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Deluxe Limited Edition Of
The Arabian Nights, One Of Only 100 Sets


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Limited “Sultana” Edition of this unexpurgated and unabridged translation, one of only 100 sets from the first American printing, with 24 hand-colored plates by Roderick McRae, signed by publisher Whitman Bennett, who also executed the beautiful deluxe morocco-gilt bindings. A stunning set.

Claiming to have worked from a 17th-century North African manuscript, Mardrus asserted that his version was more faithful to the original stories than Antoine Galland’s early 18th-century translation; in fact, it emphasized and even embellished the more exotic and erotic aspects. T.E. Lawrence originally expressed interest in translating Mardrus’ text into English, but the work ultimately fell to poet E. Powys Mathers. The Mardrus-Powys Mathers Night helped create visions of “a land of fable environment whose deserts and oases, bazaars and slums, jeweled caverns and minaret-topped edifices are immediately recognizable” (Clute & Grant, 51). A beautifully bound and illustrated set in fine condition. Scarce and desirable.
Lovely Edition Of
Jane Austen’s Collected Novels
And Letters, Finely Bound
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Includes Austen’s novels (Emma, Persuasion, Sense and Sensibility and Pride and Prejudice among them) and letters, as well as a memoir of the author by her nephew, J.E. Austen Leigh. Also includes Lady Susan—Austen’s short epistolary novel—and The Watsons—her unfinished novel. Neat early owner signatures. Fine condition, a lovely set.

Life And Works Of
The Sisters Brontë
Click for more info
“Thornfield Illustrated Edition” of the Brontë sisters’ admired novels, illustrated with frontispiece portraits and numerous photographic plates throughout, beautifully bound in contemporary tree calf-gilt by Oxford.

Includes Charlotte Brontë’s Jane Eyre, Shirley, Villette, and The Professor; Emily Brontë’s Wuthering Heights; and Anne Brontë’s Tenant of Wildfell Hall and Agnes Grey. Also includes Elizabeth C. Gaskell’s noted biography of Charlotte Brontë. Bookseller’s ticket. A beautiful illustrated set in fine condition.
“Immortal Is An Ample Word”

Emily Dickinson. **Poems. Third Series.** Boston, 1896. Small octavo, original gilt-stamped gray cloth. $4800. Click for more info

First edition of Emily Dickinson’s third book of poems, one of only 1000 copies printed.

Emily Dickinson published only 11 poems during her lifetime, but upon her death in 1886, her sister, Lavinia, discovered 1775 manuscript poems. Mabel Todd edited and published the three series of these poems until a quarrel between the Dickinson and Todd families led to a division of the manuscripts, preventing the further publication of complete and authoritative editions of Dickinson’s poetry until 70 years after her death (Wolff). Binding B (no priority established), with medium grey cloth gilt-stamped with Indian pipes design. Owner signatures. Bookseller label. Rear endpapers tanned, text generally clean, expert repair to front inner paper hinge, with front free endpaper neatly renewed, spine slightly darkened, front cover gilt bright. A very good copy.

“There is no frigate like a book / To take us lands away…”
— XVI. “A Book”
“Bovary C’est Moi”

FLAUBERT, Gustave. Madame Bovary. Moeurs de Province. Paris, 1857. Two volumes. 12mo, late 19th-century half red cloth, custom cloth slipcase. $10,500. Click for more info

Rare first edition, first issue in book form, of Flaubert’s literary masterpiece, in marbled boards by Thierry de Petit-Simier.

Upon publication of Madame Bovary, both Flaubert and his publisher were brought to trial on charges of immorality and narrowly escaped conviction. Although purportedly based in part on the circumstances of Flaubert’s friend Louise Pradier, the author’s claim that “Madame Bovary is myself,” with his unrelenting objectivity and deep compassion for his characters, earned him a reputation as the great master of the Realist school of French literature. First issue, with misspelling of “Senard” as “Senart” on dedication page. With half titles; with 36-page publisher’s catalogue, in its earliest state, bound in at rear of Volume I. Text in French. A fine copy of this masterpiece of world literature.

“She wanted to die, but she also wanted to live in Paris.”
"The Play’s The Thing”:
Superb Type-Facsimile Of Shakespeare’s
First Folio, Beautifully Bound And Illustrated


Click for more info

First edition, “special” issue, of this handsome illustrated type-facsimile of Shakespeare’s First Folio in three large volumes: Comedies, Histories and Tragedies.

The fabled First Folio of Shakespeare’s plays appeared in 1623. This “Special Edition” type-facsimile is beautifully printed on handmade paper, bound in publisher’s full morocco and illustrated with “India-proof impressions” of 20 splendid photo-engraved plates by Sir Joseph Noel Paton, who was “immensely successful” as not only a painter but also a sculptor and poet (Houfe, 253). Each volume with frontispiece reproducing a known portrait of Shakespeare; “Histories” volume also contains a view of Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-upon-Avon. Prospectus bound into “Comedies” volume. Fine condition.
The Lovely Doves Press Julius Caesar

SHAKESPEARE. The Tragedie of Julius Caesar. Hammersmith, 1913. Quarto, original full red morocco. $4000.

Click for more info

Limited private press edition of Shakespeare's great tragedy, reprinting the text of the First Folio edition of 1623, one of 200 copies on paper (total printing of only 212), bound by Cobden-Sanderson at the Doves Bindery.

“Completely without ornament or illustration, [the Doves books] depended for their beauty almost entirely upon the clarity of the type, the excellence of the layout, and the perfection of the presswork” (Cave, 147). When the doors of the press closed in 1913, all the punches, matrices and type were cast off the Hammersmith Bridge into the Thames, to remain “untouched for other use” (Ransom, 59). Finely printed in red and black. Issued simultaneously with 12 copies on vellum. Interior clean, slight rubbing to spine head. About-fine condition.

“Beware the ides of March...”
Boldly Signed By Mark Twain


Click for more info

Later edition in original cloth of one of the universally recognized masterpieces of American literature, Twain’s irrepressible and unforgettable “true boy’s book,” boldly signed by Twain.

“The first novel Mark Twain wrote without a co-author, Tom Sawyer is also his most clearly autobiographical novel... Enlivened by extraordinary and melodramatic events, it is otherwise a realistic depiction of the experiences, people and places that Mark Twain knew as a child” (Rasmussen, 459). Tom Sawyer “proved to be one of the most durable works in American literature. By the time of Twain’s death, it was his top-selling book. It has been in print continuously since 1876, and has outsold all other Mark Twain works” (Rasmussen, 459). “This was a true boy’s book, and surviving copies are proof of how rough little boys can be on books” (MacDonnell, 40). Originally published in England without illustrations. First published in 1876. Ink gift inscription on title page. Owner signature. Bookseller label. Text clean, minor expert reinforcement to text block, mild rubbing to extremities of generally clean cloth, most notably at ends of slightly toned spine, gilt bright. A very scarce signed copy of an American classic.
Mark Twain's *Following The Equator*,
First Issue In Rare Publisher’s Morocco-Gilt

$5500.

Click for more info

First edition, first issue, of Twain's fifth and final travel book, handsome in rare publisher’s morocco-gilt.

Based on his 1895-96 lecture tour (undertaken to pay his debts) through Fiji, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, Mauritius and South Africa, *Following the Equator* was Twain's last travel book, and “also his most serious... He relates the narrative as himself... The serious tone in some ways makes this his best travel narrative” (MacDonnell, 53). First issue, with single imprint (Hartford) on title page. Early owner pencil inscription. Spine and corners lightly rubbed, joints a bit tender. A handsome copy, most scarce in the publisher's morocco-gilt.

“Truth is the most valuable thing we have. Let us economize it.”
Logic And Law For Elizabethans: An Important Shakespeare Source


Click for more info

First edition of Abraham Fraunce’s logical lawbook, a source for Shakespeare, with one folding plate, in contemporary calf.

