

transcript stops here, at end of ¶ 12.” And at the bottom of sheet 130, the last: “F. 116 V — last page. The last page, with only three lines of writing, is alleged by Newbold to contain ‘the key.’”

The “marks of correction” are found on blocks of sheets throughout the printout. Sheets 1 through 34, sheets 46 through 51, sheet 96, sheets 117 through 119 all bear hand corrections. These parts of the printout look like marked up author’s proof sheets: letters are crossed out, over-written, inserted with carets. In many cases line breaks, and line and paragraph numbers have been indicated in pencil, with notes like “¶ 6” inserted into the body of the text.

And finally, the printout shows signs of use. Every character on the first 33 sheets and first nine lines of sheet 34 has been underlined in pencil, each separate letter or digit receiving its own separate stroke (except that both letters in the digraphs PZ, FZ, HZ, and DZ are underlined by the same stroke). These strokes could be the byproduct of preparing a frequency count or of proof-reading; I am inclined to believe the latter. On sheets 50 and 51 there is evidence of frequency count taking: underlined letter sequences, with a marginal note “4ODC8G 15 times on p 153” on sheet 50.

Folder 1613

One item in the Friedman collection, folder 1613, contains a miscellany of worksheets, apparently from the FSG. Most of these are on sheets of 1/4 inch graph paper, by a variety of writers, containing frequency tabulations of Voynich characters, of letters in medieval Latin texts, and the like. Many bear signatures, which are our only clues to the rank-and-file membership of the FSG. Some of these names are (as far as I can read them): Robert A. Caldwell, G. E. McCracken, Thomas A. Miller, William M. Seaman, Fried, and Francis M. Puckett.

One item in folder 1613 is especially interesting: another partial transcription of the VMS in a slightly different form from that in item 1609. It consists of twenty 8½ by 11 inch sheets of 1/4 inch graph paper, with a handwritten transcription of f.111v through f.114r. (“Pages” 225 through 230.) Each sheet (turned sideways) has a block of transcription data, 40 squares wide by 20 squares high, one character per square, making 15,464 transcribed characters (the last sheet