

J. Madison
Wm. L. Garrison
A N
Historical ACCOUNT
O F
EARTHQUAKES,

Extracted from the most

Authentick Historians.

C O N T A I N I N G

A Minute and very instructive Relation of those dreadful Ones that happened at *Port-Royal* in *Jamaica*, and at *Catania* in *Sicily*, in 1692, and at *Lima* and *Colao*, in 1746.

A particular Description of the late Fatal one at *Lisbon*, from the Relation of Captain **RICHARD OVERTON**, of *Liverpool* (who was actually in the City when it happened, and very providentially escaped being buried in the Ruins) and others.

Mr. **ARCHIBALD BOWYER**'s Account of trying, condemning, and punishing two Prisoners in the Court of Inquisition, and a faithful Narrative of his Escape from thence; written by himself, is occasionally inserted. With

A Description of the *Auto de Fe*, which the Portuguese were commemorating at the Time, the Earthquake happened. And

A Prefatory Dissertation on the Causes of Earthquakes, with the Method of making an artificial One

With many other PARTICULARS.

A N D A

S E R M O N

Preached at *Weaverham*, in *Cheshire*, on FRIDAY the 6th of FEBRUARY last.

By the Rev. Mr. **THO. HUNTER**,
VICAR OF WEAVERHAM.

L I V E R P O O L:

Printed by and for **R. WILLIAMSON**, near the *Exchange*,
AND SOLD BY

Messrs. FRANKLIN and HALL, in *Philadelphia*.

M D C C L V I.

Title-page of the copy in the possession of the author of this article
The title of the New York Public Library copy is identical with this

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L I V E R P O O L:

Printed by and for R. WILLIAMSON, near the *Exchange*, and fold
by J. BARBER, at the *Circulating Library*, in *Newcastle*.

M D C C L V I.

Title-page of the copy in the Library of Congress. The title of the Bodleian copy is identical with this

was therefore a speculation of the firm, and not of Hall alone. But, as Mr. Eddy pointed out to me, when Franklin and Hall published a book, they used the following formula “Printed and Sold by B. Franklin and D. Hall.” The expression “Messrs. Franklin and Hall” is certainly not the usual one.

This led me to infer that the book was printed by Williamson at Liverpool at the order of Franklin and Hall, and that therefore there must have been an English trade edition as well. With that I began a more extended search for other copies of the book. Sabin (No. 33931) credits the Library of Congress with a copy, which upon examination turned out to be the same book, but *without* the Franklin addition to the imprint! Moreover, the Library of Congress copy lacked the two American maps (described below). It might therefore be inferred that after Williamson at Liverpool had printed the issue for himself and Barber in Newcastle on Tyne (see facsimile), he corrected the title for Franklin and Hall, and added to the new issue the two American maps.

Search for other copies began naturally in Philadelphia, but the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the American Philosophical Society and the Philadelphia Public Library all reported no copy of the book or sermon in any form. Nor is there a copy in the Curtis Collection at the University of Pennsylvania. From New York, the New York Public Library and the New York Historical Society reported no copies. Because of the Boston Earthquake of 1755, I thought there might be copies in that neighborhood, but the Boston Public Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Boston Athenaeum, Harvard College, and the American Antiquarian Society all reported in the negative. Yale and Princeton Libraries reported no copy. Turning then to the libraries which specialized in rare books, negative reports were received from the John

Carter Brown Library, the Henry E. Huntington Library, William Smith Mason Library at Evanston, Illinois, the Western Reserve Historical Society at Cleveland, the Newberry Library in Chicago, and the Burton Collection at the Detroit Public Library.

I then wrote to the technological libraries which specialize in the subject of earthquakes. No copy was known at the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh; the Bancroft Library, University of California; the United States Weather Bureau Library in Washington; the Claremont-Pomona College Library in California; nor at the California Institute of Technology.

About this time I had to go to England again and carried with me a dozen photostats of my title page. With the help of Dr. Henry Guppy of the John Rylands Library in Manchester, the north of England libraries were examined. Rylands, the Liverpool Public Library, the University of Liverpool Library, Edinburgh University Library, St. Andrews University Library, Glasgow University Library, the National Library of Scotland (Advocates) were among the North British collections which reported the book unknown to them.

