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8 large illustrated volumes of the most important voyages from the 15th to the end of the 17th century


The Hague, widow of Engelbrecht Boucquet and sons; Leiden, Jan van der Deyster, and Boudewijn and Pieter van der Aa, 1727. 8 volumes. 1º and 2º. With 7 (of 8) engraved frontispieces, 4 engraved dedications, 117 engraved maps on 61 leaves, 7 engraved plates and 502 engravings in text. Further with 127 (of 128) title-pages (including 118 for the separate works). Volume 1–3 & 5–8: contemporary mottled calf, gold-tooled spine and board edges; volume 4: modern calf.

Large paper copy of the so-called “folio-edition” of Van der Aa’s voluminous collection of important voyages to the East and West Indies and other countries, undertaken by all European countries other than the Dutch. Including voyages by Acosta, Balby, Cabot, Cavendish, Chester, Columbus, Cortes, Coutinho, Da Cunha, Drake, Evesko, Froibisher, Gallonye, Da Gama, Garay, Garcia, Gilbert, Jenkinson, Harcourt, Herberer, Magallanes, Mildenhal and Cartwright, Mourette, Petelin and Andrasko, Raleigh, Saris, De Soto, etc.

The work was edited and co-published by Pieter van der Aa, known for his ambitious projects. Where other publishers were primarily concerned about the profits, Van der Aa wanted to publish outstanding books. For the present series of travels he either reused and revised older Dutch translations or had the original accounts translated for the first time into Dutch.

Some occasional spots, a couple of minor restorations and a few wormholes; a very good set, but with the fourth volume from a different and heavily trimmed set (though printed on the same large paper), in a modern binding and lacking the frontispiece and the title-page to the volume. The seven volumes with contemporary bindings slightly worn along the extremities and with some minor wear on the sides, but otherwise very good.

Cordier, Sinica, cols. 1942–1943; Sabin 3 note; Tiele, Bibl. 10.

The Arab stud founded in Saint-Cloud by Louis-Philippe, in 36 splendid coloured plates: the patron’s copy

2. ADAM, Victor. Les chevaux des écuries du Roi.

Paris, Tessari & Cie, impression A. Godard, [1843]. 2º (425 × 585 mm). 36 hand-coloured lithographic plates in 6 livraisons, each preserving its original printed wrapper. Contemporary black quarter shagreen with decorated flat spine, title stamped in gilt on upper cover with a crowned monogram.

The only complete copy known of this extremely rare ensemble of 36 superb horse plates drawn from nature and lithographed by the noted equestrian painter Victor Adam (1801–66), finely enhanced with watercolour and gum arabic by the artist himself. The plates were produced in 1843 and published in six instalments with the special permission of the marquis de Strada, stablemaster to the French King, when Louis-Philippe created a stud in the park of Saint-Cloud for the stallions he had received as gifts from the Viceroy of Egypt and other Middle Eastern princes. In addition to the printed dedication to the marquis de Strada, our copy bears an autograph inscription to the King’s stablemaster “par son humble et très obeissant serviteur David”.

A unique set; unrecorded in trade or auction; no other copy traced in public collections.
Pope Clement XI’s copies of three important works concerning the Armenian language

3. AGOP, Joannes. Puritas Haygica seu grammatica Armenica ...
   Rome, Sacrae Congregatationis de Propaganda Fide, 1675.
   With:
   (2) AGOP, Joannes. Grammatica Latina Armenice` explicata: ...
   Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1675.
   (3) AGOP, Joannes. Puritas lingue Armenicae ...
   Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1674. 3 works in 1 volume. 4º. Contemporary sheepskin parchment.
   € 24 000

The first and only editions of three complementary manuals concerning the Armenian language and grammar, in matching format and layout, all three by the Armenian priest Johannes Agop (1635–1691) in Venice, born in Istanbul. They were printed and published by the Propaganda Fide in Rome, established in 1623 to promote the Catholic religion, primarily outside Europe. The Propaganda Fide established its own printing office in 1626 and stocked it with a wide variety of non-Latin printing types, many newly cut for them. Like many of their publications, the present ones were intended in part for missionaries working in the Ottoman Empire, the Caucasas and Iran, but also in part for Christians who lived in these regions. For that reason Agop wrote not only an Armenian grammar with the instructive text in Latin (ad 1), but also a Latin grammar with the instructive text in Armenian (ad 2) and a work entirely in Armenian on the “purity” of the Armenian language (ad 3). These linguistic publications by Agop still are important for the history of the Armenian language, being among the few on the subject published in the 17th century.

