Modern scholarship has long recognized two kinds of bibliography — analytical and enumerative. Analytical bibliography deals with the concrete aspects of the book making process: such things as handwriting, typeface, paper, binding, illumination, engraving, publishing and so forth. Enumerative bibliography involves listing printed works and manuscripts according to topics. The type of bibliographic research carried on at the REED office in Toronto is primarily enumerative. REED bibliographers periodically mail out lists of books, articles and MSS relevant to those regions in England whose pre-1642 dramatic records are currently being surveyed by the project’s editors. They also compile reports and memoranda on the nature, use and location of certain kinds of records, such as the archives of ecclesiastical courts, which often contain evidence of drama, music and folk entertainment. Finally, they try to track down MSS or MS collections which may be important to an editor’s research but which are now either mislaid, dispersed or presumed lost. In the course of performing these and other tasks, the staff at REED has accumulated a comprehensive and sophisticated collection of resources. Scholars and students, particularly those interested in drama, music, history, folklore and folk culture, are welcome to consult these resources at any time. The following description of these resources is intended to make more people aware of the range of bibliographic material available at REED and to encourage them to use it whenever they come to Toronto.

The REED library

The REED library has over three hundred books divided into the following classifications: bibliographies of both general and local British history; bibliographies on special topics such as family history, genealogy and nineteenth-century periodicals and newspapers; general studies on the nature, use and location of British archives; guides and catalogues of MSS in British local record offices; guides and indexes to collections described in the reports of the Historical MSS Commission; printed texts of local records; county and town histories; theatre history; English history and topography; paleographical guides, facsimiles, handbooks and learning kits. The library also possesses such standard reference works as the Dictionary of National Biography, the Complete Peerage, the Oxford English Dictionary, the Middle English Dictionary (A – P), the Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources (A – C), the revised edition of Pollard and Redgrave’s Short-Title Catalogue, vol 2 and W.W. Greg’s A Bibliography of the English Printed Drama to the Restoration, 4 vols. More recent acquisitions include the Guide to British Historical Manuscripts in the Huntington Library (Huntington Library, 1982), Janet Foster and Julia Sheppard’s British Archives: A Guide to Archive Resources in the United Kingdom (1982; provides addresses and gives a brief listing of the contents of over 700 repositories), Guide to the Location of Collections Described in the Reports and Calendars Series, 1870–1980 (HMSO, 1982; lists the present location of archives described in the reports of the Historical MSS Commission), S.T. Bindoff’s The House of Commons, 1509–1558, 3 parts (London, 1982; excellent, comprehensively documented biographies of MPs; a useful tool for patrons research) and Philip R. Rider’s as yet unpublished computer

In addition to owning fairly complete sets of such scholarly periodicals as *PMLA*, *Speculum* and *Archives*, the library has photocopies of hundreds of articles and selections from books dealing with various aspects of drama and music history. This material has been culled largely from relatively obscure or inaccessible local history journals and antiquarian books and thus constitutes a valuable source for the serious student. Moreover, the office has on microfilm the complete survey of British ecclesiastical archives commissioned by the Pilgrim Trust in 1950 as well as all the early volumes of the periodical *The Amateur Historian* (now *The Local Historian*) which since 1952 has published numerous articles about the kinds of MSS REED researchers find most profitable to examine. Also on microfilm are the 1902 and 1919 reports on local records in England issued by the Royal Commission on Public Records.

Finally, the library owns a valuable computer survey, compiled by Professor Ian Lancashire of the University of Toronto, listing virtually all serial publications in England and North America that print information about pre-1642 English drama, music and ceremony. Professor Lancashire and his research associates have also gathered together a large amount of relevant material from the printed calendars of the *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, of the Reign of Henry VIII*, 21 vols (1862–1918) and the *Acts of the Privy Council*, 46 vols (1890–1964). This material can be consulted at the REED office.

**Card files**

These files consist of thousands of 3 x 5 index cards on which appear the title of a book, article or MSS potentially useful to REED editors and researchers, along with the printed source from which the title was taken. If a book or journal is part of the University of Toronto's library system its call number is also noted. Cards containing MSS information indicate where the MSS is located.

