



Early European Books Collections 1-10 – The Highlights

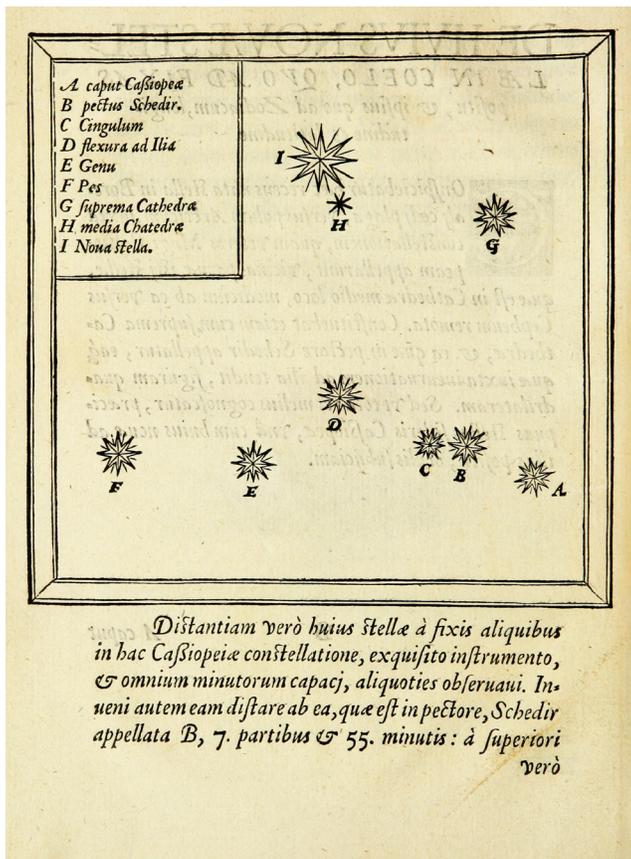
Early European Books 1-10 - The Highlights

Early European Books (EEB) collections 1-10 covers the curated materials from 3 important print centres of early modern Europe:

The Netherlands (KBNL), France (BNF), and Italy (BNCF). It also includes works that span the wealth of scientific discoveries emerging from the Scandinavian North (KBDK), to the extensive medical collections of the Wellcome Trust in London.

EEB 1-10 includes book catalogues that reflect the interests and popularity of items from the early modern period but also a substantial number of the items listed in those catalogues. For example, the Lauritz Nielsen's *Dansk Bibliografi* 1482-1600 which was a printed catalogue covering a significant number of early modern Danish books such as the incunabula works of the pioneer Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe (1546-1601), printed at his Uraniborg observatory stationed on the island of Hven in the Øresund Strait.

EEB 1-10 Collection Overview			
	Collections	Items	Pages
EEB 01	Danish	2,596	514,732
EEB 02	Italian	2,750	613,850
EEB 03	Italian, Danish, Dutch and Wellcome Medicine	10,245	2,827,445
EEB 04	French, Italian, Dutch, Danish, Wellcome Medicine	9,272	2,900,225
EEB 05	Danish, Dutch and Wellcome Medicine	5,694	1,665,292
EEB 06	French	3,759	1,400,005
EEB 07	Danish, Dutch and Wellcome Medicine	7,506	1,964,424
EEB 08	French	5,358	1,724,206
EEB 09	Danish, Dutch and Wellcome Medicine	3,296	1,418,000
EEB 10	French	2,628	1,356,741
Total		53,104	16,384,920



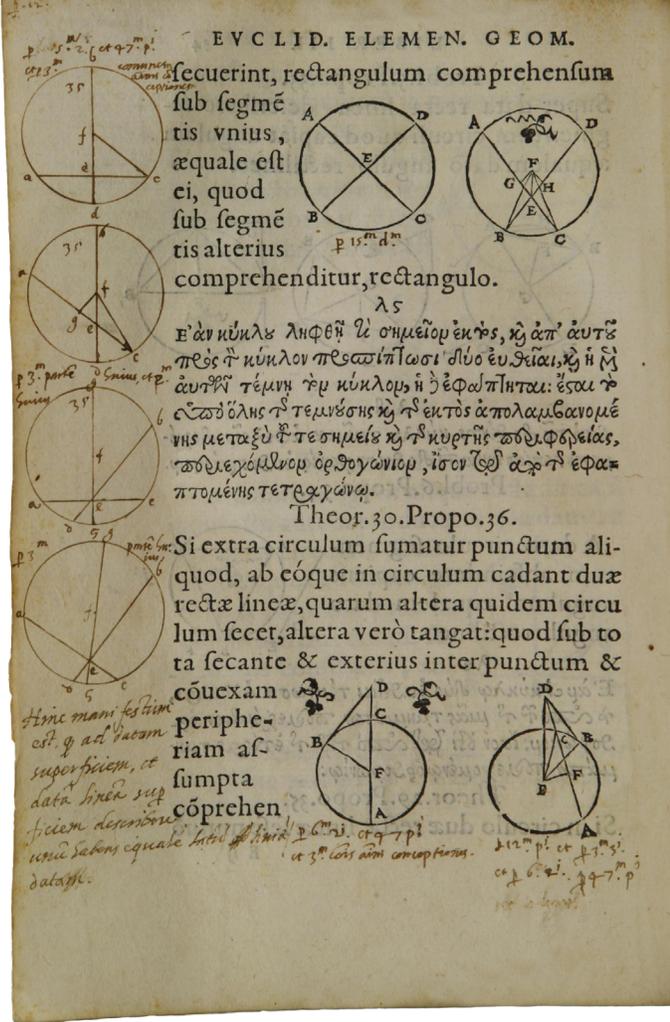
The scientific correspondence between Tycho Brahe, Landgrave Wilhelm IV of Hesse (1532-1592), and the latter's court astronomer Christopher Rothmann (1599-1608), printed at Brahe's private press in his observatory on the island of Hven, on paper made at the observatory paper mill. Prince Wilhelm was an important patron of the study of astronomy and a gifted amateur astronomer. This correspondence covered all aspects of contemporary astronomy: instruments and methods of observing, the Copernican system, comets, and auroras.