With the armorial stamp of Cardinal Albani (1649–1721), from 1700 Pope Clement XI, on the title-page. A few quires toward the end of the Puritas linguae Armenicae are browned, but otherwise a very good copy, with only an occasional small marginal tear or very minor foxing. Three important and complementary sources for the Armenian language, formerly owned by Pope Clement XI.

Salmaslian 89; www.armenology.net 1296 (& 19), 1298, 1295.

Let us now praise Imperial armaments

4. AGRICOLA, Georg. Oratio de bello adversus Turcam suscipiendo.
   Basel, J. E. Froben, 1538. 4º. With woodcut printer’s device on title page, repeated on reverse of final leaf. Early 19th century marbled boards.  € 6500

First Latin translation of Agricola’s “Oration, Anred und Vermanung” (Nuremberg, 1531), an anti-Ottoman pamphlet of the Turkish wars in Hungary which began with the siege of Vienna in 1529 and lasted well into the 1550s. “No writer has so praised the superiority of the Imperial armaments over the apparently weak Turkish weaponry as did Agricola, the father of mineralogy. In particular, he stressed the vastly superior arms of the German mercenaries who fought with sturdy spears, protected by solid helmets, while the Turks had but flimsy pikes, ‘like little knives’. Victory over so poorly equipped an enemy, he promises, is therefore nothing less than certain. Agricola even seems convinced that a general insurrection of all the peoples subjugated by the Turks is imminent. His oration was written a few months after the siege of Vienna, which may explain his excessive optimism” (Göllner I, p. 208).

Some browning and waterstaining throughout (more pronounced in title page). Rare; only three copies in libraries via VD 16 (BSB Munich; Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz Berlin; Austrian National Library).

5. **AGRICOLA, Georg.** *De re metallica.*

Basel, Froben & Episcopius, 1556. 2º. With 2 (1 folded) woodcut plates and about 280 woodcut illustrations and diagrams in text, partly full-page. Contemporary vellum with ms. title to spine.

€ 65 000

First edition of “the first systematic treatise on mining and metallurgy, and one of the first technological works of modern times” (PMM). Dealing with “everything connected with the mining industry and metallurgical processes, including administration, prospecting, the duties of officials and companies, and the manufacture of glass, sulphur and alum” (PMM), Agricola’s main work paved the way for further systematic study of the earth and its rocks, minerals, fossils, refinery and oil.

An immaculate copy with outstanding provenance. Illustrated with 2 plates and more than 280 woodcuts in the text attributed to Hans Rudolf Manuel Deutsch, some very large, showing the different stages of the extraction and transformation of metals.

From the library of the famous German physician and botanist Joachim Camerarius the Younger (1534–98) with his autograph ownership to the title page (“Joachimo Joach[imi] F[ilio] Camerario”; the Morgan Library holds another book from his library with an identical inscription, cf. Accession no. PM 123904) and a very few underlinings and marginalia most likely also in his hand. Unidentified 18th c. engraved bookplate with the motto “similare nescit” on verso of title. Acquired from the library of Werner Habel, with his stamp, signature and acquisition date (1977) to front pastedown. First and final pages very lightly brownstained in the edges, otherwise clean and crisp throughout. Complete with the two inserted plates following page 100. A very appealing, wide-margined copy in its first binding.


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6. **AGRICOLA, Georg.** *BergwerckBuch.*

Basel, Ludwig König, 1621. 2º. Title printed in red and black with woodcut vignette, 2 folding woodcut plates and about 280 woodcut illustrations and diagrams in text, partly full-page. Contemporary blindstamped leather over wooden boards, remains of clasps.

€ 5000

Third German edition of the standard textbook on mining and metallurgy, first printed in 1566 and still famous today for its iconic illustrations.

Paper a little browned throughout as usual, the three index leaves and the final page with the printer’s device apparently never bound in, but still a very charming, genuine copy with both folding woodcut plates present.