The files are broadly grouped under two major headings, printed material and MSS. Printed works include both books and articles. These are arranged topographically, on a county-by-county basis and deal with a wide variety of subjects relating to English history and literature: local history, antiquarian works, printed records, published guides to repositories, catalogues, calendars, and so forth.

The MSS files are also arranged topographically and list potentially useful archives (civic muniments, parish financial records, household and monastic accounts, quarter sessions records, records of ecclesiastical courts, bishops' registers, capitular archives, Sabbatarian writings, private correspondence, diaries, memoirs, etc). In compiling this information the REED bibliographers have carried out comprehensive examinations of the catalogues, reports and calendars of both major and minor archive repositories in Great Britain. The result is a continuously growing database of primary sources derived from such places as the British Library, Cambridge University Library and Cambridge college libraries, Lambeth Palace, Oxford college libraries (including the Bodleian), British county and civic record offices, private repositories and the Public Record Office.

The Public Record Office in particular is strewn with useful and important gleanings. Within the past year over one thousand separate references to drama, music, ceremony and folk festivities have been uncovered by searching such PRO publications as the *Calendar of State Papers: Domestic* (19 vols, covering the years 1547–1643), the *Letters, Despachtes, and State Papers, relating to the Negotiations between England and Spain*,

17
preserved in the Archives at Vienna, Brussels, Simancas and Elsewhere, 13 vols (1862-1949), Letters and State Papers relating to English Affairs in the Archives of Simancas, 4 vols (1892-1899) and the State Papers and Manuscripts relating to English Affairs, existing in the Archives and Collections of Venice, and in other Libraries of Northern Italy, 27 vols (1864-1925). Other useful PRO publications which have yielded relevant items are the finding lists published by the List & Index Society and a large series of reports, beginning in the nineteenth century, originating from the office of the Deputy Keeper of the PRO. This material has all been collated and sent to editors and is now available for use at the REED office.

Working files
These files, mainly consisting of photocopies of scholarly articles and portions of books, printed bibliographies and finding lists, are grouped according to subjects which are known to be sources, if only occasional ones, for references to drama, music and ceremony in pre-1642 England. The files hold the raw data from which future card files will be created and existing ones enlarged. Some of the topics, listed here in no particular order, are as follows: royal financial accounts, urban history, post-Reformation English Catholicism, English non-conformity, genealogy and family history, sermons, sabbatarianism, travel narratives, auction houses, English antiquarianism, wills, schools and folklore.

Bibliographical support
At the initial stage of an editor’s work for REED the bibliographers will send him or her lists of all the books, articles and MSS from the files relevant to the editor’s area of research—that is, the town or county whose records have been chosen for editing. Once this introductory package has been mailed out, the bibliographical staff will periodically communicate new findings based on additional research. Since most of the editors have long ago received their initial support packages and are well along in their work, it is with the creation and communication of new areas of research that the staff is most occupied. For instance, the office recently commissioned a preliminary probe of seventeenth-century diaries, biographies and autobiographies, especially those written by Puritans and other English non-conformists. At first, these writings were thought to be beyond the boundaries of the project because many of them were written after 1642. Upon inspection, however, it was revealed that a number of these works, while composed or published in the second half of the century, actually contained eye-witness accounts of pre-1642 activities and therefore constituted a primary source. Richard Baxter’s famous autobiography Reliquiae Baxterianae was first printed in 1696. Yet in that and in other works Baxter provides detailed boyhood reminiscences about stage-players, maypole celebrations and morris dancing in his native Shropshire in the early seventeenth century. By the same token Samuel Clarke’s biographical compendium, Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons... (1683) has extensive descriptions of the events surrounding the production of the play Ignoramus at Cambridge in 1615. This information was dutifully sent to our Shropshire and Cambridge editors and entered into the bibliographical files.

Sometimes bibliographical research makes even more surprising discoveries. A few years ago the staff undertook an ambitious project—searching the printed catalogues of the Bodleian Library and those of individual Oxford colleges. Among the many items unearthed was the text of a masque that had long been presumed lost—‘Mr. Moores
Revells' (Bodl Library MS Ashmole 47, fol 122b–126), performed at Oxford in 1636. That text has now been transcribed and edited by our Oxford editor, Professor John Elliott of Syracuse University, and will soon be published.