Bibliographic name/number: Lauritz Nielsen 429 (LN 429); 302831. Brahe, Tycho, 1546-1601 (Brahæ, Tychonis; Brahaeus, Tycho...) .[54] bl. Fig. Copenhagen: 1573. **Copy digitised from KBDK.**

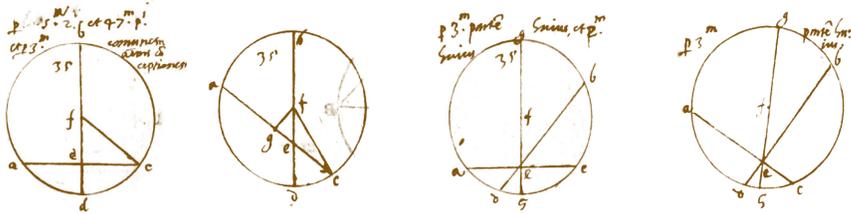
EEB 1-10 also includes the Aldini Collection from Florence that covers over 700 items printed by the groundbreaking Aldine Press (Venice). In addition, there are also over 1,200 incunabula, including first print editions of Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio, and volumes by the notorious firebrand preacher Savonarola.

Noteworthy are the document features captured for each work which are fully searchable. This enables scholars of this period to search across EEB on features such as maps and plates, coat of arms, charts, illustrations, and handwritten and printed marginalia. Insights into the ways in which such works were read and received can be revealed through the study of the many works in the database which have manuscript marginalia and other annotations. Treasures such as Galileo's handwritten marginalia/postillati in his own editions of works by Euclid, Petrarch, Ariosto, Tasso, and Horace.

An example of Galileo's handwritten notes and drawings - a volume of Euclid's geometry (Paris, 1557) which was owned and annotated by Galileo.



Euclidis Elementorum Libri 15. Graece & Latine, Quibus, cum ad omnem Mathematicae scientiae partem, tum ad quamlibet Geometriae tractationem, facilis comparatur aditus. Bibliographic name/number: 152265. Cavellat, Guillaume 1577. Copy digitised from the BNCF.



EEB 1-10 document features also enable a search across maps that take us beyond Europe's borders, such as an early map of the Amazon River from 1597 compiled by Cristóbal de Acuña.



Relation de la rivière des Amazones, traduite par feu M. de Gomberville, sur l'original espagnol du P. Christophle d'Acuña... Avec une dissertation sur la rivière des Amazones pour servir de préface. - Journal du voyage qu'ont fait les Pères Jean Grillet et François Béchamel, dans la Guyane, Acuña, Cristóbal de, 1597-Paris: 1682. Copy digitised from the BNF.

Along with books published in the major languages of the region, there are also over 2000 items in Ancient Greek, Latin and vernacular Latin and Greek, as well as other miscellaneous languages including Arabic, Armenian, Catalan, Chaldean, Czech, Basque, Breton, Norwegian, and Swedish. To improve the discoverability of these materials, ProQuest collaborated with the Universal Short Title Catalogue (USTC) at St. Andrews University in Scotland and added 38 English language subject classifications - from Astrology to Wedding Pamphlets - to all Early European Books, adding a further searchable component to the collection.

Look up USTC subject classifications

Enter a name

Find

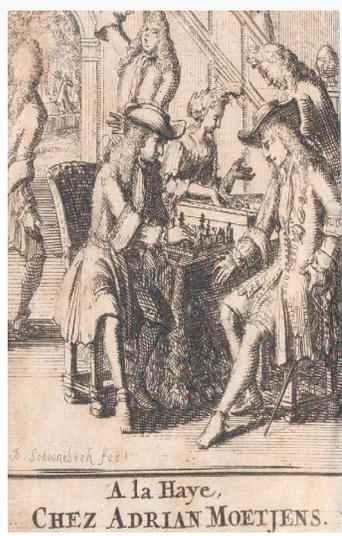
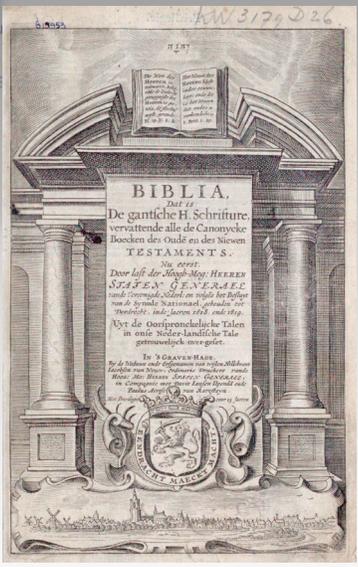
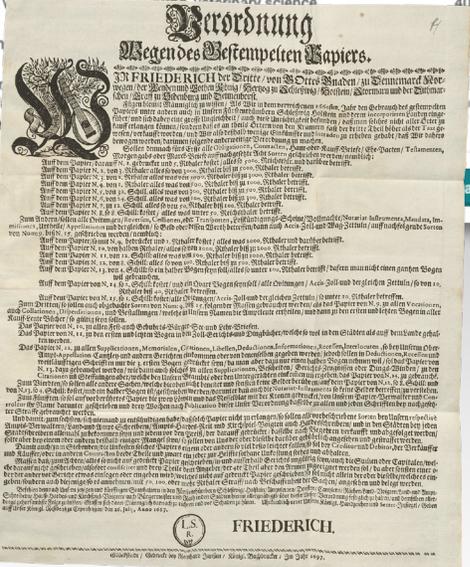
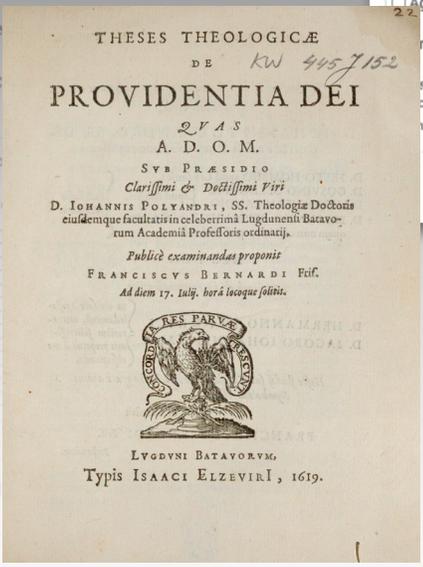
Contains Begins with

