

which he is and ever has been thankful. What you did for him then, has ever been and is now highly and properly appreciated. What he has since done for you and your library being on record in the hands of Time, and in his own ledgers, need not be mentioned here.

In future years, when American historians from remote parts have to thank Providence for its historical treasures gathered by you from the four winds; and when they enter your beautiful library, or turn over the leaves of Mr Bartlett's excellent catalogue of it, the writer trusts that should it be asked What has this bibliotectural G M B done? some friendly little bird will whisper in their ears a Wren's epitaph, 'circumspice.' And when with reverent hands they turn over the 'talking leaves' of your beautiful Columbus, Vesputius, Cortes, Las Casas, Peter Martyrs, and Oviedo; your Gornaras, your Ramusios and Hakluyts, your De Brys and Hulsius, your Purchases and Thevenots; your hundreds of rare pamphlets and rarer books, the some little friend will again whisper 'circumspice.' In acquiring con amore these and other American Historiadores Primitivos he when necessary 'extracted light from cucumbers,' set traps for sunbeams all over Europe, and travelled far and near. In this labour of love, this journey of life, his tracks often became your tracks, his labours your works, his *libri* your *liberi*.

With these thoughts drifting through his head, you may perhaps conceive with what interest the undersigned read through and through the five volumes of your privately printed catalogue, and took note of the marvellous richness of your collection in the rarer materials of early American history. At the same time he thought it a good opportunity to test the value of his own similar gatherings, the unassorted accumulations of twenty years, slumbering in his American Nuggetory.

To his delight and astonishment he readily selected two thousand works the titles of which are not recorded in your catalogue, printed between the years 1490 and 1799, many of which are believed to be unique, or of very considerable rarity. The following is a brief chronological Schedule of them, a simple one-line list. Its shortcomings and imperfections are too numerous and apparent for apology. Not more than half-a-dozen of the titles are to be found in your catalogue, but these are retained in consequence of some peculiarity of the copies. These two thousand Nuggets the undersigned intends to take with him to America next month for sale. Too long many of them have been lying idle in his possession, for want of more head and more hands, but he trusts that he may hereafter be permitted to say, Long may they all be

Yours,

HENRY STEVENS, GMB.

4, Trafalgar Square, London,  
Oct. 10, 1870.