vision and will result in a magnificent tool for European scholarship. LIBER feel that a viable model has been established to create a high-quality resource with huge benefit to scholars, students and beyond
Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, Netherlands

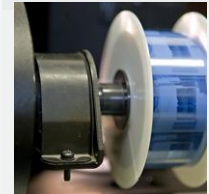
Dr Paul Ayris, President of the Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER)

- How do you rate a product that brings the contents of the great libraries of Europe to your desktop with this kind of precision, quality, and attention to detail? You give it a ten! When completed, EEB is going to fulfill the dreams of scholars around the world. A natural complement to EEBO, this is essential for every library supporting scholarly humanities research.

Cheryl LaGuardia, *Library Journal*, 04/01/2010

Conclusions (so far)

- A viable model to create a resource with huge benefit to scholars, students and beyond
- Allows students and scholars to discover rare copies and make new connections
- Superior to mass digitisation because it respects the unique characteristics of early modern works
- Advantage for libraries of working with an experienced and trusted partner
- If not yet “open access” then at least “opening up access”



Questions?



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