All 0-9 A-C D-F G-I J-L M-O P-R S-U V-Z

Combine terms with: OR AND

Add to search

USTC subject classifications	Count*
<input type="checkbox"/> Academic dissertations	1694
<input type="checkbox"/> Adages, aphorisms, emblem books, jests, proverbs	512
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, v...	401



EEB 1-10 Topics

Topic 1: Chronicling the Histories of Europe, by Dr. Nina Lamal (University of Antwerp)

EEB 1-10 presents a substantial corpus of almost 4500 histories and chronicles printed between the late 15th to the late 17th centuries. Most histories in the corpus are in Latin and in French, but the collection also includes a sizeable number of histories in Dutch, German, Italian, and Danish. Reading histories served many different purposes and appealed to a diverse and broad audience ranging from school children to learned humanists. Histories were also an excellent and effective instrument for political and religious propaganda. Several European rulers instituted the office of official historiographer to write their own approved versions of history.

For example, the first history of Denmark is in the Royal Library of Copenhagen. It was written in Latin at around 1200 and was called the *Saxo Grammaticus*. Three hundred years later, the Danish humanist Christiern Pedersen (1480-1554) decided to use the new technology of the printing press to re-publish this famous history of his home country.



Topics covered in EEB 1-10	
Religious	16087
Medical texts	6956
History and chronicles	4517
Poetry	2814
Classical authors	2407
Literature	2325
Science and mathematics	2235
Philosophy and morality	2189
Jurisprudence	1826
Academic dissertation	1427
Drama	1141
News books	875
Political tracts	872
Ordinances, edicts, proclamations	864
Travel, topography, maps, and navigational manuals	793
Astrology and cosmography	719
Educational books	568
Bibles	464
Dialectics and rhetoric	454
Discourses on government and political theory	408

“EEB 1-10 provides researchers with the unique opportunity to see how chronicles and histories were marketed to reach different reading publics. It also offers the opportunity to trace owners of individual copies and examine how these past users read or engaged with historical narratives.”

–Dr. Nina Lamal

Danoru[m] Regu[m] heroumq[ue] historiæ stilo elega[n]tia Saxone Grammatico natione Sialandico necno[n] Roskildensis ecclesiæ præposito. abhinc supra trecentos annos co[n]scriptæ et nu[n]c primum literaria serie illustratæ tersissimeq[ue] impressæ., [Christiern Pedersen ed.]

Bibliographic name/number: Lauritz Nielsen 240 (LN 240); 144260.

-approximately 1204; Pedersen, Christiern, 1480-1554 Paris: Badius Ascensius, Jodocus, 1462-1535, 1514. **Copy digitised from the KBDK.**

The humanist and diplomat Johannes Sleidanus was the only contemporary historian to rank in the top five of the most frequently published historians in the sixteenth century. His most popular work, *De statu religionis et reipublicae*, was an historical account of the conditions of the religion and State under Emperor Charles V. In 1545, the Schmalkaldic League had hired Sleidanus to write an official history of Protestantism. Sleidanus aimed for objectivity by relying on a vast array of primary sources. Once it was printed in 1555 in Strasbourg, his account caused a stir in Catholic and Protestant circles causing a huge demand for his work. As a result, the Rihel printing firm in Strasbourg printed numerous new Latin editions and printers in cities such as Strasbourg, Basle and Frankfurt raced to produce their own (unauthorised) German translations. In 1558, Michael Beuther, a friend of Sleidanus and professor of history at the University of Greifswald, translated the work into German and it was soon considered to be the best German translation on the market. This item is the second edition of the German translation printed by Rihel in Strasbourg in 1570. The Rihel editions of Beuther's translation was clearly aimed at a German audience with its ornamental fraktur titlepage and black Gothic typeface. To market each new edition, Beuther added to the original account by chronicling the more recent events, making these histories hefty tomes with more than 1000 pages by the beginning of the seventeenth century.

Topics covered in EEB 1-10	
Music	346
Dictionaries, vocabularies, phrase books, instruction in foreign languages	295
Adages, aphorisms, emblem books, jests, proverbs	283
Calendars, almanacs and prognostications	259
Linguistics and philology	257
Courtesy, civil conversation, etiquette, sumptuary	213
Funeral orations	209
Marriage, the debate on women	184
Agriculture, viticulture, texts on hunting, veterinary science	178
Military handbooks	171
Art and architecture	158
Economics	150
Heraldic works and genealogies	114
Witchcraft, demonology, occult writings	102
Book industry, catalogues, and inventories	81
Culinary arts	33
Games and recreations	28
Wedding pamphlets	2