VD 17, 25:146125A. Brüning 1545.
A classic on optics illustrated by Peter Paul Rubens

Antwerp, ex officina Plantiniana, widow & sons of Jan Moretus, 1613. 2º. With large woodcut printer’s device on recto of last blank, engraved allegorical title-page by Pieter Paul Rubens, 6 allegorical half-titles engraved by Theodore Galle after designs by Rubens, and over 600 woodcut illustrations and figures in the text. Contemporary vellum. € 29 000

First edition of a classic on optics and perspective by the Jesuit François de Aguilon (1566–1617). The work, one of the few books illustrated by Pieter Paul Rubens, is a landmark in Baroque book illustration and presents a masterwork in optics. Aguilon was charged with the project of organizing in Belgium the teaching of exact sciences useful in commerce, geography, navigation, architecture and military engineering, which led to the composition of the present “master treatise” (DSB) on optics that synthesized the works of Euclid, Alhazen, Vitellion, Roger Bacon, Pena, Ramus, Risner and Kepler. Of special and the greatest interest are the fine allegorical title, providing a series of ingenious references to the alliance of vision and reason, and the beautiful perspective designs at the heads of each part, all designed by Pieter Paul Rubens. Some professional restorations to binding; some slight traces of use. Fine copy of a classic on optics which influenced numerous 17th-century artists and scientists.


The Interpretation of Dreams

Paris, Marc Orry, 1603. 4º. Greek and Latin text in parallel columns. Contemporary full calf on 5 raised bands with giltstamped spine; gilt fillets and ornaments to covers. € 3500

The rare first collected edition of these important works on the interpretation of dreams, containing Latin translations of Artemidorus, Achmet, Astrampsychus, and of Nicephorus. Of particular importance for Arabic mysticism is the second one, the “Kitab al-Jawami”: the author “Achmet, son of Seirim”, is almost certainly identical with the 8th century Muslim mystic Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Sirin. The Arabic work survived only in the present Greek translation (“Biblion oneirokritikon”) prepared in the 12th century. “The author Ahmed served as interpreter of dreams to Caliph Al-Mamun around 820 [...] The mediaeval conflation of medicine with astrology originated with the Arabs. Through the Salernitanian school, which had many Arabic works translated, the notion reached Europe in the 11th century, where it remained predominant as late as the 17th and 18th century” (cf. Schöll). Spine-ends repaired. Some bruising throughout; an old stamp removed from the title page. An appealing copy.


Berlin, A. W. Schade (I) and A. Asher & Co. (II–X), 1887–1899. 10+1 volumes. 4º. With 12 photographic halftone plates of 62 manuscript specimens in vol. X. Added: separate atlas issue of the 12 plates. Altogether 11 vols. in publisher’s light blue printed boards. € 8500

A complete set of the scarce original edition, published as volumes 7–9 and 16–22 of the giant general catalogue of the Berlin manuscript collections (“Die Handschriften-Verzeichnisse der Königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin”). Ahlwardt (1828–1909) was engaged in 1863 as cataloguer of the Arabian manuscripts. Until 1887 he classified, collated, described and excerpted some 12,000 works in ca 6000 volumes, including current accessions. The important collection was based on the precious library bequeathed by Heinrich Friedrich von Diez. It was gradually enlarged by the manuscript treasures purchased from leading German scholars such as Glaser, Landberg, Minutoli and Brugsch, Petermann, Sachau, Sprenger and Wetzstein. Ahlwardt’s monumental catalogue is renowned for an unprecedented wealth of details both in physical and textual respect. It formed a pattern for a complete history of Arabic literature—theological, juridical, philosophical, scientific, linguistic, historical and poetical. Ahlwardt expanded on the customary manuscript catalogue entries by providing an exact outline of contents for each work catalogued. “When all ten volumes had been printed in 1899, Ahlwardt had created a work which by virtue of its scope and precision would remain of lasting value for the history of Arabic literature” (cf. Fück, Die Arabischen Studien in Europa, 1955, p. 192). Bindings a little bumped, dust-soiled and faded in places, some edges foxed. A clean and very good set.

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Venice, Erhard Ratdolt, 16 Jan. 1482. 4º. With 2 woodcut diagrams and 8 tables in the text; white-vine initials in two sizes, lombardic initials (many coloured in red). Rubricated. Recent full vellum. € 45 000

Second edition of the author’s principal work, originally published at Mantua in 1473. Al-Qabisi flourished in Aleppo, Syria, in the middle of the 10th century. Although his education was primarily in geometry and astronomy, his principal surviving treatise, “Madkhal” (here in the Latin translation of Joanis Hispalensis prepared in 1144), is an introductory exposition of some of the fundamental principles of genethlialogy (the astrological science of casting nativities, or divination as to the destinies of newborns). The “Madkhal” in its Latin version was published many times in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Bookplate of joint collectors Rudolf Hugo Driessen (1873–1957) and Caroline E. F. Kleyn (1883–1933). Outer margin of first leaf slightly frayed; marginal annotation in red ink on its verso (slightly trimmed by binder’s knife). Very rare; last sold at an international auction in 1996.

