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16th Century

GREEK PRIMER WITH EARLY BRITISH PROVENANCE

1. LUSCINIUS, OTTMAR (1478-1537). Progymnasmata graecae literaturae ab Ottomaro Luscinto... Strasbourg: Johannes Knobloch, 1523.

A later edition (the first published in 1517) of an early Greek primer by the Northern Renaissance humanist Ottmar Luscinius, also known by his alternate surname Nachtgall. Luscinius, who studied Greek in Paris, and traveled to Greece and Asia Minor, was an enthusiastic promoter of the Greek language in Strasbourg, where he taught. The book offered here is a fine example of his wide-ranging influence, as it bears two ownership signatures of previous owners from Great Britain. On the verso of the title-page are two ownership inscriptions by John Harris of Scotland (Joannis Harrryse Scoti) dated 1561 and 1563. On the colophon are two undated signatures by one John Jeane (Johannes Jeane), presumably also from Great Britain.

The influence of Greek in Great Britain has been widely documented and such luminaries as Linacre and Thomas More encouraged reading Greek literature in the original language. As this book found its way to Britain at a fairly early date, it is stands as an interesting artifact of the appeal of learning Greek to a British audience. 8vo (17 x 10.5cm), [xxvi], 87pp., [xxvii].

Long dedicatory letter precedes work and mentions Erasmus and Melanchthon among others. Presumably the letter was not in the first edition as it is dated March of 1521. Several Latin notations in antique hand in the margins between pages 64 and 81. Lovely colophon on last leaf. Title-page and a few leaves with some soiling and/or light browning. Bound in later quarter calf over marbled calf covers. Light wear. [FIRST EDITION: VD 16, N 30; Proctor 1073; Benzing 1073; Schmidt 138]

$1,500.00

Latin edition of a commentary by the fourth century Greek physician Oribasius on the Aphorisms of Hippocrates. Garrison, in his History of Medicine, states that: "Oribasius was chiefly remarkable as a torch-bearer of knowledge rather than as an original writer, but his compilations are highly valued by scholars in that he always give his authorities and, as far as is known, quotes them exactly." (Garrison, History of Medicine, 122). The 'editio princeps' was published in Paris in 1533 by Simon de Colines, with a Venetian imprint that same year.

The editor, Johann Guenther, was a professor of medicine at the University of Paris and had Vesalius as a pupil. In the preface, he states that he discovered the manuscript of this work in a private library. 8vo (16 x 10.5cm), 257pp., [xiv]. Printer's device on verso of last leaf. Occasional light damp-staining to lower corner of a few leaves, title-page and last leaf with a bit of soiling. Bound in vellum

$1,250.00

3. ERASMUS (1466-1536). De sancienda ecclesiae concordia, de que sedandis opinionum dissidiis, cum aliis nonnullis lectu dignis... Cologne: Ioan. Gymnicus, 1543.

Later edition of a work written late in Erasmus's life calling for unity in Christendom, torn apart by the battles between Protestantism and Catholicism. This plea was originally written and published sixteen years after Luther's nailing of the 95 Theses in Wittenberg and the upheaval caused by Luther's
movement was in full swing. At the time of this Cologne edition, Luther was still alive and the Council of Trent (1545-1563) was on the horizon.

Included at the end is an index, and, for the first time, a brief Greek glossary. First published in Basel in 1533, at least four(!) other editions appeared that same year - Antwerp, Paris, Cologne and Leipzig. It appears, however, that between 1533 and our 1543 edition, there were not many republications. Small 8vo (14.5 x 9.5cm), 124pp., [xx]. Wood-cut colophon on verso of last leaf. Bound in modern quarter vellum over boards. Excellent condition, with very fresh and clean interior.

$1,350.00
A LUTHERAN CATECHISM FOR CHILDREN


A children's catechism by Lutheran theologian Andreas Osiander, based on Luther's Small Catechism and first published in Nurnberg in 1533. The Nurnberg edition included wood-cut illustrations which were not included in this edition. Folio (31 x 19.5cm), [74] leaves. Toned, a couple small spots to margins, antique ink notes on last leaf. Rebound in modern boards with paper label on spine. $850.00
IN DEFENSE OF ASTROLOGY


A later edition of Italian scholar Lucio Bellanti's work in support of astrology. Originally published in 1498 in Florence in response to Pico della Mirandola's critique of astrology, Bellanti's work sets out arguments in favor of astrology as a legitimate science using the scholastic method. The work was republished several times, including an edition in Venice from 1502, and the Basel edition offered here.

Thorndike states: "Bellantius cited Aquinas and Scotus in support of astrology, but censured various past astrological writers such as the Arabic astrologers, Albumasar and Haly, Abraham Judaeus, and the Latin, Guido Bonatti. This censure was partly on Christian grounds but perhaps shared a little the current humanistic aversion for Arabic and medieval learning (Thorndike IV, 541)".