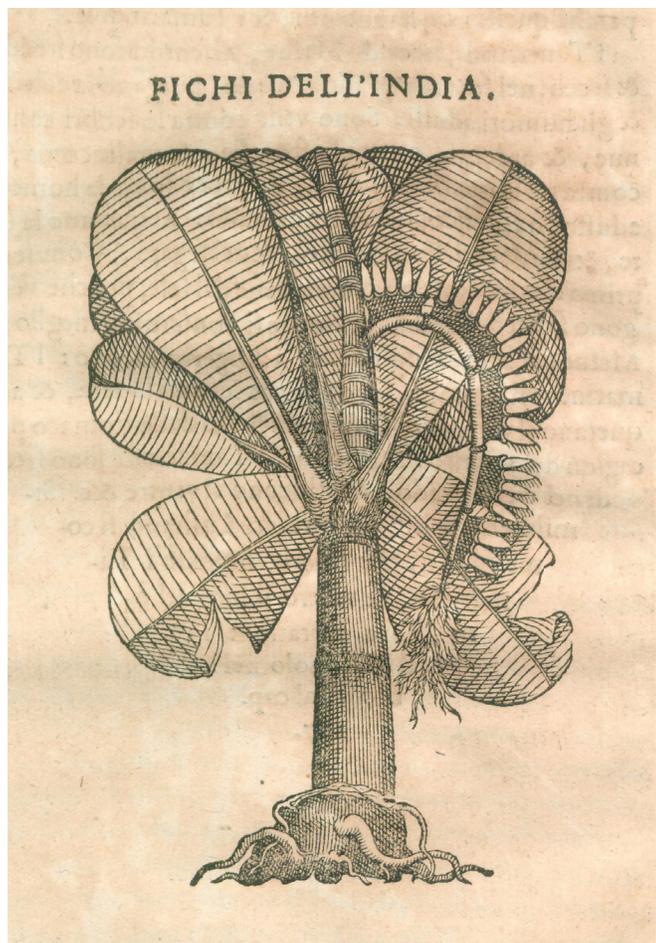


Johannes Sleidanus, *Der erste Theyl ordenlicher Beschreibunge unnd Verzeychnisse allerley fürnemer Händel, so sich in Glaubens und anderen weltlichen Sachen bei Regierung vorweilen des grossmächtigsten Keyser Carls des fünfften mehrern theyls in teutscher Nation zugetragen, erstlich in latinischer Sprache verfertigt unnd in sechs und zwentzig Bücher getheyilt* (Strasbourg: Rihel, 1570). In folio. **Copy digitized from the BNF.**

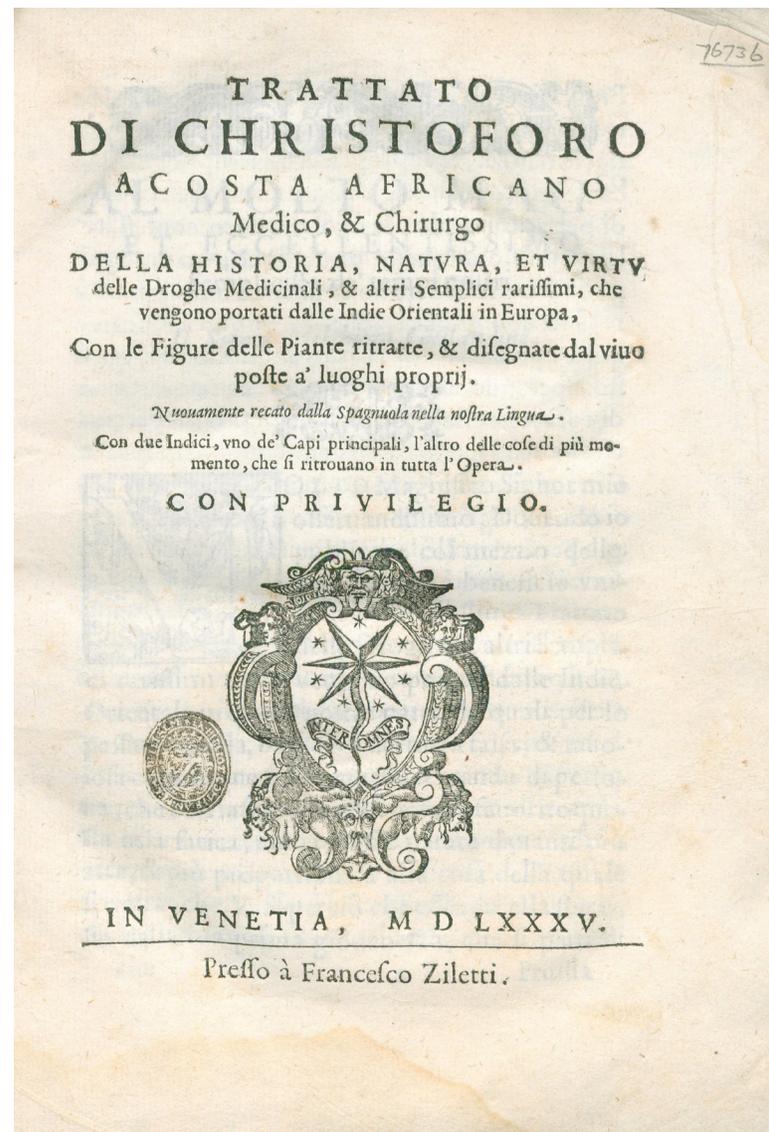
*Bernach aber mit sonderem fleise in rechtegeschaffen Teutsch ge-
 rache / vnd nuh zum Fünfften male / gegen dem Latein auff das nähest verglichen / mit
 Summarien oder Inhalt. cyres jeden Buchs / vnd etlichen vilmehr denn zuvor hinbeigesehen Erklä-
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 in vilmals die Historien / auß vorgemelde Dingz widerumb zuweilen / oder von wegen der Zeit / oder Verzeychnis des Dices / das
 uninge abgetrige / volandt sicherstrecken /*

Topic 2: The Early Modern Medical World, by Dr. Jane Stevens Crawshaw (Oxford Brookes University)

The intense smell of durian fruit, the heat of black pepper and cinnamon, the gentle tactility of aloe and sharp spines of prickly pears: these are the things that season and texture the pages of Cristóbal Acosta's [1515-1592] account of the plants of the East Indies published in Burgos in 1578. Acosta himself was an African doctor and a surgeon, born within the Portuguese Empire who likely studied medicine at the University of Salamanca. Drawing upon experiences of military service and overseas travel, his publication was just one of many which was designed to whet the early modern European appetite for new herbal simples and medical treatments, as well as accounts of their places of origin.



Trattato di Christoforo Acosta Africano della historia, natura, et virtú delle droghe medicinali, et altri semplici rarissime, che vengono portati dalle Indie Orientali in Europa, con le figure delle piante ritratte, et disegnate dal vivo poste a' luoghi proprii. Nuovamente recato dalla spagnuola nella nostra lingua, 'Fichi d'india' from Cristóbal Acosta, Trattato di Christoforo Acosta africano medico. Copy digitised from The Wellcome Library.

