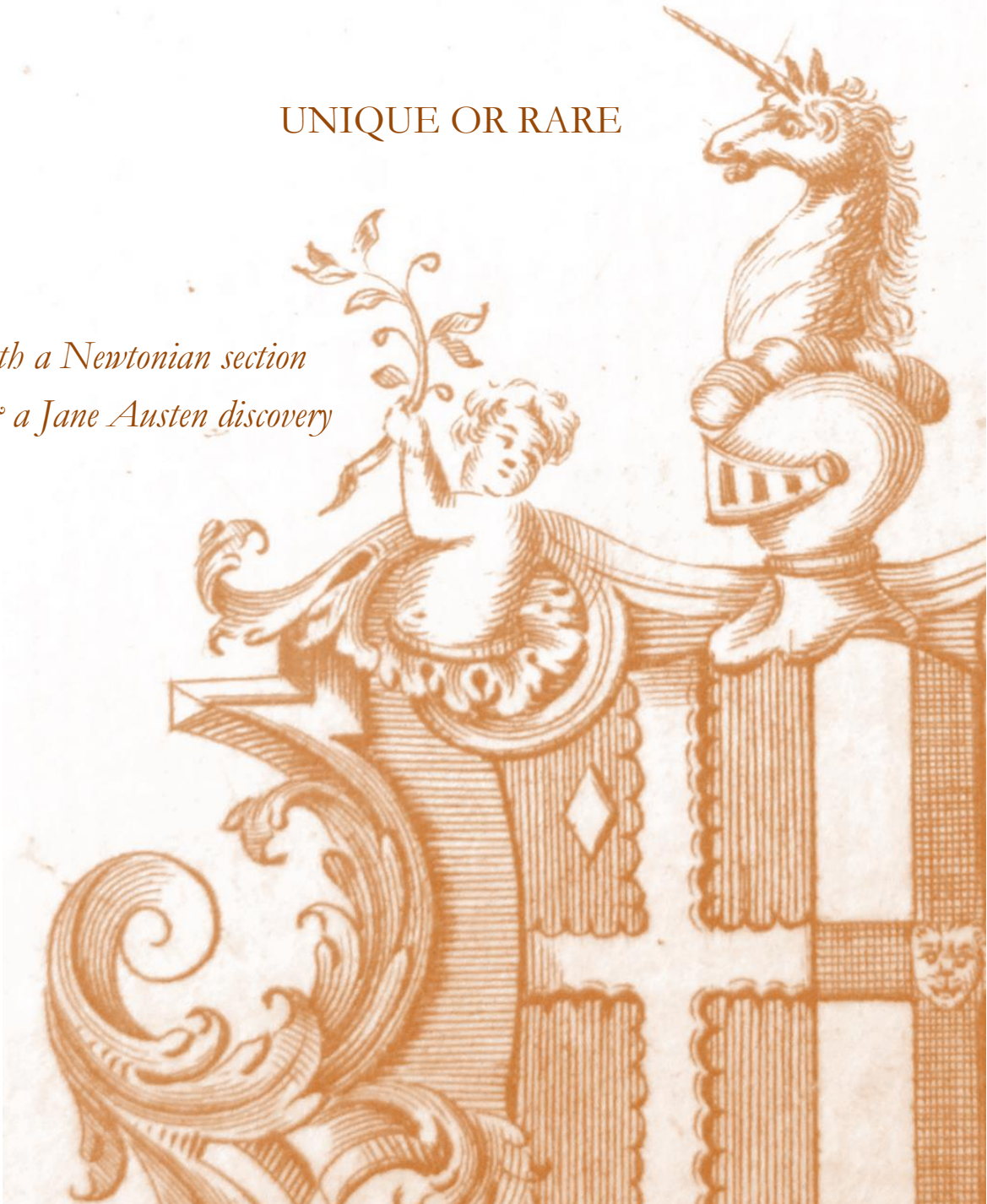


KAREN THOMSON

CATALOGUE 103

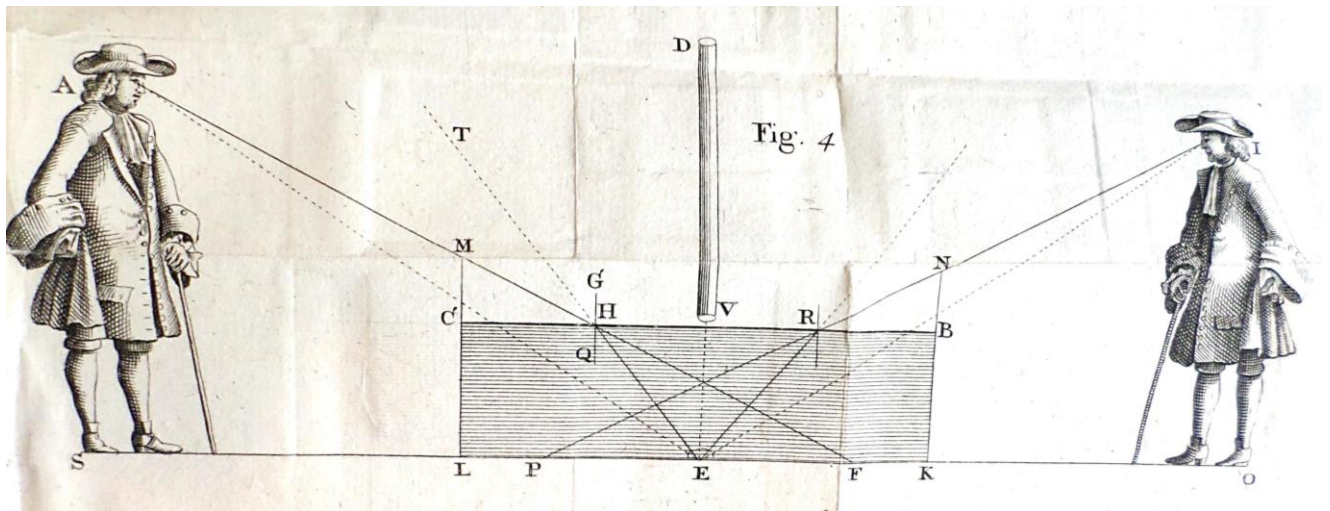
UNIQUE OR RARE

*with a Newtonian section
& a Jane Austen discovery*



KAREN THOMSON
RARE BOOKS

CATALOGUE 103



UNIQUE OR RARE
With a Newtonian section (1-8), and a Jane Austen discovery (16)

kthomson@dircon.co.uk

NEWTONIANA

William Jones' copy

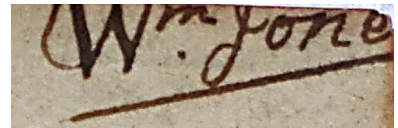
[1]

Thomas Rudd

Practicall Geometry, in two parts: the first, shewing how to perform the foure species of Arithmeticke (viz: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) together with reduction, and the rule of proportion in figures. The second, containing a hundred geometrical questions, with their solutions & demonstrations, some of them being performed arithmetically, and others geometrically, yet all without the help of algebra. Imprinted at London by J.G. for Robert Boydell, and are to be sold at his Shop in the Bulwarke near the Tower, 1650

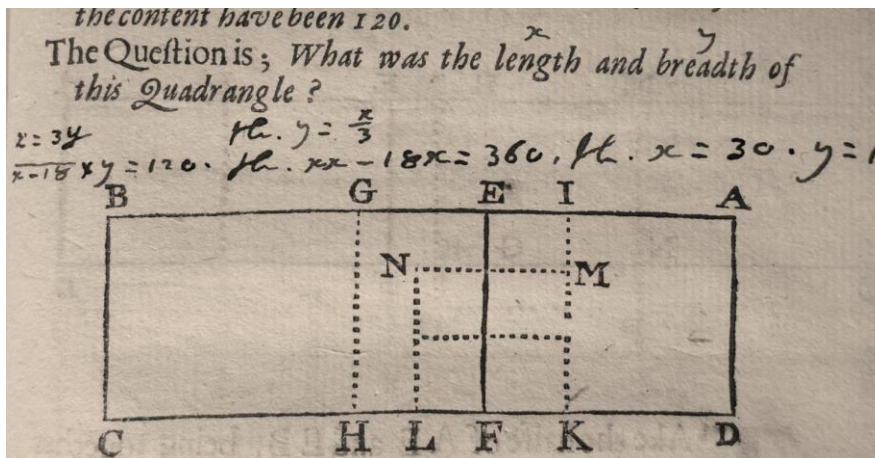
£1500

Small 4to. pp. [vii]+56+[iv]+139. Removed from a volume of tracts bound in the eighteenth century for the Macclesfield Library with characteristically cropped inscription, running titles, catchwords and page numbers, and shaving three words of the text on H4r. Ink smudge to second title page verso, manuscript algebraic solution on 2Q3 illustrated below, Macclesfield armorial blindstamp, clean and crisp.



First edition, one of two issues published in the same year (the other spelling “Practical” in the title). William Jones (1675-1749) was employed by the second Earl of Macclesfield at Shirburn Castle as his mathematics instructor, and at his death left his pupil and patron the most valuable mathematical library in England, which included Newton manuscript material. Jones was an important promoter of Isaac Newton’s work, as well as being a friend: William Stukeley (see item 6), in the first biography of Newton, describes visiting him “sometime with Dr. Mead (see item 13), Dr. Halley, or Dr. Brook Taylor, Mr. W. Jones or Mr. Folkes”.

Newton owned, and annotated, a copy of Rudd’s translation of Euclid’s *Elements* published in 1651, which is now in Trinity College Cambridge. *Practicall Geometry*, advertising itself as “principally for Surveyors of Land, Engineers, Military Architects, and all other Students”, was not in his library.



The neat algebraic solution to Question 90, overruling the book’s intention to provide answers “without the help of algebra”, is more likely to be by William Jones’ mathematically-instructed landowning pupil, than by Jones himself.

