

SPRING

READINGS

Quartern a prison, Chr. 1137, v.  
cwertern.  
QUEAN [Plat. quene f. a heifer :  
Quab. Codex Diplom. 547  
a quag, or marsh. Frisic  
Quab, or quob. v. Outzen Gl. Fr.  
Kemble Cod. D. iii. xxi "cwoel".

Old  
English,  
left and  
above  
(item  
10)

Hraca, an [Plat. Ger. rachen m: hracu, f.  
Dut. kaak f: Rab. Maurus.  
hracho: Icel. hráki m. spittle] s. Marherke  
A throat, the jaws, a cough, fol. 45, 22  
phlegm; guttur, tussis:—On Rubric in Mipal  
hracan heora in gutture suo, of abp. Robert  
Ps. 113, 15. Canterb. p 185x

Scots Gaelic, below (item 9)

SPÀRSAN, -AIN,  
palear, ruma.  
1/2 SPARRANACH,  
dew-lap: pale  
SPEACH, -A, AN,

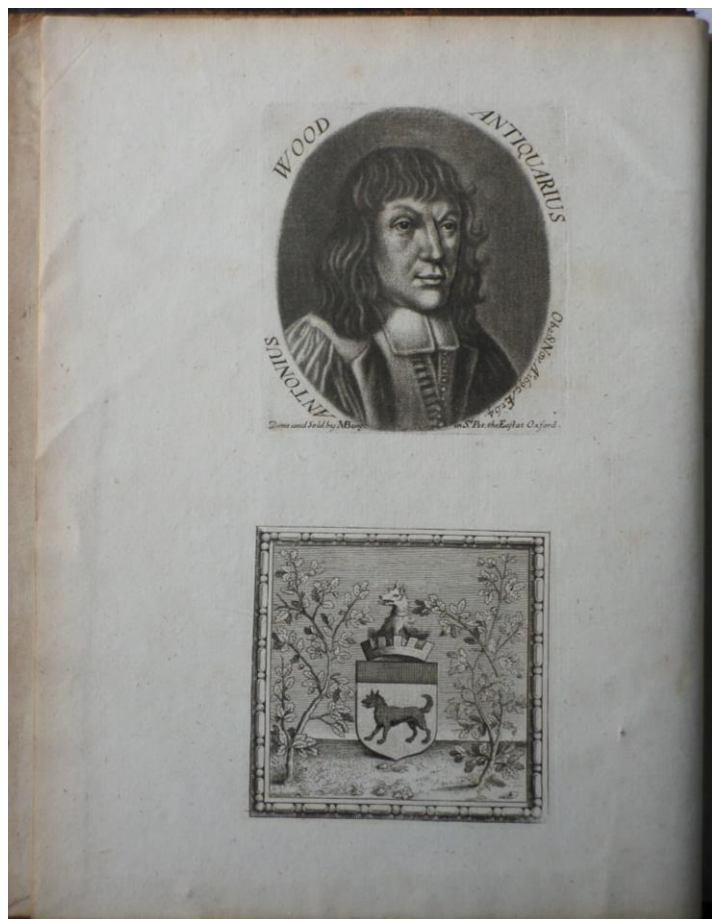
link of a . + TINNE,  
chain by which link  
boiler; pot is MSS  
independent. tum.  
\* Tin  
li

bits: mores viles, vel abjecti. C. S.  
+ SIOD, adv. MSS. Vide Sud + This is an instance of a  
SÌODA, -A, -ACHAN, s. m. Silk: sericum better orthography  
"Gheall mo leannan dhomh gùn de 'n t sìoda." Has the modern  
Stew. 340. Pro- usage - a better  
My love has promised me a gown of silk. adapted to pronan-  
- ciation

KAREN THOMSON  
RARE BOOKS

[www.karenthomsonbooks.com](http://www.karenthomsonbooks.com)

kthomson@dircon.co.uk



May 2019



## Winter re-readings



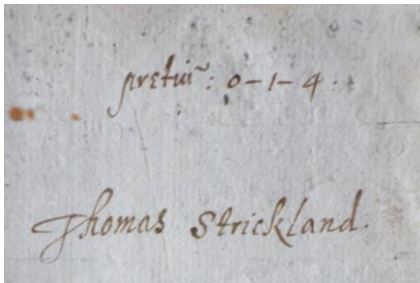
[1]

D[egory]. W[heare].

*Relectiones hyemales de ratione & methodo legendi utrasq; historias, civiles et ecclesiasticas.*

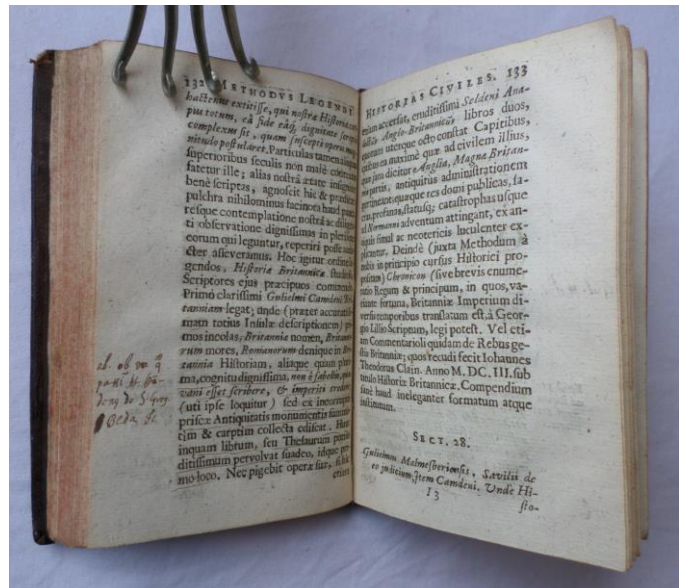
Oxoniae, excudebat L. Lichfield, impensis Ed. Forrest 1637

