12 Bodleian MS. Top. Yorks. c. 18 (18-82).
13 I wish to thank Dr. Rogers, Dr. Desmond Neill of Massey College, Toronto, and Professor A.C. Cawley of Leeds who sent a copy of the broadside to Dr. Margaret Rogerson (née Dorrell) and myself. I am particularly indebted to Mr. Michael L. Turner, Senior Assistant Librarian, Special Collections, Bodleian Library, who provided me with the information concerning the provenance of the document. He also informs me that the foliation 661, 663 to be seen on the broadside is in the hand of Nathaniel Johnston; that the foliation 127, 128 is in the hand of Richard Frank; and that a modern circular stamp with the name of F. Bacon Frank of Campsall Hall, Yorkshire (the man who sold the collection) is on the verso of the leaf. The word ‘Halelulia’ in a post-Renaissance hand appears in the margin opposite the first stanza. The Bodleian call mark is now Vet. A1 a.5 (1).
15 This information was provided by Professor John Wevers, Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto.
17 See especially the plays of the Creation, the Nativity, and Doomsday in L.T. Smith, ed., The York Plays (Oxford, 1885).
19 York City Archives, B 15, ff. 36-36v.
20 York City Archives, B 13, f. 96.
21 York City Archives, B 10, f. 55.

IAN LANCASHIRE

REED Research Guide

Scope of this Guide
In editing records of dramatic, ceremonial, and minstrel activity in Great Britain, one must (i) understand the types of those activities and of historical records generally; (ii) compile a bibliography of relevant printed source materials; (iii) locate and identify manuscripts with useful records; (iv) transcribe them initially; (v) describe and date them; and (vi) edit them with Introduction, Textual Notes, and Appendices. This editorial guide is written with the literary scholar specifically in mind; most of it will be no news to the professional historian. For details of works and authors referred to below, see the appended bibliography.
The Activities
These are, to begin with, dramatic events: the mystery cycles, the Creed, Pater Noster, and saints' plays, miracles, moralities, and liturgical plays, mumming, interludes, St. George plays, mimed dialogues, and the repertory of itinerant professional troupes or companies. Ceremonial activities include the Corpus Christi processions, special quasi-dramatic guild, church, and household rituals or procedures (e.g., the Feast of Fools, the Boy Bishop, Twelfth Night, and Maundy Thursday orders), civic royal entries, seasonal ridings of city officials and others, civic watches, and provincial tournies and formal combats-at-arms. Between drama and ceremony are folk events: the Robin Hood gatherings, plough, sword, and morris dances, May Day celebrations, and the summer game. Minstrelsy includes the work of all professional musicians, trumpeters, and civic waits, as well as of their fraternities and courts. Records of dramatic or minstrel equipment, such as stages, theatres, and musical instruments, will also be edited. Finally, there are many entertainments regularly linked with these activities: church ales, disguisings, puppet shows, pastimes, dancing, wrestling, juggling, and singing, as well as events involving bearwards, acrobats, ringers, and jesters. Virtually all 'play,' music, and ceremony are pertinent, though game sports, fairs, the liturgy, and liturgical music in themselves (that is, where not linked with the above activities) will be excluded, as will royal revels at the monarch's principal courts. Records of professional London acting companies have already been well edited, so that, apart from some London civic, parish, and miscellaneous records, REED's concern will be with the provinces.

The Records
These have functions and derive from jurisdictions common to all British historical documents. There are four types of records: (i) legal instruments, such as cartularies, custumals, deeds, indentures or contracts, leases, letters under seal, petitions, statutes, warrants, wills, and writs; (ii) administrative or ministerial proceedings, such as accounts, act books, ceremonialia or books of procedures, computi, fabric rolls, inventories, memoranda, minutes, orders, ordinaries, register books, rentals, and surveys; (iii) judicial proceedings, such as court rolls, depositional, examinations, informations, minutes, pleas, and sessions and visitation books; (iv) miscellaneous records, such as broadsheets, chronicles, commonplace books, diaries, letters, literary and polemical works, manuscript or printed ephemera, 'memorials,' and newsheets. There are six jurisdictions that share, in varying degrees, these four types: (i) crown; (ii) county; (iii) town; (iv) parish; (v) ecclesiastical (of bishops, deans, chapters, and archdeacons) and monastic; (vi) private (of manorial, academic, and guild organizations, as well as individuals). Hall (for the historian) and Meads (for the literary scholar) are still good guides to such archives classification, and Elton gives a fine, but more discursive and less schematized, account whose period limits correspond very closely to REED's. Dramatic records editors will find essential primary material in all these types and jurisdictions, though the bulk of evidence will be in town, parish, and private administrative proceedings, especially town chamberlains' (or
stewards', mayors', bailiffs', receivers', and treasurers') accounts, minutes (or assembly and burghmote books) and memoranda books, parish inventories and churchwardens' accounts, estate or personal household accounts, and guild minutes, ordinances, and financial records. Legal instruments such as indentures and wills, judicial proceedings such as county quarter sessions books, ecclesiastical visitations and leet (mayors or manor) court books, and miscellaneous documents such as letters and chronicles, have also proved to contain pertinent records.