Included is a similar work by Gabriele Pirovano in the form of a dialogue that was first published in 1507. Folio (31 x 20cm), [vi], 302pp., [ii]. Printer's device on verso of last leaf. Ownership inscription on title-page. Slightly toned with a few spots of foxing throughout. Very small wormholes to some leaves, small stain to title-page. Bound in contemporary vellum using an antique manuscript. Some wear, soiling, and slight worming to binding.

$3,250.00

JOINT PARIS-ALDINE MEDICAL WORK

The first Parisian edition (second edition overall?) of the works of the 4th century Greek physician Oribasius. The printer, Torresani, was the grandson of the Venetian printer Andrea Torresani, and this Parisian edition was under the direct authorization, and perhaps supervision, of the House of Aldus. This is affirmed by the presence of a large Aldine anchor on the title-page and its mention in the publishers' line.

An Aldus edition of this work was printed, possibly prior to the Paris edition, but it is undated. Oribasius' works, in their Latin translation, were being uncovered for the first time in the 16th century due to the discovery of their manuscripts in libraries. 8vo (17.5 x 11cm), 332 leaves. Light damp-staining to upper corner of first few leaves, a bit of slight browning to a few leaves. Antique ownership inscription to title-page, personal book-plate to front endpaper. Bound in contemporary vellum, binding soiled. [Cataldi Palau 198; Eimas 46; Renouard 296/2; USTC 151705]

$1,250.00
PROTESTANTS PROTEST AGAINST THE COUNCIL OF TRENT

7. [COUNCIL OF NAUMBERG]. Adversus Synodi Tridentinae restitutionem seu continuationem, a Pio IIII. Pontifice indictam, opposita gravamina...Pro defensione Syncerae & Orthodoxae Religionis, proposita primum in Naoburgico...E Germanico in Latinum conversa a D. Laurentio Tuppio... Strasbourg: Excudebat Samuel Emmel, 1565.

The first Latin edition of a work written against the Council of Trent and published in the aftermath of the Council of Naumburg held in 1561. The purpose of the Naumberg Council was to bring about unity among the various Protestant denominations which had multiplied and moved further apart since the time of Luther; in addition, the Council responded to the Council of Trent's doctrine and reaffirmed its commitment to the doctrines of the Augsburg Confession of 1530.

Most of the book responds to and refutes Catholic principles and dogmas point by point. An interesting appendix in the work, taken from the Catholic publication 'Taxa Sacrae Poenitentiariae', is a list of indulgences with their object and price. Although Pope Pius IV held out hope that the Protestants of Germany would return to the Catholic Church and accept the Tridentine decrees, the Council of Naumberg, summed up in the work offered here, made it clear that this would not happen.

A German edition must have preceded this one as there is a translator mentioned on the title-page, but I could not find a copy of the German edition in any bibliographical records. Large 8vo (20.5 x 14.5cm), [xiv], 470pp., [xlii]. A few marginal repairs on title-page, ownership stamp and small stain to title, other light damp-stains occasionally touching margins throughout, extensive antique marginalia. Bound in near-contemporary blind-tooled calf with lozenges on covers and border designs, binding with some wear. $1,650.00
8. PARACELUS (c. 1493-1541) [TRANSLATOR: GERHARD DORN (c. 1530-1584)]. Chirurgia vulnerum, cum recentium, tum veterum, ocultorum & manifestorum Ulcerum, &c. Cui libri duo, prior de Contracturis: de Apostematibus, Syronibus & Nodis alter...ex Gerardi Dorn e Germanico in Latinum versione. Basel: Apud Petrum Pernam, [1569].

The first Latin edition of a number of Paracelsus' writings translated from German by one of Paracelsus' most avid advocates of the 16th century, Gerhard Dorn. Dorn rescued a number of Paracelsus' manuscripts and by translating and having them published into Latin ensured a wider readership. Dorn's work in alchemy also garnered the attention of Carl Jung who quotes him frequently. The book offered here includes Dorn's translation of 'Der Grosse Wundartzney', first published in 1536. The work marks Paracelsus' foray into the art of surgery and treatment of various wounds such as animal bites, burns, broken bones, gunshots wounds, etc. Two other works follow: the second Latin printing of 'De contracturis' and the first Latin printing of 'De apostematibus', which includes numerous recipes for various ailments. The last two leaves of the index are printed out of order but are complete. 8vo (16 x 10cm), [xiv], 299pp., [iv]. Occasional damp-staining to the leaves at the end of the work, small tear to top corner of second and third leaf without loss, signature G a bit loose. Bound in contemporary vellum, soiled. [Adams P-268 (dating the work to 1575); NLM/Durling 3485; Wellcome I, 4766.]

$1,250.00


The first and only edition of Henri Estienne’s self-published work praising the Frankfurt Fair which he attended in person. The long-running fair had roots
stretching back to at least the year 1240, when a charter by Emperor Frederick II mentions special privileges of the city relating to the fair. The city of Frankfurt enjoyed not only geographical advantages, but also the status as a “free city”, thus allowing the fair to develop rapidly over the next few centuries into one of the largest commercial venues by the time Estienne visited.