£450



*Small 8vo. Blank leaf+[xxxii]+285+2 blank leaves. D2 mis-signed C2. Contemporary blind-ruled calf, unlettered, red sprinkled edges. Front endleaves supplied from a sixteenth-century edition of Thierry Morel's Enchiridion ad verborum copiam. Old staining to last two gatherings, scattered marginal markings indicating particular interest in William of Malmesbury, binding worn and defective but secure, pen trials on blanks at end. From the library of Thomas Strickland, with his inscription on blank before title.*

An Oxford edition of Wheare's *De ratione et methodo legendi historias dissertatio*, first published in London in 1623. The royalist Thomas Strickland of Sizergh (1621-94) matriculated at St Alban Hall, now Merton College Oxford, in 1638, the year after this edition was published there. He was Member of Parliament for Westmoreland for many years, but followed James II into exile at the Revolution and died in France.



Owned by J.G. Leath, a surgeon of the 19th Regiment of Foot



[2]

[Evaldus Gallus]

ΠΑΙΔΟΛΟΓΙΑΙ. Pueriles confabulationculæ Græco-Latinæ. In usum Scholæ Northlechiensis, studio, atque opera W. Jackson. Oxford, typis Lichfieldianis, impensis Ric. Davis 1666

[bound after]

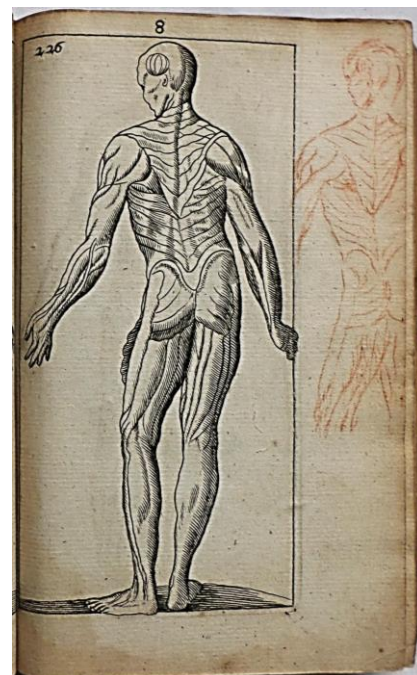
Johannis-Amos Comenius

Janua linguarum trilinguis... adjunctis metaphrasi Græca et Anglicana versione.

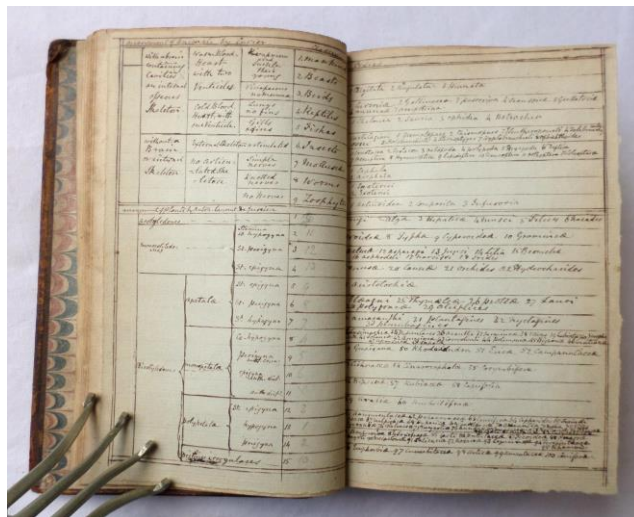
London, ex Officina Rogeri Danielis 1662

£850

Small 8vo. [xvi]+88+[55] (Gallus); [xvi]+274+[ii] (Comenius; a defective copy, with 14 only of 16 engraved plates, numbers 3 & 6 having been removed). Later diced calf, marbled endpapers, sometime rebaked laying down backstrip. Browned and very worn, rear cover almost detached, old marginal repairs to tears in first and last leaf. The Gallus cut close at head shaving running titles and with worm holes running through the lower margin from p.39 onwards.



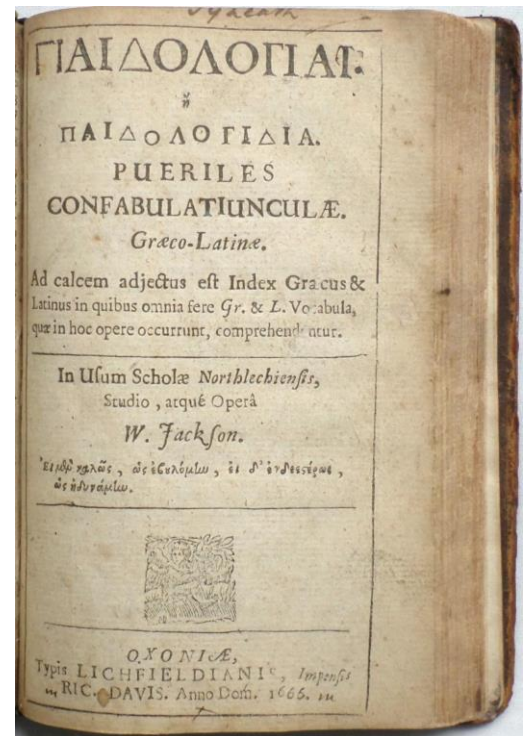
Both works are inscribed by J.G. Leath, Assistant Surgeon of the 19th Regiment of Foot, with a number of manuscript notes and drawings in the text. He notes that translations of the *Janua* had been made into “the Arabic, Turkish, Persian, and Mogul”, but most of the manuscript material reflects his scientific interests. A copy of figure 8 showing the muscles of the body in red crayon (trimmed when rebound, see above); the organs of the body translated from Latin into Greek in the margin of plate 9; and an inserted two-page systematic table, pictured right, taken from Cuvier and Laurent de Jussieu. There are pencilled references at the end to, for example, “arthritis p.70” (what Comenius called “joint-gout”) with his location note at the top of that page “100 m. of Benares”. A description of Leath’s special lancet for performing eye operations was published in 1809, and of his use of laudanum in treating tetanus from a gunshot wound in Ceylon in 1813.