Bibliography of Printed Materials
An editor is well advised not to hurry to the local repository, but to assemble first a complete bibliography of material already described or calendared in print. REED volumes will not duplicate previously edited work if it is lengthy and accurate, and as a result an unprepared editor may waste time on needless transcription. One should have copies of all edited records in hand for ready comparison with the original documents. This scholarship may catch passages otherwise missed, either by the disappearance or relocation of manuscript leaves, or by an editor's own oversight, or by the original document's deterioration over the years. The extent of this bibliography will vary with the region or city whose records are being edited, but everything that directly illuminates its local history might be surveyed profitably. Anything less may disadvantage one in dealing with the original records, with archivists, and with the local historians whose experience and advice will often prove crucial.

Dramatic, Ceremonial, and Minstrel Histories
Medieval drama records are listed for 127 locations in Chambers' Mediaeval Stage, and Nelson discusses in detail 34 major and minor cities and towns. Mill deals with Scottish records, and Clark with Irish. Murray prints evidence from 78 provincial cities and towns for the Renaissance period, and his work is taken account of and somewhat expanded by Chambers (in his Elizabethan Stage) and Bentley. Wickham prints new records for both periods. Dawson and Kahrl, in model editions, give records for, respectively, Kent and Lincolnshire; and Dawson's article combines a first-hand description of the problems of record-editing with a critique of J.O. Halliwell and Murray. No other shire is so well served, though many scholars have done effective pioneering: J.R. Witty on Beverley, F.M. Salter on Chester, Thomas Sharp on Coventry, W.A. Mepham on Essex, William Kelly on Leicester, Halliwell on Ludlow, and C.E.C. Burch on Southampton. Stratman lists many such books and articles on medieval drama; Loewenberg covers provincial drama in all periods; and work-in-progress since 1955 has been indicated in Research Opportunities in Renaissance Drama (RORD). Ceremonialia have not been surveyed, but their seasonal character invites the use of Banks and Wright. Hughes lists work on medieval minstrelsy, and Woodfill prints extensive extracts from 16-17th-century London and provincial records. Finally, see Baskerville and the Internationale Volkskundliche Bibliographie for folk events, Cox and Blair for entertainments located in and sponsored by churches, and Withington for royal entries.
Historical Scholarship, Antiquarian and Record Publications

REED is a historical record series, and its editors will make extensive use of historical sources and commentaries. One should begin to assemble a list of already published materials with the national period bibliographies by Graves (the beginnings to 1485), Read and Levine (1485-1603), and Davies (1603-1714). They can be supplemented from Berkowitz (unorthodox and all-period) and from the lists of 20th-century British historical scholarship by Bellot, Milne and Munro (books and articles, 1901-48), and by Lancaster and Kellaway (books only, 1948-70). Articles appearing after 1948, and books after 1970, can often be found in the annual bibliography of the Historical Association's Bulletin. The annual British National Bibliography (BNB; 1950-) and its delayed Cumulated Subject Catalogue (1951/4-) offer a complete, classified list (according to the Dewey Decimal System) of all books published in the country. These national bibliographies, despite their sections on local geographical areas (e.g., Berkowitz, BNB, Graves, and Read), must be used in conjunction with the local-history bibliographies by Gross, Humphreys, and the former's two continuers, Martin and McIntyre (their first volume treats bibliographies, guides, texts, calendars, and general history). In addition, the Council for British Archaeology Bibliography lists local history journals and has a topographical index, by county, to new research (mainly in field archaeology, which may, though, deal with theatres), and the Urban History Newsletter details research-in-progress. The convenient and broadly informative Victoria County Histories are standard reference works in British local history, and where they do not exist The British Museum General Catalogue of Printed Books indexes much under town and county names. Local history research is pursued yearly by thousands of amateur and professional historians throughout Great Britain, and many local-records guides have been printed for them: Emmison, Gray, Hoskins, Kuhlicke, Newton, Pugh, Stephens, and West are all useful (though they also deal with post-1642 history). The Standing Conference for Local History journal, The Local Historian, has since 1952 published dozens of articles to help the active researcher work with local records. Finally, for British theses, a rich source of information, see Bell (1815-1914), the Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research (BIHR) 'Theses Supplement' (1933-), Record's Survey (before 1950) and ASLIB (1953-); the second also lists theses in progress.