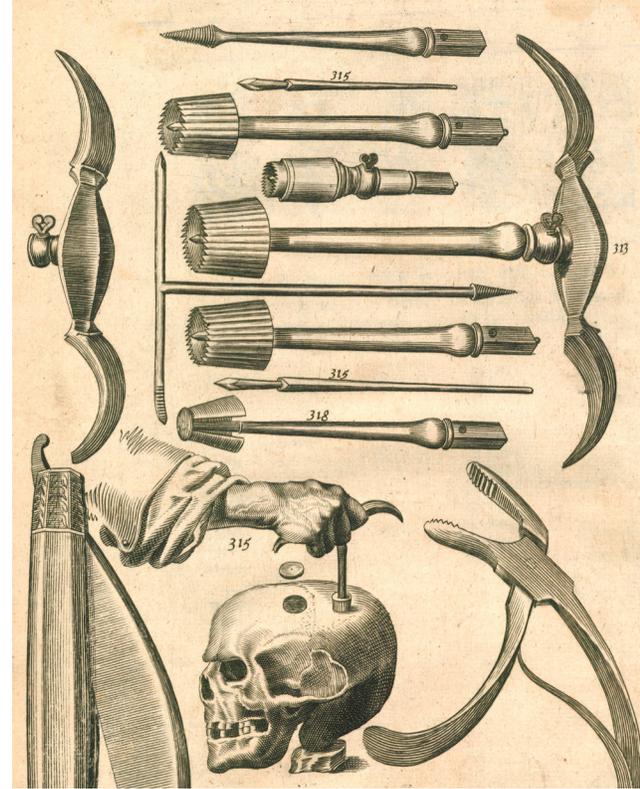
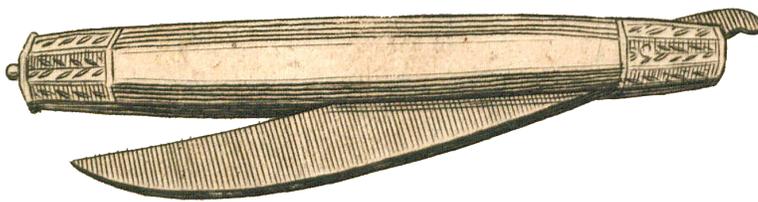


Trattato di Christoforo Acosta Africano della historia, natura, et virtú delle droghe medicinali, et altri semplici rarissime, che vengono portati dalle Indie Orientali in Europa, con le figure delle piante ritratte, et disegnate dal vivo poste a' luoghi proprii. Nuovamente recato dalla spagnuola nella nostra lingua, 'Fichi d'india' from Cristóbal Acosta, Trattato di Christoforo Acosta africano medico. Copy digitised from The Wellcome Library.

"A major contribution of the Early European Books database is to allow us to connect these editions with the people (authors, readers and patients) and places that they attest to from across the early modern medical world. The thousands of high-quality digital versions of medical texts display developments in the materiality of medical publishing as well as the ideas debated, endorsed and debated during the early modern period."

—Dr. Jane Stevens Crawshaw

There is no doubt that, between the late fifteenth and eighteenth centuries, medical understanding was transformed by the onslaught of new diseases (or ancient diseases on a new scale), as well as the practice of military medicine and anatomy. Indeed, these two latter fields were closely connected: much was learned about the nature of the human body from the theatre of war as well as in the anatomical theatre. The arresting and gruesome images of the medieval 'wound man' continued to be reproduced and attest to the violence of war, epidemics, and accidents. John Woodall's collection *The Surgeon's Mate or military and domestique surgery* (London, 1639) held in the Wellcome library increasingly displayed the tools of their trade with confidence as part of their guides for treating wounds, including those sustained through gunshot.



The surgeons mate or military and domestique surgery. Discovering ... ye method and order of ye surgeons chest, ye uses of the instruments, the vertues and operations of ye medicines, with ye exact cures of wounds made by gunshott, and otherwise ... with a treatise of ye cure of ye plague. Bibliographic name/number: 3020491. Woodall, John 1639. Copy digitised from The Wellcome Library.

Topic 3: Women and Gender in the Publishing World of Spain, by Professor Sandy Wilkinson (University College Dublin)

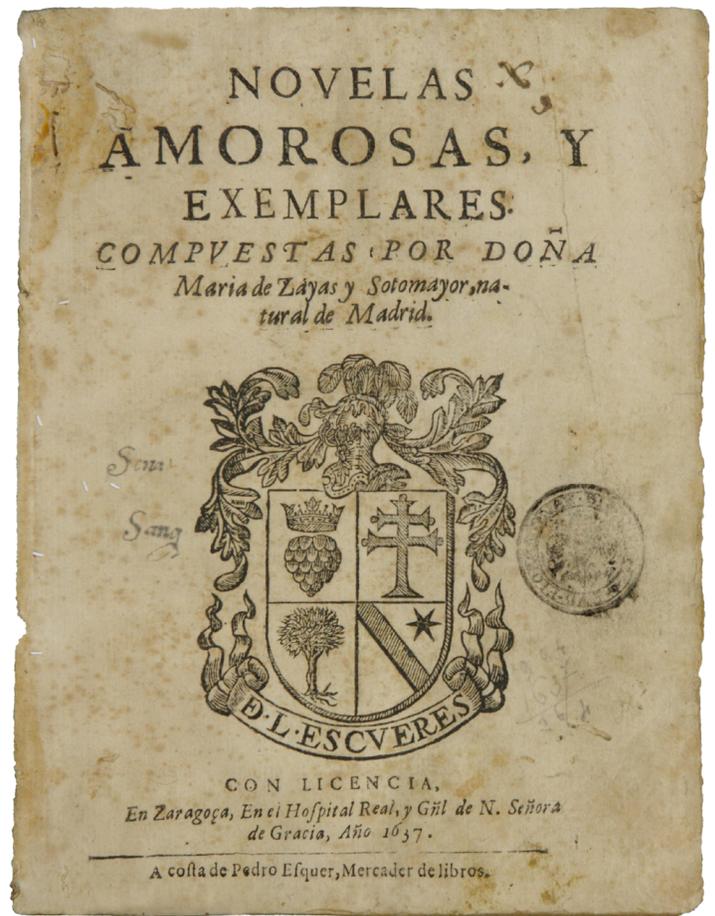
It is extremely difficult to find the female voice in early modern Spanish print. Just half of one per cent of all works, for which we have an author, are known to have been written by women. Yet, though relatively small in number, women did write books, and these works did find their way onto the printing presses and into the hands of readers. Before 1700, at least 160 women are known to have been involved in penning books in Spain. The majority were of a religious nature. Indeed, the first woman author whose work was printed in Spain (in 1486) was Faltonia Betita Proba – an early Christian poet. Towering above all female religious authors, though, were figures such as St. Teresa de Jesús, María de Jesús de Ágreda, Hipólita de Jesus Rocabterti y Soler, and Juana Inés de la Cruz. The relative visibility of women authors within the religious book market, was not replicated in other genres.