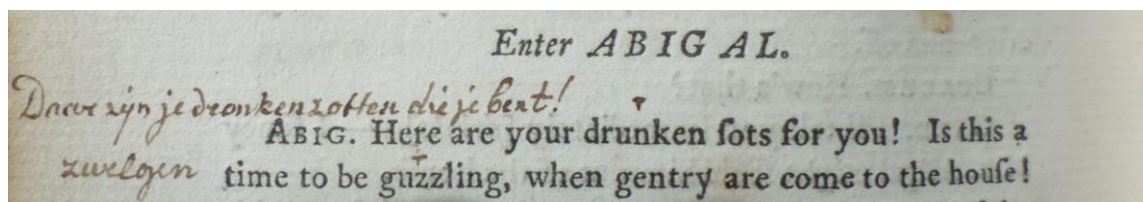


There are also pencilled notes by a later owner, which include drawing attention to Comenius's use of what he calls "Quaint English Words" like 'Will-Gill' (for which the first citation in OED is later, 1678), and 'Dandiprat'.

Madan (*Oxford Books* 2742) writes of the *Paidologiai*, with reference to Wood: "William Jackson, of Magdalen and Brasenose colleges at Oxford (matr. 1638) at this time Master of Northleach Grammar School in Gloucestershire, must have come across the sixteenth-century *Dialogi* of Ewaldus Gallus, and fitted Greek to Gallus's Latin, so that both languages might be pleasantly learned together [...] The Bodleian copy was presented by the author to dr. Barlow, Provost of Queen's College". It in fact survives in two issues, both rare. This, giving the editor's name, is at All Souls, Folger, and Southampton University. The title page of the copy in the Bodleian simply carries his initials; there is a second copy of that issue in the British Library.



Extensively glossed in Dutch and English by an eighteenth-century linguist



[3]

Joseph Addison

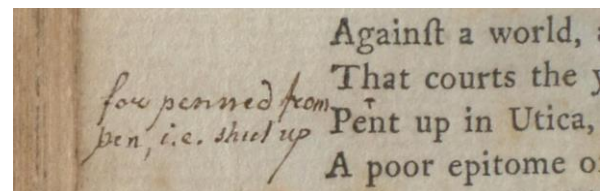
Poems on several occasions. [bound with] Cato. A tragedy. [and] The Drummer; or, the Haunted-house. A comedy. [and] Rosamond. An opera. Inscrib'd to Her Grace, the Dutchess of Marlborough.

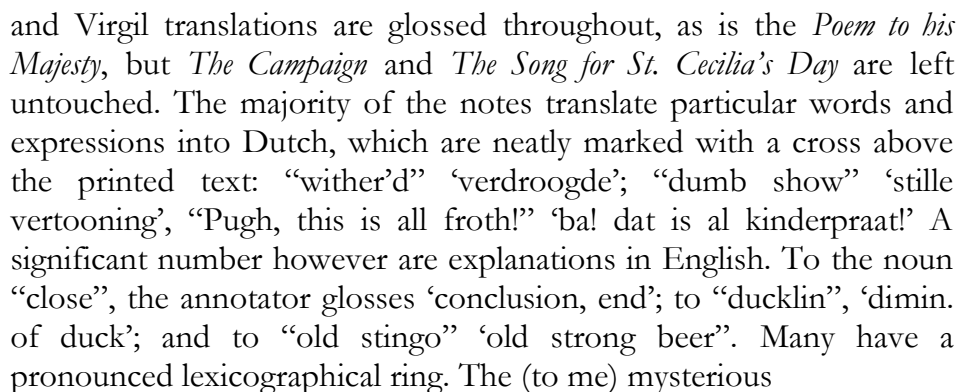
Glasgow, Robert and Andrew Foulis 1751; 1748; 1749; 1751.

£1500

8vo. [ii]+200; 80; 75+[v]; 36. The four works bound together in contemporary vellum, lacking label, red sprinkled edges, rear board somewhat stained, inscribed (later?) at head of title page 'Ex libris Jm. Schouwenberg' (crossed out), and underneath and on front blank, 'W. Royer'.

The annotations are systematic and selective, suggesting that they were done with a view to publication. In the *Poems*, for example, Addison's Ovid





is explained: “teile” is ‘lime or linden tree’. To “strowling” the annotator comments ‘now strolling, i.e. to wander’, and to “trunk” ‘body without the limbs’. And although he may occasionally get it wrong – to “that’s pos!” he hazards ‘This seems to be a derivation of the Latin posse’ – his notes are often remarkably learned. The description in

(For beeves, i.e.  
black cattle)  
rundree

carries the far from obvious correction in the margin “(for beeves, i.e. black cattle) rundvee”.



