

Notes

Dating *Warning or Lanthorn to London*

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IT WOULD be helpful, when possible, if digital archives such as Early English Books Online (EEBO), the Bodleian Libraries' Broadside Ballads Online (BBO), and the University of California, Santa Barbara English Broadside Ballad Archive (EBBA) included the estimated date of first printing of ballads in their collections to avoid misreadings of the circumstances of a ballad's production and transmission. Such information would also inform accounts of the adaptation and redeployment of a ballad in particular historical periods. The dating of the ballad *Warning or Lanthorn to London, by the doleful destruction of faire Jerusalem* in EEBO and BBO is a case in point.

The English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC) dates the ballad *Warning or Lanthorn to London* "[1655-1658]." The copy mentioned was printed in London for "F. Coles, J. Wright, Tho. Verse and W. Gilbertson." The citation/ reference is given as "Wing (2nd ed.), W925A." In EEBO, the 16-stanza version printed with another ballad, *Of the horrible and woful destruction of Jerusalem*, is also said to have been "printed for F. Coles, J. Wright, Tho. Vere, and W. Gilbertson." The Wing (2nd ed.) catalogue date of "[1658?]" is given along with the date of "1690." The bib name/numbers are listed as "Wing (2nd ed.) / 0144" and "Wing (2nd ed.) / W925A." In BBO, the date of publication of the 16-stanza version of the ballad, again printed alongside the second ballad, is given as "between 1655 and 1658" and the imprint indicates that it was "Printed for F. Coles, J. Wright, Tho. Vere, and W. Gilbertson." The copies listed are "Wood 401(81)" and "Harding B 39(51)."

Evidence suggests that the version of *Warning or Lanthorn to London* referred to in the ESTC and reproduced in EEBO and BBO is a later edition of an Elizabethan

siege ballad. An edition of *Of the horrible and woful destruction of Jerusalem* appeared in the sixteenth century. EBBA includes a photofacsimile of the Huntington Library's copy of the ballad *Of the horyble and woful destruccion of Jerusalem*, on which the Elizabethan Thomas Colwell is named as the printer (Huntington Library Britwell 18266). The EBBA gives the approximate date of publication of *Of the horrible and woful destruction of Jerusalem* as "1569?" That *Warning or Lanthorn to London* was also first published in the Elizabethan period is supported by the research of Andrew Clark. An 18-stanza version of *Warning or Lanthorn to London* is included in the first volume of Andrew Clark's *The Shirburn Ballads, 1585-1616*. Clark provides some prefatory information on the ballad and its sources: "A Black-letter copy in Wood, 401 fol. 81, omits stanzas 5 and 11. The ultimate source of the ballad is, of course, the much-read Josephus. John Stockwood, 'Schoolemaister' of Tunbridge, published at London, 1584, 'A very fruitfull and necessarye sermon of the moste lamentable destruction of Ierusalem,' which contains, and may have suggested, most of the points in the ballad" (31). More recently, Michael Hattaway dates a ballad with the same first line, "When fair Jerusalem did stand," 1586 (42), relying on the details from Appendix A of Tessa Watt's *Cheap Print and Popular Piety, 1550-1640*. Watts writes of the dates of entry of the ballad in the Stationer's Register: "?ent. 15 au. 1586; 8 jn. 1603; 14 de. 1624" (334).

Therefore, while the sixteen-stanza version(s) of *Warning or Lanthorn to London* reproduced in EEBO and BBO, and listed on the ESTC, may be correctly dated, it is likely that the eighteen-stanza version first appeared in or around 1586.

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