Unrecorded edition

[2]

Richard Norwood

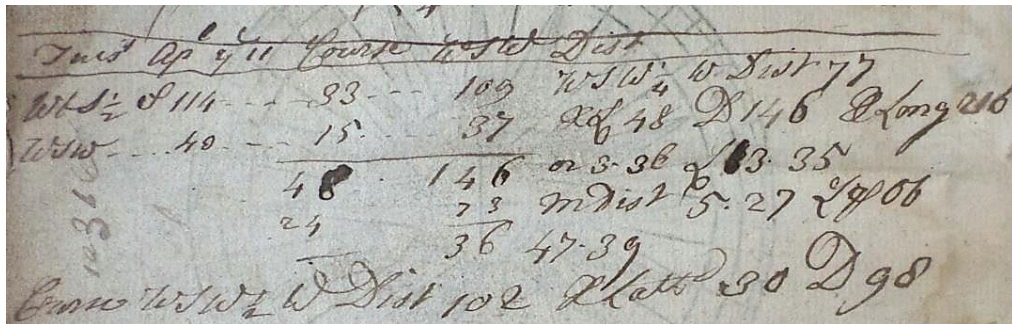
The Seaman's Practice: containing a fundamental problem in navigation, experimentally verified: namely, touching the compass of the earth and sea, and the quantity of degree in our English measures. Also an exact method or form of keeping a reckoning or journal at sea, in any kind or manner of sailing. With certain tables and other rules used in navigation, the latitude of the principal places in England: the variation of the compass: the finding of the currents at sea, and what allowance is to be given in respect of them. By Richard Norwood, Reader of the Mathematicks.

London: printed for Richard Mount, in Postern-Row, on Tower-Hill, 1715

£2200

Small 4to. A-P4, pp. 104, 113-116+[ii] (several errors in pagination and A2 and A3 transposed, textually complete). Illustration on page 103 of a "rundle", the last unnumbered leaf carrying the woodcut volvelle intended to be cut out and placed in it. Sea and ink stains, paper flaw tear in gutter of I3, early leaves thumbled and soiled with crude marginal strengthening to two leaves, blank verso of last leaf covered with notes in a contemporary hand, inscribed by the same hand on title page "Jos. Maules Nov. 10". Sometime rebound in modern period-style calf.

First published in 1637, this handbook appeared at regular intervals up to 1732 and was invaluable to seamen. All editions are scarce. ESTC lists one of 1712 (three copies); the next is dated 1719 (one copy). The date of Maules' manuscript computations, "Tues. Apr. ye 11", suggests that he was making them on shipboard in 1719, when that date fell on a Tuesday. It should therefore be possible to find out where he was sailing, and perhaps on which ship.



Norwood's careful experiments to measure the distance of a degree of latitude on the earth's surface were, according to Voltaire, unknown to Newton when he wrote the *Principia*:

“Les degrés de Norwood se trouvoient, à très-peu de chose près, de 70 milles d'Angleterre, & de 25 lieues communes de France; c'étoit précisément la mesure que Neuton avoit devinée par sa Théorie, & qui pouvoit seule la justifier. Mais ce qui paraîtra étonnant, c'est qu'en 1666. & même plusieurs années après, Neuton ne savoit rien des mesures de Norwood... Neuton retiré à la Compagne pendant la Peste de 1666. n'étant point à portée d'être instruit des mesures de Norwood, s'en tenoit à cette fausse mesure de 60 milles.” (*Elémens de la Philosophie de Neuton* 181-2)

Newton read the manuscript

[3]

John Craig

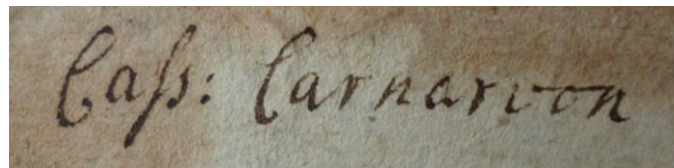
De Calculo Fluentium libri duo. Quibus subjunguntur libri duo de optica analytica.

Londini: ex officina Pearsoniana 1718

£850

4to. pp. [viii]+92. Leaves F1 and F2 interchanged. Later half dark blue roan, marbled paper sides, gilt-lettered on backstrip, red sprinkled edges. Late nineteenth-century oval blindstamp of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences on title page causing some perforation, woodcut diagrams, internally a well-margined and attractive copy, binding rubbed and repaired.

Only edition. Craig, a pupil of David Gregory's in Edinburgh, was one of the first to realise the importance of calculus, and his preface describes Newton's early help with his book: "These are my thoughts on the calculus of fluents which I have been working on for many years, an outline of which I had drawn up as a young man. In around 1685, being in Cambridge, I asked the learned Newton if he would do me the honour of reading it through before it went to press. This out of his great kindness he did" (translated from the Latin original). Newton also reciprocated with some historically important information. "Newton allowed Craig to read *De methodis* and the letters to Leibniz and to take extensive notes on them... Apart from its intrinsic importance, this work is particularly interesting because, in its preface, Craig gives an account of the steps that led to his interest in the 'fluxional calculus', and of his showing the MS to Newton." (Westall *Never at Rest* p.400)



The Chandos/Cannons copy

[4]

Bernard Nieuwentyt

The Religious Philosopher: or, the right use of the contemplation of the world, for the conviction of atheists and infidels. By the learned Dr. Nieuwentyt. Translated from the original in Low Dutch, by John Chamberlayne, Esq; F.R.S. Adorn'd with cuts.

London, printed for J. Senex in Salisbury-Court, and W. Taylor, at the Ship in Pater-Noster-Row. 1718

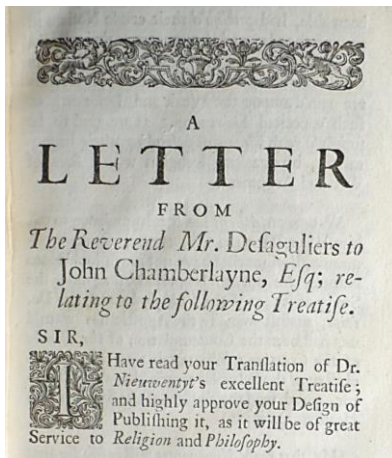
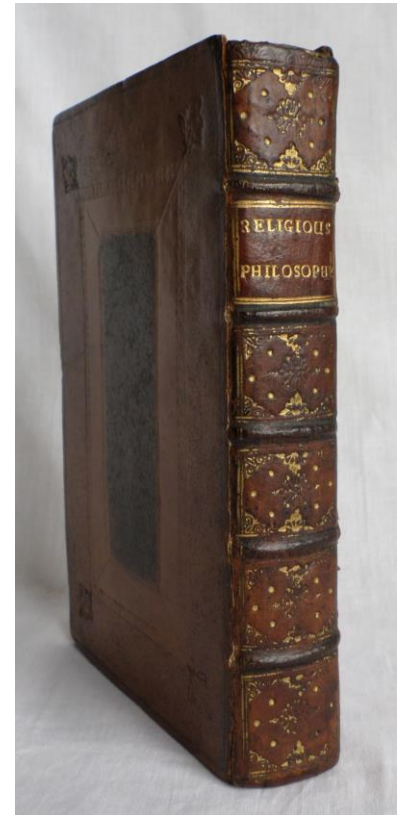
£1750

8vo. pp. [i]+viii+[ii]+[iii-v] ("Letter from the Reverend Mr. Desaguliers to John Chamberlayne, Esq;")+xl+[xvi]+lii+336+[xii]. 12 folding engraved plates at the end. VOLUME ONE ONLY (a second and third were published in 1719). Front free endpaper missing. Contemporary panelled calf, maroon morocco label, spine gilt in compartments, red sprinkled edges, rear joint cracked, front joint held by cords. Signature at head of front pastedown of "Cass. Carnarvon", and with the later bookplate of James Leigh of Adlestrop.

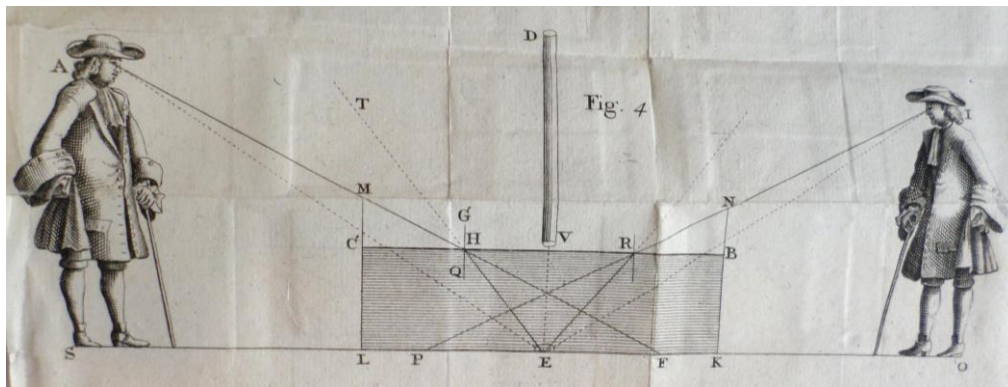
Cassandra, Lady Carnarvon, was the daughter of the naturalist Francis Willughby. Shortly after her marriage to James Brydges in 1713 he became the Earl of Carnarvon, and in 1719, the year after Cassandra inscribed this book, was made Duke of Chandos, the title by which he is best remembered. See Rosemary O'Day, *Cassandra Brydges, Duchess of Chandos, 1670-1735: Life and Letters*, 2007. Their magnificent mansion, Cannons, on the outskirts of London, built for the Duke between 1713 and 1724, was famously home to Handel in 1718, the year this volume was published.

Its presence in Lady Carnarvon's library may be explained by the prefatory letter, first published here, by John Theophilus Desaguliers. Desaguliers was the chaplain at Cannons, although as *DNB* points out "his major interests were scientific rather than theological". He was primarily a natural philosopher, a Newtonian who had attended John Keill's lectures at Oxford (see next item), and whose own Oxford

lectures were modelled on those of Keill. His chief employment at Cannons was as engineer of the water gardens. Tradition has it that the first performance of Handel's *Acis and Galatea* took place in the garden of Cannons in the summer of 1718: "Desaguliers was truly an expert and, in 1718, dedicated his translation from French of *The Motion of Water* to Chandos... The gardens and waters of Cannons were in the background of the creation of *Acis and Galatea*." (Blin *Acis, as Genius of Cannons*)



The later owner of the volume, James Leigh of Adlestrop (whose bookplate is the source of the cover illustration), was a descendant of Lord Chandos' sister. His cousin Cassandra Leigh was Jane Austen's mother, brought up at Adlestrop, and, like Jane's sister Cassandra, named after the illustrious ancestor to whom this book belonged.