Estienne begins his ‘encomium’ by praising the city, the magistrates, and the logistical organization of the city which provided ample food and housing for everyone. He is particularly impressed that strangers and natives are treated with the same consideration. He then goes on to enumerate the enormous number and variety of merchandise that he saw for sale – weapons, horses, foodstuffs, works of art, and most intriguing, new mechanical inventions making their debut at the fair. For example, one marvel that Estienne witnessed was a ‘mechanical spit’ which served to automate some of the rotating functions of a hand-rotated spit.

The last part of Estienne’s encomium is dedicated to the intellectual side of the fair, which brings together not just books, but the writers themselves, drawn from the great universities of Europe. During the Frankfurt fair, Estienne notes, some of the greatest philosophers, poets, and scientists can be observed congregating in bookshops and conversing with one another in what Estienne describes as a very exciting environment.

Although subject matter of this book has often been described and marketed as treating of the ‘Frankfurt Book Fair’, it would be more accurate to describe the book as one about the Frankfurt Fair taken as a whole, of which bookselling is just one part. This has remained a very desirable book since its rediscovery in the 19th century, although it is not as rare as it was once thought to be. Nevertheless, it stands out for its uniqueness, both as a “privately printed” work by Estienne, as well as for its detailed and thorough insights into one of the largest commercial events of the 16th century. The second part of the book (with separate pagination) includes miscellaneous works in Latin and Greek. 8vo (17 x 10.5cm), [vi], 31pp., [i], 120pp. Title-page toned with foxing, small ownership inscription, ink spot to second leaf; toned throughout with occasional light foxing, small corner tear to Fii with no loss, last couple leaves with moderate marginal damp-staining, verso of last leaf a bit more soiled than the rest. Bound in modern vellum, new endpapers. [Adams S1768; Renouard Estienne, 139:2; Schreiber Estienne, 189; Simon, Bibliotheca Bacchia II, 235] $6,250.00
FRANCOFORDIENSE
EMPORIVM,
SIVE
FRANCOFORDIEN-
SES NUNDINAE.
Quæm varia mercium genera in hoc emporio
prostent, pagina septima indicabit.

HENR. STEPHANVS
de his suis nundinis.
Impiger extremis merces non sumis ab Indis,
Sed piger hasce potes lector habere domi.

ANNO M. D. LXXIII,
Excudebat Henricus Stephanus.
First Separate Map of Scotland to Be Found in Any Book


An important work on Scotland, by the exiled John Leslie, that covers the period from the time of its first king (here the legendary King Fergus of the 4th century B.C.) through the reign of Queen Mary. "John Leslie was an esteemed historian and astute politician. Appointed by Mary, Queen of Scots, as her ambassador to Queen Elizabeth, Leslie was involved in secret plans to restore Mary to the throne of England. During the exposure of this conspiracy, he barely escaped with his life. The fine map published in this history of Scotland significantly advanced topographic knowledge of the country." [Sotheby's]. And the DNB notes: "The description of the counties and islands is...to a considerable extent founded on independent observation and information."

Included are letters written by Queen Mary while abroad in Paris. With 11 full-page engraved genealogical charts and a two-page engraved map of Scotland based on the 1546 map of George Lily. The first separate map of Scotland to be found in any book. 4to (22.5 x 17cm), [40], 588, [32]. Title-page with ownership inscription at head and a library stamp. A few small antique ink corrections/annotations in text. Bound in contemporary vellum, soiled, front hinge broken with text block beginning to detach. Interior, including the double-page map, is overall in excellent condition. [Cfr. Brunet III 1012; Adams L541.] $3,750.00

Festival Celebrating the Arrival of Christina of Lorraine in Pisa

11. CERVONI, GIOVANNI. Descrizione de le Pompe, e Feste fatte ne la Citta' di Pisa, Per la Venuta de la Sereniss. Madama Christierna de l'Oreno Gran Duchessa di Toscana. Ne la quale si contano l'entrata, la battaglia navale... Florence: Appresso Giorgio Marescotti. 1589.
Rare Italian festival book narrating the celebrations that took place in the city of Pisa to welcome the arrival of Christina of Lorraine (1565-1637), the Grand Duchess of Tuscany. The Duchess's marriage to Ferdinando de Medici in 1589 prompted festivities throughout Tuscany, and it appears that the Duchess made it a point to travel through her domains to visit her subjects. The response from the city of Pisa was an elaborate festival, with a focus especially on military spectacles such as mock sea battles. Christina co-ruled Tuscany until her death in 1637 and was, among other things, a patron of the arts and sciences, and hired Galileo in 1605 to tutor her son, Cosimo II de Medici. 8vo (15.5 x 10cm), [vi], 141pp., [iii]. Title-page with small segment cut at lower margin slightly touching text, foxing throughout, a few antique ink marks. Antique ink inscriptions to fly leaves. Bound in later calf, wear to covers and spine. I located six copies of the book worldwide. Rare on the market - the last copy to come up for auction was a Christie's 1998 sale.