As well as striving to expand the existing inventory of relevant books and MSS, the bibliographers are also experimenting with new, more efficient ways of organizing that inventory. REED’s ultimate goal is to enter all of its bibliographic data into its IBM personal computer. It will do this with the help of a powerful database management system called dBASE II™, developed by Ashton-Tate, Culver City, California. A prototype file, comprising over five hundred items obtained from our recent search of the PRO’s Calendar of State Papers Domestic, has already been established and will serve as a model for future databases. Each item, or record, in this database is broken down into ten categories or fields. Each field deals with a specific piece of information about a specific REED activity. Thus a typical record will have categories for the town and shire in which the REED activity took place, the month (and day) and year of that activity, and a description (consisting of a keyword such as ‘plays’, ‘masque’, ‘may pole’, ‘dancing’, ‘music’, ‘bear baiting’, ‘bull baiting’, followed by a more elaborately synopsis) of the activity along with the kinds of performers involved. Additional fields have been created for the type of MS in which the recorded performance is found and the MS reference number if it is known, the MS location and the printed source from which the information was obtained.

Once all the records have been entered into the database, information can be manipulated according to a variety of configurations and retrieved in a variety of ways. A relatively simple, straightforward command (list for town = ‘Cambridge’), for example, will cause to be displayed indiscriminately on the computer’s video screen all the performances at Cambridge that have been entered into the database. A more precise command will furnish more precise information. List for shire = ‘Kent’ and for descript = ‘maypole’ will display all references to maypole activities (rather than all performances in general) in Kent. If necessary, this command could be further refined in such a way that the data desired would be limited to a single year or decade. The resulting records retrieved would then be only for maypole festivities in Kent during, say, the years 1610 through 1620. Commands can also be entered focusing on performances instead of places. By typing List for descript = ‘masque’, a researcher can quickly gain access to all the masque records in the database. Adding the command .and. for town = ‘Theobalds’ accordingly restricts the data to a specific place.

Commands which specify performances pertain to the description field (abbreviated as ‘descript’ for use by the computer). With 250 characters or spaces assigned to it, this field contains more information than any other in the database and consequently lends itself to more sophisticated manipulation. The most convenient way to call up information from this field was to establish an appropriate keyword to precede each description of a performance. The word ‘play’ thus introduces a description of dramatic activity; ‘music’ introduces a musical performance; ‘dancing’ introduces dancing, and so on. Typing the correct keyword (List for descript = ‘play’) retrieves all records containing information relating to that keyword.

This procedure, however, can cause the user some annoying problems. For one thing it is indiscriminate. True, more precise information can be obtained by adding commands that specify a particular place and/or year. But in the case of an area like London, for which there are hundreds of records on file, that is really not much help to someone who is, for example, interested only in finding out about Thomas Middleton’s A Game at
Chess. Relying on the keyword 'play' in this instance would be a very inefficient way of extracting data.

Fortunately this problem can be solved with the use of the $ symbol, a powerful search device known as a substring logical operator. By including this symbol in a command a researcher can bypass the cumbersome keyword method and locate specific information embedded within the lengthy description field itself (the substring). The command would look like this: display for 'A Game at Chess'$descript. Once the command is given only those records having the words 'A Game at Chess' in them would be displayed on the video screen.

Entering all of REED's vast number of bibliographic records into a computer is obviously a big undertaking. But it is a necessary one, particularly if REED is to remain not only an important academic publishing project but an accessible and useful scholarly resource centre as well. Bibliographical research at REED is being conducted in a manner that, we hope, will guarantee that both of these objectives will be met.

NOTES

2 Samuel Clarke, The Lives of Sundry Eminent Persons ... (London, 1683), 156–7; see also Clarke's A Generall Martyrologie ... (London, 1651), 481.
3 G. E. Bentley, for example, in The Jacobean and Caroline Stage, vol 5 (Oxford, 1956), 1375, states flatly that he can 'find no other record of this masque' than the notice given by F.G. Fleay in A Biographical Chronicle of the English Drama, 1559–1642, vol 2 (London, 1891), 358. Yet this very text had been catalogued in the middle of the nineteenth century by W.H. Black in his Descriptive, Analytical and Critical Catalogue of the MSS Bequeathed unto the Library of Oxford by Elias Ashmole ... vol 10, part 1 (Oxford, 1845), col 81.