The Elizabethan poet Abraham Fraunce was called to the bar in 1588, the year he published The Lawiers Logike. His patron was Sir Philip Sidney, and he was a friend of Edmund Spenser, who mentioned him in “Colin Clout’s Come Home Again” under the name of Corydon. The Lawiers Logike illuminates the science of logic by way of the practice of the common law. Dibdin called it “one of the most elegant and instructive volumes of philology with which I am acquainted,” and Rosenbach notes that it is “of great interest to the collector of Shakespeareana, as from the study of it the poet is supposed to have gained his legal knowledge” (Rosenbach, 38: 240). Leaf 2A2m, left uncancelled in some copies, is present but blank. Ex-libris Newport Public Libraries, with stamps including on title page and donation bookplate. Owner signature of Herbert Mackworth, baronet of Gnoll Castle, Glamorgan. Early ink owner signature on title page. Early ink shelf notations. Pencil bibliographical notations. Closed tears at stubs of folding plate, only a few spots of soiling to interior, a bit of wear and staining to binding, chip to head of spine. An extremely good copy.
Among The Most Important Novels In World Literature


Click for more info

First complete edition in English of one of the most important novels in world literature, six volumes, in beautiful original cloth-gilt binding.

Seven years in the writing, War and Peace is undeniably the greatest literary work relating to the Napoleonic wars. German novelist Thomas Mann noted of War and Peace, “The pure narrative power of his work is unequalled. Seldom did art work so much like nature.” Originally published in 1865-69, the novel was not translated into English until almost 20 years later. A London edition of War and Peace was also published in 1886, but omits several philosophical passages and the second epilogue; this Gottsberger edition is complete. A third edition, published by Harper and Brothers, also appeared in 1886. No priority is given among these editions. Dealer invoice from 1969 laid in. Text quite clean, just one signature expertly reinforced, cloth fresh, gilt bright. A stunning copy, most rare in such fine condition.

“The strongest of all warriors are these two—

Time and Patience.”
First American Edition Of Céline’s Debut Novel


Click for more info

First American edition, first printing, of Céline’s first novel, a semi-autobiographical masterpiece.

Widely acknowledged as a masterpiece, Céline’s semi-autobiographical novel traces one man’s life, from the First World War to colonial Africa and from the United States to Paris’ banlieues. “Boosted by his antiwar spleen and snarling at authority, Céline pulls off the trick of being Henry Miller, John Steinbeck and James Joyce all at the same time” (*The Guardian*). First published in French in 1932. The very scarce first edition in English was published the same year in Britain by Chatto & Windus (using Marks’ translation). Book about-fine, dust jacket with a bit of wear and toning mainly to extremities. A near-fine copy, most uncommon in collectable condition.

“The best thing to do when you’re in this world, don’t you agree, is to get out of it. Crazy or not, scared or not.”
“One Of The Most Famous 20th-Century Books Of All... A Must”

ELIOT, T.S. Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats. London, 1939. Octavo, original yellow cloth, dust jacket. $3600. Click for more info

First edition of one of T.S. Eliot’s most popular books, one of only 3005 copies printed, in the original dust jacket designed and drawn by Eliot.

It was fellow poet Ezra Pound who first gave the nickname “Old Possum” to Eliot, which Eliot thereafter used with his friends. “A classic from the day it was printed and today—partly because of the irrepressible musical, Cats—one of the most famous 20th-century books of all. This one is a must” (Joseph Connolly). Owner signature. Book with minor discoloration to endpapers and toning to cloth extremities. Dust jacket with a few spots of soiling, chipping to spine ends, split along spine joint, and toning to extremities. An extremely good copy.

The Most Important Poetic Work Of The 20th Century

ELIOT, T.S. The Waste Land. New York, 1922. Slim octavo, original black cloth, uncut. $3500. Click for more info

First edition, second impression, of one of the most important poems of the 20th century, one of only 1000 copies.

Perhaps the greatest and most important poetic work of the 20th century, Eliot’s Waste Land “came as a profound shock... Within less than a decade, The Waste Land had attained a kind of eminence from which it has never been dislodged” (Ackroyd, 127-28). There were 2000 copies of the first edition; this copy is one of the second 1000 copies printed, bound in stiff cloth, with the limitation number printed in type 2mm high. “Although called ‘Second Edition’ in the colophon, this is actually the second impression from the same setting of type as the first edition, but with a different colophon” (Gallup A6b). Without the “a” in mountain on page 41, line 339, which dropped out of the chase during printing. Without scarce glassine and dust jacket. A few minor paper repairs to roughly opened pages, expert reinforcement to text block, spine lightly faded on otherwise crisp cloth. A near-fine copy.

“Macavity, Macavity, there’s no one like Macavity, / He’s broken every human law, he breaks the law of gravity.”
“I simply state that I’m a product of a versatile mind in a restless generation — with every reason to throw my mind and pen in with the radicals.”

“So, Gentlemen, Consider All The Cocktails Mentioned In This Book Drunk By Me As A Toast…”

/5. FITZGERALD, F. Scott. This Side of Paradise. New York, 1920. Octavo, original green cloth. $15,000. Click for more info

First edition, third printing (issued the same month as the first, and the only printing with Fitzgerald’s signature), of Fitzgerald’s first novel, one of approximately 500 copies with the tipped-in “Author’s Apology” leaf boldly signed in pen: “Sincerely, F. Scott Fitzgerald.”

Prepared for an American Booksellers Association convention, Fitzgerald’s signed “Apology” reads: “I don’t want to talk about myself because I’ll admit I did that somewhat in this book. In fact, to write it took three months; to conceive it—three minutes; to collect the data in it—all my life... An author ought to write for the youth of his own generation, the critics of the next, and the schoolmasters of ever afterward. So, gentlemen, consider all the cocktails mentioned in this book drunk by me as a toast to the American Booksellers Association. May, 1920.” Contrary to his claim, Fitzgerald began writing the novel in 1917, revising it several times until Scribner’s accepted it for publication in 1919. Without rare dust jacket. Text with marginal stain to lower corner of last few leaves, front inner hinge expertly reinforced, cloth clean and near-fine.
“James Bond Is Back In Action!”


Click for more info

Beautiful 1964 United Artists movie poster for Goldfinger, the third James Bond film, the rarer matte-finished version, handsomely framed.

Released in 1964 and starring Sean Connery as James Bond, Goldfinger is widely regarded as one of the best James Bond films. The film went on to win two Oscars. There were two printings of this poster, produced by different printers in different parts of the country. This is the rarer “flat” or matte finish version, as opposed to the glossy, clay-coated stock printing. Pencil notation at bottom: “FD-3209” and “64/359.” A beautiful poster with only faint rubbing to fold lines, quite bright. About-fine.
“With Best Regards Dashiell Hammett”


Click for more info

First edition, first printing, of Hammett’s most famous and influential novel, inscribed two weeks before publication: “To Evelyn Austin with best regards Dashiell Hammett January 31, 1930.”

In 1995, the Mystery Writers of America ranked The Maltese Falcon second in its top 100 mystery novels of all time (first was Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes works). “This is possibly the best American detective novel ever written” (Crown Crime Companion: Top 100 Mystery Novels 2). Serially issued in five parts in Black Mask, 1929-30. Without extremely scare dust jacket. Any first edition of The Maltese Falcon, especially inscribed, is very desirable. Interior very fresh and crisp, light soiling to original cloth. A very rare inscribed copy.

“The cheaper the crook, the gaudier the patter.”
“After All, He Said To Himself, It Is Probably Only Insomnia. Many Must Have It”


Click for more info

First edition of arguably Hemingway’s finest collection of short stories, in original dust jacket.

This distinguished collection of 14 Hemingway stories—six of which make their first appearance here (although the dust jacket claims 9)—includes “A Natural History of the Dead” and “After the Storm”—“more imaginative than anything Hemingway has hitherto written” (New York Times). Of particular importance is “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place,” the brilliant short story that secured Hemingway’s reputation as “the modern American master of the [form]” (McCormick, 55-6). Book fine; slight edge-wear, small closed tear to lower front edge of bright near-fine dust jacket.

“You may not believe this. No one believes this, but it is true.”
Rare First Edition Of Hopkins' Poems, An Uncut And Unopened Copy


Click for more info

Rare first edition, one of only 750 copies, containing the first appearances of many of Hopkins’ poems, with two photogravure portraits and two double-page facsimiles.