Probae Falconiae Cento Virgilianus Bibliographic name/number: 202039. Proba, active 4th century (Betitia Proba, Faltonia; Falconia Proba...) .270. Paris: Guy Marchant pour lui-même et pour Alexandre Aliate, 1499. Copy digitised from the BNF.

This makes the figure of María de Zayas y Sotomayor (1590-1661) all the more remarkable; for she was a writer not of religious but of secular literature. Her most famous work the 'Amorous and Exemplary Novels' comprised of ten short stories, each supposedly told over a number of nights by five men and five women. The stories were designed to entertain Lysis, their host, who was sick with quartan fever. Each of the stories recounts some aspect of love, with the women's tales emphasizing ill-treatment, deception and even violent abuse at the hands of their male suitors or husbands, and the men's stories demonstrating key character flaws such as arrogance or unfaithfulness. It is no wonder that the short stories have attracted so much interest from literature specialists in particular, keen on tracing how gender relationships were expressed in periods earlier than our own. The book became an immediate publishing success. The version digitised here was printed in Zaragoza in the Hospital Real de Nuestra Señora de Gracia in 1637 and is the first confirmed edition of her work. A second edition, appearing from the same press was rushed to print in the same year, with two further editions the following year. Further editions were printed in Barcelona in the mid-1640s and in Madrid in 1659 and 1664.

In Spain, as elsewhere, the first age of print witnessed pronounced growth in the market for news. Five percent of all works printed in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries were news items. This percentage doubled in the seventeenth century. Newspapers were slow to arrive, and to develop – becoming a more regular part of Spanish print culture only in the final two decades of the seventeenth century. As across the rest of Europe, the dominant format for news throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries remained the pamphlet. Requiring little capital investment, short pamphlets could be produced quickly: around five hundred copies a day on a single press.



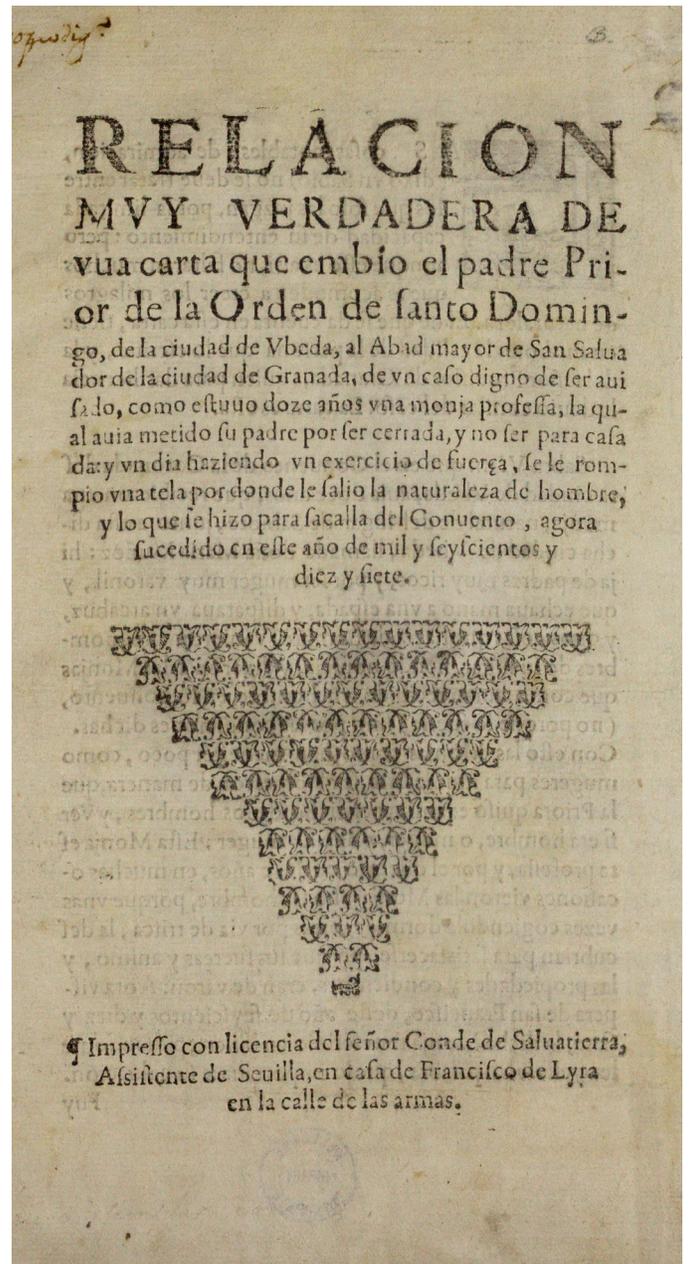
María de Zayas y Sotomayor, *Novelas amorosas y exemplares* (Zaragoza: Hospital Real de N. Señora de Gracia a costa de Pedro Escuer, 1637). Copy digitised from the BNCF.