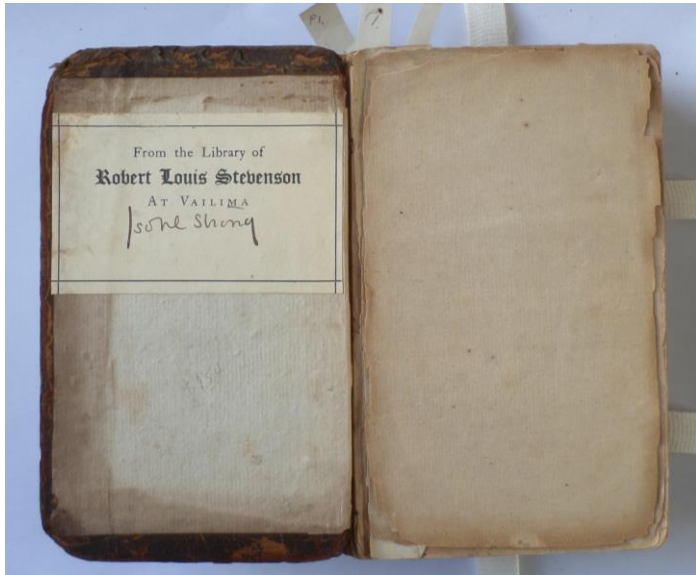




Robert Louis Stevenson's copy, trussed (like Dick in *The Black Arrow*) but not bound  
 [4]  
 James Ray

A Compleat History of the Rebellion, from its first rise, in 1745, to its total suppression, at the glorious Battle of Culloden, in April 1756. By James Ray, of Whitehaven, Volunteer.

London: printed by Robert Brown, near Christ's-Hospital 1759

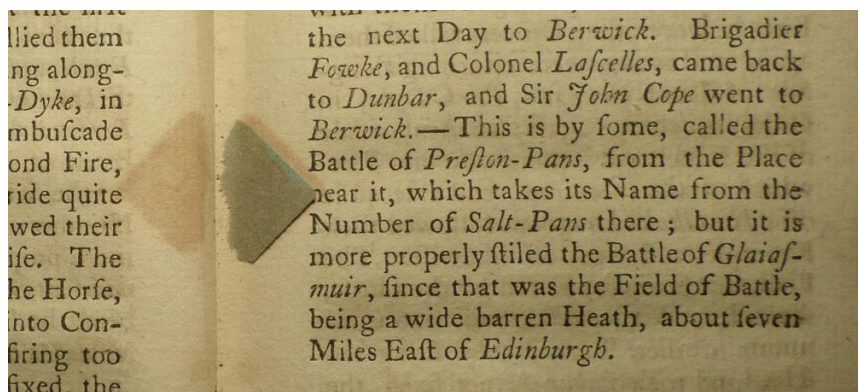


£650  
 12mo. [ii]+451. Engraved portrait of the Duke of Cumberland and 2 plates: "Plan of the Battle of Preston Pans" and "Plan of the Battle of Culloden". In pieces, rear cover missing, with the Vailima bookplate signed by Stevenson's stepdaughter Isobel Strong. There are two MS corrections to misprints in the text (perhaps by his father?), and an old torn card corner nicely pointing to the etymology of Prestonpans, illustrated below.

Item 464 in the Stevenson library sale (Anderson Galleries, New York 1914-16). ESTC lists only three pre-1800 hundred books from his library: an edition of Euripides, a 1725 ephemeral piece

about the Malt Tax, and a copy of *The voyage of Captain Woodes Rogers to the South Seas and round the world* (1792). Presumably most of his books of Scottish interest are in private hands.

It would be pleasing to think that this partisan history, ending with "the glorious Battle of Culloden" and with a portrait frontispiece of "Butcher Cumberland" (so Alan Breck in *Kidnapped*), got into its present condition as a result of severe handling by RLS. In the 1916 sale it was described as "sewed, covers loose"; I hazard that at any rate he set it on its way.



“sad stuff”



[5]

John Dryden

The Miscellaneous Works of John Dryden, Esq; containing all his original poems, tales, and translations, in four volumes.

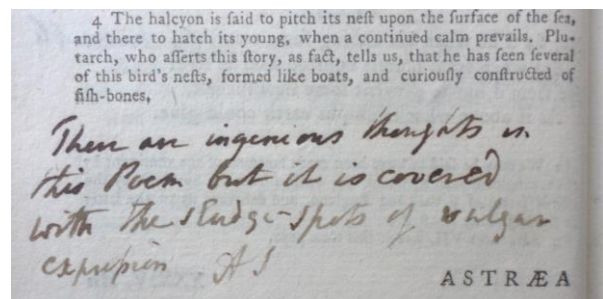
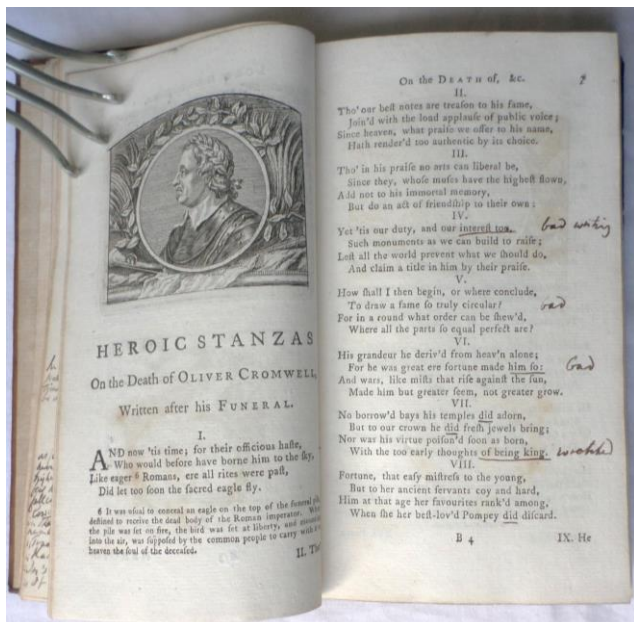
London: printed for J. & R. Tonson in the Strand 1767

£250

4 vols. 12mo. xvi+286; [vi]+368; xlvii+334; [iv]+379. Portrait vignettes in the text. Contemporary calf, spines with gilt bands, lacking labels, red sprinkled edges. Spines worn, volume 1 split in two; clean and crisp inside. The first and last volumes with occasional splenetic marginalia.