Hopkins, widely considered the first modern poet, remained largely unappreciated in his lifetime. After converting to Catholicism from the Church of England, he entered the Jesuit order and resolved “to write no more.” Seven years later, when a shipwreck claimed the lives of five Franciscan nuns, Hopkins’ rector requested a poem in their honor. “The Wreck of the Deutschland” reversed Hopkins’ self-imposed silence. “Hopkins’ poetry... would have reduced all his Victorian contemporaries to immediate insignificance—like Rimbaud’s in France—had they but known of him” (Connolly, 33). After his death in 1889, his friend, the Poet Laureate Robert Bridges, began to publish a few of the poems individually, and in 1918, edited and published this first collected edition. Without very scarce dust jacket. Interior generally fine, only mild toning to extremities, slight rubbing to spine label. A beautiful about-fine copy.
“It’s A Perfectly Sanitary War”: First Edition Of Jones’ In Parenthesis, A Classic Of World War I Literature


Click for more info

First edition, first printing, of this epic poem about the First World War, lauded by Yeats, Eliot, and Auden in its time, and increasingly recognized as one of the great works of modernism, with two illustrations and a map by the author. One of 1500 copies printed.

Winner of the prestigious Hawthornden prize and lauded by Yeats and Eliot, In Parenthesis narrated the First World War from the perspective of John Ball, a private in an English-Welsh regiment, from his departure from Britain through the Battle of the Somme. Auden called In Parenthesis “the greatest book about the First World War,” while Graham Greene placed it “among the great poems of the century.” Book fresh and about-fine, dust jacket with closed tear along front flap fold, shallow wear to spine head, clean and near-fine. A lovely copy.

“For they were unseasoned, nor inured, not knowing this to be much less than the beginning of sorrow.”
First Separate Edition Of Kipling’s “If”


Click for more info

First separate edition (preceding the 1914 first separate English edition) of Kipling’s verse celebration of Victorian stoicism, in publisher’s scarce deluxe morocco binding.

Dr. Leander Starr Jameson visited Rudyard Kipling and his family in the fall of 1909. “After a shaky start as leader of failed military raid in 1895, Jameson had gone on to become one of the most respected South African prime ministers. Young John Kipling was very impressed by his father’s heroic friend. His son’s reaction and his own respect for Jameson were in his mind as Kipling penned the words to his famous poem, If” (Dalhousie University). First published in Rewards and Fairies (1910). Publisher’s note on page 5 appears in four different variants—priority unknown—this copy with Richards’ variant iv. Printed in black and red; copies also seen printed in black and green. Bookseller ticket. Small unobtrusive repair to base of spine, a bit of toning and one small spot to binding, slight bowing to boards. An extremely good copy.

“If you can dream—and not make dreams your master...”
Warmly Inscribed By Larry McMurtry To A Friend Who Worked In A Shop Near McMurtry's DC Bookstore


Click for more info

First edition of McMurtry’s popular third novel, warmly inscribed: “For Brian Curtiss—whose delicacy in regard to the feelings of harassed —— novelists is both admirable and rare—with my Best Wishes—Larry McMurtry. 1-8-72.”

In The Last Picture Show, “one of Larry McMurtry’s most powerful, memorable novels,” he introduced characters who would return in his later novels Texasville and Duane’s Depressed (Boston Globe). Dust jacket slightly short, but conforming to all first edition points. The inscribee, Brian Curtiss, was McMurtry’s friend as well as a shopkeeper who worked near Larry McMurtry’s Georgetown bookstore “Booked Up” at 31st and M Street. Booked Up closed in the mid-’90s and McMurtry opened his famous bookstore in Archer City, Texas. Book fine, dust jacket near-fine with only slight wear to extremities and mild toning to spine. A lovely and desirable inscribed copy.
“In The Places I Go There Are Things That I See That I Never Could Spell If I Stopped With The Z”


CLICK FOR MORE INFO

First edition of Seuss’ paean to free thinking.

“The story of the boy whose philosophy is ‘most people stop with the Z but not me!’ encapsulates all that has made Dr. Seuss so important and endearing. Fundamentally, the book posits the empowerment of children through the use of their imagination” (Cohen, 316). An exceptionally nice copy with only very mild wear to dust jacket, very faint pencil tracing of the word “Seuss” on the front panel.

“There’s no limit to how much you’ll know, depending how far beyond zebra you go.”
“It All Began With That Shoe On The Wall”

24. SEUSS, Dr., under the pseudonym LESIEG, Theo. **Wacky Wednesday.** New York, 1974. Octavo, original glazed pictorial yellow paper boards. $2750.

Click for more info

First edition of Seuss’ silly scavenger hunt, with text by him and color illustrations by George Booth.

Written under Geisel’s “Theo. LeSieg” pseudonym, **Wacky Wednesday** invites sharp-eyed young readers to discover increasing numbers of “mistakes” in George Booth’s whimsical illustrations, from one shoe on the wall to 20 impossibilities on the penultimate pages. Issued without dust jacket. Interior fine, binding with a bit of soiling and wear to foot of spine. A near-fine copy.

“You May Not Believe It, But Here’s How It Happened…”


Click for more info

First edition, first printing, of Dr. Seuss’ first Beginner Book, his whimsical tale of chain reactions, the first and only Seuss book issued under the pseudonym of Rosetta Stone, with color illustrations by Michael Frith.

When Geisel and Frith collaborated on this “adaptation of the theme of ‘because of the nail the shoe was lost’… [Frith] had a coauthor’s pride in it, but Ted was not sure he wanted to grace it with his own name.” And so “Rosetta Stone” was born. First printing, with complete number code “1-0” on copyright page. As issued without dust jacket. Interior fine, a bit of wear to top rear corner of bright pictorial boards. A nearly fine copy.
A “Foundational” Novel About America’s Imprisonment Of Japanese Americans In WWII, In The Highly Elusive Original Dust Jacket

**OKADA, John.** *No-No Boy.* Rutland, Vermont / Tokyo, Japan, 1957. Octavo, original half gray cloth, dust jacket, custom clamshell box. $10,500.

Click for more info

First edition of Okada’s only published novel, one of a very small number printed in English in postwar Japan in 1957, long forgotten until the 1971 first American edition issued after Okada’s death, an especially rare copy in the original dust jacket.

“The incarceration of Americans of Japanese descent during WWII has been widely recognized as one of the most egregious violations of civil and human rights in U.S. history.” At the time John Okada was a student at the University of Washington. His father was arrested soon after Order 9066 was signed, and Okada and his family would be held and “separated for almost six months, after which they were sent to a prison camp in Minidoka, Idaho” (Los Angeles Review of Books). In the camps, Okada and other Japanese American men of service age “were forced to complete a loyalty questionnaire that required them to declare allegiance to the U.S. or face imprisonment. It was in providing negative responses to the following two questions that a second-generation Japanese American [Nisei] earned the moniker of no-no boy. ‘27.) Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered? 28.) Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States... and forego any form of allegiance to the Japanese emperor...?’” (Trespassing Journal). Okada’s *No-No Boy*, his only novel, remains “an urtext of contemporary American literature” (Robinson, in John Okada, 237). A cornerstone work, it portrays the largely “unexpressed rage of the Nisei at their unjust imprisonment” (Abe, 4). *No-No Boy* was printed in Tokyo, in a very small printing of “1,500 in hardcover, with 1,500 softcover copies for sale only in Japan” (Abe, 89-92). Dust jacket front flap with price of $3.00 colored-over in red ink. Issued same year on wrappers, no priority determined. Book fine with only tiny stray mark to rear pastedown; small closed tear to lower edge of rear panel, lightest edge-wear to lightly toned spine of bright near-fine dust jacket. An exceptional copy.
First Edition Of The Godfather, Inscribed By Puzo


Click for more info

First edition of Puzo's Cosa Nostra classic, boldly inscribed: “For S— & B— Best Regard, Mario Puzo,” in original dust jacket.

Puzo's first two books, while critically praised, had sold only modestly. “With a family to support and deeply in debt to relatives, banks, and bookmakers, he decided to abandon ‘art’ and write a ‘commercial’ novel” (Godfather Papers, p. 34). “The Godfather... rapidly ascended the New York Times bestseller list... [and eventually] outsold every other novel of the 1970s” (ANB). Puzo co-wrote the screenplay for the 1972 film, which won three Oscars, including Best Screenplay Adaptation. Book fine; light edge-wear, closed tear to bright unrestored dust jacket.
“The Auspicious Beginning Of Williams’ Career As A Novelist”


**Click for more info**

*First edition of the elusive first novel by the National Book Award-winning writer—“a work of exquisite prose”—in the original dust jacket.*

In WWII, John Williams was a radio operator and co-pilot who was shot down near Burma. After barely surviving the crash, he began work on the manuscript of *Nothing but the Night* in the jungle. Set in the streets and cafés of Paris, *Nothing but the Night* marks “the auspicious beginning of Williams’ career as a novelist... With rare economy and clarity, the story moves at an ever-increasing pace to its unforgettable end” (*Partisan Review*). Text very fresh with only faint foxing to pastedowns and verso of lightly soiled dust jacket. A scarce near-fine copy.
Signed Limited Edition Of Yeats’  
Plays In Prose And Verse,  
One Of Only 250 Signed Copies


Click for more info

Signed limited first American edition, one of only 250 copies signed by Yeats.

