Swift's Cadenus and Vanessa Again

In the Harvard Library Bulletin, II (1928), 254-257, the present writer pointed out that two printings of Cadenus and Vanessa — Miscellanies, 1727, 1, 88-119, and the Warner edition, 1726 — are from a single type-setting. It appears that the same is the case with two other printings of the poem, namely:


8vo in fours.
[A]—D4, E2.
[1] title; [2], blank; 3-34, text; [35], 'Advertisement' of books for sale by Ramsay; [36], blank.

Copies: Harvard College Library (16422, 35.2.1+), Lord Rothschild.

2. CADENUS / AND / VANESSA. A / POEM. / — / [ornament] / — / Printed in the Year, M. DCC. XXVI.

8vo in fours.
L-O4, P6.
[81], title; [82], blank; 83-114, text; [115], 'Advertisement' of books for sale by Ramsay; [116], blank.

Copies: British Museum (1952.117.4.), Harvard College Library (16418.x); advertisement leaf lacking.

Apparently issued, with separate title-page, as part of a collection the other pages of which have not been identified. A complete copy of the collection remains a desideratum.

Comparison has revealed the following similarities:

Thanks are again due to Dr W. H. Bond, of the Houghton Library, and to

(1) The ornament on the title-page, the headpiece, the decorated capital T on the first page of the text, and the ornamental bar (stencils) at the top of the page of 'Advertisement' are exactly the same in the two printings.

(2) Both have 'FINISH' in small italic caps at the foot of the last page of text.

(3) Both have the misprint 'by' for 'be' in the second line from the bottom on p. 9 (89).

(4) In both the full stops after 'Girl' and 'these' in ll. 16 and 28 of p. 17 (97) are superior to the line.

(5) In both the P of 'Poem' on the title-page, the second 'g' of 'engraving' in l. 25 of p. 9 (89), and the T of 'The' in l. 5 of the page of 'Advertisement' show damaged font.

The imprint, the pagination, and the signatures have of course been altered in accordance with the altered circumstances.

It further appears that the ten lines beginning:

But what Success Vanessa met,
Is to the World a Secret yet:

are present in both printings.

Moreover, the following errors, first occurring in Roberts's first edition and arising from the difficulty the compositor experienced in deciphering Swift's manuscript, are found in both:

p. 9 (89), l. 14: 'Druids' (for 'Prudes')

p. 11 (91), l. 17: 'confuting' (for 'computing')

p. 16 (96), l. 18: 'Parlours' (for 'Purlicus')

p. 25 (105), l. 5: 'Head' (for 'Time')

Professor Louis A. Lorda, Dr H. R. Archer, and the Bodleian Library for assistance kindly lent.
Additional Views of Harvard:
Peabody and Siljestrom

TWO views of Harvard which were discovered too late for inclusion in the main series, "Views of Harvard to 1860," which terminated with the Winter 1949 issue of the Bulletin, are here briefly described. They were, however, discovered in time to be included in the work as published in book form this autumn by the Harvard University Press.

In view of the above, the time-scheme presented on p. 257 of the Harvard Library Bulletin, II (1948), needs a small correction. It should be:

(1) ed. 19 April: Dublin 1726 [sic] (a)
and Dublin ed. (p)
(2) 19 May: Roberts (p)
2nd ed. (a)
3rd ed. (p)
(3) 19 May: Blandford and Peele (a)
and, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th ed. (all p)
(4) early June: Edinburgh ed.; Roberts
and Ramsay (p)
early June: its reissue (p)
(5) early June: Miscellanea, Vol. 1 (p)
13 June: Warner reissue (p)

A warning may not be out of place here that the dates of publication derived from advertisements need not always be reliable. It is quite common that an advertisement says: "This Day is publish'd, &c.," while exactly the same reading may be found in an advertisement days, weeks, and even months earlier. These dates therefore have only the relative value of the earliest advertisement found. A re-examination of the papers and periodicals of the time, for which the writer has at present no opportunity, might reveal earlier dates.

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