"An Experiment of the refraction of Rays passing from Water into Air" (plate 10)

Sir Thomas Clarke's copy

T. Clarke Trin Coll. Cantab.

[5]

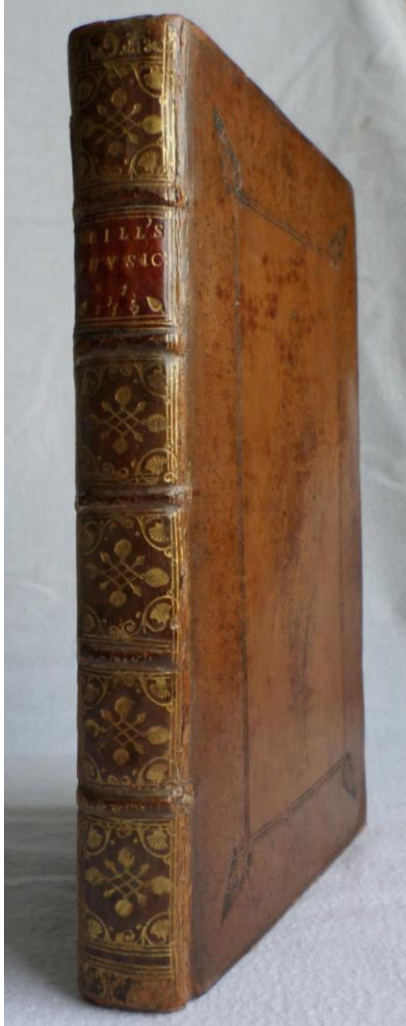
John Keill

Introductio ad veram physicam: seu lectiones physicae. Habitae in Schola Naturalis Philosophiae Academiae Oxoniensis An. Dom. 1700. Editio Quarta.

Impensis Hen. Clements, ad insigne Lunae Falcatae in Cœmeterio D. Pauli Londini 1719

£1200

8vo. pp.[xviii](properly [xiv], see note)+279. Contemporary panelled calf, spine richly gilt in compartments, crimson label, red sprinkled edges. Vignette on title page, diagrams in the text. Extremities lightly rubbed, very good, from the library of Thomas Clark(e) with his inscription on front free endpaper and note on p.95; from him to the Macclesfield Library, with South Library bookplate and armorial blindstamps.



First published in 1702. The prelims in this edition were misprinted. In this copy the misimposed A3 and A4 are slit for cancellation, and the corrected leaves additionally bound in. Leaves A5 and A6 are also incorrectly printed, with pages [x] and [xi] exchanged, but the leaves are not cancelled. In the copies I have been able to compare (with grateful thanks to Steve Tabor at the Huntington Library) A3 and A4 are properly cancelled correcting the page order, but A5 and A6 remain confusingly misprinted. In the online copy, from the University of Turin, pages [x] & [xi] are simply missing.

Keill's 1700 lecture series was the first on Newtonian natural philosophy to be given at Oxford. Thomas Clarke, the owner of this copy, was an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge during the time when Newton was a Trinity fellow, and was himself made a fellow in 1727, the year of Newton's death.

Clarke's humble origins fuelled the rumour that he was the second Earl's natural son. According to Foss *Biographia Juridica*, "that he was intimate with with the second Earl of Macclesfield, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society, devoting himself to philosophical pursuits, appears from a letter of Lord Hardwicke's". The present "philosophical" work however, acquired while he was at Trinity and from his marginal note on page 95 apparently read, is atypical of the library that he bequeathed to Macclesfield, which chiefly comprised theology, history, and law books.

See item 10 for a law book from Clarke's library, also curiously distinguished by cancellation.

[6]

Edward Saul

An historical and philosophical Account of the Barometer, or Weather-Glass. Wherein the reason and use of that instrument, the theory of the atmosphere, the causes of its different gravitation are assign'd and explain'd.

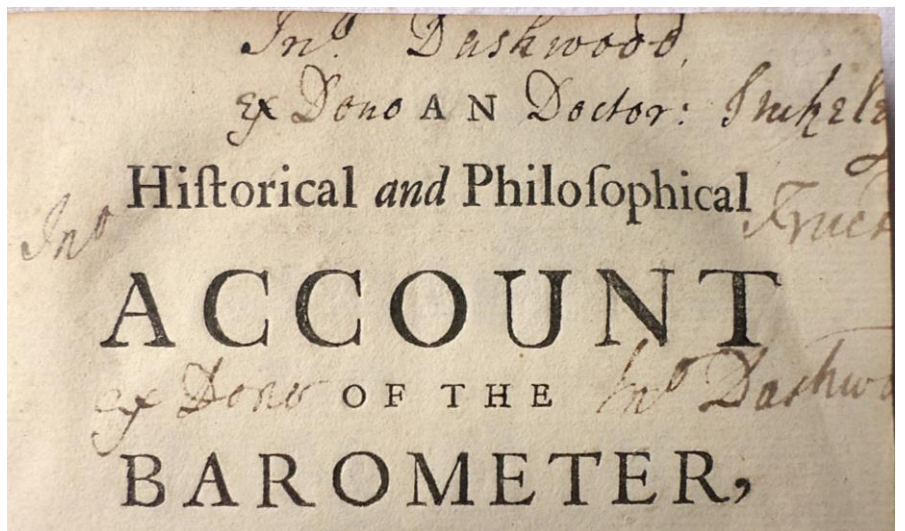
London: printed for A. Bettesworth, and C. Hitch, at the Red-Lyon in Pater-Noster-Row, 1730

£1750

8vo. pp.[xii]+100. Recent quarter calf, marbled paper sides, maroon labels on backstrip, red sprinkled edges, rubbed, paper flaw tear to lower margin of N3, very good, gift inscriptions shaved by previous binder.

Saul, or Sawle, was at Magdalen College Oxford from 1691 to 1704, for the last six years as a fellow. He appears, like Desaguliers, to have attended John Keill's lectures, explaining that his book contains "what lies scatter'd and dispers'd in several Authors and Volumes, what I had formerly the Opportunity of Learning under Dr. Keil at Oxford; what I have since, either seen, read, collected, or observ'd". His small book combines enthusiastic descriptions of physical experiments with a record of personal observations, from "The Day after the great Storm 1703, when a Thunder Cloud of unusual Height, and Swiftness of Motion, pass'd over Oxford", to January 11, 1729, when he noted an abnormally high barometer reading, "the Reverend and Learned Dr. Stukely being with me."

This is a Lincolnshire book. Saul was Rector of Harlaxton, roughly eight miles from Newton's first home at Woolsthorpe. Stukeley, the donor of this copy and Newton's biographer, was also a Lincolnshire man, and John Dashwood no doubt another. Saul concludes his work with a warning against inferior barometers "hawk'd about the Country, by needy Foreigners, or pedling Philosophers", which "not unlike the *Ladies Almanack*, give no Notice of the Changes of the Weather, 'till they are actually past". Instead he offers a recommendation. "It may perhaps, be an Inducement to some of the Gentlemen of Lincolnshire, to deal with Mr. Jonathan Sisson, Mathematical Instrument maker, at the Corner of Beaufort Buildings, in the Strand, London; that he is their Country-Man, and eminent for his great Skill, Accuracy and Fidelity".



Not in Folger, Yale, or in the library of Saul's own Oxford college, Magdalen.

[7]

Samuel Vince

The Elements of the Conic Sections, as preparatory to the reading of Sir I. Newton's Principia.

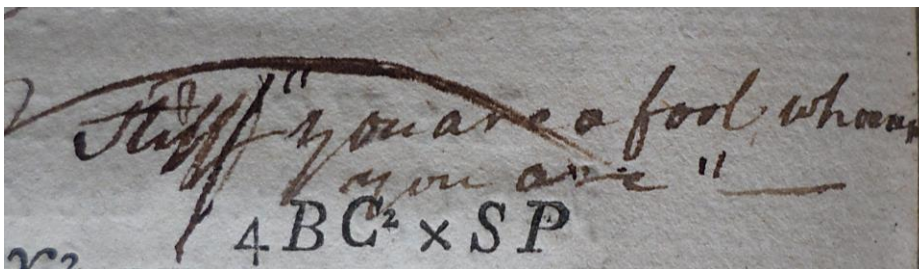
Cambridge, printed by J. Archdeacon Printer to the University; for J. Nicholson, Bookseller, in Cambridge; and sold by T. & J. Merrill; also by J.C. & F. Rivington; S. Crowder, H. Gardner, and G. Hayes, in London; and W. Nicholson, Wisbeach. 1781

£1200

8vo. pp. [xii]+55+[i]. 3 folding sheets of plates at end. Contemporary half calf, marbled boards, sometime rebacked. Boards and corners very worn. Contemporary MS corrections and additions in ink throughout in more than one hand, ink and wax smudges, deletions and stains, plates foxed and scruffy.

First edition. The style of many of the marginalia is authorial, but as they do not precisely match the text of any later edition I have seen (all of which are characterised by changes and additions) an autograph letter by Vince is reproduced, right, to facilitate a comparison of hands.

It has to be said that the marginal note below is disconcerting, although the hand does look very much like Vince's. Did he drink?



Sections of the book are marked off "Begin"/"End", possibly suggesting that the revisions were for a projected lecture course rather than subsequent editions of the book.

The fact that the plates are at the end rather than in the body of the text is distinctly inconvenient for the reader, a matter which is addressed in the following letter.

Figures or plates?

[8]

Samuel Vince

[Autograph letter to Charles Hutton.]

Cambridge, November 1793

£500

Single sheet, 9x7.5 inches, tagged at foot in a later hand, "Addressed to Dr Charles Hutton, and given by him to William Upcott."

Vince's letter to Hutton has a practical purpose. "I trouble you with this Letter to beg the Favour of you to inform me who engraved your wooden mathematical Figures, and whether such Figures are more expensive than Copper Plate ones. I am preparing a complete course of Lectures in Mathematics & Philosophy for the Use of the Students in the University, and I think I shall consult the Readers Conveniency by having the Figures on the Pages rather than on Plates.[...] The whole will be contained in two Moderate quarto Vols. Perhaps a third Vol. of Problems will afterwards be added."

Vince's lectures, like those of Keill, were distinguished by experiment and the desire for clarity. "In 1796 he was elected Plumian Professor, and the lectures, which are wholly experimental, comprise mechanics, hydrostatics, optics, astronomy, magnetism, and electricity. Various machines are exhibited in the course of the lectures, and their construction and uses explained." (*Gentleman's Magazine*)

Dear Sir

I trouble you with this Letter to beg the Favour of you to inform me ~~whether~~ who ~~is~~ ~~engraved~~ engraved your wooden mathematical Figures, and whether such Figures are more expensive than Copper Plate ones. I am preparing a complete course of Lectures in Mathematics & Philosophy for the Use of the Students in the University, and I think I shall consult the Readers Conveniency by having the figures on the Pages rather than on Plates. As you have thus published your Works, I know no one who could so readily give me the Information ~~you~~ ^I want as yourself. The whole will be contained in two Moderate quarto Vols. Perhaps a third Vol. of Problems will afterwards be added. I thank you for the Note in my Syllabus which you discovered. I printed a Page of Errors after the Book was delivered out; I hope you received it; if not, Daignta will let you have it. It was drawn up and printed in 2 or 3 Months to be ready for my Lectures, and in Consequence of the great hurry of doing it many Errors crept in.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours sincerely
S. Vince.