This collection contains “Cathleen ni Houlihan,” “The Green Helmet,” and nine other plays by Yeats for Dublin’s Abbey Theatre. Shortly before his death, still wondering whether “Cathleen ni Houlihan” had played an instigating role in the Easter Rising, Yeats asked in his poem, “The Man and the Echo” (1938), “Did that play of mine / Send out certain men the English shot?” Without scarce slipcase. Text very fresh, only faint toning to spine, tiny bit of rubbing to rear board. A handsome about-fine copy.
Two Major Quaker Works In One Volume, Rare In Contemporary Sheep


First American edition of this collection of two key Quaker works, published by the printing firm of Benjamin Franklin and David Hall “on behalf of the Society of Friends” (Miller 655), featuring Scottish-born Barclay’s influential Treatise on Christian Discipline, issued under its original title of Anarchy of the Ranters (1676)—“one of the most impressive theological writings of the century”—with An Epistle (1726) by Irish-born Quaker Pike, rare in contemporary sheep.

Franklin and Hall’s publication of these two major Quaker works speaks to the political ties between Benjamin Franklin and the Quakers, as well as the signal importance of these writings. Authored by Scottish-born Robert Barclay, Anarchy was first published in Latin in 1676 and in English in 1678. It remains “one of the earliest formal statements of the position of the Society of Friends, and in many ways it remains the most important and impressive of Quaker manifestos” (Magill, 527). Accompanying Barclay’s Anarchy is Irish Quaker Joseph Pike’s Epistle to the National Meeting of Friends in Dublin. Pike, like Barclay, had accompanied William Penn on a European trip and was well known to Quaker founder George Fox, who described Pike as “zealous for truth, and sharp against apostates” (Leadbeater, 174). Pike’s Epistle first appeared in Dublin in 1726: in an edition similarly collected with Barclay’s Anarchy. Franklin and Hall also published each work in separate editions the same year, no priority established. As issued with separate title pages showing the same imprint, separate pagination and continuous signatures. Interior generally fresh with light marginal dampstaining.


Click for more info

First edition of this anonymous history of Britain's North American colonies, with large folding map by Peter Bell hand-colored in outline. Attractively bound.

This anonymous account traces the history of North America from its discovery to the British colonization of America and Canada. With separate chapters on the history of New England, the Massachusetts Bay colony, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana, as well as accounts of New Britain and Nova Scotia. No title page in second volume, apparently as issued. Very minor occasional spotting to text, minor discoloration to rear cover. A near-fine copy, attractively bound.
“I Would Have The Constitution Torn To Shreds And Scattered To The Four Winds Of Heaven”

Click for more info

Rare 1848 expanded edition of William Wells Brown’s first autobiography.

Brown, who escaped slavery in 1834, shared with Frederick Douglass a similar early history and a friendship that occasionally spiraled into rivalry. Brown’s Narrative, a seminal Black autobiography, “earned him international fame... exceeded in popularity and sales only by the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)” (Oxford Companion to African American Literature, 106). Despite the text’s printed “Note,” calling this a “Third Edition,” this is the second edition overall, preceded by the 1847 first edition and its second printing. Interior generally fresh with light scattered foxing, occasional soiling, faint dampstaining to front wrapper.

Pioneering First Edition Of William Wells Brown’s American Fugitive In Europe, 1855

Click for more info

First edition of Brown’s substantially revised and expanded Three Years in Europe (1853), newly titled as American Fugitive in Europe with 12 new chapters, issued within months of his return from years of exile, with striking engraved frontispiece portrait, especially elusive in original cloth.

Brown’s Three Years in Europe (1852), “one of his most significant” works, further asserts his resolve to be, in his words, a soldier “against the prison-house of slavery.” Contemporary owner inscription. Interior generally fresh with trace of soiling, light foxing mainly to early leaves, trace of edge-wear, scant bit of toning to rear board of bright gilt-stamped unrestored cloth. A very scarce near-fine copy.
Wonderful Photographic Portrait Of Abraham Lincoln
By Acclaimed Photographer Alexander Hesler, Handsomely Framed.


Click for more info

Striking photographic portrait of Abraham Lincoln shot by photographer Alexander Hesler at his Chicago studio, handsomely framed.

This is one of only two images of Lincoln shot by Alexander Hesler on June 3, 1860 in his Chicago studio. "Alexander Hesler, a noted commercial photographer based in Chicago, arranged two portrait sessions with Lincoln, in 1858 and 1860. The images from their first session displayed the presidential candidate with disordered and messy hair. During the subsequent election campaign, the Republican National Committee grew concerned that Lincoln might appear unkempt compared to his opponent, Stephen A. Douglas. Hesler therefore produced this more dapper and well-groomed representation of the candidate at the second sitting...

In this first presidential campaign to employ photographs, the decision to make Lincoln a familiar face may well have swayed voters. The artist George B. Ayers purchased Hesler’s studio in 1867, a move that saved its contents from being destroyed when the gallery burned down in the Chicago Fire of 1871. Ayers later reprinted Hesler’s glass plate negatives, claiming this image as the ‘Original and Best Picture of Abraham Lincoln,’ essential for any collector of portraits or Lincoln memorabilia” (Art Institute of Chicago). This image was printed by George Ayers of Philadelphia circa 1880 from the original negatives. Notation on verso reading: “Copyright by George B. Ayres Phila.” Expected emulsion loss along the edge, unobtrusive closed tear above Lincoln’s head, and light scattered specks, minor cracking to frame. A handsome near-fine photographic portrait of Lincoln.
Beautiful Complete “Shoulder Strap” Set Of Civil War Memoirs, Including Those Of Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan And McClellan, Each Issued By Mark Twain’s Publishing Company


Click for more info

Complete Shoulder Strap set of seven Civil War histories printed by Twain’s publishing house in its short-lived but impressive decade of operation, featuring Grant’s Memoirs (1885-6), McClellan’s Own Story (1887), Crawford’s Genesis of the Civil War (1887), Custer’s Tenting on the Plains (1889), Hancock’s Reminiscences (1887), Sheridan’s Personal Memoirs (1888), Sherman’s Memoirs (1892)—as well as Adam Badeau’s biography Grant in Peace (1888), not published by Webster but in a binding uniform with the rest of the set—each volume with the trademark gilt-decorated “shoulder strap” on the spine.

This exceptiona eleven-volume “Shoulder Strap” series is named for each work’s gilt-decorated spine band that evokes the stars on an officer’s “shoulder strap.” Featuring the finest of contemporary Civil War histories, this series pays tribute to Mark Twain’s brief but impressive venture into publishing. Most volumes first editions, with the “shoulder strap” editions of Tenting on the Plains (first published 1887) and Sherman’s Memoirs (enlarged fourth edition, with revisions by Sherman, of the 1875 first edition). With frontispiece portraits, illustrated with numerous steel engravings and maps (many folding). Bookplate in Badeau; owner signature in Grant’s Memoirs, Volume II. Endpapers of Sheridan’s Memoirs tanned; front inner paper hinges of McClellan’s Own Story, Volume II of Sherman’s Memoirs and Tenting on the Plains tender, bindings sound; Tenting cloth with some discoloration. Interiors generally clean, minor rubbing to cloth extremities, cloth clean, gilt bright. Overall a desirable set, especially rare complete with the Hancock edition.
"The Most Beautiful Lithographs Possible":
89 Color Plates Of The Flags Carried
By The U.S. Army During The Civil War,
Handsomely Bound Folio Volume

37 (CIVIL WAR) UNITED STATES ARMY. Flags of the
Army of the United States Carried During the War of
the Rebellion, 1861-1865, to Designate the Headquarters
of the Different Armies, Army Corps, Divisions and
Brigades. Philadelphia, 1887. Folio, publisher’s three-
quarter brown morocco sympathetically rebacked. $8800.
Click for more info

First edition, publisher’s special large folio edition containing
two additional chromolithographed plates of Regimental
Colors and the Engineer Battalion, along with the lithographed
title and 87 chromolithographed plates designating flags
carried by the U.S. Army during the Civil War.

