

correct judgments. Proper bibliographies show to all where original sources of information lie.

Fifth. In no way can so good a bird's eye view of the position of a country in science, art, literature, etc., be gained as is given by a good general bibliography of the works relating to that country and of the works of the authors it has produced.

Sixth. People may, through bibliographies, come to know the historic or other value of books they possess, and to make good use of them.

Seventh. Bibliographies are guides to the most delightful of hobbies—book collecting. Blessed is the man who hath a hobby, who, in his hours of leisure, or when his business goes not well, can turn for pleasure and rest to some subject which never palls. As there are many men, so there are many hobbies, and of these the greatest is book-collecting in some limited field. There are charms in musty bindings, yellow paper, s's like f's and grotesque cuts, in quaint style and in projection of oneself into other times where he can walk superior like a prophet, for being in one age he yet knows the future. Book-collectors often are bibliographers, and bibliographers generally are collectors.

Thus far the uses of bibliographies: let us next examine what kinds there are. They fall at once into two sorts; first, the descriptive, and second the critical. Of these naturally the first is by far the more common.