Cambridge
Nov. 17, 1793.

Addressed to Dr Charles Hutton, and given by him to William Upcott.

Only surviving copy

[9]

[?] Guldene unnd Silbere Müntzen, als Thaler und allerhand Sorten, so am gehalt zu gering, und verbotten. Sampt derselben Werth und Valuation. Jetzund auff's new ... gemehrt, etc.
Nürnberg : H. Weygel, 1567]

£5500

Oblong 48mo. (3.75 x 2.5 inches, vertical chain lines), signed in 8s. LACKS A1 TITLE PAGE. A2-L8, M4. A7 & A8 bound before A2, leaves of signature G out of order but all present. pp.[182]. 179 pages with woodcut illustrations of two sides of a coin: 48 of gold coins, handcoloured; 112 of silver coins, predominantly Thalers, uncoloured; and 19 of coins forbidden and not to be traded. Stab holes where originally sewn, 3 pages with contemporary ink notes, early library number on pastedown. Bound in parchment from a thirteenth-century breviary with remains of ties, hole in backstrip repaired, one neat old gutter repair, a few faint stains, very good.



The gold coins begin with the Thorische halbe Ducaten and end with the Recheimer Ducaten, and the silver coins run from the Battenbergische Thaler to the considerably smaller Badenberer Pfénning, the value at the time in each case being given below the heading. A number of the Thalers are dated, most from the early 1560s, a handful earlier. The latest dated coin in the book is of 1565.

A search for such a handbook in OCLC, the catalogue of library catalogues, turned up only two titles, both printed in 1567. One was a small 8vo, and one was of oblong format, like this, which was located at the British Library only. My attempt to obtain a collation for comparison was however frustrated: their copy was destroyed in enemy action in 1941. The title and date I have suggested are taken from the British Library catalogue description. If this is not the same edition, it appears to be unrecorded.

The book in small 8vo had a very similar title: *Thaler, Guldene und Silbere Müntzen, allerhand*





Sorten, so am gehalt zu gering unnd verboten : Sampt derselben Werth und Valuation : Jetzund auff's new zugericht und gemehrt, and was published in Strassburg by Josias Rihel in the same year. It too survives in one copy only, at the Universität Basel. It has half as many pages and is slightly larger (4.75 x 2.75 inches). See black and white illustrations of this book on the third page of my description for comparison.

The Leipzig convention of 1566 had determined the silverweight content of the *Reichsthaler*, which was primarily a unit of account. The “gemünzte” ‘minted’ Thalers issued by the various states of the Empire however varied in value. This remained the case until 1750, and Isaac Newton, who by 1720 had been appointed Master of the Royal Mint, commented on the difficulty of determining values and exchange rates in a letter: “In

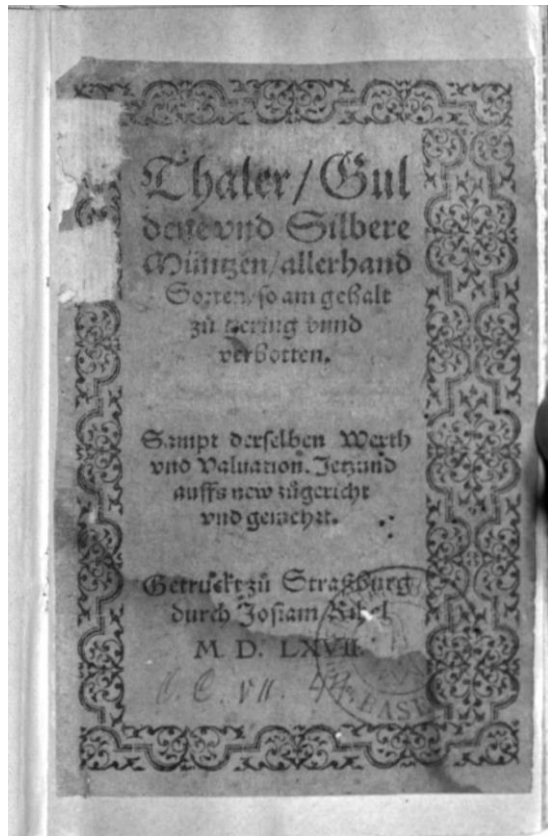
obedience to yor Lordps Order of Reference signified to me by Mr. Tilsons letter of the 5th instant, that I should report the value of Imperial Dollars both intrinsecally & by



the way of Exchange with Sweden: I humbly represent that the specie Rix dollars are coined of several values by several Princes of the Empire from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. But in books of Exchange the Rix dollar is valued at 48 Schellngs Lubs of Hamburg, at 48 styvers of Antwerp, at 50 Styvers of Amsterdam, & at 4s. 6d. English [...] I am told that the Imperial Dollar is sometimes taken for the common Dollar but more usually for the Rix Dollar, & that the word Reichs or Rycks Thalere signifies Imperial Dollar. But I am not skilled in the German language.”

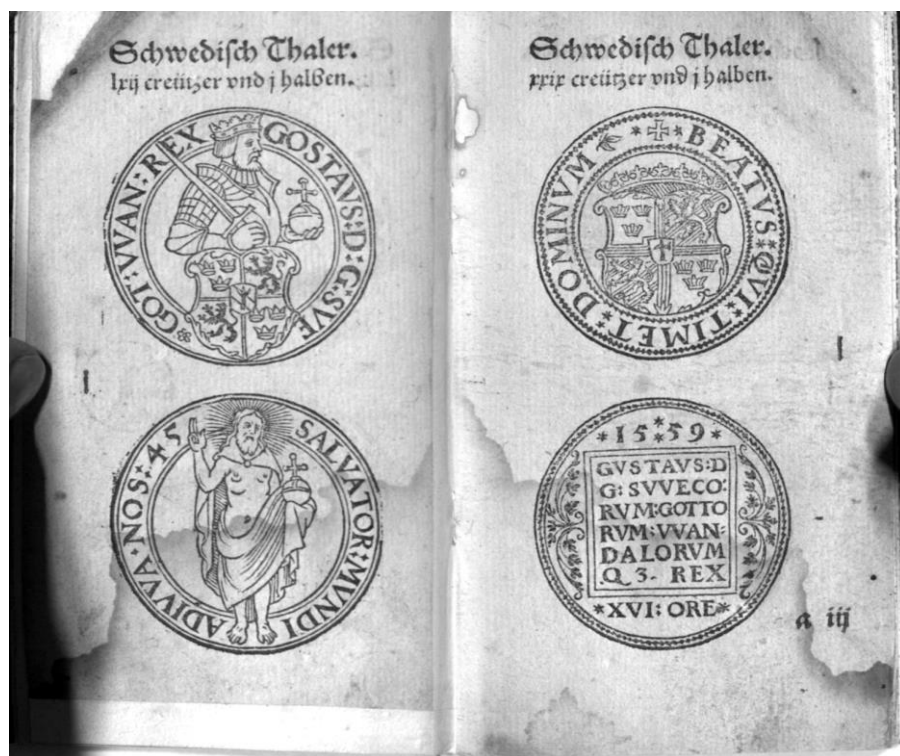


The three illustrations below, provided for bibliographic purposes only, are from the publication of the same date as the lost British Library book in the University of Basel.



There are slight differences in the values. For example, the Schwedisch Thaler dated 1559, far right, valued at “xxix kreutzer und 1 halben”, appears the same as the one pictured bottom right on the previous page, but that coin, dated 1543, is valued at “xxx kreutzer”.

With grateful thanks to the library of the Universität Basel.



Unrecorded issue, with pins

[10]

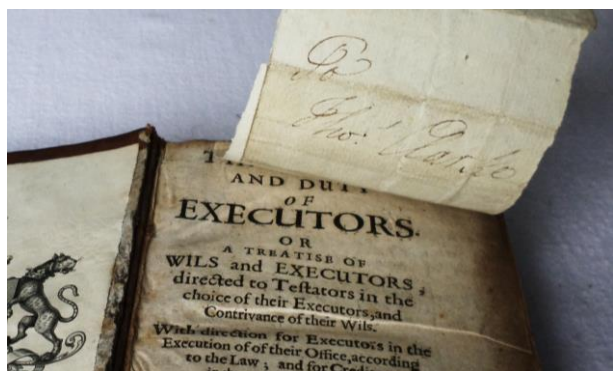
Thomas Wentworth

The Office and Duty of Executors. Or a treatise of wils and executors, directed to testators in the choice of their executors, and contrivance of their wils. With direction for executors in the execution of their office, according to the law; and for creditors in the recovery of their debts. The Fourth Edition, Corrected and Amended.

London, printed by Tho. Maxey, for Richard Best, at Grayes Inn [sic] Gate in Holborn. 1656

£850

Small 8vo. pp. [xxiv]+373. Contemporary sheep ruled in blind, unlettered. Early manuscript note about authorship to title page verso, last leaf defective with the missing text restored in a second hand (see below), A7 cancelled and with MS corrections in yet a third hand. Negligible single wormhole in upper margin of early gatherings, rubbed, from the Macclesfield Library with South Library bookplate.



Unrecorded: ESTC gives three printings by Maxey in 1656, but not this one.

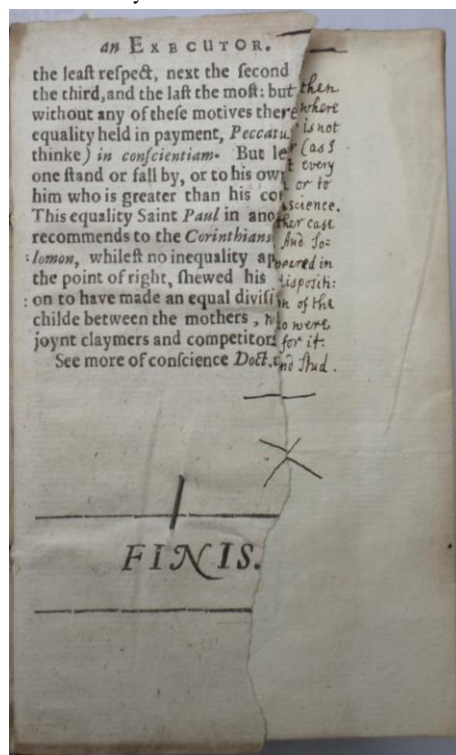
A scrap of paper pinned to the title-page carries a contemporary note summarizing the content of the book. On the verso of this pinned sheet survives the direction "To Thos. Clarke"; that is, the lawyer Thomas Clarke who became Master of the Rolls (and Sir Thomas Clarke) in 1754, and who left his library to the third Earl (see item 5 above). The

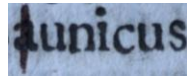
missing text at the end is supplied, on a similarly pinned sheet, in Clarke's hand. The corrections to A7, cancelled with a lateral tear, appear to be in the hand of the sender of the book.