This special edition features two full-page color lithographs
of flags, a double-page Tabular Statements title page
and a 12-page Index, along with the separate title page
for Flags of the Army of the United States and its “87 full
pages of the most beautiful lithographs possible, so fine
that not only the colors but the textures and fabrics are
clearly distinguishable” (Bennett, 42). With a total of 89
chromolithographed folio plates. Interior clean, a few page
edges just a bit roughly handled. Binding fine and attractive.
“The Grandfather Of Civil War Histories”


Click for more info

Second edition set of Miller’s famous and important 10-volume photographic history of the Civil War, containing “thousands of scenes photographed 1861-65, with text by many special authorities.” Splendidly bound in the very scarce publisher’s morocco.

“This mammoth work... a necessary part of any civil war library,” contains contributions from over 39 eminent individuals, including academicians, President William H. Taft, and veteran officers of both Confederate and Union forces, many of whom wrote from personal experience. A number of the photographs, previously unpublished, are from the collections of private individuals, including the extensive Eldridge Collection of Mathew Brady Civil War photographs” (Everitt). Fine condition.

Click for more info

First edition, presentation copy, of the Harlem Renaissance classic, inscribed to a famous sports columnist and short story writer: “For Ring W. Lardner with sincere regards—James Weldon Johnson.”

Poet, novelist, civil rights leader, lawyer and lyricist, James Weldon Johnson edited The Book of American Negro Spirituals. Johnson’s book “ensured lasting respect for the spirituals and conservation of their words and music” (New Grove 18:5). With scores and lyrics of 61 spirituals such as “Go Down Moses,” “Nobody Knows De Trouble I See” and “Roll Jordan, Roll.” Without dust jacket. This copy is inscribed to popular author Ring Lardner, known as both a sports columnist and a short story writer. While Lardner was modest about his abilities, authors including Ernest Hemingway, Virginia Woolf, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and John O’Hara considered Lardner to be one of the most talented writers of his day. Lardner has also had an impressive cultural presence: he was the model for Abe in Tender Is the Night; he was mentioned in both The Catcher in the Rye and Franny and Zooey; and he was even referenced in Brighton Beach Memoirs. Lardner was well known for his love of music and theater and Johnson’s book would have fallen squarely within his interests. In fact, he threw a (controversial) party in Great Neck to honor Rosamond Johnson, the Harlem Renaissance composer and writer of “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” who also did most of the arrangements for this book. Occasional scattered foxing mainly to endpapers, light rubbing to extremities. A near-fine copy, with outstanding provenance.
Signed By George And Ira Gershwin


**Click for more info**

*Important mimeographed contract leasing Porgy and Bess rights to Europe, signed by author DuBose Hayward, Theatre Guild representative Warren P. Munsell, and composers George and Ira Gershwin. The Sang copy.*

This contract leases the rights to *Porgy and Bess* to the International Play Bureau in Great Britain and on the Continent in exchange for 8% weekly box office royalties later increasing to 10%. Interestingly, the author’s royalties (75% of the total) are distributed unequally, with George Gershwin securing 50%, DuBose Heyward securing 40%, and Ira Gershwin securing just 10%. Due to his untimely death in 1937, George Gershwin did not live to see a European production of *Porgy and Bess.* However, he likely would have been horrified to know that the first European production was staged in Copenhagen in 1943—during the Nazi occupation—with an all-white cast performing in blackface. From the celebrated Elsie O. and Philip D. Sang collection of Americana, one of the most impressive libraries of Americana assembled in the 20th century. Pencil file notations to top margin including: “150. file Heyward Old Contract re P&B.” Tiny red pen notation to bottom margin: “112a.” Red line under “signatories” in contract. Two small marginal chips, a few small closed marginal tears, faint folding creases. Extremely good condition, most desirable signed by George and Ira Gershwin.
“Selected Statistics For The 120,313 Persons Of Japanese Descent Who Came Under The Jurisdiction Of The War Relocation Authority”


Click for more info

First edition of this extensive and revealing compilation of statistics about the Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II, with folding table, in the original wrappers.

This statistical compilation regarding Japanese Americans interned during World War II includes demographic comparisons to the U.S. population as a whole. For example, the folding table shows that the internees were disproportionately of military age, between 15 and 24 years old, as compared to the U.S. population as a whole. Also of interest are the tables showing the population of each of the camps, by month, during the war (Table 6); county-by-county totals of the persons interned at each of the camps (Table 19); the number of men who joined the army after internment, by camp (Table 49); the tabulation of responses to the loyalty oath “Question 28” (Section IX); and the report on the “renunciants” who refused to declare loyalty to the U.S. after they were interned (Sections X and XI). This report also documents the thousands of Japanese who protested their internment, many of whom were relocated to Tule Lake in remote northeastern California as a result. Interior clean. three shallow closed tears to outer edges of wrappers. Near-fine in original wrappers. Scarce and important.
Inscribed By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
“To My Good Friend Alfred Waller”

42. KING, Martin Luther, Jr. Stride Toward Freedom. The Montgomery Story.  
New York, 1958. Octavo, original half black cloth, dust jacket.  
$10,500.

Click for more info

First edition, early printing (one month after the first),  
of Dr. King’s first book, an account of the Montgomery  
bus strike, inscribed by the civil rights leader with his  
bold flourish: “To my good friend Alfred Waller with  
Best Wishes Martin L. King Jr.”

In his first book, King presents a full and personal  
account of the bus strike in Montgomery, Alabama.  
With eight pages of black-and-white photographs.  
Early printing, with publisher’s code “I-H” on  
copyright page, indicating that it was printed in  
September, 1958, one month after the August, 1958  
first printing. Recipient Rev. Alfred Waller was the  
pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church in Cleveland,  
Ohio. Book with some faint dampstaining, spotting  
to endpapers, and edge-wear, very good. Price-  
clipped dust jacket with mild rubbing, toning to  
spine. Extremely good condition.
“With Appreciation From His Old Friend Lyndon B. Johnson”


Click for more info


This powerful presidential address was Lyndon Johnson’s first before the Joint Congress. The address combines a eulogy for JFK (“The greatest leader of our time has been struck down by the foulest deed of our time”) with a call to achieve JFK’s dreams for progress and improvement. Above all, Johnson’s carefully crafted address was a promise of continuity—that the U.S. would honor the commitments made by JFK both at home and abroad. The address was published with a page featuring a printed note of gratitude by Johnson with a stamped signature. Black-and-white photographic portrait of Johnson on the telephone affixed above his inscription. A bit of wear around cords, mild toning mainly to inner margins and top edge of wrappers. An extremely good inscribed copy.
Inscribed By Black Panther Co-Founder Huey P. Newton


Click for more info

First edition of this early collection of writings by Newton, co-founder of the Black Panther Party, boldly inscribed: “For R— my own voice and the voice of the People finding the clarity of our situation, From Huey.”

Newton, who co-founded the Black Panther Party in 1966 with Bobby Seale, was “one of the most charismatic symbols of black anger in the late 1960s” (New York Times). Newton’s “flamboyance, vision, and passion came to symbolize an entire era” (ANB). Includes over 30 speeches, mandates, resolutions, eulogies and public statements, along with 16 pages of black-and-white photographic illustrations. A fine copy.
Beautiful Color Lithographic Portrait Of John F. Kennedy, One Of 2500 Copies Signed By Norman Rockwell


Click for more info

Poignant 11-color lithograph of John F. Kennedy, one of 2500 prints signed by Norman Rockwell, in original morocco portfolio featuring the presidential seal and Kennedy’s and Rockwell’s facsimile signatures in gilt. Accompanied by a collector’s booklet and a certificate of authenticity.

In 1960, Norman Rockwell was commissioned by The Saturday Evening Post to execute portraits of presidential candidates John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. “To prepare for the painting of Kennedy, Rockwell arranged to pose and photograph Kennedy at his home in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts... The portrait was published on the October 29, 1960 cover of The Saturday Evening Post, and again, bordered with a black band of mourning for the slain President, on December 14, 1963” (Norman Rockwell Museum). This lithographic print was issued just two years before Rockwell’s death. Interestingly, the lithography for this piece was done using a driography process invented by 3M. While the process was abandoned due to the problems producing the expensive ink required and the weakness of the plates, this remains a beautiful example of what driography could accomplish under ideal conditions. The print is accompanied by a staple-bound collector’s booklet and a certificate of authenticity signed by Robert A. Drew, Director of American Heritage Graphics, in a lovely binding matching the portfolio. A beautiful portrait, signed by Norman Rockwell.
Sir John Skelton’s Richly Illustrated Life Of Mary Queen Of Scots, 1893, Splendid Folio Volume Bound In Full Morocco-Gilt


Click for more info

Limited first edition of Skelton’s sumptuous work, one of only 300 copies, with splendid full-color frontispiece portrait and 41 etchings and photogravures, this copy with each plate in double-suite, handsomely bound by Zaehnsdorf with gilt-stamped armorial insignias of Mary Queen of Scots on both covers and thistles on the spine and covers.