$1,650.00

17th Century

Poem About Fleas in Macaronic Verse


One of several printings of this satire on the infestation of fleas, done into macaronic verse (among the first of its kind in Germany). First published in 1593 in Hamburg, it was well-known throughout Germany and was republished in no fewer than twelve editions; nevertheless, most copies have not survived, making it a rarity in institutions and in the marketplace. 4to (19 x 15cm), 4 leaves. Brownded, a small tear to title at margin. Bound in modern boards. [Hayn-G. II, 322. Weller, Annalen II, 383]

$850.00
Early Botanical Book by the Founder of the ‘Jardin des Plantes’


First and only edition of this large and comprehensive work on plants and their medicinal uses. The author was physician to King Louis XIII and founder of the famous Jardin des Plantes in Paris. The second part of this work, in fact, is dedicated specifically to the establishment of such a garden. The work draws from ancient and modern authorities and is systematically arranged in five sections. Of interest are the three folding plates that include a flow-chart of animals, plants, and minerals, and various chemical properties and effects.

The engraved title-page includes the portraits of Hippocrates, Dioscorides, Paracelsus, and Theophrastus - all who studied plants and their medicinal properties. La Brosse was also responsible for another publication in 1623 on the plague and its remedies. The second part has a separate title-page but continuous pagination. 8vo (17.5 x 12cm), engraved title-page, [xviii], 849pp. [xxvii]. Three folding charts. There is prefatory matter preceding books 2, 3, and 5 not included in pagination. Bound in later speckled calf, rubbed. Toned throughout, antique ink inscription to engraved title and title. Some light damp-staining occasionally touching margins throughout including the title-pages. An uncommon book on the market - only two copies have appeared at auction over the past thirty years.
$2,350.00

Chant for Use at St. Peter’s Basílica


17th century edition of choir music for St. Peter's Basilica and other churches revised and edited by Palestrina's pupil, Giovanni Domenico Guidetti. The
two originally collaborated on revising an edition of the Antiphonary and Graduale, but after these were published in a different production in 1580 in Venice, Guidetti turned to focus on the work offered here. The first edition was published in Rome in 1582 and was followed by several editions. Apparently Palestrina only took on seven pupils during his life, and Guidetti was among the lucky ones. 8vo (16 x 10.5cm), [vi], 737pp., [iii]. Printed in red and black with musical notation throughout. Toned. Antique ownership inscriptions on title-page. Bound in contemporary calf with gilt borders, clasps with sea-shells designs. Some rubbing. A lovely copy.

$1,150.00

Ancient History of China Written by Jesuit Missionary


Formerly a student of Athanasius Kircher at the Roman College, Martini was the first European to write a history of China based on original Chinese sources. Martini was sent to China by the Jesuit Order as a missionary in 1643 and traveled as far north as the Great Wall. He then returned to Europe where he assisted the great map-maker Johann Blaeu with his famous Atlas Sinensis. Returning to China, Martini remained there until his death in 1661. The history covers the origin of China until the birth of Christ. The first edition published in Munich in 1658 does not include some of the engravings found in this edition. 8vo (15.5 x 10cm), 413pp., [xv]. Several engravings in text. Library stamps to fly-leaf, occasional damp-staining throughout, light wear to upper edge of title-page. Bound in later quarter calf over boards. [Lust 412; Cordier 580]

$1,250.00

Atlas Showing California as an Island

The 1661 Jansson edition of one of the most important geographical textbooks of the 17th century. First published in 1624 (but without maps), the book was often reprinted and earned Cluver the reputation as the first historical geographer. **The 45 folding maps included are drawn from both ancient and modern sources**, including the more recent discoveries of East Asia and the Americas, including California as an island in the world map. A brief work by Petrus Bertius entitled 'Breviarium Totius Orbis Terrarum' is included at the end. A competing edition appeared from Elsevier's press in Amsterdam the same year, but included only 38 maps and was duodecimo in size. 4to (20 x 16.5cm), [vi], 142pp., 32pp. 45 folding maps and 1 folding plate of the tropics and winds. Several diagrams in text. Some damp-staining and toning throughout, a few ink marks. Rebound in modern half calf over boards with gilt spine, book-plate on front paste-down. A good copy of a classic work. [Sabin 13805] $1,750.00
The Earliest Studies on the Ancient Ethiopian Language

17. LUDOLF, HIÖB (1624-1704) [EDITOR: WANSLEBEN, JOHN MICHAEL (1635-1679)]. Lexicon Aethiopico-Latinum, ex omnibus libris impressis, nonnullisque Manuscriptis collectum; et cum docto quodam Aethiope relectum... [BOUND WITH: Grammatica Aethiopica... AND ALSO WITH: Confessio fidei Claudii regis Aethiopiae...]. London: Apud Thomam Roycroft, 1661.