The note on the verso of the title page may supply the missing source for the early belief that the book was in fact written by Sir John Doddridge. Wentworth's name first appeared on the title page of the third edition of 1641, which was the year of his

death. Sir John had by then been dead for fourteen years.

Note This Book is said to be writ by Doddridge Justice & to be of good Authority.





[11]

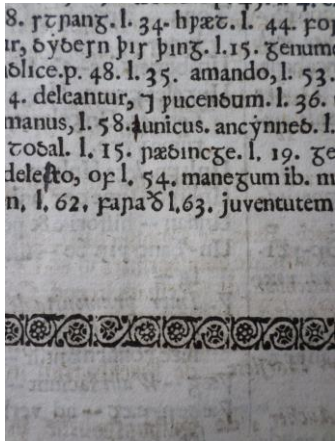
William Somner

Dictionarium Saxonico-Latino-Anglicum [...] Accesserunt Ælfrici Abbatis Grammatica Latino-Saxonica, cum glossario suo ejusdem generis.

Oxonii, excudebat Guliel. Hall, pro Authore. Prostant Londini, apud Danielelem White, ad insigne Septem Stellarum, ex Aquilone Templi S. Pauli. Anno Dom. 1659

£2200

Folio. Unpaginated. Reprint slip pasted over the marginal note on page [vii]. Contemporary calf, sides ruled in gilt with gilt thistle decoration to corners, spine richly gilt in compartments, lacks label, red and brown mottled edges. Title-page in red and black, separate title-page to Ælfric's Grammar. Some marginal flaws and tears, rust hole in K1 (no loss), extremities rubbed, front joint splitting at foot, an attractive, clean copy, with a handful of contemporary corrections, including to the errata leaf (see below). With the ownership inscription of Philip Wodehouse, a subscriber, at head of free endpaper, and bookplates of the Wodehouses of Kimberley.



It has not been previously noticed that the 'Errata' exists in a number of states, with differing, presumably authorial, MS corrections. Of the copies I have consulted this appears to be in the earliest state. For example, both 'unicus' and 'delecto' are here misprinted, and corrected in MS: see illustration left. Of the four Bodleian copies, MS. Junius 7 and Douce S 291 print 'delecto', corrected as here, but 'unicus' correctly. (OC) 302 w.1 similarly prints 'unicus'; 'delecto' remains misprinted but is without the MS correction. Bodleian 3024 c.1, like the Huntington (EEBO) copy, prints both correctly.

Why the muddle? The answer may lie in the fact that although the book was printed in Oxford, Somner was at Cambridge, which is reflected in the number of Cambridge college subscriptions (there are none from Oxford).

As White Kennett recorded in his *Life of Somner*, "he sent up his papers to Oxford, and the Impression was here made for the Author." The frustration of not being able to get the errata right from that distance must have been considerable.

See illustration on following page.

Gothic

[12]

Olaus Verelius

Index linguæ veteris Scytho-Scandicæ sive Gothicæ ex vetusti ævi monumentis, maximam partem manuscriptis, collectus atque opera Olai Rudbecki editus.

Upsalæ anno 1691.

£850

Folio. pp.[iv]+304+[ii]. Title-page ruled in red. Contemporary mottled calf, backstrip decorated in gilt in compartments, morocco label (chipped), sprinkled edges. A few marginal paper flaws, extremities rubbed, an attractive copy, from the library of the Earls of Macclesfield at Shirburn Castle.

This copy probably previously belonged to William Jones, whose library included “a large and remarkable collection of books on Linguistics, Dictionaries of all kinds” (Edwards, *Libraries and Founders of Libraries* 345): the title pages of other Macclesfield books that came from him (Aleaume’s *Perspective*, 1643, Mouton’s *Observationes* 1670) are similarly ruled in red.

Like the British Library copy, and two of the three in Oxford – including the one owned by Thomas Crosthwaite, who lent George Hickes his copy of Verelius’ edition of the Hervagar Saga – this is without the 14-page appendix of notes by Lundius found elsewhere. The Gothic scholar Edward Lye’s copy, now in the library of King’s College London, is similarly without the Lundius notes. Copies were evidently for some reason sent to overseas scholars without it.



Top to bottom: 11 Somner, 13 Ludolf, 12 Verelius.

From the library of Dr. Richard Mead

[13]

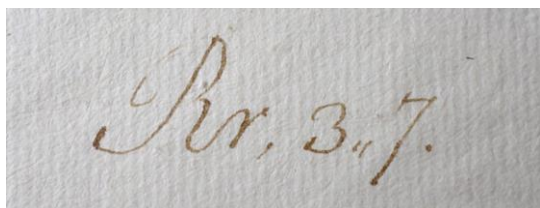
Hiob Ludolf

Lexicon Æthiopico-Latinum: ex omnibus libris impressis, et multis MSSis contextum. Nunc denuo ab ipso autore revisum ac emendatum, plurimisque novis radicibus & derivatis. Editio secunda. Francofurti ad Moenum prostat apud Johannem David Zunnerum. Typis & sumptibus Autoris impressit Mart. Jacquet 1699 [with] Grammatica Æthiopica: ab ipso autore revisa, & plurimis in locis correcta & aucta. Editio secunda. [the same] 1702 [and] Lexicon Amharico-Latinum cum indice Latino copioso inquirendis vocabulis Amharicis in hoc opere contentis. [the same] 1698 [and] Grammatica linguæ Amharicæ quæ vernacula est Habessinorum in usum eorum qui cum antiqua hac et præclara natione Christiana conversari volenti, edita. [the same] 1698

£2000

Four books bound together. Folio. pp. [xvi]+[332]+[40](index)+[ii]; [xii]+184+[viii]; [iv]+[52]+[xvi]; [viii]+59+[1]. Title pages printed in red and black, 2 engraved vignettes, Ethiopic type.

Contemporary calf, sides ruled in gilt, richly gilt spine, crimson morocco labels, red edges, gilt inner dentelles. Sides rubbed, wear to extremities, the first two books printed on inferior paper stock and browned as usual, handsome.



From the library of Dr. Richard Mead with his ink shelfmark on front flyleaf (Bibliotheca Meadiana 645: sold for 7 shillings). Subsequently in the library of Sir Peter Thompson (d.1770, armorial bookplate), Coward College, and Dr. Bent Juel-Jensen.

Mead (1673-1754) was highly successful as a doctor, and also an aspiring Newtonian. *A Mechanical Account of Poisons*, 1702, his first book, with its references to the influence of gravity “placed Mead at the centre of a highly competitive group of young physicians and natural philosophers who sought the approbation of Isaac Newton” (DNB). Newton made him a vice-president of the Royal Society in 1713, and Dr. Mead attended Newton on his deathbed. It was then that Newton confided to him his virginity, afterwards made public by Voltaire, to the astonishment no doubt of a man who was reputedly the model for Sterne’s doctor in *Tristram Shandy*, “—Did not Dr. Kunastrokius, that great man, at his leisure hours, take the greatest delight imaginable in combing of asses tails, and plucking the dead hairs out with his teeth, though he had tweezers always in his pocket?”

At his own death most of Mead’s assets were in his collections, and the sale of his famous library, in November 1754 and April 1755, attracted buyers from all over Europe.

Ludolf had also begun life as a medical student, at the University of Erfurt in 1639, and his linguistic works reflect his medical interest. His dictionary entry for tinnitus in seventeenth-century Ethiopia, for example, is one of the earliest printed references recorded.

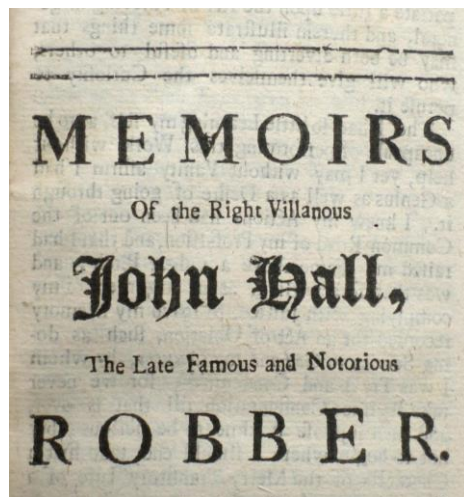
See illustration on previous page.

No other copy

[14]

John Hall

Memoirs of the Right Villanous John Hall, the late famous and notorious Robber. Penn’d from his Mouth some time before his Death. Containing the Exact Life and Character of a Thief in General. As also a lively Representation of Newgate, and its Inhabitants, with the Manners and Customs observed there. The Nature and Means by which they commit their several Thefts and Robberies, and the Distinctions observed in their respective Functions. To which is added, the Cant generally us’d by those Sort of People to conceal their Villanies; and Rules to avoid being Robb’d or Cheated by them. Usefully set forth for the Good of the Publick, at the Instance of many Honest People. The Second Edition, Corrected.

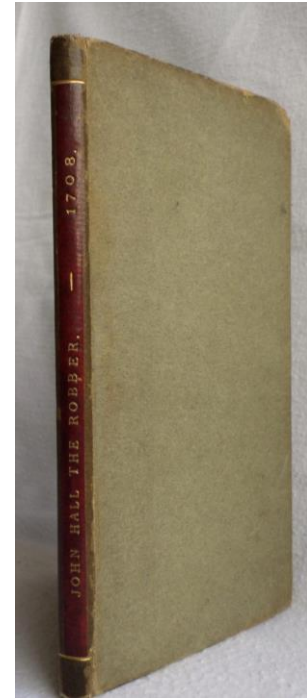


London: printed, and Sold by Ben. Bragg, at the Raven in Pater-Noster-Row, 1708

£4500

Tall 8vo, signed in 4s. pp.[vi]+40. Later boards, morocco label on backstrip. Occasional foxing, lightly rubbed, very good.