Al-madkhal


Venice, Petrus Liechtenstein, 1521. 4º. With several diagrams and woodcut initials in the text and the printer’s full-page woodcut device on the final page, printed in red and black. Modern limp vellum with ties. € 28 000

“Early edition of Alchabitius’s ‘Introduction to the Mystery of Judgments from the Stars’, with the ‘modern’ version by Antonius de Fantis. Sessa issued the same work at the same time, but Liechtenstein’s edition is superior and especially esteemed for the fine woodcut in black and red (printer’s mark) at the end” (Weil). “Although al-Qabisi’s education was primarily in geometry and astronomy, his principal surviving treatise, ‘Al-madkhal ila sina’at ahkam al-nujum’ (‘Introduction into the Art of Astrology’) in five sections [...], is on astrology. The book, as the title indicates, is an introductory exposition of some of the fundamental principles of genethlialogy; its present usefulness lies primarily in its quotations from the Sassanian Andarzghar literature and from al-Kindi, the Indians, Ptolemy, Dorotheus of Sidon, Masha’allah, Hermes Trismegistus, and Valens. Although completely lacking in originality, it was highly valued as a textbook” (DSB).

Title slightly smudged; occasional waterstaining. From the library of Curt Wallin with his armorial bookplate on the pastedown. Rare; a single copy in auction records since 1975.


Surgical instruments illustrated

12. AL-RAZI, Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Zakariyya (Rhazes) and Giovanni ARCOLANO (ed.). Omnes [...] medicos longe excellentis opera [...]. In quibus sunt & commentarii in Razis Arabis nonum Lib. ad regem Almansorem [...].

Basel, Heinrich Petri, 1540. 2º (225 × 331 mm). With 2 (repeated) woodcut printer’s devices to title page and final page as well as a half-page woodcut of surgical instruments at the end of the preliminaries. Modern blindstamped brown calf on four raised double bands. € 9500

Rare edition of this commentary on the ninth book of the treatise dedicated by ar-Razi (Rhazes; 850–923 or 932) to Almansor, the Prince of Chorosan (with the text). “The manual, known as ‘Nonus Almansoris’, was popular among mediaeval physicians” (cf. GAL I, p. 419). The work discusses special pathology but excluding pyrology and was one of the most popular textbooks at medical schools and faculties well into the Middle Ages (cf. Hirsch/He. 1, 171). Rhazes is considered the greatest mediaeval physician next to Avicenna; he also conducted alchemical experiments. According to his biographer al-Gildaki, he was blinded for refusing to share his secrets of chemistry.

A woodcut on the final page of the preliminaries depicts ten different surgical instruments, including a tongue depressor, a forceps, and various instruments for cauterization. Several minor waterstains throughout, but generally a fine copy. Provenance: Handwritten ownership of the Jesuit College of Louvain, dated 1637, on the title page.

VD 16, A 3222. Darlington 249. Cf. Garrison/M. 5666.841; Poletti, p. 17; Wellcome I, 585; M. H. Fikri, Treasures from The Arab Scientific Legacy in Europe (Qatar 2009) no. 46, with double-page spread illustration on p. 82f.

A finely illustrated Dutch edition by the bookseller, publisher and writer Hendrik Frijlink (1800–86), first issued in 1829. Slight browning and foxing, but well preserved.


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**The Arabian Nights, illustrated**


First edition of this early translation by Edward Forster (1769–1828), based on the French version of Antoine Galland, which had first appeared between 1704 and 1717. “Galland’s translation [...] was quickly translated into English and German. It enjoyed a most remarkable success throughout Europe, perceptible even in children’s literature, and contributed significantly to the new image which enlightened Europeans entertained of the Islamic East: after Galland, this was no longer the home of the Antichrist and of accursed heresy, but rather the ever-constant Orient beneath an eternally fair sky, boasting splendid colours and unheard-of wealth, Caliphs, Viziers, and Kadis, harems, fairy-tale princes, fairies and genies, sorcerers and sages, a world of fantastic adventure and outrageous incidents” (cf. Fück, p. 101). Forster’s "Arabian Nights" were frequently reprinted, seeing five editions by 1854. The present set is distinguished by the beautiful illustrations after Smirke, "whom every person of correct taste will acknowledge to be second to none in this range of art" (I, vii), as well as by the elegantly gilt navy blue morocco bindings. Some occasional spotting due to paper, some slight wear and scuffing, but a beautiful set altogether.