The annotator's attention in the fourth volume is confined to Dryden's translation of the first book of the *Iliad*, which, he concludes “contains 31 more lines than Pope's immeasurably superior version of this book”. He is more diffuse in the first volume, scattering “miserable”,

“bad”, “he never took time to be artful” throughout the first half. The *Heroic Stanças on the Death of Oliver Cromwell* concludes with his finest bombast, acknowledged with his initials: “There are ingenious thoughts in this Poem but it is covered with the sludge-spots of vulgar expression AS”.





[6]

Nathaniel Kent

Hints to Gentlemen of Landed Property.

London: printed for J. Dodsley in Pall-Mall 1775

[bound with]

Uniting and monopolizing Farms, plainly proved disadvantageous to the Land-owners, and highly prejudicial to the Public. By a gentleman in the country [John Lewis of Ipswich].

London: Printed for M. Hingeston, in the Strand, near  
Temple-Bar. and sold by R. Smith, at No 23, the corner of  
Barnard's Inn, Holborn 1767

£3500

8vo. vii+268+10 folding plates (Kent); [i]+34 (Lewis). Contemporary calf, raised bands, crimson morocco label, red sprinkled edges. Rubbed, front

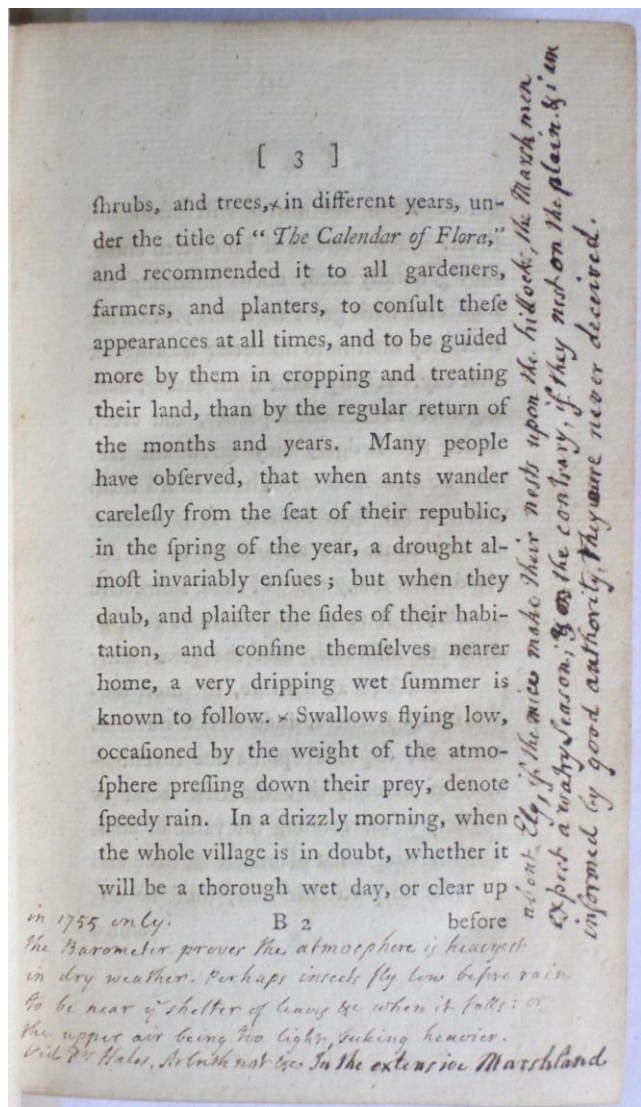
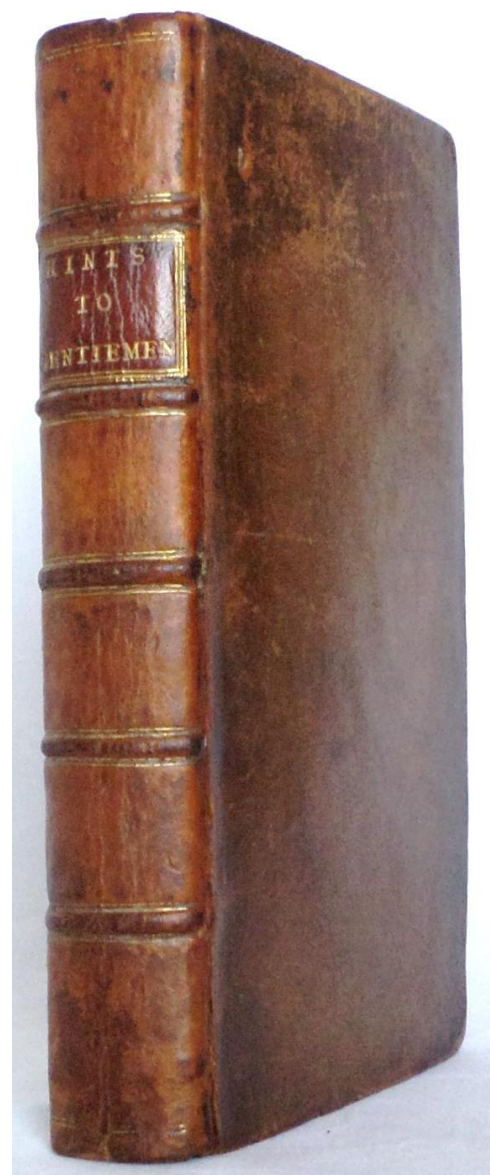
joint cracked but  
securely held by cords.  
An attractive and crisp  
volume, with the  
armorial bookplate of  
Robert Marsham on  
front paste-down.