To target as broad a market as possible, these pamphlets were printed when needed, reporting only on the most important or sensational events, such as discoveries of new lands, battles, peace treaties, weddings, crimes, piracy, natural disasters, or monstrous births.

The item presented here is an extraordinary example of the sort of sensational news stories that captured the public's imagination. It is a short four-page pamphlet, and it presents a letter written by Agustín de Torres, Prior of the Dominicans in Úbeda to the Abbot of San Salvador in Granada.

Dated October 1617, it recounts the story of Magdalena Muñoz. Muñoz was the daughter of well-to-do parents from Sabiote in Andalusia, but given her appearance as a 'muger muy varonil', a very manly woman, and one presumes with little hope of marrying her off, she had been dispatched by her parents to a Dominican convent in neighbouring Úbeda. Now aged thirty-four, something rather remarkable had happened to her. While moving a hundred bushels of wheat, she had developed a pain between her thighs, with the area swelling up. Soon after this, a penis appeared; Magdalena had become a man. Not wishing to confide in her fellow nuns, Magdalena wrote to Agustín de Torres, who inspected her, concluding that she was indeed as any other man 'tan hombre como el que mas'. On questioning, she revealed that she had never had a period. However, as the other nuns in the convent had, in any case, thought her unusual, and something of a tomboy 'marimacho', she had disguised this fact by staining her shirts with blood. Torres sent news of Magdalena's transformation to her father, who was very pleased. He was, he said, a rich man without heirs, and now he had a manly son, who could marry. He also said of Magdalena, that she [sic] was also very content, because, after twelve years in the cloister, she certainly knew the value of liberty.



Agustín de Torres, *Relacion muy verdadera de una carta que embio el padre prior de la Orden de Santo Domingo Agustín de Torres, Relacion muy verdadera de una carta que embio el padre prior de la Orden de Santo Domingo, de la ciudad de Ubeda (Sevilla, Francisco de Lyra, [1617]). Copy digitised from The Wellcome Library, London: 7217/B.*

"Early European Books offers opportunities to explore examples of books produced by some of the most important printers in all the cities at moments when they were at the height of their productivity and fame. As a single resource, the collection allows us to explore the culture of medicine in this period, but also a large number of other fields and intellectual currents, such as engagement with the New World, or Golden Age literature and drama. At the same time, it also opens up a window onto Spanish printing itself, and how it evolved from its very earliest years up to the beginnings of the eighteenth century and the modern age."

—Professor Sandy Wilkinson

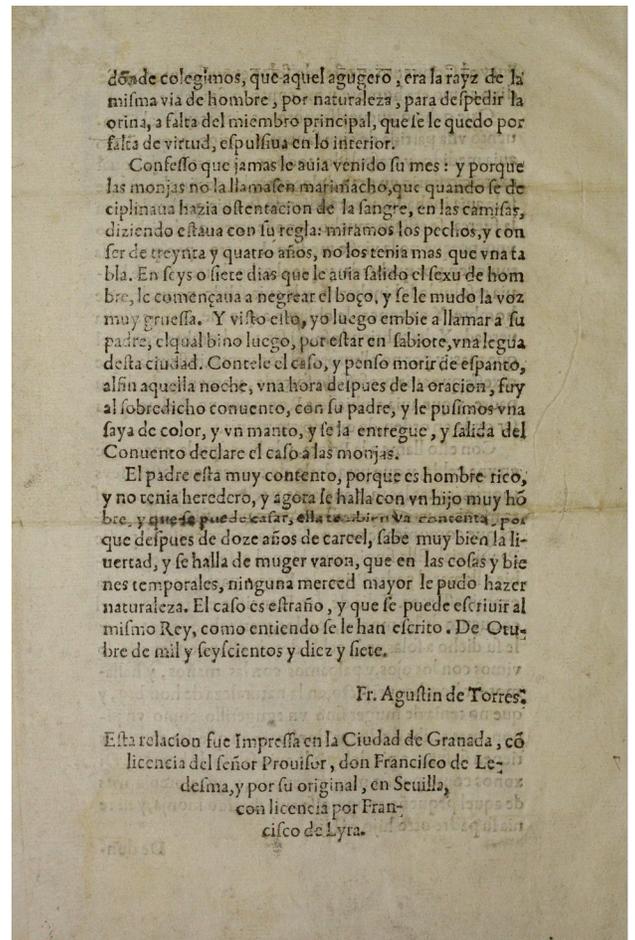
Once a woman and now a man, there was 'no greater mercy that nature could have bestowed'. From several manuscript accounts of this event now held in the National Library of Spain, we know that Magdalena left the convent and took the name Gaspar. Quite what happened to Gaspar after this is not certain, though there were reports that he might have travelled to Italy.

There are three printed editions known of Torres' letter, all published at the end of 1617. The first was printed in Granada, by an unknown printer, the second in Seville by Francisco de Lyra and the third in Lima, at the press of Francisco del Canto. It is quite remarkable to think how quickly news managed to travel – even across the Atlantic.