In this beautifully illustrated folio volume, Sir John Skelton chronicles the life of the doomed Mary Queen of Scots, from her royal birth at Linlithgow Palace in 1542 to her execution in the reign of Elizabeth I in 1587. This is one of 100 copies printed for America; the other 200 were destined for sale in Europe. Bookplate of the Earl of Dartmouth; ink gilt inscription. Interior clean and fine; rear cover with two indentations, gilt bright. An about-fine copy of this lovely illustrated volume, with a nice provenance.

“The Fates Said To Them Be Kings Of Talent, But Not Of Talent Enough” (Thomas Carlyle)


Click for more info

Signed limited first “Edition de Luxe,” one of only 175 copies signed by the author, with two hand-colored frontispiece portraits, over 90 folio plates (two hand-colored), and numerous in-text illustrations, beautifully bound by Zaehnsdorf.

“In the following pages an attempt is made to illustrate the characters, the persons, and some of the surroundings of the principal members of this ill-fated house.” Although focused on portraiture, the plates also include maps, scenes, and document facsimiles. Issued the same year in New York in both trade and limited editions, as in London. Fine condition.
Chappuzeau’s The History Of Jewels, 1671 First Edition In English—The Copy Of Charles Mordaunt, Earl Of Petersborough And Monmouth


Click for more info

First edition in English of this rare and important early work, which provides some of the first reliable information on the international jewelry trade, with information on trade in America and the West Indies and mining in Peru.

Chappuzeau’s survey includes chapters on diamonds; on colored stones, such as rubies, emeralds and opals; on pearls; on coral; on amber; and on metals, ambergris, bezoar, indigo and other valuable luxury goods. First published in French, in Geneva, 1665. Engraved armorial bookplate of army officer and diplomatist Sir Charles Mordaunt, third earl of Petersborough and first earl of Monmouth (1658-1735). “Irritating and inscrutable to some, a romantic hero to others, Peterborough became a notable figure in English political, military, naval, diplomatic, literary, and gardening history” (ODNB). Interior generally clean, front joint starting, with small loss at spine head, cords holding. A very good copy of this scarce title, especially desirable in contemporary calf, with a nice provenance.
Very Rare 1713 Assiento Granting Britain
A Monopoly In The Slave Trade

49. (SLAVE TRADE) The Assiento, or, Contract for Allowing to the Subjects of Great Britain the Liberty of Importing Negroes into the Spanish America. London, 1713. Quarto, full period-style full red morocco gilt. $16,000.

Click for more info

First edition of the extremely rare 1713 Assiento that stands at the heart of the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, granting Britain a highly coveted 30-year monopoly contract for trafficking in slaves—“the greatest prize, the El Dorado of commerce”—that shifted European power and firmly established British rule over the 18th-century slave trade.

This rare 1713 printing of the Asiento [spelled “Assiento” in the title] marks a defining shift in slave trade. As the chief contract accompanying the 1713 Treaty in Utrecht, it gave Britain its “greatest prize, the El Dorado of commerce... the endlessly sought-after contract (asiento) to import slaves.” This “pursuit of the ideal monopoly contract (asiento) for trading slaves was as vain as the search for a Fountain of Eternal Youth.” William Pitt the Younger declared in 1791 that “No nation in Europe... has... plunged so deeply into this guilt as Great Britain” (Thomas, 227-55). The Asiento consists of 42 articles, printed with Spanish and English text in parallel columns, outlining duties to be paid on slaves, slave transport (i.e. on English or Spanish ships), and specific contractual prohibitions and conditions. First edition, one of two issues identified by the ESTC as printed in 1713, no priority established. Dedication leaf trimmed a little closely, not affecting legibility; minor foxing to last few leaves. Near-fine condition.
William Ireland's Illustrated *Life Of Napoleon Bonaparte*, With Splendid Folding Hand-Colored Plates By Cruikshank


Click for more info

*First edition, second issue, of the first illustrated life of Napoleon printed in England, with 27 folding engravings and aquatint plates (24 fully hand-colored) by George Cruikshank, handsomely bound.*

This lavish work, originally issued in parts, includes views of battles, Napoleon’s marshals, portraits of Napoleon in military and imperial attire, and a facsimile of his 1814 letter of abdication.

The original parts (Volumes I-III, 1823-27) were published under Fairburn’s imprint; Volume IV (1828) was published by Cumberland, who inset his engraved titles, all dated 1828. This set is the second (Cumberland) issue, with the four 1828 Cumberland engraved title pages. Owner pencil signature. Text and plates clean and fine, hand-coloring vivid, expert restoration to some joints and spine ends. A handsome set in near-fine condition.
With The Owner Signature And Inscription Of Leading 19th-Century Black Author, Lawyer, Publisher And Civil Rights Leader, John Wesley Cromwell


Click for more info

Limited first edition of the English abolitionist’s major work, one of an unspecified number in publisher’s morocco, a rare association copy featuring the owner signature and inscription of 19th-century Black leader John Wesley Cromwell: “Bought in London by Otelia Cromwell when visiting that city during the first month of the great war—a present to her father,” additionally signed below by his granddaughter Adelaide Cromwell Hill.

One of Britain’s preeminent 19th-century abolitionists, Armistead was president of the Leeds Anti-Slavery Association and the chief financial backer for the Anti-Slavery Advocate. Armistead provided sanctuary for fugitive slaves from the U.S. in the 1840s and 50s, and a platform for African Americans such as Frederick Douglass and William Wells Brown, who praised Armistead for hastening “the day of the slave’s liberation.” *Tribute to the Negro*, his major work, brings together biographies of over 50 Africans, African Americans, and figures of African descent. Interior very fresh with minimal archival repair to margins of preliminary leaves, expert reinforcement to spine ends and corners of bright original morocco. A handsome near-fine copy of this seminal work with a distinguished African American provenance.
Illustrated Biography Of Queen Victoria, Finely Bound


Click for more info

First edition of this magnificent biography of Queen Victoria, illustrated with 41 photogravure and engraved plates, including color frontispiece portrait, beautifully bound in full crimson morocco by Palmer Howe.

Richard Holmes served as the Librarian of Windsor Castle and wrote this largely personal biography to refute the “many little myths” which had grown up around Victoria’s life; this work was published four years before her death in 1901. Half title with contemporary gift inscription. Frontispiece with “Victoria 1897” in an unidentified hand below portrait. Mere trace of edge-wear to bright-gilt binding. A splendid copy in fine condition.
"The Last Great Asian Explorer": Hedin’s Monumental Multi-Volume Southern Tibet, Profusely Illustrated With Many Hundreds Of Maps And Plates


[Click for more info](#)

First edition of this extraordinary and lavish production by one of the greatest explorers of the 20th century, profusely illustrated with many hundreds of maps—many of which are folding, folio, or in color—charts, photographs and tables. With the very scarce prospectus, and with original wrappers bound in.

“Genuine claimant to the title of the last great Asian explorer... Hedin galloped headlong against the physical challenge of unknown Asia as though he were entering the lists of a tournament. He was the sort of man who was drawn irresistibly by the blank on the map” (Severin). Volume V is entirely in German; sections of Volumes VII, VIII and IX are also in German; the rest of the text is entirely in English. With the extremely rare prospectus—which itself contains numerous maps and photographs and a helpful summary of the contents of each volume—laid into the first folio volume. Quarto volumes with original wrappers bound in. Fine condition. A stunning and rare work.
Thoughts And Adventures In Scarce Original Dust Jacket


Click for more info

First edition of this fine collection of essays, with photographic frontispiece portrait, illustrated with seven political cartoons, in original cloth and with scarce original dust jacket.