First editions of  
both works, both  
inscribed, the first  
“the ingenious  
Author’s present”.

The Lewis is, not surprisingly, uncommon, ESTC locating copies in America at Harvard, New York Historical Society and Kansas only.

Robert Marsham of Stratton Strawless in Norfolk (1708-1797) was a pioneer in the study of the effects of the seasons on plants and animals, and a close friend of Gilbert White, with whom he conducted an extensive correspondence.

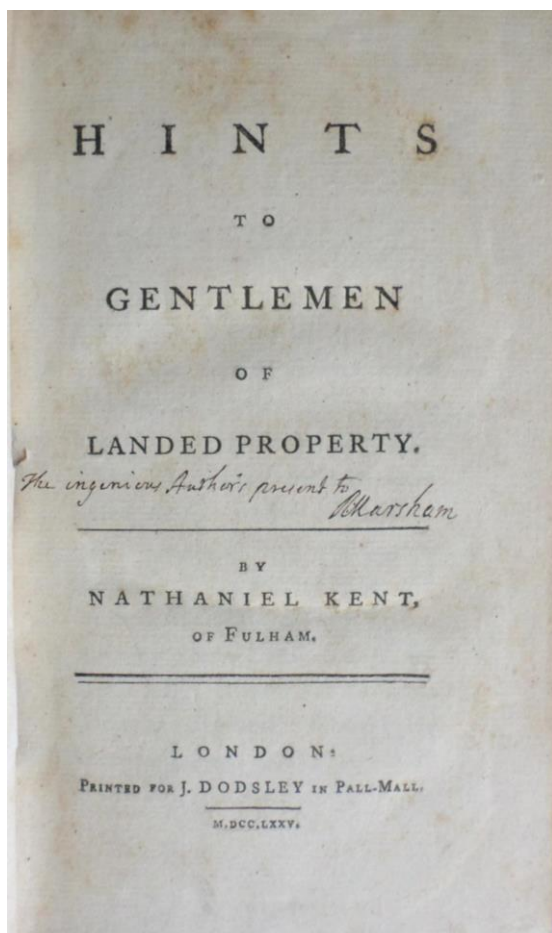
An early page of Kent's book, illustrated left, has marginal annotations which particularly reflect his



interest in weather and animal behaviour. In the foremargin he comments, "In the extensive Marshland about Ely, if the mice make their nests upon the hillocks, the Marsh men expect a watry Season; & on the contrary, if they nest on the plain. & i am informed by good authority, they were never deceived." The prior note by him at the foot of the page, in addition to discussing the behaviour of insects before rain, corrects Kent's reference to Stillingfleet's *Calendar of Flora*. ESTC records that Marsham's copy of Stillingfleet's book is preserved by the National Trust.

When the plantation is made, it is clearly the best way to plant the oaks, or whatever trees are designed for timber, at nearly the distance they are designed to stand forty years afterwards; and when any fail, to supply them occasionally. This best sort, designed for timber, should be planted at the growth of about seven or eight feet high; and by planting thus, the choice of trees is lost: by planting those trees that are to form the grove, larger than y<sup>e</sup> rest, they will probably not run so straight, as they would do, if they were lower than y<sup>e</sup> rest of the trees in y<sup>e</sup> grove when first planted.

Marsham's forestry research led to his election as fellow of the Royal Society in 1780, and on page 185 he makes an interesting observation on methods of planting, illustrated above. More minor notes, in both books and on the rear endpapers, relate to estate management, the cost of crops, tenants' housing and tenants' responsibilities, some of which may be in his son's hand.



Somersetshire  
e straw to  
Thatch





Noli me tangere

[7]

[Francis Grose]

A Classical Dictionary of the vulgar tongue. The Second Edition, corrected and enlarged.

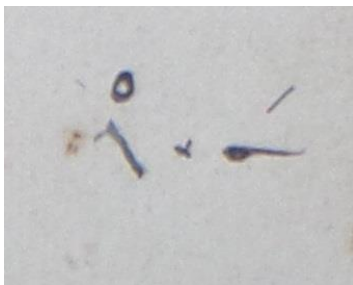
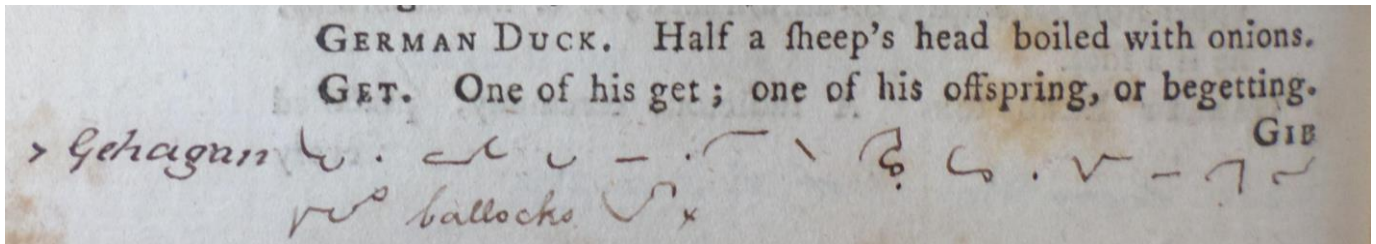
London: printed for S. Hooper 1788

£1800

8vo. [xv]+[i]+unpaginated lexicon. Contemporary half calf, marbled sides, gilt, red sprinkled edges. Foxed and browned, signature D dampstained in lower inner corner, heavily rubbed, with the bookplates of "Shipster" (right) and of Agnes Rymill.