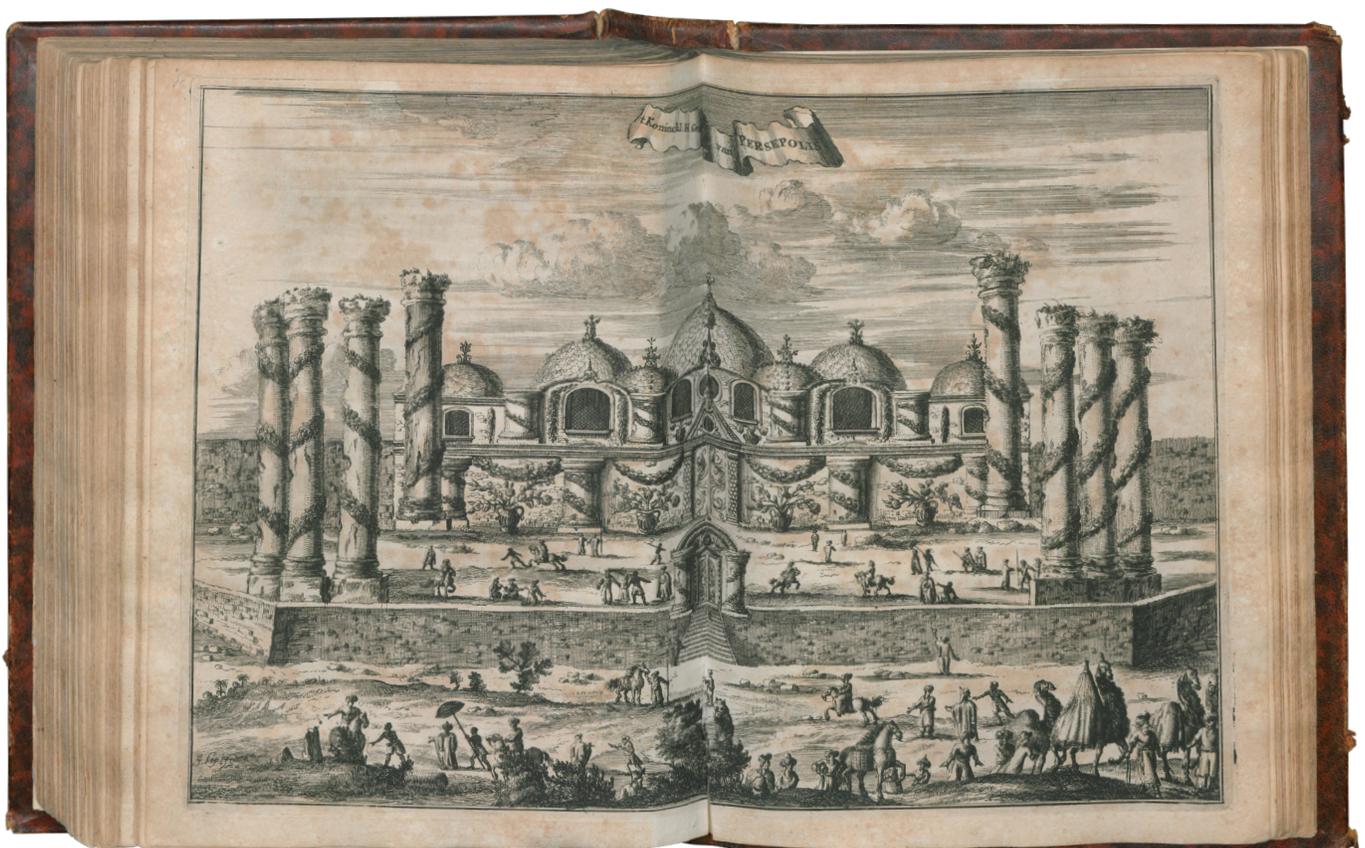
Conclusions

These papers are just 3 highlights of possible research that can be conducted using the materials in EEB 1-10 via the USTC thematic tags. Many more scholarly papers have been written based on research of materials within both Early European Books and Early English Books Online and are available on the EEB LibGuides:

<https://proquest.libguides.com/eebqpq/content>



Agustín de Torres, Relacion muy verdadera de una carta que embio el padre prior de la Orden de Santo Domingo Agustín de Torres, Relacion muy verdadera de una carta que embio el padre prior de la Orden de Santo Domingo, de la ciudad de Ubeda (Sevilla, Francisco de Lyra, [1617]). Copy digitised from The Wellcome Library, London: 7217/B.



Premier Partners

Leading European research libraries trust ProQuest to safely digitize their irreplaceable historic material for inclusion in Early European Books. Partner institutions include:

Det Kongelige Bibliotek (KBDK)/The Royal Library, Copenhagen – Early European Books' first partner library, the KBDK is Denmark's national library and holds an almost complete collection of all Danish books printed since 1482. Collection 1 of Early European Books was made up of volumes from the KBDK in its entirety and, to date, KBDK material is a component of Collection 3, 4 and 5.

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (BNCF)/The National Central Library, Florence – Early European Books' second partner library, the BNCF is one of the two central libraries of Italy. Originally founded in 1714 when the scholar Antonio Magliabechi bequeathed 30,000 books, the library quickly became a repository for all published works in Tuscany. Its holdings combined with those of the Biblioteca Palatina in 1861, by 1870 it had become a repository for the whole of Italy and in 1885 it became officially known as the National Central Library of Florence. The entirety of Collection 2 is material from the BNCF while further volumes from the BNCF form components of Collection 3 and 4.

Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KBNL)/ The Royal Library of the Netherlands in The Hague – Founded in 1798, the library has a collection that contains almost the entire literature of the Netherlands, from early manuscripts to the most recent publications. Publication of material from the KBNL began with Collection 3, initially with an agreement to digitize the entire KBNL collection of material printed in the Netherlands before 1700 (approximately 28,500 items), with an option to extend this program to the digitization of the library's holdings of books printed outside the Netherlands before 1700.

Wellcome Library, London – Founded on the private collection of Sir Henry Wellcome (1853-1936), the library's rich holdings encompass the history of medicine and include works on alchemy, anthropology and ethnology. Henry Wellcome began collecting books in the late 1890s, searching the world for a diverse range of books and buying collections such as William Morris's library and the library of Joseph Frank Payne, librarian to the Royal College of Physicians. As with the KBNL, material from the Wellcome begins with Collection 3.

Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF)/National Library of France, Paris – Intended as the national repository of everything published in France, the origins of the library go back to 1368 and the royal collection established by Charles V. First opened to the public in 1692, over the centuries the collection grew in size and shifted location on numerous occasions. During the French Revolution, the collection swelled to over 300,000 volumes and, later, under Napoleon's reign, became established as France's national repository. The first material from the library was released as part of Collection 4 in 2013. Further material will be in stand-alone collections; the first of such is Collection 6, released in 2014; followed by Collection 8 released in 2015; Collection 10 released in 2016.



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