

A published bibliography determines not only what a collection contains but also what it lacks. And in so doing it provides the owner with a list of desiderata. At its simplest this process is straightforward: a work/edition/... is in the collection or it is not. At another level it establishes or clarifies, as already noted, the relationships between forms of a work, so that, for example, it may indicate — despite the claims of the title page — that the sheets of such-and-such an “edition” are the same as those of another, and thus that there is no need to acquire both unless absolute bibliographical (as opposed to textual) completeness is sought. That is, a bibliography of the nature of Todd/Bowden serves as an essential collection development tool.

The new bibliography has thus served to clarify the status of the three Baillieu copies of the first edition of *The Vision of Don Roderick* (1811) (59Aa–59Ae). It is only now, with the details laid out, that all three copies can be categorised as “First, Quarto Edition, Third Impression” (59Ae): this impression differs from the earlier ones in having gatherings A–G reset and the remainder (H–O) re-imposed and re-impressed, during any of which processes textual variation may have been introduced. The comparison of the copy in hand against the published descriptions has therefore identified an unrecognised gap in the collection, and steps have already been taken to acquire a copy of 59Ab/c/d.

As the survey of the collection proceeds it is likely that other items will be added to the desiderata list. Prices of Scott have increased substantially in the past three decades or so, but with such an extensive initial collection a strong case can be made for actively seeking items not held — at least items which are known to have (or, as with Don Roderick, likely to have) textual significance.

Though progress on a “Melbourne supplement” is not, as yet, far advanced certain patterns are already emerging. Nothing is likely to be added to the Scott canon, but already — as the examples discussed reveal — there will be a number of additions to be made at the level of the issue or impression (and therefore requiring a separate entry in Todd/Bowden). Also there will be numerous additions or modifications in the detail of entries, in, in particular, the records of press figures and watermarks. Hence the Baillieu Scott collection, as a result of the publication of the new bibliography, is adding to our knowledge of the output of the author; and with the publication of a Melbourne supplement the basis will have been provided for further exploitation of the collection. ■

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NOTES

1. William Ruff, “A bibliography of the poetical works of Sir Walter Scott, 1796–1832”, *Edinburgh Bibliographical Society Transactions* 1, 1935–1938, pp. 99–240, pp. 279–81.
2. Greville Worthington, *A Bibliography of the Waverley Novels* (London: Constable, 1931).
3. Nan Jaboor and B.J. McMullin, *James Ballantyne and Press Figures, With a Checklist of Volumes Printed by James Ballantyne (1803–1833)*, Melbourne, Ancora Press, 1994. (Monash Occasional Papers in Librarianship, Recordkeeping and Bibliography, No. 4).
4. Orde Poynton, “Observations on the first edition of Waverley”, *The Private Library*, 2nd series, 4, 1971, pp. 85–92.
5. William Ruff, “Deceptions in the works of Scott; or, lying title-pages”, in Alan Bell (ed.), *Scott Bicentenary Essays: selected papers read at the Sir Walter Scott Bicentenary Conference*. Edinburgh and London, Scottish Academic Press, 1973, pp. 176–87.

VALE ROBERT ILLING

The staff of the University of Melbourne Library were saddened to hear of the death in July of Dr Robert Illing, M.A., Mus.B.(Cantab), M.A. (Oxon), Ph.D.(Nottingham), Ph.D.(Adelaide), A.R.C.O.

This is a sad loss for the Library, although comfort will be taken in the knowledge that Dr Illing’s life was long and full of music and scholarship. As a contributor of note to the University Library, Dr Illing will be remembered particularly by this institution for the gift of his collection, which he described as reflecting “the life of a general practitioner in music”. The Illing Collection is housed in the Baillieu Library and contains a diversity of material relating to music and the musical life. It reflects Dr Illing’s interest in early music and includes some non-musical material and recordings of Rosamund Illing, the opera singer and his daughter.

Dr Illing published many books, and contributed a number of articles to the *University of Melbourne Library Journal*. During his retirement Dr Illing was a weekly visitor to the Library. He spent his time here well, labelling and arranging the Illing Collection and cataloging it in five volumes, as well as putting in good order his studies of early music that form part of the collection. The catalogue includes descriptions, such as those for the quartet of baroque instruments to be seen on the third floor of the Baillieu Library; a gift of Dr Illing and his wife. The University Library will miss Dr Illing’s presence, but will remember him always for his generous gift.