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978-1-108-07715-6 - *Typographical Antiquities: Or, The History of Printing in England, Scotland, and Ireland: Volume 3*

Edited by Joseph Ames, William Herbert and Thomas Frognall Dibdin

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Typographical Antiquities

When this work was published, its original author had been dead for fifty years. As the title page explains, the work of Joseph Ames (1687–1759) was considerably augmented by William Herbert (1718–95), and then ‘greatly enlarged, with copious notes, and illustrated with appropriate engravings’ by Thomas Frognall Dibdin (1776–1847), several of whose other works are also reissued in this series. Ames’ history of printing, based on his own collection, was published in 1749, as an aid to booksellers in identifying old works (and modern forgeries). Herbert, a printseller and bibliophile, acquired Ames’ own interleaved copy of the work and intended to enlarge it, but died having completed only three of six proposed volumes. His working copies then passed to Dibdin, who eventually published this four-volume edition between 1810 and 1819. Volume 3 considers the lives and work of printers from William Faques to Nicholas Bourman.

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VOLUME 3

JOSEPH AMES

EDITED BY WILLIAM HERBERT
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TYPOGRAPHICAL
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OF
Great Britain.

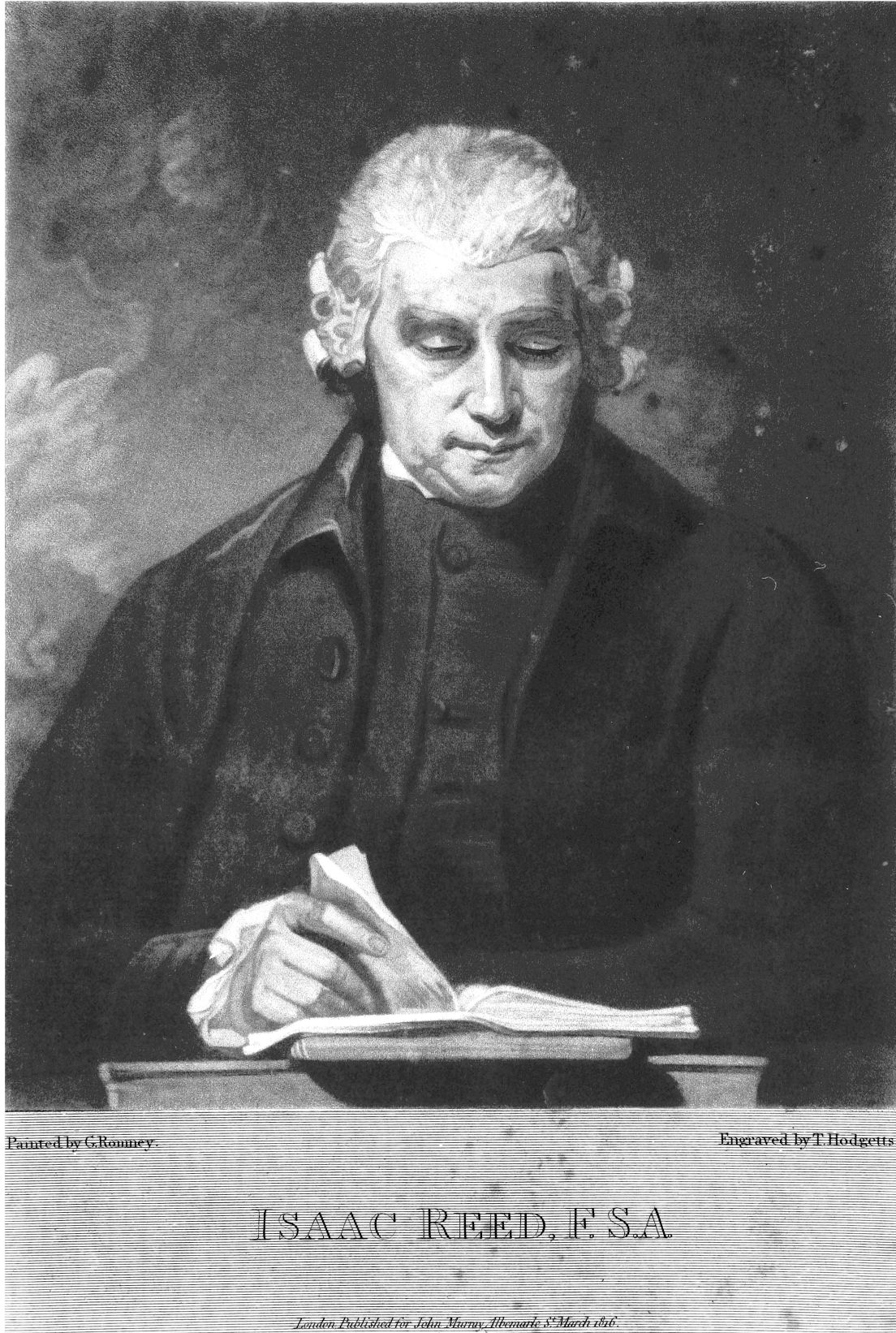
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Typographical Antiquities;