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**Editio princeps: the first printing of the Arabian Nights in any language**

**The earliest Western translation and the most influential version of Alf Layla Wa-Layla**

15. **[ALF LAYLA WA-LAYLA—FRENCH]**. Les Mille et Une Nuit [sic]. Contes arabes, traduits en François par Msr. Galland. Lyon, Antoine Briasson, 1709 (vols. 1–4), 1717 (vol. 5) and 1719 (vol. 6). 8º. Contemporary mottled calf, gold-tooled spines on five raised bands, gilt labels to spines, red sprinkled edges. € 55 000

The first six volumes of the original edition of the Arabian Nights, considered unobtainable in all twelve volumes as published by Antoine Galland from 1704 onwards. Of the utmost rarity: not a single copy of any of the original issues (even separate volumes or incomplete sets) traceable at auction or in the trade within the last decades; even the Bibliothèque nationale de France holds only an incomplete set (lacking vol. 3), while all but four (Univ. of Indiana, ucla, Princeton, and Newberry) of the 91 entries in OCLC refer
either to separate volumes or incomplete sets. The Newberry and Princeton copies seem to be identical with ours, describing the imprint as “Lyon, chez Antoine Briasson” dated 1709–17 (Princeton: 1706-20). The twelve volumes initially appeared over a period of 13 years, but due to their immense popularity the separately published volumes were reissued multiple times by their original three printers in Paris and Lyon, and so all known sets – complete or incomplete – are made up of various issues of the original edition. “With our present knowledge, we cannot distinguish those reissues or tell whether any real differences entered into them” (Macdonald, 388). Pirated editions, too, appeared at once in Holland; only in 1726 did a distinctive second edition appear in six volumes (Chauvin 21B: “recherchée en raison de l’extrême rareté de l’édition originale”).

The collation of the preliminaries of the first volume of our set follows precisely the description given by Macdonald (388f.): after the dedicatory letter to the marquise d’O, the “Avertissement”, and the table for the entire volume we find the “Approbation” and “Privilège de roi” (as mentioned on the title page), identifying this as the original first edition. The two lines printed at the bottom of the royal privilege, not found in Macdonald’s copy, shed some light on the complex process of changing imprints for individual volumes even while the legitimate first edition of the Arabian Nights was being published (which Chauvin admits to have found confusing): “Et la dite Veuve Barbin à fait part de son Privilège à Antoine Briasson, Librairie de Lyon, suivant leur traite du 5 Mars 1705”.

Uniform, contemporary bindings only slightly rubbed and scuffed at the edges; interior clean and spotless throughout. A genuine, charming copy of one of the greatest rarities of world literature, removed from an as yet unidentified noble library, with small heraldic ownership stamp to each title-page and contemporary handwritten ownership “D. Rossi” on pastedowns.


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**A fine set of the “Nights” in German**

16. **[ALF LAYLAH WA-LAYLAH—GERMAN]**. Tausend und Eine Nacht. Arabische Erzählungen Breslau, Josef Max, 1825. Small 8º. 15 vols., uniformly bound in near-contemporary half calf with gilt spine and red spine labels. € 2800

First printing of this German edition, based on a complete translation prepared by Antoine Galland. The so-called “Galland ms.” which he had bought in 1701 is the oldest Arabic text extant (dating from 1450 or later). Maximilian Habicht (1775–1839) lived in Paris for a decade as a member of the Prussian delegation. He knew vernacular Arabic well and separately published an edition of the Arabic text of the “Nights” (cf. Fück). Slightly browned; bookplates of the Viennese collector Rudolf Jelinek on pastedowns; collector’s stamps to titles.


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**Arabian Nights—the first complete edition in Urdu**

17. **[ALF LAYLA WA-LAYLA—HINDUSTANI]**. Kitab Alf layla wa-layla (Hindustani). Cawnpore, Mustafai Press, 1263 AH [1847 AD]. Large 4º. 4 vols. bound as two. Lithographed throughout, with decorated title pages and a full-page floral illustration to the final page. Contemporary full red calf with flat spines, painted entirely with floral oriental designs; both covers with inlaid gilt floral stamps. € 28 000

Very early and rare Hindustani (Urdu) version of the “Thousand and One Nights”, translated by Munshi Adh al-Karîm. This was considered by J. F. Blumhardt, the cataloguer of the Hindustani books in the British Library and consultant to Richard Burton, the first complete version in Urdu, as a previous one, lithographed at Madras in 1836, comprised merely the first
200 “Nights” (Chauvin, however, cites an edition issued in Lucknow in 1828 as the first). Al-Karim’s translation was based on Edward Forster’s 1802 English version.