The above aids deal piecemeal with two kinds of document, government-published records, and national or local record series and society journals that are indexed better elsewhere. (i) All government-published pre-1642 historical records are listed in the (Her Majesty's Stationery Office) British National Archives: this has Public Record Office calendars, guides, registers, lists and indexes, the Rolls Series (or Rerum Britannicarum Medii Aevi Scriptores), and the Record Commissioners Publications. The first gives, mainly by reign, Chancery records (charter, patent, close and fine rolls, inquisitions post mortem and the like), Exchequer and Judicial records, documents in foreign archives relating to Britain, State Papers, and Privy Council Acts. The State Papers include letters and papers for the reigns of Henry VIII (foreign and domestic: 22 vols.), Edward VI-James I (domestic: 12 vols.), and Charles I
(domestic: 19 vols. to 1642). The Rolls Series is primarily chronicles and 'materials' (as from the reigns of Edward III, Henry IV-VI, Richard III, and Henry VII), and the Records Commissioners issued many miscellaneous catalogues, records editions, and calendars. Local historians find much of interest here, and Elton is a particularly helpful guide through the confusing array of government documents. (ii) Mullins' Texts and Calendars gives a comprehensive overview, up to March 1957, of English and Welsh national and local record series; afterwards, consult the BNB and, for 1971-2 only, Youings' small booklet, which also describes work-in-progress. Terry and Matheson cover the same field for Scotland from 1780 to 1927; and for later series, see the British Records Association Handlist. Great Britain's historical and archaeological journals have vast resources, and five indexes are useful: Gomme indexes 94 journals by author to 1901 (there is no subject index), but he should be supplemented by Poole's Index; Mullins' Guide carries this work on to 1933 (with a subject index); from then to 1963 the Subject Index can be used, at which date the British Humanities Index takes over. Major periodicals like Archaeologia (1770-), The Gentleman's Magazine (1731-1907) and Notes & Queries (1849-) are best served by their own indexes. Where possible, each editor should contact, or familiarize himself with, his region's past and present local societies: they are listed by Harcup and in the 1975 Directory of the Standing Conference for Local History.

The Location of Manuscripts
The number of British libraries and repositories that might provide an editor with valuable manuscripts is very large, but some searching beyond local record offices is necessary, since over the centuries documents have often wandered from their original homes, especially to the great libraries. A careful look through selected catalogues (with keywords and proper names noted in advance) will, however, cover quickly a mass of records. There are three basic guides. (i) Record Repositories in Great Britain, issued by HMSO, is a list of public record offices or libraries, each with more than 1000 pieces of record material, and of printed catalogues to their holdings. One should at least examine the catalogues for the British Library (formerly British Museum), Bodleian Library, Cambridge University Library, Lambeth Palace Library, and the Public Record Office (London, Belfast) or Scottish Record Office (Edinburgh). Giuseppi's Guide to Surrey archives in the Public Record Office, as R.B. Pugh notes (p. 23), is an effective indicator of those classes of public records most profitable for the local historian. Hepworth, Martin, and McIntyre, and the Standing Conference for Local History Directory also list local record offices. (For current addresses of local government offices, which may have some information about old records, consult Pullan.) Ker's Medieval Manuscripts catalogues collections with fewer than fifty relevant pieces, but unfortunately excludes muniments; it does, however, identify lesser repositories. (ii) The Historical Manuscripts Commission has published, since 1870, over 250 volumes of reports and calendars 'on the manuscripts of over 400 private owners and of over 200 corporate bodies including boroughs, cathedrals, counties, parishes and endowed institutions'; for a convenient, regularly
updated list, see HMC *Publications* (issued by HMSO). Essential tools in using these volumes are the topographical guides to their contents, and the indexes to persons mentioned in them, both covering reports up to 1957. The Commission's offices (Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1MP) also have (a) details of a series of subject source lists, and (b) the Manorial Documents Register, which lists manor documents alphabetically by manor within county and has an alphabetical index of parishes (each with the names of those manors lying inside it). Oschinsky discusses how to read and edit such manorial accounts. Associated with the HMC is the National Register of Archives (NRA), which had (by 1974) more than 16,000 unpublished reports of records in private English and Welsh archives, together with three indexes to them: persons, subjects, and places. These can only be consulted together at the NRA offices in Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HP (a quite limited mail inquiry service exists), and for introductions to both HMC and NRA search facilities see Baillie and Ranger. One special advantage of NRA reports on records of boroughs, quarter sessions, schools, Anglican parishes, and Roman Catholic and Non-conformist communities is that reports on each kind of record are bound together so that entire regions can be conveniently surveyed at once (local record offices have copies of the relevant parts of these reports). In Scotland the equivalent to the NRA is the Register of National Archives. One additional HMC service is its *List of Accessions to Repositories* (1957-), preceded by its *Index to Lists* for 1954-8; migrations of manuscripts are noted at the Commission's offices, which have also monitored for over ten years the sale of manuscripts of interest to local record offices. *BIHR* had noted accessions and important migrations from 1930 to 1954. (iii) Ecclesiastical manuscript records are analyzed and located by Owen, Tate, and the (now dated but still indispensable) Pilgrim Trust. Finally, public manuscript repositories outside Great Britain are selectively noted in *The New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature*, 1 (1974), cols. 7-12, and indexed in the International Council on Archives *Directory* (2,500 entries for 132 countries). The Thomas-Case Guide discusses the archives of western Europe.