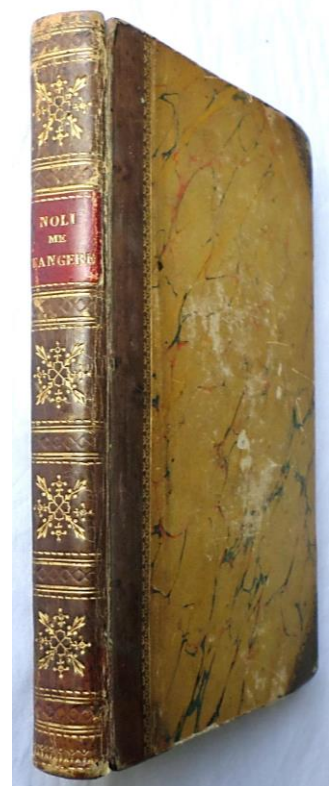


Sporadically annotated in ink and pencil in a nineteenth-century hand. The annotator has concealed some of his notes, and his inscription, by the use of shorthand, but not all: he explains the derivation of the word Grog, which Grose tells us was "introduced by Admiral Vernon", "It took the name of Grog from his wearing a Grograin Coat". He comments that a Tantadlin Tart is "A Toad baked in a Turd & if you don't like the meat you can have a cut at the crust". These are perhaps the more innocent ones. I have not found Gehagan, below, marked for insertion between Gee and Gelding, elsewhere; its meaning may be hidden for good reason.



Inscription in the top right corner of the title page

SCOTCH FIDDLE. The itch.  
SCOTCH MIST. A sober foaking rain: a Scotch mist will wet an Englishman to the skin.  
SCOTCH WARMING PAN. A wench. *also a fart.*  
SCOUNDREL. A man void of every principle of honour.



## The Vice-Chancellor's copy

[8]

Anthony à Wood

The History and Antiquities of the University of Oxford, in two books: now first published in English, from the original MS in the Bodleian Library: by John Gutch, M.A. Chaplain of All Souls and Corpus Christi Colleges.

Oxford: printed for the Editor 1792 (1796).

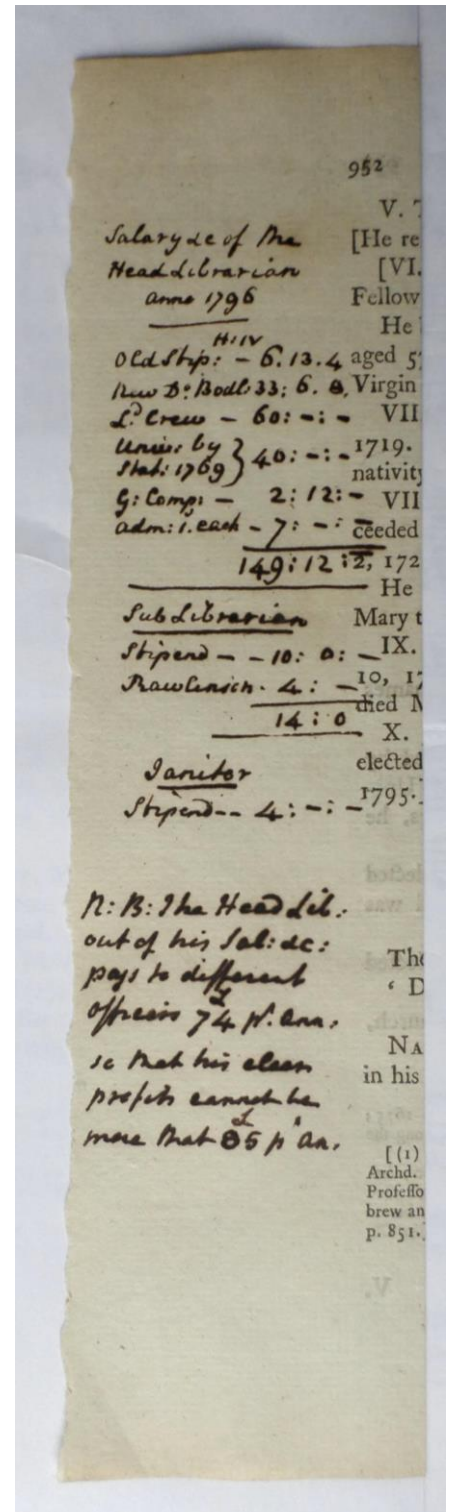
£850

2 vols. bound in 3, as often. 4to. 2 engraved frontispieces and one plate. The third volume is interleaved with paper watermarked Curteis and Sons 1798. Contemporary calf, at some recent stage unprofessionally rebaked laying down original spines, sides unevenly discoloured, wear to spine ends. With the armorial bookplates of Scrope Berdmere and of Henry C. Compton of Manor House Lyndhurst.