The first editions of three works published separately but simultaneously on the Ethiopian language. Composed by the German linguist Hiod Ludolf, his work essentially opened to the European world the cultural and linguistic world of ancient Ethiopia using their original texts. The first work is an Ethiopian-Latin lexicon-dictionary, the second work covers grammar, and the third work includes extracts from ancient Ethiopian manuscripts, such a Confession of Faith and the Liturgy of St. Dioscorus of Alexandria. 4to (22.5 x 17.5 cm), [xvi], 560 columns (i.e. 280 pages), [xlv]; [ii], 76pp.; [xiv]. First title-page and a few leaves soiled, paper repairs to margins of a few leaves, including title-page, without loss, occasional toning and/or foxing throughout. Bound in 18th century(?) armorial calf, some wear to binding.

$2,000.00

Self-Published Work on Architecture by the Inventor of Architectural “Rods”


A very rare and self-published work by German-Polish mathematician Nicolaus Goldmann on "Stylometris", or architectural rods, which he claims in his work to have invented. In the first part of the work Goldmann discusses the uses and advantages of using his rods for designing columns of different styles - i.e., the Tuscan, Dorian, Ionian, Roman, and Corinthian. There is also a rod that he devised for general application. The second part of the work provides illustrations of the rods and their use in design and building. Goldmann's
invention was the result of years of research; initially he used wood to construct his rods, but finding that material led to inaccuracies, he elected for brass instead. The text of the work is in Latin and German in parallel columns.

Quite possibly, the Bavarian National Library possesses the original physical rods in its collections. Very rare in both institutions and the market - I could not locate any copies at auction since 1961 and I could locate only one copy in institutions in North America. Tall 4to (32 x 19.5cm), [iv], 32pp., 40 plates (8 partially hand-colored). Small tear to lower margin of title-page, light damp-staining occasionally touching a few leaves and plates, a bit of occasional smudging. Bound in contemporary sprinkled calf, rubbed. Overall a splendid copy.

$4,500.00
Travels to the Middle East and India by Carmelite Missionary


French translation of a travel narrative to the Middle East and India first published in Latin in 1649. Philippe of the Holy Trinity was a Carmelite missionary who traveled to Syria, Armenia, Persia and India, recording the status of Christians abroad as well taking notes on the flora, fauna, and geography of the places he visited. He settled in Goa where he became a professor until he was elected General of the Carmelite Order in 1665. Later chapters in the book give an account of the various Christian missions to the Middle and Far East, including an account of the martyrdom of two Carmelite missionaries in Sumatra in 1638. This edition includes two copper-plate engraved portraits of the Carmelite martyrs which were not included in the original edition. 8vo (18.5 x 11.5cm), [xlvi], 592pp. Toned with occasional light foxing, small light damp-stains, and a few small worm holes. Bound in contemporary speckled calf with wear with slight loss to front lower corner, rubbed.

$1,850.00

Unique English Restoration Binding in the “Queen’s Binder A” Style


Devotional book from the "Golden Era" of English bookbinding. The beautiful gilt-tooled on red goat skin binding does not seem to fit nicely into any particular Restoration Era binding style, although it is very similar to the copy at the British Library cataloged as BL C.65.e.9, 1669 [Biblia Sacra] in its use of 'drawer handle' tools and proximity to the date of production. Our little book is ornately decorated using a wide array of binder's tools, including the drawer
handle, floret stars, and pointelle work, giving the impression of a fancy lace. The endpapers are done in the comb-marbled style popular at the time. A comparison with other binding rubbings at the British Library indicates that the workshop that produced the binding most likely belonged to the group known as the "Queen's Binder A." 12mo (12.5 x 7cm), [viii], 193pp., [i]. Binding is rubbed, more so on spine, and the front joint shows a few small cracks. A very light scoring appears visible with light on the covers. Covers a bit darkened. Ownership inscription of M. Compton on front blank and again on front paste-down. All edges gilt.

$1,850.00

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**First English Edition of Johannes Kepler's 'Tabulae Rudolphinae'**

21. KEPLER, JOHANNES (1571-1630); BRAHE, TYCHO (1546-1601); MORIN, JEAN-BAPTISTE (1583-1656). Tabulae Rudolphinae. Or the Rudolphine Tables, Supputated to the Meridian of Uraniburge, First, by John Kepler, from the Observations of the Tres Noble Ticho Brahe, Afterwards Digested into a most Accurate, and Easie Compendium, by the Famous Johannes Baptista Morinus... London: [n.p.], 1675.