Some Advice about Visiting Local Record Offices and Private Libraries

(i) Become familiar in advance with the holdings and rules of repositories. Many have printed catalogues; those offices without ones will probably have been described in articles in *Archives*, the British Records Association journal since 1949 (see Graves, item 1504, for a list of such reports to 1967) or *The Journal of the Society of Archivists*. (ii) Write well ahead of time to an archivist about a proposed visit, and be specific about the arrival date (suggest two, if possible), the length of the stay, and the kinds of material sought. Where private records are concerned, the HMC should always be written first: manuscripts may have been sold, lost, or deposited in a public archives; or microfilm copies may be available. (iii) Obtain beforehand letters of introduction, one from one's dean, director, department head, or supervisor, and one from the Executive Editor of REED. (iv) Carry along with one, besides a magnifying glass (preferably with flashlight), a ruler in millimetres, a list of common abbreviations
(e.g., pp. 29-35 of Hector), and personal copies of previous editions of the relevant dramatic records, of Cheney's *Handbook*, and of Latham's *Word-List*. (v) Ask the archivist in person for help, and explain the kinds of records that have proved most useful in the past (see above, under *The Records*, pp. 11-12). Inquire after local historians who are working or have worked in the pre-1642 periods; these people may know of material one does not. (vi) Note the identities and shelfmarks of all manuscripts examined, and the date of the examination, whether or not they turned out to be productive. In the long run, not registering negative results is the same as not having done the work at all. (vii) Acquire from the repository as much printed material as possible about its archives: a photocopy of its holdings in pre-1642 records is especially desirable where no printed catalogue exists. (viii) Arrange for microfilming of manuscripts at the time of the visit. (ix) Remember that one is completely dependent on the goodwill of private owners for the extent of access to manuscripts that is granted; scholars, no matter how disinterested their motives, have no right to see any private papers, and of course such visits cause inconvenience for the owners. Archivists and Librarians, whose responsibilities include helping readers to use records, nonetheless deserve courtesy, and users should carefully observe local ground rules (for some common ones, see Iredale). (x) Be prepared to waste time graciously at some repositories and private libraries, and to extend one's stay accordingly.

**Transcription**

The editor should transcribe whole sections of manuscripts exactly as in the original, without any editorial additions, deletions, or alterations. The REED-Malone Society 'Rules for Transcription' explain how to convert this diplomatic transcript into edited text, but any attempt to combine the two at the repository will produce, later, uncertainties about both manuscript form and readings. Difficult or unusual features of any manuscript should be explained on separate sheets. When in doubt about any item, always transcribe it; its inclusion in the final, edited text can be determined later when all the evidence is in. The appended bibliography gives some important guides to pre-1642 British palaeography, manuscript abbreviations, and medieval Latin.