Unrecorded. One complete copy of the first edition, also published in 1708 and with the same pagination and imprint, survives at Cornell (the British Library copy listed by ESTC is incomplete, lacking the last two pages). ESTC notes that the Folger Library copy of the fourth edition of 1714 was bought from Quaritch, Catalogue 827 item 263, in 1962.



The fact that the author is waiting for the gallows, or they are waiting for him, doesn't dampen his wit, or prevent him from revelling in his account of Newgate. "*Night-Gamesters*. Such as rob Parks a Nights for *Venison*, which proves to be *Dear*, if they are taken". Once condemned "their Acquaintance that visit them have this singular convenience, that they may find 'em any Hour in the Day, for they are as fast Friends as any in England". Inside Newgate, as they move from the small room known as the *Buggering Hold* (the author is not sure why) to "*Jack Ketch* his Kitchen, where, in *Pitch, Tar, and Oil*, he boils the Quarters of those Traitors who deservedly suffer for the several Sorts of *High-Treason*" the lice crackle underfoot, making "such a Noise, as walking on Shells which are strew'd over Garden-walks".

His section 'An Interpretation of the several Qualities of Rogues' distinguishes, for example, between a *Buttock and Twang* and a *Buttock and File*: the latter, unlike the former, "performs her Stage before she takes her Wages". 'The Canter's Expositor' that follows, pages 20-23, lists 108 words, some of which, like *Stickhams* 'gloves', are still unknown to the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

One other copy known

[15]

James Seguin, translator

A New French Grammar, in Two Parts. Written originally in French, by Monsieur Malherbe at Paris, in 1725, and dedicated to King Stanislaus. Translated into English, by James Seguin, Teacher of the French Language in Bury St. Edmund's, in Suffolk.

London: printed by S. Gray, for the Benefit of the Author, in the Year 1728.

£450

8vo. pp.[xvi]+300 only, of 304, LACKS the last two leaves (the end of 'A short account of French versification'), D3 cut close at head shaving running title, corner of C2 torn without loss. Contemporary panelled calf, remains of old paper label on spine, red sprinkled edges. Extremities worn, front board held by

cords, endpapers torn and scribbled over, rubbed, ownership inscription "Wm: Sandiver His book" on title-page verso.

With a six-page list of chiefly local subscribers. The only recorded copy, from Assington Parish Library, is now at the Suffolk Record Office, and bears no indication of having belonged to a subscriber, but this copy almost certainly did. William Sandiver was admitted sizar at Gonville and Caius, Cambridge in 1738, and the college history tells us that he was a scholar of Bury School under Mr Kynnesman, to whom the book is dedicated. Mr Kynnesman subscribed for four copies.

In his *Advertisement* Seguin tells us that in translating Malherbe's *La langue françoise: expliquée dans un ordre nouveau* he "formed the Design of annexing some of [his] own Thoughts and Enquiries". In particular, he has added examples: "Experience every Day shews us, that the first Principles in all Arts whatsoever, are of themselves quite tedious and tiresome, if they are not adorned with Illustrations and Examples, that may give a Reader such Delight, as will bring him over to their Interest; and this has been my principal View, with Regard to these Rules."

"It has always been a matter of great regret to Austenian scholars that no list exists of Mr Austen's library, hence it cannot be known what books were available at home for Jane to read during her formative years." (Le Faye *Collected Reports* V 230)

Mr. Austen, of St. John's College Oxford.

[16]

Thomas Warton

Poems on Several Occasions. By the Reverend Mr. Thomas Warton, Batchelor of Divinity, late Vicar of Basing stoke in Hampshire, and sometime Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford.

London: printed for R. Manby and H.S. Cox, on Ludgate-Hill. 1748

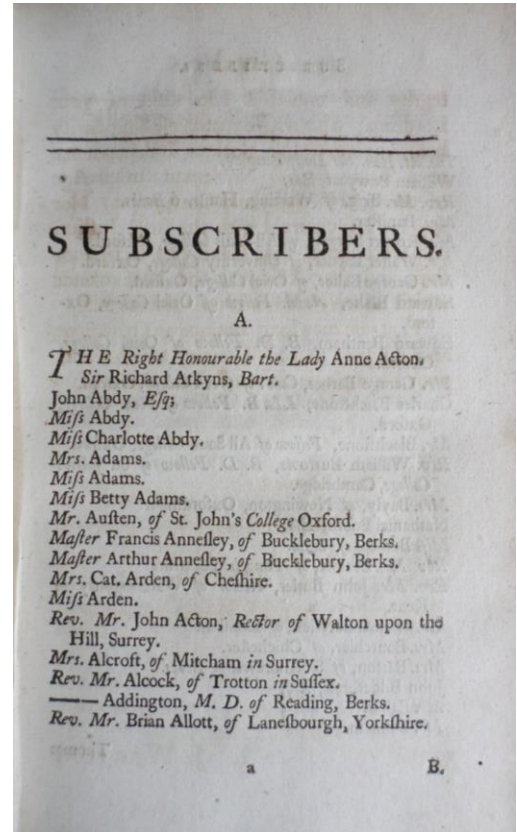
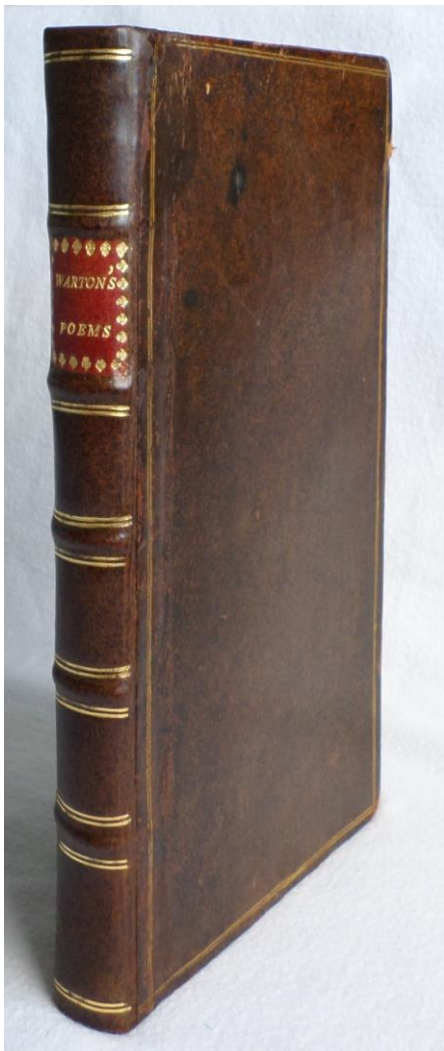
£2500

8vo. pp.iv+[xv] (List of Subscribers) +[i]+228. Contemporary sprinkled calf with sides ruled in gilt, red sprinkled edges, expertly rebaked to match with crimson leather label, armorial bookplate of Sir George Shuckburgh Bart and the H. Bradley Martin label, very good.

This posthumously published collection by Oxford's second Professor of Poetry has long been sought after as a book to which it is believed Samuel Johnson subscribed (Eddy & Fleeman 66), although the identification, simply "Mr. Johnson", has been questioned. There can however be no doubt that the subscriber on the first page of the list, "Mr Austen, of St. John's College Oxford" was Jane Austen's father George Austen, who went up to St. John's

in 1747. Here, for the first time, is a volume of poetry that we can safely assume was “available at home for Jane to read during her formative years”.

The American journalist George Holbert Tucker, one of Jane Austen’s more assiduous researchers, in his 1994 book *Jane Austen the Woman* drew the reader’s attention to a “contemporary poet whose works Jane Austen admired who has not hitherto been noted. In the second stanza of an unpublished poem dated September 28, 1817, written in memory of his recently deceased aunt by James Edward Austen, the line “The Warton whom she loved” occurs in connection with other notable persons beside Jane Austen who are buried in Winchester Cathedral.” This, as Tucker points out, must refer to Thomas Warton’s son Joseph, who was responsible for raising the subscribers for this posthumously published collection. Scholars now believe that at least six of the poems were in fact written by Joseph himself. Did Jane Austen know this – or did James Edward get his Wartons mixed up?

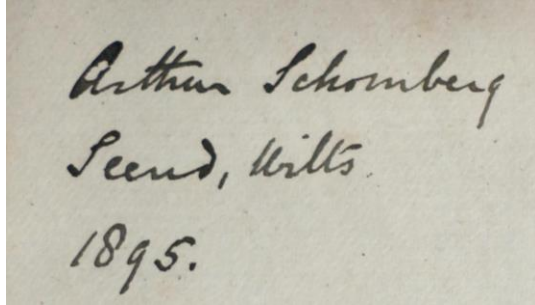


There are further Austenian connections. The Subscribers List is preceded by the dedication, “To the Right Honourable Fulwar Craven, Lord Craven”, whose relative, Fulwar Craven Fowle, was a pupil of George Austen’s at Steventon between 1778 and 1781. His brother Tom was also a Steventon pupil, and was engaged to Jane Austen’s sister Cassandra for several years before his tragic death in the West Indies of yellow fever, in the service of a later Lord Craven, in 1797.

The Subscribers List may repay further attention. The ancestral lines of Hampshire Biggs and Withers whose names are found here united towards the end of the century. Harris Bigg-Wither of Manydown’s engagement to Jane Austen herself, in 1802, lasted for one night only (see Le Faye, *Jane Austen’s Letters*, biographical index).

Not in the library of St. John’s College Oxford, Folger, or Chawton.

Dissenting descendant's copy



[17]

R[alph] Schomberg, translator

The Life of Mæcenas. With critical and historical Notes.

Written in French by M. Richer, translated by R.

Schomberg, M.D.

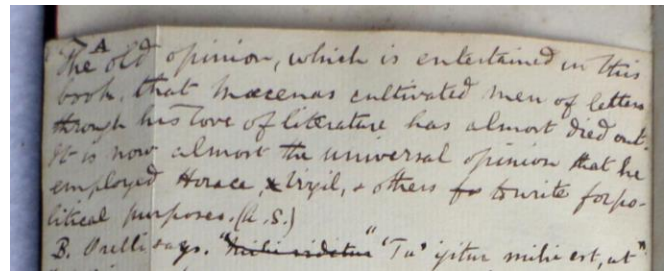
London, printed for A. Millar, against Catharine Street in the Strand; and Sold by M. Cooper, in Pater-noster-Row.

1748

£250

8vo. pp.x+290. Nineteenth-century purple morocco, marbled endpapers, red edges, maroon leather label on spine, gilt. Some spotting, rubbed.