OR

THE HISTORY OF PRINTING

IN

ENGLAND SCOTLAND AND IRELAND:

CONTAINING

Memoirs of our Ancient Printers,

AND A

REGISTER OF THE BOOKS PRINTED BY THEM.

Begun by the late JOSEPH AMES, F.R. & A.SS.

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*Comprehending the History of English Literature, and a View of the
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BY THE REV. THOMAS FROGNALL DIBDIN.

VOL. III.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE-STREET,

BY W. BULMER AND CO. CLEVELAND-ROW, ST. JAMES'S.

1816.

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SOME apology may be due for the length of time which has elapsed since the publication of the second volume of this work. The public, however, will not accuse me of indolence during this interval; as the completion of the BIBLIOTHECA SPENCERIANA is a sufficient evidence of unabated ardour in the study of bibliography.

*Without pledging myself to any definite period for the publication of the remaining volumes, it may safely be affirmed that no cause, of a magnitude equal to what has just been noticed, can operate to produce delay: although I must be permitted to declare that the BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DECAMERON may precede the fourth volume of these *Typographical Antiquities*. Those who are disposed to censure the tardiness of my progress in this publication, must suffer their severity to be softened by a reflection upon the comparatively disproportionate reward attending it:—arising from the very nature of the undertaking:—for in a work so voluminous and expensive as the present, of which the impression is necessarily limited, both the Editor and the Publisher must content themselves with a moderate remuneration, and with the hope that what they lose in pecuniary profit they gain by reputation and credit.*

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The volume now put forth will be found, from its variety and richness, to possess a more general interest than either of those which have preceded it. There is scarcely a department in the whole range of early English Literature, but what may be said to be illustrated in the following pages. The Romances of the COPLANDS, the Dramatic Pieces of the RASTELLS, and others, the Poetry of GODFRAY, WYER, &c. the Philology of BERTHELET, the Law publications of REDMAN, and the valuable body of Theology published by GRAFTON and WHITCHURCH, may render the present volume a valuable acquisition to the curious: especially as, in each of these departments, much additional matter has been introduced, and many corrections have been made. The Embellishments also, it is hoped, will be found to keep pace with its intrinsic worth; but of those which face pages 40 and 462, I may confidently here bespeak the warmest approbation of the skilful. Their accuracy and felicity of execution are alike admirable.

*When the Devices of Printers could not be procured, a blank space, within a single-line frame, has been substituted as an apology: * but should the researches of my friends supply me with those, of which no fac-similes are here given, the public may be assured that Duplicates of such leaves, with the Devices introduced, shall appear in the succeeding volume.*

* *The examples of Vasari and Descamps, in their respective Lives of the Painters, where no portrait was extant, led me to adopt the above mode.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

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It only remains to detain the reader while I express my obligations to my friends Mr. R. WILBRAHAM, Mr. BINDLEY, Mr. DOUCE, and Mr. HEBER, for the important aid of their well-stored Libraries; and to own the assistance I have derived from those useful repositories of our ancient Literature—the Censura Litteraria and the British Bibliographer. The recent edition of Wood's Athenæ Oxonienses has furnished me with too many valuable notices not to merit my best acknowledgments; and not to justify me in predicting for the Editor of it, that station in the Temple of future OXFORD WORTHIES to which his labours so fairly entitle him.

T. F. DIBDIN.

Kensington, Dec. 21, 1815.

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MEMORANDUM.

At page 384, the edition of *Corio's History of Milan* is stated to be of the date of 1505, instead of 1503.

Through inadvertence, the list of books printed by Laurence Andrewe is placed at the end, instead of the beginning, of the Index.