The first English edition of Johannes Kepler's 'Tabulae Rudolphinae', first published in Ulm in 1627, and the primary work which earned Kepler enduring fame. Composed at the urging of Tycho Brahe, the tables are named after their patron, Rudolph II, and gave further support to the Copernican system while also assigning planetary motion to natural causes rather than "fictitious circles". The English edition was probably issued as an addition to Coley's 'Clavis Astrologiae Elimata', but Wing accords them separate numbers and the Tabulae has its own title-page and pagination. 4to (18.5 x 12cm), 103 (i.e. 93) pp. Pagination skips from 70 to 81 but text is continuous and complete. Lightly toned throughout, last leaf with some browning to margins, very small damp-stain to upper margin of leaves. Bound in later cloth. Quite rare. [Wing K332; Caspar 97]

$2,250.00
Tabulae Rudolphinae.
OR THE
RUDOLPHINE TABLES,
Supputated to the Meridian of
Uraniburge,
FIRST,
By JOHN KEPLER,
From the Observations of the Tres Noble
TICHO BRAHE,
Afterwards Digested into a most
Accurate, and Easie Compendium,
By the Famous
JOHANNES BAPTISTA MORINUS,
Doctor of Physick, and Mathematical Pro-
fessor to the French King, and
Printed for him at Paris,
Anno Dom. 1650.

LONDON,
Printed in the Year, 1675.
Study on the Scottish Landmark Known as “Macduff’s Cross”


A rare tract about an enigmatic inscription on the Scottish landmark known as Macduff’s Cross, located in Fife and tracing its origin to the 11th century. The sandstone monument was reputedly built to commemorate the spot where Macduff received criminal immunity after slaying Macbeth. The metrical inscription on the monument, composed in a strange language, is a hybrid of Latin and other languages. Cunningham uses his knowledge of languages in an attempt to decipher the inscription's meaning. A rare and peculiar piece of Shakespeariana published less than sixty years after the First Folio. 4to (19.5 x 14.5cm), 20pp. Title soiled with repaired tears, leaves with light soiling throughout. Bound in wrappers. Book-plate of Gilmour of Lundin and Montrave on inside front cover. [Wing C-7593] $1,350.00

Advice for Reviving England’s International Trade


First published in 1678 under the title 'Ancient trades decayed', this plea to the government argues for greater protection from foreign competition for the various domestic industries. As the author states: "The end of this treatise is to shew, that the reason for the decay of trade is not from the total defect or want of trade, but from the irregularity or disorder thereof, and this hath happened through a neglect of a due execution of those laws that are in force concerning trade." 4to (19 x 15cm), [2], 62 [i.e. 63], [1] pp. Title-page toned with some

English translation of the work by 17th century French Protestant writer Jean Claude. Claude wrote his work to rebuff the claims of Arnauld and the French work saw several editions before the English translation offered here. Of particular interest is the discussion on the Eastern churches' belief and practice. Included with the work, and although integral with it has a separate title-page, is a translation of a Carolingian tract on the Eucharist, much cited by 16th and 17th century Protestants. Large Folio (32 x 20cm), engraved and printed title-pages, [xxiv], 362pp., 316pp., [xviii]. Large plate engraving of the Last Supper. Library stamps to engraved title and Last Supper plate, some wear and small tears to bottom of engraved title. Marginal damp-staining to first few and last few leaves, a bit of soiling to title-page. Rebound in modern half calf over buckram. Very rare - I could locate only two copies worldwide, and none have ever come up for auction.

$1,000.00
missionariorum apostolicorum Imperii Sinici...]. Cologne: Appresso gli Heredi di Cornelia d'Egmond, 1699.

The first edition in Italian, published the same year as the French language edition, of the Dominican Noel Alexandre's polemic against Jesuit missionary tactics, and an important book in the episode known as the "Chinese Rites Controversy". The second part of the book includes a plethora of relevant documents in Latin relevant to the dispute. Title-page and last leaf with "duplicate" stamp from the Vatican Library. Single book in two parts. 8vo (16.5 x 11cm), 644pp., [xii], 257pp., [vii]. Occasional foxing throughout, a few leaves browned. Bound in contemporary vellum.

$1,850.00

18th Century

The First Botanical Book of Ireland

26. THRELKELD, CALEB, M.D. (1676-1728). Synopsis Stirpium Hibernicarum alphabetice dispositarum, sive Commentatio de Plantis Indigenis praesertim Dublinensibus instituta. Being a Short Treatise of Native Plants, especially such as grow spontaneously in the Vicinity of Dublin... Dublin: Printed by S. Powell, for F. Davys..., 1727.

The first book of botanical importance published in Ireland, the English physician and emigrant to Dublin, Caleb Threlkeld, spent twelve years collecting botanical specimens around the vicinity of Dublin, before publishing the results of his findings in the book offered here. In addition to his personal observation, Threlkeld also drew from the unpublished manuscripts of Thomas Molyneux and Richard Heaton. The plants are identified not just by their Latin names, but also their native Irish names - a novelty at the time.

Of particular interest is the famous "seam rog", or shamrock, with notes on how the little plant is displayed on St. Patrick's Day by being worn in hats. There is also a lengthy description of the potato, a plant that was to become of great importance in the British Isles, and Ireland in particular. Descriptions of flora are also frequently accompanied by notes on their medicinal purposes.
The first issue of the book was released in 1726 - two more issues were to follow in 1727, to which our copy belongs. Sometimes the book includes a four page list of subscribers, but it is not present in our copy. 8vo (15.5 x 10cm), [200], 60pp. Title-page with small portion excised from bottom margin, without loss; occasional light damp-staining and/or foxing throughout. Bound in contemporary paneled calf, with stains and slight wear.