“The broadest range of Churchill’s thought between hard covers, Thoughts and Adventures comprises essays on a vast array of subjects, attesting not only to the breadth of the author’s comprehension but of his personal experience” (Langworth, 156). Book leaning slightly with only minor rubbing to edges, fragile dust jacket with slight soiling, one spine fold split is reinforced on verso, and a bit of wear to extremities affecting a few letters of spine title. An extremely good copy. Scarce.

“They May Be The Last Word Upon The War”: First Editions Of Churchill’s War Speeches, Handsomely Bound

55 CHURCHILL, Winston. Collection of World War II speeches: Into Battle; The Unrelenting Struggle; The End of the Beginning; Onwards to Victory; The Dawn of Liberation; Victory; Secret Session Speeches. London, 1941-46. Seven volumes. Octavo, modern full navy morocco gilt. $4000.

Click for more info

First editions of Churchill’s separately published World War II speeches, handsomely bound.

Churchill’s speeches “constitute a contemporary history of the war which is as lively as it is authoritative; and, so far as contemporary history is of value, they may be said to be the last word upon the war” (Randolph S. Churchill). With 50 half-tone photographic plates, including frontispieces. Into Battle second state, with page number “78” present. The Unrelenting Struggle second state, with page number “281” regular. Victory first state, with page number “177” incorrectly printed as “77.” Secret Session Speeches first English edition, preceded by the American edition. Edges and a few leaves lightly foxed. A fine set.
“I Was Not Born With A Hunger To Be Free. I Was Born Free”: Inscribed By Nelson Mandela

Click for more info

First American edition, first printing, of the stirring autobiography of the esteemed Nobel Peace Prize winner and South Africa’s first black president, inscribed: “To Micheal, Best Wishes, NMandela 6.4.2000.”

“The Nelson Mandela who emerges from his memoir... is considerably more human than the icon of legend... Mandela is, on the evidence of his amazing life, neither a messiah nor a moralist nor really a revolutionary but a pragmatist to the core, a shrewd balancer of honor and interests” (*New York Times*). This edition was issued simultaneously in England and the United States and in the same year as a South African edition. Illustrated with 24 pages of black-and-white photographs. With a laid-in note explaining that the book was inscribed after a lecture delivered by Mandela at the London School of Economics. Fine condition.
The Costume Of The Russian Empire, With 73 Hand-Colored Folio Plates

MILLER, William. The Costume of the Russian Empire, Illustrated by a Series of Seventy-Three Engravings with Descriptions in English and French. London, 1803 (i.e. 1811). Folio (10-1/2 by 14 inches), contemporary full straight-grained maroon morocco gilt rebacked with original spine laid down. $3800.

Click for more info

Early 19th-century re-issue by John Stockdale, with 73 brightly hand-colored stipple-engraved plates by J. Dadley. Costume of the Russian Empire was one of a series of six costume books published by William Miller over a four-year period. The plates for this edition were copied from a series of engravings begun at Petersburg in 1776 and finished in 1779 under the care and at the expense of C.W. Müller, for J.G. Georgi’s work Beschreibung, “at the request of the late empress.” Text in English and French, with a separate title page in each language. The popularity of Miller’s books created a demand for successive re-publications— though the title page of this copy states 1803 (the year of the first edition), this is actually a re-issue, with the French title page dated 1811 and watermarks dated 1811 (text) and 1817 (plates). Evidence of bookplate removal. Only occasional patches of foxing and faint offsetting of plates to text, light expert restoration to extremities of contemporary morocco binding. A near-fine copy.
With 184 Beautifully Hand-Colored Folio Engravings Of French Costume, Arms, Instruments, Furnishings And Architectural Details


Click for more info

*First edition of this wonderful collection of masterpieces of French decorative arts culled from early medieval to late Renaissance, with 300 intricately detailed folio engraved plates, 184 of them with brilliant and delicate hand-coloring.*

Willemin was the first to provide such accurate illustrations of French mediaeval decorative art and his finely engraved and colored plates both reflected and influenced contemporary taste. This “intriguing” and ambitious work (Brunet), begun in 1806 and issued in parts, had reached its 49th part by the time of Willemin’s death in 1833; it fell to his daughter to arrange the engravings of the final plates and commission the descriptive and historical text by André Pottier. The whole was published in two folio volumes in 1839; the present copy contains two additional hand-colored engraved title pages, one dated 1806, and a hand-colored vignette title page dated 1825, in addition to the two letterpress 1839 title pages. Text in French. Armorial bookplates. Interiors fine, plates vividly and finely hand-colored, light wear and expert restoration to attractive contemporary bindings. A lovely, uncut copy of this beautifully illustrated work. Scarce.


Click for more info

Splendid limited large-paper edition of this treasury of English costume beginning with the Saxons, illustrated with 153 hand-colored copper-engraved plates of costumes, armor, seals, and everyday objects—one of only 25 copies additionally highlighted in gold and silver, handsomely bound in three-quarter morocco-gilt.

Strutt’s superb plates reproduce portraits of English personages from illuminated manuscripts in the British Museum and the Bodleian Library, along with richly hand-colored reproductions of the costumes, arms, seals, and other interesting objects particular to various English peoples from the time of the Saxons to the close of the 17th century. First published in 1796-99, this “new and improved edition” was issued with 153 plates, in both uncolored and hand-colored versions; of the hand-colored version, only 25 were produced with additional highlighting in gold—as in this copy. Early dealer description tipped to front free endpaper. Only mild foxing to first few and last few (blank) leaves of each volume, text and plates generally quite clean and fine, hand-coloring vivid, gilt bright, contemporary binding handsome. An excellent copy of this superb production.
“Phantasmal Voices Of The Golden Age”: Echoes Of Hellas, Signed By Walter Crane


Signed limited first edition of these English adaptations of Homer and Aeschylus, with each of its 82 pages designed and illustrated by Crane in black and red on handmade paper, and with covers and endpapers also decorated by Crane—this copy number 145 of an unknown limitation signed by Crane. Complete with companion volume of music written to accompany the text, signed at a later date (1901) by principal composer Otto Goldschmidt.

George Warr composed his play The Tale of Troy using selections from the Iliad and the Odyssey, which he translated and adapted for the stage. The Story of Orestes is an abridged version of the Orestean Trilogy. Both were first performed at the Prince’s Hall, Piccadilly, in 1886, accompanied by music that was then arranged for pianoforte and printed as Volume II. Several of Crane’s illustrations are based loosely on the stage designs and scenic decorations used at Prince’s Hall. “The extent to which some of Crane’s books of the late 1880s and 1890s embody Art Nouveau motifs has given them a considerable vogue in recent years” (Ray, 151). Bookplates. Minor offsetting from illustrations, original generally vellum quite clean, gilt bright. A superb signed set. Scarce.
Walter Crane On The Evolution Of Book Illustration, With 150 Splendid Examples, One Of Only 130 Copies On Japanese Vellum—Beautifully Bound In Full Morocco-Gilt By The Club Bindery


Limited first edition of Walter Crane’s delightful survey of book illustration from the dawn of printing through the renewed interest in the art of the woodcut, with 150 illustrations, most full-page, one of only 130 finely printed at the Chiswick Press on Japanese vellum—a splendid uncut copy beautifully bound in full morocco-gilt the year following publication by the renowned Club Bindery.

“This book is the most interesting of Crane’s writings on decorative art. In the first three chapters, taken from lectures delivered in 1889, he offers a historical survey of ‘decorative treatment’ as opposed to ‘pictorial statement’ in the illustration of books... Among the abundant illustrations to this part of the book are six wood engravings by Edward Calvert printed from the original blocks. Chapter 4, written six or seven years later, offers a valuable pioneering survey of recent English illustration and its influence in Europe... A final chapter sums up his general principles of book design” (Ray). Bookplate. Just a hint of rubbing to extremities only. A fine copy of this beautifully bound and richly illustrated volume.
One Of Rackham’s Most Sought-After Titles:
His Illustrated Mother Goose, Signed By Him,
Beautifully Bound At The Chelsea Bindery


Click for more info

Signed limited edition, one of 1130 copies signed by Rackham, with 13 splendid color plates mounted on brown stock and 85 in-text line cuts, beautifully bound in full green morocco-gilt at the Chelsea Bindery.