With a tipped-in sheet of notes, intialled "A.S.", taking issue with the fundamental premise of his ancestor's book, that "Mæcenas cultivated men of letters through his love of literature". Ralph Schomberg's son Isaac retired to Seend in Wiltshire to write his *Naval Chronology*, and died in 1813: possibly the writer of the churlish notes was his grandson.



Richer's *Vie de Mécénas* appeared in 1746. A second edition of Schomberg's translation, "corrected and enlarged", was published in 1766.

This first edition is poorly located: no copy in Oxford.

[18]

François Roux

Kurtze Abhandlung der Zweydeutigkeiten, welche in der Frantzösischen Sprache sich ereignen können.

Jena, im Verlag Joh. Rudolph Cröckers seel. Wittbe, 1748

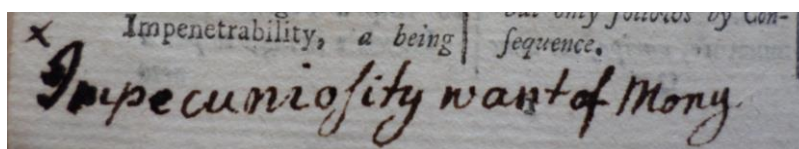
£200

8vo. pp.[i]+190. Later marbled boards, red sprinkled edges. Lightly rubbed, very good.



An eccentric production: not exactly a study of French "ambiguities" but an enumeration of words similarly pronounced – "Ami, amict, a mis", "Faim, feint, fin" – exploring some nice potential misunderstandings, as between, for example, "le vain effort" and "le vin est fort". Roux was a French national but spent most of his life in Germany.

No copy in France, the UK, or America.



Penniless early owner

[19]

J. K. [John Kersey]

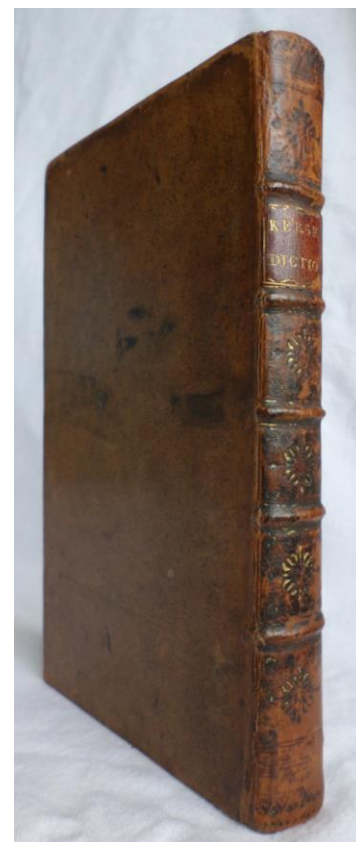
A New English Dictionary: or, a compleat collection of the most proper and significant words, and terms of art, commonly used in the language. With a continued short and clear exposition. The whole digested into alphabetical order; and chiefly design'd for the benefit of young scholars, tradesmen, artificers, foreigners, and the female sex, who would learn to spell truly. The sixth edition, carefully revised: with many important additions and improvements.

London: printed for J. and J. Bonwicke, and C. Hitch and L. Hawes 1752

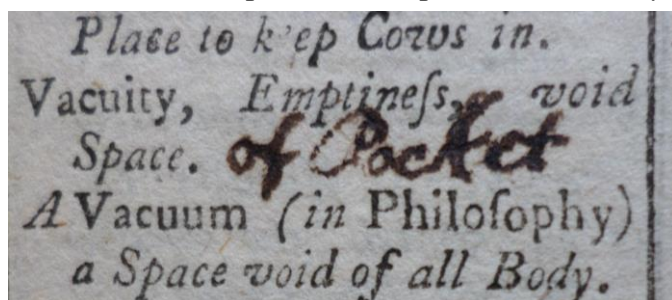
£1500

12mo. [viii]+[320]. Contemporary calf, remains of label reading "Kersey's Dictionar", red sprinkled edges. Spine rubbed, extremities lightly worn, good.

First published in 1702. "Though small and unpretentious, J.K's *New English Dictionary* of 1702 appeared at a critical stage in the evolution of the English dictionary and made a vital contribution. Its preface attacks preceding dictionaries at their most vulnerable points and outlines a new function for an English dictionary; and its text, unlike some of its predecessors, lives up to the professions made in the preface. The author of this dictionary has never been determined; but the most persistent and plausible suggestion is John Kersey, able lexicographer who revised Edward Phillips' *New World of Words* in 1706 and compiled his own *Dictionarium Britannicum* in 1708." (Starnes & Noyes 69). What remains of this label confirms that already by the mid-eighteenth century the author was understood to be Kersey.



A letter from Isaac Watts dated 1731 is printed on the title page verso of this edition: "even since the larger Dictionary of Mr *Bailey* is published [in 1721], which may be very entertaining and useful to persons of a polite education, yet for the bulk of mankind, this small one of J.K.



is much more convenient; and I wish it were in the hands of all young persons, to acquaint them better with their mother-tongue."

ESTC gives one library location only for this edition, in the Cordell Collection at Indiana, adding the copy in the private library of the collector Nigel Stoughton in London.

“The revisions and additions are extensive enough to warrant this being regarded as a new work” (Alston)

[20]

N[athaniel]. Bailey & Joseph Nicol Scott

A New Universal Etymological English Dictionary [...] now re-published with many corrections, additions, and literate improvements, by different hands. The etymology of all terms mentioned as derived from the Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, and other Asiatic languages, being revised and corrected by Joseph Nicol Scott, M.D.

London: printed for T. Osborne and J. Shipton; J. Hodges; R. Baldwin; W. Johnston, and J. Wood. 1755

£1800

Folio. Unpaginated. In two columns. Title page printed in red and black. Engraved frontispiece and 11 engraved plates. Contemporary calf, raised bands, red morocco label, armorial stamps in compartments of spine, red sprinkled edges. Occasional paper flaws, closed tear to corner of 9B2, 9D mis-signed 9B, light browning and offsetting of plates, occasional spotting. Joints repaired, cracks in leather of backstrip and corners and edges worn, rubbed, from the Stonor library with armorial bookplate, and with the recent plate of Otto Orren Fisher.

Published in the same year as the first edition of Johnson's dictionary. "The largest, finest, and last of the Bailey dictionaries... designed as a bookseller's measure to hold the market against that redoubtable newcomer in lexicography, Samuel Johnson." (Starnes & Noyes 179) Further editions appeared in 1764 and in 1772 before the proprietors finally gave up the contest.

"Johnson's *Dictionary* was freely drawn on, not without a blanket acknowledgment, for much material – definitions, illustrative quotations, and front matter; by skillfully compressing, cutting quotations (rarely the borrowed definitions), and using very small type, the compilers were able to keep within a single volume thus offering an advantage in price over Johnson, as well as a larger vocabulary." (Friend *The Development of American Lexicography* 27)



Eighteenth-century drawing of Jonathan Swift

[21]

[Benjamin Mytton]

“Dr Swift”.

Ink and wash drawing of Jonathan Swift facing left.

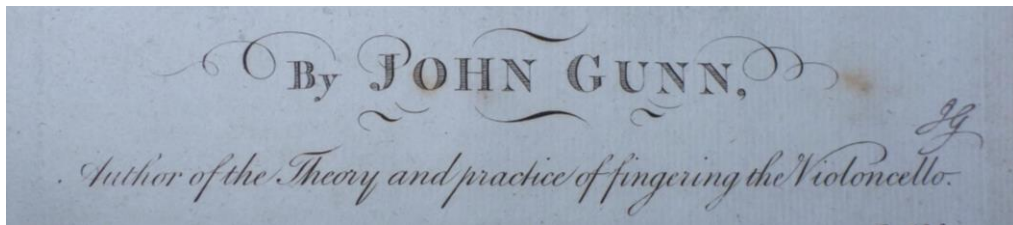
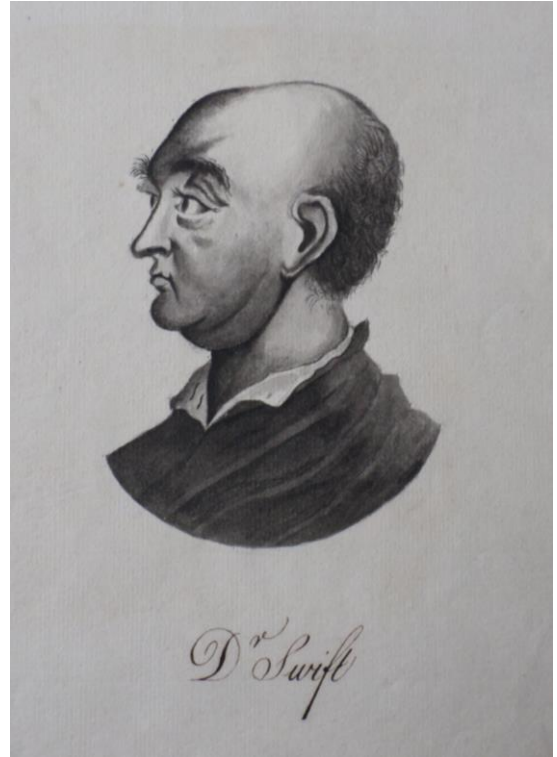
On reverse: “Benj: Mytton, 1782.”

£350

On a trimmed quarter sheet of watermarked eighteenth-century Large Post writing paper, 238 x 185 mm.

A copy, reversed, of the 1752 engraving by Christian Fritzsche, after the portrait by Rupert Barber.

The Mytton attribution is in an unidentified twentieth-century hand, initialled “JTB”. A similarly attributed portrait of Samuel Johnson was item 8 in my Catalogue 101. The drawing of a hare by Mytton (1767-1793) in the Shropshire Archives, illustrated in that catalogue, appears to bear out the attribution.



Cello duets, with John Gunn's *Essay* on the thorough bass

[22]

Gunn, John

An *Essay* theoretical and practical, with copious and easy examples on the application of the principles of Harmony, Thorough Bass, and Modulation; to the Violoncello.

London (1802) Printed & Sold for the Author, by Preston at his Warehouses, 97. Strand.

£650

Folio. Engraved throughout. pp. ii+52, initialled by Gunn at foot of title page. Bound at the end of the first volume of two matching volumes of engraved cello duets. Nineteenth-century half calf, marbled sides, rubbed, red sprinkled edges, some browning and foxing but generally in good and crisp condition throughout.

