

Philad^a May 17th 1806.

Esteemed Friend,

I hope I shall not be considered as too importuning, if again requesting thy attention to the subject of the Catalogue. Its arrangement will doubtless be severely scrutinized both by the friends and opposers of the plan; and as the reputation of the Committee is implicated, as well as my own, in the judicious performance of that plan, I am anxious that they should revise the leading words I have chosen, before the leaves are cut up for alphabetical distribution.

In the progress of the work I have been impressed with the difficulty presented by the great variety of pamphlets in the political, theological and medical departments. There may be well written and some of them may treat of subjects that will ever continue to be important; but many of them relate merely to the time when they were written and ^{were} calculated to ~~uphold~~ a party, or uphold a now exploded system, the discussion of which no longer interests the minds of men — disputations, which are now suffered to rest in oblivion along with the agitators of them. The titles of the anonymous ones are frequently composed of quaint terms and fanciful expressions any one of which placed by itself as a leading word, has a ludicrous or mean appearance, and cannot convey to the literary inquirer any just idea of the

subject treated of in the work - which I think will fully appear if the committee will have the goodness to examine those which I have already gone over.

Permit me to suggest the propriety of differently modifying this part of the Catalogue. How would it do to put together all the pamphlets which the library contains, classed as they were in the former Catalogue, and having for their leading words Pamphlets, Anat. Med. and Chem. Pamphlets, political, Pamphlets, theological, &c. those not anonymous having their authors names noticed in the index referring to the number and leading word of that collection in which they are to be found.

The adoption of this or some better plan I am desirous of, that when the Stranger makes its appearance in the world it may not excite ridicule by its awkwardness nor ^{be} exposed to the sneers of those who may think they could have managed things much better.

Whenever the Committee may be inclined to meet on this subject I will with pleasure attend at their notice, and await their determination.

With sentiments of Esteem and Respect,
I am, Sir, Friend,

D. Thomas Parke.

Archibald Bartram.

P.S. I was gratified by the invitation to become a member of Philad^a Library Company, and shall consider it as an obligation to be put in possession of a share in its concerns.

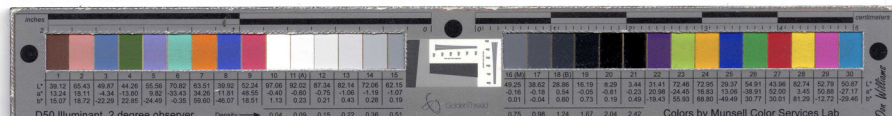
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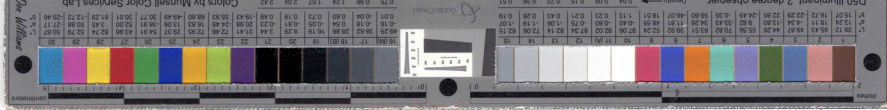
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I have already gone over the list of the books which I have already gone over.

I must now suggest the propriety of differently modifying the form of the Catalogue. I would it as to put together all the pamphlets which the library contains, copied as they were in the former Catalogue and having for their heading

Pamphlets, Great Brit and Foreign Pamphlets, Pamphlets, Foreign, the other not anonymous having another heading in the index referring to the name and the name of the author in which they are placed. The edition of this same plan I am desirous of having printed by the printer in the city.

It is not its authorship, but its subject. I am sure that those who may think they would have made these much better than the former one. I am sure the latter may be ordered to print or this subject will well with the same title at their notice, and send their determinations.

With sentiments of esteem and respect,
I am, Sir, Your Friend,

R Thomas Parke. Richard Barton

I was gratified by the invitation to become a member of the Library, and shall consider it an obligation to be put in possession of a share in its revenue.

MS. Arthur May 1806
Catalogue
71444. F. 13

Doct Thomas Parke,
Present.