“I think most of the best known are here. I have chosen those I knew and liked best in my own nursery days” (Rackham). Includes “Jack Sprat,” “Little Miss Muffett,” “Jack and Jill,” “Little Bo Peep,” “The House that Jack Built” and others. Plates bright and fine, scattered foxing to interior, binding fine. A beautiful copy.
The DiMaggio Albums, One Of Only 700 Sets Signed By DiMaggio


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Signed limited first edition, one of 700 sets signed by DiMaggio. A fine copy preserved in the original packaging.

This two-volume commemorative album contains over 800 pages of newspaper accounts, photos and reproductions of memorabilia from DiMaggio’s incomparable career, with an introduction and commentary by DiMaggio himself, and signed by him. A fine signed copy.
The Most Famous Photograph Of Muhammad Ali,
One Of Only 350 Signed By Both Ali And Photographer Neil Leifer

64  (ALI, Muhammad) LEIFER, Neil. Large original color photograph signed. No place, photograph printed on November 8, 1993. Poster-sized photographic print, measuring 20 by 24 inches; matted and framed, entire piece measures 29 by 30 inches. $7500.

Extraordinary poster-size color photograph of Muhammad Ali towering over a knocked-out Sonny Liston during their May 25, 1965, championship match—generally considered one of the greatest sports photographs of all time—one of only 350 copies signed by Ali and the photographer Neil Leifer.

Ali was a heavy underdog when he met Sonny Liston for the heavyweight championship on February 25, 1964, at Miami Beach, FL, but he won the fight when Liston failed to come out for the 8th round, claiming a shoulder injury. In the very first minute of the first round of their May 25, 1965, rematch at Lewiston, ME, Ali knocked Liston out with a punch that few observers even saw, and only photographer Neil Leifer managed to capture the moment perfectly. With certificates of authenticity documenting the original edition and the date (October 14, 1996) on which Ali signed the piece. Fine condition.
Scientific And Tactical Treatise On American Football For Schools And Colleges, 1893, Inscribed By Amos Alonzo Stagg


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Scarce first edition of one of the first and most important works on American football, with numerous play diagrams, inscribed by co-author Amos Alonzo Stagg: “To our staunch supporters of athletics at the University of Chicago. Gratefully, A.A. Stagg.”

“Stagg coached football, as well as baseball and track, at the University of Chicago for 40 years, until he was forced to retire at the age of seventy in 1932. His contributions to athletics in general and football in particular will probably never be matched... Stagg is unquestionably one of the great figures in the history of football” (ANB). Without very rare dust jacket. Expert reinforcement to front inner hinge, only modest wear to cloth extremities and light darkening to spine. An excellent copy.
The First American Book On Golf


*Click for more info*

*First edition of the first book to be published in the United States on golf, an essential work in any collection of golf books.*

Lee’s instructional manual was printed just as the Scottish sport was catching on in this country. The year 1895 saw the first official United States golf championships; the USGA formed the year before. With chapters on the origins of golf, its history in the United States, and rules of the game, illustrated with photographic plates. Interior generally fine, moderate soiling to cloth, wear to spine end, and mild toning to spine. A very good copy.
“One Of The Fine Books In The Golf Library”


Click for more info

First edition of this golf classic, with 64 fine plates (48 in color) after original watercolors by Harry Rountree depicting renowned Scottish, English and Irish courses.

Bernard Darwin, grandson of Charles Darwin, is one of the most highly regarded golf writers of all times. “Thanks to Bernard, golf has acquired the sturdiest literature of any game. The best is Darwin’s... because he showed the writers who came after him how golf should be written” (H.W. Wind). “The illustrations, from original water colors, help to make this one of the fine books in the golf library, setting a high standard of excellence that Mr. Darwin would never fail to meet in his later books” (Murdoch 181). Without rarely found dust jacket. Plates generally fine, scattered foxing to interior, front inner paper hinge split, only minor rubbing to extremities, gilt bright. A handsome copy in near-fine condition.

Bernard Darwin’s First Collection Of Golf Columns, 1912


Click for more info

First edition of Darwin’s first collection of anecdotes taken from his column in The Times.

Bernard Darwin was golf correspondent of *The Times* for nearly 50 yars. “When he began to write, golf reporting was little more in the daily press than a list of figures at the bottom of a column; by the time of his retirement he had turned it into a branch of literary journalism” (DNB). This is the first collection of Darwin’s *Times* articles in book form. Tiny bookseller ticket. Slight foxing to edges of text block, a couple tiny bumps to book edges, slight rubbing and soiling to cloth, gilt bright. An extremely good copy.
“The Father Of Modern Linguistics”


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*First edition of Chomsky’s elusive first book—a very nice copy in the original dust jacket.*

Noam Chomsky is “the father of modern linguistics and remains the field’s most influential practitioner... Mr. Chomsky’s introduction of his theory of language in 1957 [in his monograph “Syntactic Structures,” which he developed into the present book, his first], often called the Chomsky revolution, has been equated with Darwin’s theory of evolution and Freud’s theory of the unconscious in terms of its importance in the history of ideas: it was the first concerted approach to investigating the human mind through a systematic study of how people produce and understand sentences” (*New York Times*). Owner signature. Book fine, dust jacket with a few short closed tears and tiny chip to rear upper corner, near-fine. A lovely copy of this scarce title.
Signed limited first edition of one of the most important histories of cinema, one of only 327 sets signed by Ramsaye and Thomas Edison, with over 100 illustrations, a splendid copy. An exceptional association copy containing a laid-in typed letter by award-winning film scholar and author Dr. Donald Crafton, this rare copy a gift to him from “film aficionado and collector... Spencer Berger.”

Terry Ramsaye spent five years researching this landmark two-volume film history. Much of the first volume is devoted to Thomas Edison, specifically his “kinetograph” camera and “Black Maria,” the structure he designed to rotate in alignment with the sun. Ramsaye then examines the impact of innovators such as Muybridge, Edwin S. Porter, Méliès and Griffith, continuing on through contemporaries such as David O. Selznick and Charlie Chaplin.

This copy contains a laid-in typed letter signed by Donald Crafton on letterhead of the University of Notre Dame. Awarded the Society of Cinema and Media Studies Distinguished Career Achievement Award, Crafton was Notre Dame’s “first endowed professor in film studies.” In the letter, he notes that this copy “was given to me as a gift from my friend, film aficionado and collector... Spencer Berger.”

Copies are more frequently found in blue cloth; this copy is in the more deluxe original half pigskin with Japanese patterned paper boards. Interior pristine and beautiful, original leather and paper boards with a hint of rubbing, Volume II spine head with just a bit of loss. Binding much nicer than usually found, near-fine.
The Origins Of The Goodyear Blimp: 
*The Story Of The Airship*, 1931, Signed By Over 30 
Pioneer Aviators Including Inventor Billy Parker

original embossed silver-stamped pictorial black paper boards. 
$2900.

Click for more info

Early edition of this guide to zeppelins, balloons, and blimps, with 
129 photographs and an introduction by Goodyear president P.W. 
Litchfield, signed by pioneer aviator Billy Parker and over three 
dozen of his aviators at the 1931 National Air Races in Cleveland.

First published in 1925, this scarce, wonderfully bound pamphlet 
documents the origins and recent history of blimps (or “Air 
Yachts”). This is the seventh edition; a new edition was published 
every year beginning in 1925. This copy was signed on August 30, 
1931 at the National Air Races by more than 30 early aviators. Laid-
in signed typed presentation letter from the book’s early owner 
to Milton Parker, one of Billy Parker’s descendants. Early owner 
inscription. Text block expertly reinforced, only a few faint stains 
to interior, light wear and soiling to binding.
Physicist Richard Feynman’s 1962 Ernest Orlando Lawrence Memorial Award, Signed By President John F. Kennedy And Five Members Of The Atomic Energy Commission, With The 14k Gold Medallion


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The original engraved citation awarding the 1962 Ernest Orlando Lawrence Memorial Award to pioneering physicist and Nobel winner Richard P. Feynman, signed by President John F. Kennedy and five members of the Atomic Energy Commission, including Glenn T. Seaborg, himself a Nobel Laureate in Chemistry. Together with the original medallion, struck in 14k gold and presented to Feynman with his name engraved on it “for a meritorious contribution in physics.”

In addition to President Kennedy, the Award is signed by five members of the Atomic Energy Commission: Glenn T. Seaborg (himself a Nobelist, in Chemistry in 1951, Loren K. Olson, Leland J. Haworth, Robert E. Wilson and John S. Graham. Also included are the original press release, a seating chart for the award ceremony itself, and the guest list for the ceremony. Fine condition.