The British Museum, The Library of the Geological Museum in London, The Library of the Royal Geological Society in Burlington House, The Science Library at South Kensington, the Library at the National History Museum, South Kensington, the Library at the Guildhall, the Library at Trinity College, Dublin, and the National Library in Wales, all reported the book unknown to them. Cambridge University and its college libraries reported no copy.

Bodley at Oxford reported a copy, *but*, as Mr. Strickland Gibson pointed out in sending me a photostat of his title page, it was the same as the Library of Congress copy, *i.e.*, of the issue printed by Williamson at Liverpool for himself and Barber at Newcastle, *not* the issue printed for Franklin and Hall in Philadelphia. Moreover the Bodleian copy lacked the maps.

I wrote Mr. Eames at the New York Public Library. On my next visit there he met me with his usual knowing smile. “Yes, an interesting book. I never had my attention called to it before, but I found a copy in the Library [*i.e.*, the N.Y.P.L.] with the Franklin and Hall addition to the imprint.” It had not been catalogued, but of course Mr. Eames knew where to find it.¹

The N.Y.P.L. copy is unbound, has evidently been taken from a volume of bound pamphlets, and lacks the two maps. Mr. Eames and Mr. Paltsits raised the question as to whether the maps belong with the book. My copy is in the original three quarters calf and marbled paper binding, which is probably of the eighteenth century. Upon careful examination it would appear that the two maps were put into the book at the same time it was bound, but I am unable to say whether this was done in Liverpool, or at the “New Printing Office” in Philadelphia, or at any time within ten or twenty years thereafter.

Of the maps, one is entitled a “Map of the Island of Cape Breton as laid down by Sieur Bellin 1746.” The other is “A Map of North America as far as relates to the English settlements taken from ‘Sieur Bellin 1746.’” While it might be appropriate for the publisher of the American issue to include a map of America not in the English issue, there is no particular reason for including the map of Cape Breton. Both maps are folded, with part of the sheet cut as a guard.

I have been unable to discover these maps in any 18th century atlas, and P. L. Phillips does not list them so. At the same time, *both* maps, printed from the identical plate, *do* appear bound in at the end of [William Bollan’s] *The Importance and Advantage*

¹ In indicating the provenance of the N.Y.P.L. copy, Mr. Eames remarked “the stamp on the bottom margin [of the title] tells the story, the X being the mark of a gift.” The X is followed by the words “Lib’y of Congress”!

of Cape Breton . . . With Proper Maps . . . London: Printed for John and Paul Knapton 1746. Bollan says on page V. of his book “The Maps are taken from Bellin, Engineer to the Marine of France; though they differ greatly from all others that have been hitherto laid down. But, as his Observations are altogether taken from Charlevoix, so wherever there is any material Difference between his Maps and our own, it arises probably from an Intention in the Jesuit, to ascertain the Rights and Limits of the French Nation, whenever those Affairs shall hereafter be debated, in Order to a Settlement of them.” As the book was written to justify England’s acquisition of Cape Breton and to induce emigrants to go there, one is not surprised to find no mention of earthquakes in Cape Breton Island.²

The question of whether the maps belong with the book must await the discovery of other copies. After all, the chief purpose in printing such an article as this is to make a claim for “uniquity” with the hope that such a claim will immediately prove unfounded. Such notes as I have given here almost inevitably bring forward another collector, who has an identic copy of the book, and who could only be reached in this way.

Another point about my copy may deserve comment. The title bears the autograph “Js. Madison.” A comparison with other such autographs leads me to believe that the book once belonged to the President of the United States of that name. Where my uncle got the book, I have no idea, but judging from the politics he professed in a long and honorable career as editor and owner of the *Hartford Courant*, I doubt whether he acquired the volume from any sentimental interest in James Madison.

² My colleague, Prof. W. H. Hobbs, called my attention to the fact that there was an earthquake on Cape Breton Island as recently as November 18, 1929.