John Gunn (c.1765–c.1824), was born in Edinburgh, and taught the cello and the flute in Cambridge and London before returning to Edinburgh in 1795. His most famous publication, *An Historical Enquiry Respecting the Performance on the Harp in the Highlands of Scotland*, appeared in 1807. The present work, in which he explains how to harmonize a bass line on the cello, is not in any Scottish collection.

The music has been preserved complete, with all possible parts. It consists of six sets of duets for two cellos or violin and cello, and seven works for cello and piano, some with an obligato violin and/or flute part. The parts are divided between the volumes for playing. Many are located in one other copy only, others with parts missing. Included is a work by J. Muntzberger that I have not been able to find: *Air Varié pour piano et violoncelle dédié à Madame Louis de Bouillé*, Paris, Sieber; and an edition of Beethoven's *Variations pour le forte piano avec violoncelle obligé (ou flûte ou violon.) Sur le thème Je vais revoir l'amant que l'aime, dans l'opéra des Mystères d'Isis, de Mozart*. Paris, chez J. Frey, 1818 or after, which I have also not traced elsewhere. Similarly not found is Romberg's *Grand sonata for the piano forte with an accompaniment for violoncello* [also with a violin part] published by Platts c.1820, which has an also untraced full-page engraved advertisement, *Platts's Catalogue of Harp Duets*.



violoncelle obligé (ou flûte ou violon.) Sur le thème Je vais revoir l'amant que l'aime, dans l'opéra des Mystères d'Isis, de Mozart. Paris, chez J. Frey, 1818 or after, which I have also not traced elsewhere. Similarly not found is Romberg's *Grand sonata for the piano forte with an accompaniment for violoncello* [also with a violin part] published by Platts c.1820, which has an also untraced full-page engraved advertisement, *Platts's Catalogue of Harp Duets*.

How the editor of the 1832 edition of Webster's *Dictionary* acquired Boucher's MS

[23]

Edmund Henry Barker

Autograph Letter Signed, in brown ink, to J.B. Nichols.

Thetford, Oct. 22, 1830

£650

2 pages of a 4-page (9x7.5") folded sheet addressed on last page verso. Creased where folded, spots, remains of sealing wax.

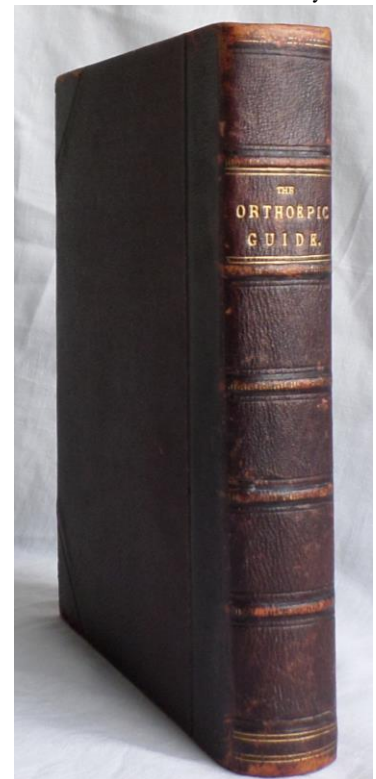
Jonathan Boucher had spent the last fourteen years of his life working on his projected *Linguae Anglicanae Veteris Thesaurus*, a small part only of which appeared in 1807 after his death. E. H. Barker wanted to include it as an appendix to the English edition of Webster's dictionary published in 1832, but the manuscript had remained in the hands of Boucher's family. This letter, sent in October 1830, reveals how Barker got hold of it.

He writes to the printer and antiquary J.B. Nichols: "If I as the Editor of Webster's Dictionary were to enquire for these Mss. with a view to purchase them, the family would at

terms, but they were refused one & all. || It will be an important point for our intended Appendix to have the use of Mr Boucher's Mss. He died in 1804; the proposals for his *Linguae Anglicanae Veteris Thesaurus* appeared in 1802; & after his death the first part of the work containing the letter A, was published by his relations

once put on them an impracticable price. As I hold 4/6ths of the property in the Dictionary the biggest share of the expence would fall on me. [...] Now will you carry on the negotiation for me, as if you wanted the Mss. for a

speculation of your own? We should not wish to act shabbily in the purchase; we would give a fair & liberal price for them if we can come to terms..."



Presentation copy from Robert Gibbings

[25]

Golden Cockerel Press

The Chester Play of the Deluge. Edited by J. Isaacs, with engravings on wood by David Jones.

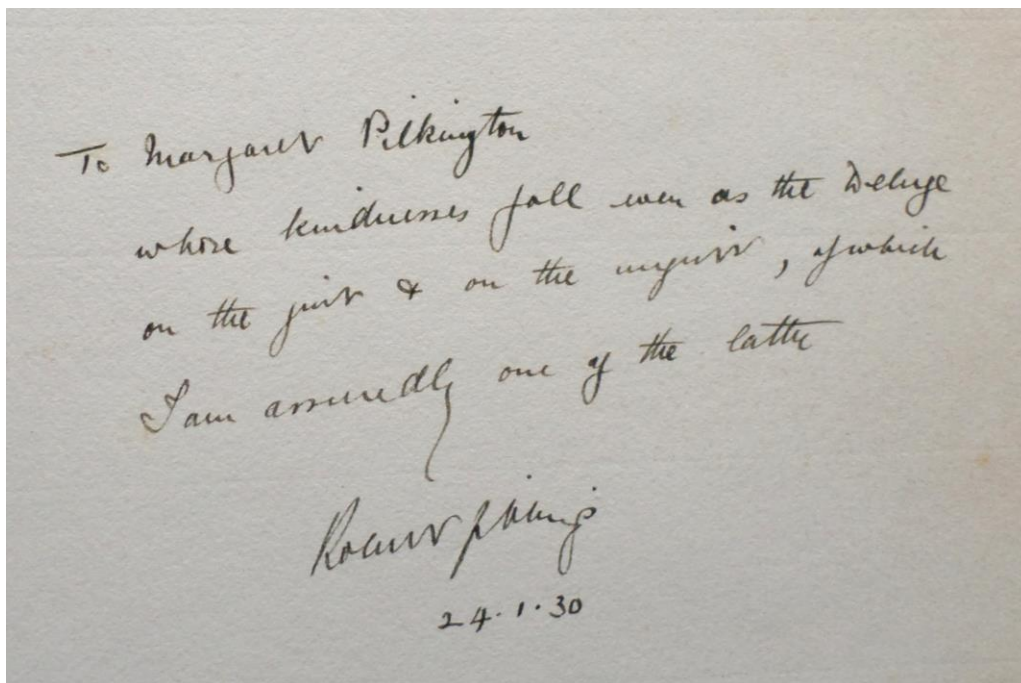
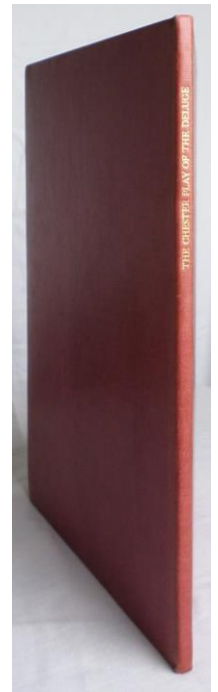
Waltham St. Lawrence, [Printed by Robert Gibbings], Golden Cockerel Press
1927

£3000

4to. pp.iv+16 +[i]. 10 wood-engraved illustrations in the text. Number 235 of 275 numbered copies on handmade paper. Uncut in original crimson cloth, gilt-lettered on spine. Slightly rubbed, a handsome copy without the dustwrapper.

Inscribed by Gibbings to his fellow wood engraver Margaret Pilkington: "To Margaret Pilkington whose kindnesses fall even as the deluge on the just & on the unjust, of which I am assuredly one of the latter Robert Gibbings 24.1.30". Margaret Pilkington was on the Council of the Whitworth Art Gallery in Manchester, which became a regular venue for meetings of the Society of Wood Engravers. She and Gibbings worked closely together on Society matters for many years.

The ten engravings by the remarkable artist and poet David Jones are, according to Hodnett in *Five Centuries of English Book Illustration* "as original a series of illustrations as any in an English book. Jones's innovation was to integrate the elements of each design in a complex overall pattern by means of interlocking bands of solid black or white."





POSTSCRIPT

Unique binding?

[Offered for sale by Robert Jackson at Chapel Books,
Westleton, Suffolk IP17 3AA, bks@chapelbooks.com]

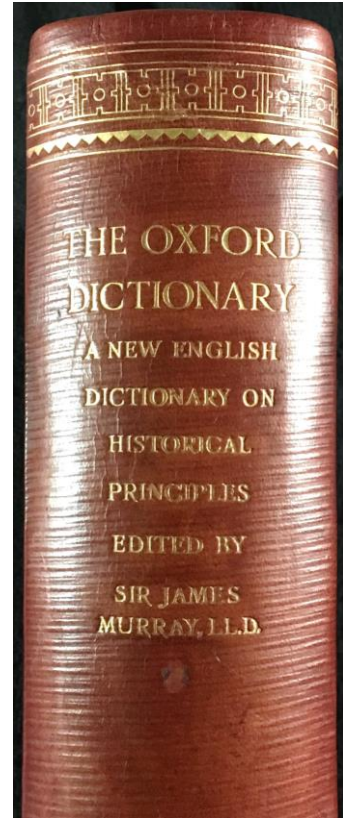
James Murray, editor [and others]

“The Oxford Dictionary”. A New English Dictionary on
historical principles: founded on the materials collected by the
Philological Society.

Oxford, Clarendon Press 1888-1928

£3250

4to. 20 vols. An apparently unique binding of quarter maroon leather imitating the publisher's half morocco, matching cloth sides, top edges gilt, spines elaborately gilt as usual with the editors' names and arms of the Oxford University Press, but titled “The Oxford Dictionary” instead of “A New English Dictionary”. Occasional discoloration to boards, a few headcaps expertly restored, a very handsome set.



According to the OED historian Peter Gilliver, the university press had used this unusual form of the title, “The Oxford Dictionary”, in its catalogues and advertisements from at least around 1904. However the only volumes he had previously seen so titled were late volumes kept at the Oxford University Press for in-house use, which are of course without the university insignia and flourishes.

The history of this set is not known. It may have been bound for presentation by the university press to an unidentified recipient some time between 1928, when the printing was completed, and 1933, when the Dictionary was officially renamed “The Oxford English Dictionary” on the publication of the first supplement.