

My opinion is based upon the fact that I have read every title in the first fifty-two numbers, and, like *Oliver Twist*, I am anxious for "more." My fifteen years' experience as librarian and library officer, and twice that period spent as a bibliographical student and worker, have made me somewhat familiar with the literature of the subject; and I am simply amazed when I reflect that this immense work is the labor of one person, and he most actively engaged in carrying on a large business.

To say that such a work was without errors would be to say what is true of nothing human, but the errors which it contains are neither so important nor so numerous as to mislead any one who has the task and capacity to use it.

One most important feature, in addition to its general merit, is the fact that generally the descriptions are taken not at second-hand, but directly from the books themselves, thus insuring a degree of accuracy not otherwise attainable, and in which the important works of Drs. Watt and Allibone are most conspicuously faulty.

Respectfully, &c.,

JAMES G. BARNWELL.

PROVIDENCE, August 25, 1878.

I have just received Parts LVII and LVIII of the "Dictionary of Books relating to America," and have carefully examined every page of them, as I have done in the previous parts.

In giving my opinion of the work, as I have on former occasions, I can only say that I am as much surprised at its completeness, as with the accuracy with which you have given the titles. Nothing seems to have escaped your notice. The notes you have appended are valuable, and I only regret that the plan of the Dictionary did not permit your giving a larger number of them. But a greater number would too much enlarge the work.

Yours very truly,

MESSRS. J. SABIN & SONS, }
24 Nassau St., N. Y. }

JOHN R. BARTLETT.

BROOKLYN, May 26, 1879.

MY DEAR MR. SABIN: I have subscribed to your "Dictionary of Books relating to America," from its beginning, and have taken great interest in its progress, as one not before attempted in English or American Bibliography. The project was such an extensive one that fears might have been justly entertained as to its completion, but now that over three-quarters of the work is published there can be no doubt as to its being brought to a close. You know full well how many works like yours, in older and more recent times, have been left unfinished and remain as fragmentary testimonials of unfulfilled labor.

It is needless to remark that your work is the only one that can pretend to bear the name of an American Bibliography, and that it cannot be superseded, but can only be supplemented by yourself or others.

Your method and rules for titulation (a new and appropriate noun) are excellent, and a model for bibliographers to adopt. This acceptable uniformity of description does away with many long and needless details, which often confuse and mislead the student.

I know that the cost of your work is barely equal to the expense of its production, while your own labor meets with no compensation, and also that you have had to struggle against adverse times for such an enterprise. My best wishes are with you, and I sincerely hope that you may soon complete a work that will remain a monument of your knowledge and industry.

Yours very truly,

J. CARSON BREVOORT.