$2,500.00
27. BARTON, RICHARD (1706-1759). 1) Lectures in Natural Philosophy...Lough Neagh. [Dublin, 1751]. 2) Some Remarks Towards a Full Description of Upper and Lower Lough Lene... [Dublin, 1751]. 3) A Dialogue Concerning some Things of Importance to Ireland... [Dublin, 1751]. 4) Galileo to Urban VIII. Or, an History of Error Defeated... [Dublin, 1758]. 5) A Physico-Poetical Essay, Concerning the Wonders of Lake Neah, in Ireland. In Imitation of Lucretius. [Dublin, 1759].

Five works by the Irish Naturalist Richard Barton bound together, the last two being exceedingly scarce. Barton was born in 1706 in Painstown, County Meath, the son of John Barton, dean of Ardagh. He attended Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained his B.A. in 1726 and M.A. in 1731. He was ordained a clergyman of the Church of Ireland and settled near Lough Neagh, where he took a keen interest in the geological traits of the surrounding countryside. In the 1730s he began his scientific investigations and became a member of the “Physico-Historical Society”.

The five works offered here are a culmination of a lifelong pursuit of research. Engraved plates are included which include views of the areas as well as samples that Barton collected. The first three works are relatively common and include the summation of his researches. The last two works, however, are of great rarity, and were written anonymously as a defense of his scientific conclusions against the controversial bishop of Clogher, Robert Clayton (1695-1758). The first defense (although the fourth bound in) is entitled ‘Galileo to Urban VIII” and is intended to invoke that great scientific controversy as being akin to the one that Barton is currently fighting against Clayton. The work includes numerous notes on Barton’s methods, Clayton’s shortcomings, and side-notes on the illustrious personages of Trinity College. The second very rare work (although the fifth bound in), appears to be a continuation of the Galileo piece, and is entitled ‘A Physico-Poetical Essay’. It is a poem, in English with a Latin text on opposite pages, that Barton wrote to summarize his work and sing the praises of the areas of Ireland that he studied, along with its rich gemological contents. As it was printed the year of his death, it is likely his last published work.

Galileo to Urban VIII' appears to exist in only one copy, at Cambridge University; the 'Physico-Poetical Essay', only at the British Library. The collation of the work offered here is: 4to (26 x 21cm), FIRST WORK; frontispiece perspective view, xvi, (viii subscriber list), folding plate of
Early Western Commentary on the ‘Seven Military Classics’ of China


Rare and interesting work on Chinese military strategy by the young French aristocrat Armand-Marie-Jacques de Chastenet. The source material de Chastenet draws from for his work is rather complex, but the publication of his book seems to have been spurred by the recent publication of Jesuit and China missionary Father Amiot's translation of Sun-Tzu's Art of War [Didot, 1772] the year prior. Amiot's translation was the first into a European language.

De Chastenet refers repeatedly to Amiot's translations of Chinese military works, and probably had access not only to the publications translated by Amiot but also unpublished manuscript material. Aside from Sun-Tzu, other works from the classic "Seven Military Classics" or "Wu ching ch'i shu' are cited, such as 'The Methods of the Sima' and 'Wu Qi'. As stated in the title of the book, he refers Chinese lessons to modern European warfare. Although de Chastenet shows great knowledge of military history and strategy, he was to focus his life's attention not on military matters but rather the phenomenon of Mesmerism.

An important book pivotal to the early assimilation of Chinese works in Europe. 12mo (17 x 10cm), 288pp. & 9 folding plates. Several small engravings in text of troop formations. Alternate publication slip pasted on front endpaper (Chez Claude Antoine Jombert). Bound in contemporary mottled calf, gilt spine, all edges red. Spine and joints rubbed, small chip to morocco label and small
cracks to joints. Overall in excellent condition. Uncommon on the market. [Cordier Sinica II, 1555; Mollendorff 2127; see Barbier.]

$2,500.00

EAT ACTUEL
DE L'ART
ET
DE LA SCIENCE MILITAIREF
À LA CHINE:
TIRÉ DES LIVRES MILITAIRES DES CHINOIS.
AVEC
Diverses observations sur l'étendue & les bornes des connaissances militaires chez les Européens.

À LONDRES;
Et se trouve à PARIS,
Chez DIDOT l'aîné, Libraire-Imprimeur, rue Pavée, près du quai des Augustins.

M. DCC. LXXXIII.
19th Century

**Anthology of Byzantine Poetry Published in Constantinople**

29. THEODORE PRODROMUS (c. 1100-c. 1165); GEORGE OF PISIDIA (act. 7TH CENTURY A.D); NIKEPHOROS XANTHOPOULOS (c. 1256-c. 1335). Hierographike harmonia ek diaphoron emmetron poiematon Theodorou tou Ptochopodromou, Georgiou tou Pisidou Diakonou kai Chartophylakos tes megales Ekklesias, kai Nikephorou tou Xanthopoulou eis hen syntetheisa, kai diorthotheisa... Konstantinoupolis, typ. tou Patriarcheiou, 1802.

