

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There have been numerous contributors who have played important roles in bringing this extensive work to fruition. An endeavor of this kind depends on many generous people -- family, colleagues, scholars, and librarians -- for whose support and encouragement we are sincerely grateful. We wish to thank our colleague Joseph C. Cotter for his valuable help, as well as the American Philosophical Society, the Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies at Penn State, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the Department of Spanish Italian and Portuguese (College of Liberal Arts at Penn State) for grants that facilitated the completion of this work. In particular, we thank Charles W. Mann Jr. and Sandra K. Stelts who kindly placed at our disposal the resources of the Rare Books Collection of Pattee Library. We are extremely indebted to Grace Pérez for her invaluable bibliographic and editorial contributions. Finally, we wish to thank both our families for their forbearance, love and support.