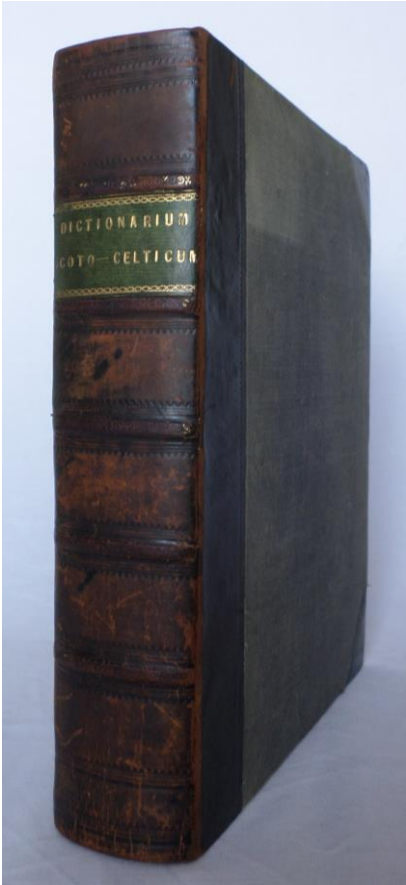
Scrope Berdmere (1744-1814) was Warden of Merton College from 1790 to 1810, and Vice-Chancellor of the University for a year from 1796. His notes, chiefly in the third volume and both in the text and on the interleaves, are primarily intended to update the material, but his application was not sustained, and many of the interleaves remain blank.

The most interesting information, pictured right, appears to have been written at an earlier stage, before the work was bound. It is on an untrimmed outer margin verso, neatly folded back to preserve it, and gives a careful account of the incomes of Bodley's Librarian, Sub Librarian, and Janitor in 1796, the year Berdmere became Vice-Chancellor.

ESTC requests verification of the existence of a frontispiece. The one in this copy is reproduced on the the title page of this list.







SUMAIDEACH, -EICHE, *adj.* (Sumaid), [Wavy, bil-  
lowy, boisterous: fluctuosus, procellosus. *Macf.*  
*V. 2 sensible*  
SUMAIN, -IDH, SH, *v. a.* Summon, cite: cita. *C. S.*  
*vox Angl.*

Authoritatively annotated, corrected, and revised by an unidentified lexicographer with a particular interest in Hebridean usage

[9]

Highland Society of Scotland

[Dictionarium Scoto-Celticum: a dictionary of the Gaelic Language compiled and published under the direction of the Highland Society of Scotland.

Edinburgh, Blackwood 1828]

£2500

4to. 2 vols together. A-4Z4; A-2H4. No title pages or ancillary material bound in. Nineteenth-century half calf, blue buckram sides, green roan label, gilt, plain endpapers, sprinkled edges. Rubbed, sides faded, medial split in rear joint but all holding securely, internally clean, many of the annotations shaved by the binder.

Annotated throughout, apparently with a view to contributing to a revised edition, by a Highland authority. There are around three

hundred annotations to the second volume, many fewer in the first, and numerous references to Hebridean usage. Some of his additions appeared later in Dwelly's dictionary, but many I have not been able to find elsewhere.

There are further illustrations on the first page of the catalogue.

*remove to its  
proper place in  
next column*

SPAID, .  
Spade  
SPAIDEA  
SPAD-CH  
eared,  
SPAD-FH

S. 9. A levy, as of tribute: exactio, quasi vecti-  
galis. *C. S. togaid briche, plundering cattle or exaction*  
TOGAIR, TOGRAIDH, TH, *v. a. et n.* (Tog, et Aire, s.) *black mail*

+ This is, un- &c.  
questionably the †Ua, prep.  
legitimate form of O'R.  
the prep. "O R" with p  
prep.  
who were adopted \* Ua, s. m.  
from a vitious nepos.  
pronunciation UABAIKT, -E  
expellens. pulsion: e

*add "cutting, as  
cal" vide Bee*

From the library of the  
Anglo-Saxon scholar William  
Edward Buckley

From Talboys, Oxford  
Bound by Hayes, Oxford. June 1848.

[10]

Joseph Bosworth

*A Dictionary of the Anglo-Saxon Language.*

London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green, and Longman, Talboys, Oxford; Stevenson, Cambridge 1838

£1500

8vo. [vi]+ccvii+[i]+721. Folding coloured map and table of alphabets, 2 pages of advertisements. Original calf, elaborately gilt in compartments, lacks label, marbled edges and endpapers. Rubbed and dry, joints broken.

With scholarly marginal notes and additions throughout in ink and in pencil by W. E. Buckley, who held the Rawlinson chair at Oxford from 1844-1849 (preceding Bosworth, whose tenure was from 1858-1876). I am grateful to Sophie Floate, the librarian of Brasenose, Buckley's college, for confirming the attribution. While he was at Brasenose an edition of *Excerpts from St. Æthelwold's Rule of St. Benedict* under his editorship was proposed by the Ælfric Society but never published, and a substantial number of his notes cite "R. Ben.", reflecting this early period of research.

Æftergan [gan to go] To fol-  
low after; subsequi:—Past.  
15, 2.  
Æfterfylgendlice  
R. Ben. 7.

Buckley was a keen book collector, in 1884 being elected Vice President of the Roxburghe Club. On his death eight years later he left a substantial library, and there are numerous pencilled crosses in the bibliographical list in Bosworth's preface, presumably marking the Old English volumes that he owned.

After leaving Oxford he was rector of Middleton Stoney in Oxfordshire for thirty-nine years. On page 101 of this copy of Bosworth he has supplied an additional headword in ink with reference both to Kemble and to Middleton Stoney, "Ellenstüb. Cod. Dipl. 544 Elderstump. An enclosure in Middleton Cheney Glebe so called at present, 1881."

Ellenstüb. Cod. Dipl. 544 Elderstump. An  
enclosure in Middleton Cheney Glebe so called at  
present, 1881.

More of Buckley's notes are illustrated at the beginning of the catalogue.