**Document Description**

This is necessary for four reasons: (i) to identify the document for later readers; (ii) to authenticate it as a genuine historical record, and as no forgery; (iii) to help in dating the text; and (iv) to determine all damage and all strictly bibliographical features that have (or have had) a significant effect on the text. The editor should use his own discretion about how much should be described, but he should remember that microfilm can give no reliable information whatever about a document's physical features. Ker is the best British guide in describing a manuscript; Bowers' *Principles* is a complete method for describing a printed book. Identify a document, where possible, by title (indicate the source for the title), shelfmark, and provenance.
(i.e., previous ownership). Unless one is expert in the history of binding, materials, inking, seals, and format, one should rely on an archivist to authenticate a document. For dating purposes every document should, in addition, be collated, gathering by gathering, so as to ascertain the original order and (in some instances) actual presence of the contents. McKerrow, Ker, and Bowers will illustrate how a collation can be made by observing catchwords, quire signatures, foliation or pagination, position or change of watermarks, changes in inking, type font, hand or layout, and so forth. Finally, documents should all be checked for condition: evidence of lost leaves, staining, holes, obliteration, tearing, chemical treatment or other repairs should be noted. A purely mechanical examination of a book can bring out anomalies that, though well removed from the leaves on which evidence has been found, will radically alter its significance. Always ask the owner's or archivist's permission to make such an examination.

**Dating**

This is often a vexing business. Pre-1642 British documents may date themselves according to the regnal year, which begins on the first day of the monarch's reign (for tables, see Cheney); or the Old Style calendar year, which began on 25 March in Great Britain until well into the 18th century, except in Scotland, where from 1600 the new year's first day was our 1 January; or the mayoral year (for civic documents), the year of office of some guild official (for craft records), or the special fiscal year of either a city corporation or a guild company. For the edited text, all REED dates should be converted to modern calendar usage, and to make this conversion one must have worked out the individual document's method of dating. For instance, 2 February 1496 in our modern calendar year reckoning could appear in documents of that year as 2 February 11 Henry VII, or 1495 (in the York Chamberlains' accounts, whose fiscal year until 1500 began on 3 February, and in the York Mercers' accounts, whose fiscal year began on 25 March), or 1496 (in the York Bridgemoisters' accounts, where the fiscal year after 1491 began on 15 January). Do not use the dating form 1495/6 (as for the above York Chamberlains' or Mercers' examples). Indicate documents' original reckoning methods in the Introduction. Where an individual record entry is itself dated only by year, but on internal evidence can be placed in the period about a feast or other day, date that item accordingly.

**Editorial Format**

Details of this will be worked out in REED's first few record volumes, but because individual groups of records will cause individual problems each editor might familiarize himself with some commonly adopted sets of editorial procedures, particularly the (standard) Anglo-American Historical Committee 'Report,' the British Records Association 'Notes,' and Elrington (a handbook for Victoria County History editors). Bowers (*Bibliography*), McKerrow, and West are good introductions to the problems and causes of textual variants.
REED and the Individual Editor

REED's Toronto office will be compiling a records location list and bibliography, scheduled for 1978, that will act as a bibliographical guide for the series (in isolating profitable areas for records editing) and as a bibliographical check for the individual editor's researches, especially where manuscript or printed evidence turns up in Continental and American repositories or in unexpected British libraries and offices. REED's net will also cover materials beyond the scope of the individual editor's interests: book and manuscript sale catalogues, general antiquarian, thesis, and historical publications, genealogical works, archaeological research, art history, and the like. Of particular importance is REED's role as a channel for information among records editors, who may turn up evidence of value to others in the course of searching through documents at out-of-the-way repositories. In this way each individual editor will be able to count on covering a great many more bibliographical sources and historical documents than he could possibly examine personally. Finally, REED associates an editor with advisors expert in not only medieval and Renaissance dramatic records, but also in palaeography, music, and local British history. The resources that these scholars have together mastered are well beyond the capacity of any editorial committee, let alone any single scholar.

Notes

1 This guide has benefitted greatly from the generous help of Alexandra F. Johnston and JoAnna Dutka (throughout), A.C. Cawley and A.G.R. Petti (in the preparation of the section entitled Palaeography, Manuscript Abbreviations, and Medieval Latin in the 'Select Bibliography' appended below), and other members of the REED Editorial Advisory Board. The guide's deficiencies, however, are certainly my own, and may reflect the innocence of a literary imagination. We will be most grateful to receive corrections and additions for inclusion in a later issue of the Newsletter.

Select Bibliography

Dramatic, Ceremonial, and Minstrel History

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Palaeography, Manuscript Abbreviations, and Medieval Latin


**Document Description, Dating, and Editorial Format**