Rare Constantinopolitan collection of three important Byzantine writers, spanning from the 7th century to the 14th. Mostly theological in character, the greatest space is given to the Biblical commentaries of 12th century poet and writer, Theodore Prodromus (pages 1-116). Included are his commentaries on the Pentateuch and Gospels, as well as his biographies of Gregory the Theologian and St. John Chrysostom. Although Prodromus is well-represented in early printing (including a Aldine edition of 1495), his Biblical commentaries are not, and I could not locate an earlier edition of the works included here.

The next section (pages 119-155) includes two major works by George of Pisidia: his Hexameron, a didactic poem on the Six Days of Creation, and his autobiography, in Latin rendered 'De Vanitate Vitae'. Both works had appeared in 16th century Western European editions. The final section (pages 155-197) is mostly the historical works of Nikephoros Xanthopoulos, including his work on the Destruction of Jerusalem, a Genealogy of Christ, and his Menologion. Some of Xanthopoulos' works also previously appeared in print, but usually in translation. 4to (21.5 x 17.5cm), [viii], 200pp. A bit of foxing, a few small closed tears/repairs in text including title-page and first few leaves slightly obstructing text, damp-staining to several leaves. A few contemporary ink annotations. Bound in quarter calf over marbled boards, a bit worn $2,250.00
Journal and Pencil Sketches of a Trip to Northeast Canada by American Couple

30. MR. AND MRS. J. C. STEVENS. Sketch Book and Travel Diary of Summer Voyage through Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Labrador. 1869.

A little sketchbook of a journey made by an American couple through North-Eastern Canada during the summer of 1869. The entries and sketches, all done in pencil, include short notes and pictures of their stops and observations. 16 pages of terse written entries of their day-to-day travels. There are also 47 pages of pencil sketches at varying levels of completion of landscapes, sites, and people that they encountered. The book measures 17.5 x 10cm and is bound in quarter calf, boards nearly detached, spine worn and chipped. Aside from their American origins, I could not discover anything else about the travelers. May be missing a title-leaf.
$850.00

Original Illuminated Book of Hours Manuscript by Female Breton Porcelain Painter

31. KERMABON, ADELIE-MARIE. Livres d'Heures. c. 1880

Sumptuous late 19th century Book of Hours manuscript created by female porcelain artist Adelie-Marie Kermabon for the French publishing firm Maison Bouasse-Lebel. Kermabon, born in Saint-Malo, was a student of the more famous porcelain artist Delphine de Cool-Fortin (1830-1921), whose works were exhibited at the Woman's Building at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Kermabon had a number of her own works exhibited at French art exhibitions during the 1870s and 1880s, and extant records of those catalogs show that she worked mostly on porcelain. The manuscript offered here is exquisite. Every page is elaborately decorated with numerous scenes, personages, fantastic beasts, and architectural backgrounds. The initials J. O. are stamped into the leather box which holds the manuscript. The manuscript is bound in elaborately decorated calf. Although this genre of
manuscript was not uncommon in 19th century France, this creation is a one of a kind. 18.5 x 12.5cm. 76pp., [iv].
$3,500.00
‘Blue Book’ Celebrating 50th Anniversary of Iowa [Grinnell] College

32. IOWA COLLEGE [GRINNELL COLLEGE]. Blue Book. 1899.

A Blue Book published to commemorate the semi-centennial of Iowa College with 74 original cyanotypes pasted in. The photographs range in size from 4 x 4cm to approximately 15 x 20cm, and all are related in some manner to the College. There are images of male and female students in sports (including early baseball gear!), faculty members, a glee club, etc. Book measures 30 x 20cm; 252pp. Numerous advertisements at the end. Bound in cloth, shaken, hinges cracked. Interior in very good condition.
$950.00

20th Century

Manufacturer’s Paper Sampler from Art Deco Era


An apparently uniquely surviving portfolio of paper samples by the now defunct Minneapolis Paper Company, exhibiting the great diversity and beautiful artistic design of their products. Founded in 1889, the company, often referred to as Empeco, was a major supplier of paper products until they were bought out in 1945. The portfolio offered here is interesting not simply as a example of their diverse products, but includes numerous paper samples with fine Art Deco lettering or images printed onto the samples. It appears that some of the samples included were made for specific customers while others appear to be generic designs. Aside from the many colors and textures of non-pictorial samples, there
are instances of tourist brochures, insurance company advertisements, menus, book-covers, and many more. The quality of the paper has held up remarkably well over the years and looks and feels as if it were just manufactured yesterday. Bound in oblong cloth covers and measuring 27.5 x 18cm. 164 leaves of card stock of varying thickness printed on rectos only. Wear and soiling to binding. A splendid collection.

$1,500.00