Volumes 1 and 4 are dated in Arabic (and vol. 1 also in Latin). A few reinforcements. Some loosening of the sewing in book 2. Some worming, more pronounced in the 2nd volume, but mainly confined to margins. Several pencil annotations by an early 20th century scholar’s hand in book 3. An appealingly bound copy.


**“One Thousand and One Nights” in Japanese**

18. **[ALF LAYLA WA-LAYLA—JAPANESE]**

Kaikan Kyoki. Arabiya Monogatarì. [Translated by Hideki Nagamine].

Tokyo and Keishokaku, Yamashiroya Masakichi, Meiji 8 [1875]. 8º. 2 vols. (no more published). Original bindings. € 5000

The first Japanese translation of the “Thousand and One Nights”, this edition complete in two volumes (plans for the publication of subsequent volumes did not materialize). The text is believed to be a translation of the 1860 English revised edition of “The Arabian Nights” by George Fyler Townsend. Includes 4 leaves of lithographic plates (including frontispiece), showing Schéhérazade at the foot of Shahryar’s bed, a scene from “The Fisherman and the Jinni”, a scene from “The Story of the Vizir Who Was Punished”, etc., possibly based on William Harvey’s illustrations for E. W. Lane’s “The Arabian Nights’ Entertainments” (1838–40).

Bindings slightly worn and creased. Occasional old ownership stamps and marks to contents. A water stain throughout both volumes. Rare.

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**The life of Almansoor**

19. **[ALI ALBENCUFIAN (i.e., Miguel de LUNA)]**. Histoire véritable contenant la vie de Iacob Almançor Roy d’Arabie.

Paris, Gervais Clousier, 1638. 8º. With engr. title vignette. 19th-c. half calf with giltstamped title to panelled spine. Marbled endpapers. € 3000

First French edition of the life of Almansor, the 10th century Arabic conqueror and ruler of Spain. The Moorish apologist Miguel de Luna first published this historical work in two parts in 1592 and 1600. Although presented as a translation from an Arabic manuscript, it was almost certainly of his own composition. It is important as a sympathetic account of the Moorish conquest of Spain and offers numerous accounts of the humanity and cultivation of an Arabic prince. His pre-eminence in science and learning is dwelt upon, and there is an interesting account of the formation of his vast library: he is said to have offered twice the market value for any book he found wanting from his collections. This rare French edition marks an early and remarkable point in the emergent French interest in the Arab world.

Slight browning throughout. Bookplate of Eugène Vignat (1815–95), Mayor of Orléans and Député of Lorient. A good copy. Rare.

**An Innocent Arab Proposing the Destiny of the Universe**

**20. ALLAEUS, Franciscus.** Astrologiae Nova Methodus. Francisci Allaei, Arabis Christiani. [Rennes, Julian Herbert], 1654[-1655]. 2º. With 1 engraved disc in the text of the first count (a repeat of disc 2 of the first volvelle), 3 volvelles in the first section, composed of 11 parts; and 2 volvelles in the second section, composed of 6 parts (all but two stitched together, but inserted loosely, never sewn into the book). Contemporary full vellum. € 25 000

Rare second, expurgated edition of this remarkable treatise offering predictions for the destiny of European nations, issued without place or printer in the year of the almost unobtainable first edition, most copies of which were burned by the hangman at Nantes and Rennes shortly after publication. The first edition was deemed offensive due to the predictions of five volvelles in the second section which offered horoscopes for Islam, Christianity, France, Spain, and England. A “Figura Sectae Mahometanae” dared to give a horoscope of the Prophet Muhammad and a list of significant events in the history of Islam; this was followed by predictions which included the suggestion that a quarter of the world would be Islamic by 1703. The book’s authorship remains a mystery. It is attributed on the title-page to a certain Francisco Allaeio, “Christian Arab”, but this is probably a pseudonym for Yves de Paris, a Capuchin monk known for his anti-establishment views. The third section of the work offers a religious justification for the relevance of astrological prediction, in which the author defends himself as an “innocent Arab proposing the destiny of the universe” (p. 5). Endpapers not pasted to covers; some browning, fingerstaining and edge defects, but still a good, wide-margined copy. Uncommonly, none of the volvelles are sewn into the book, as they seem intended to be removable; two volvelles are not stitched together, though the discs are cut out. A 13-page typewritten German translation of the preliminary matter (“The Fate of the Author” and “The Principles of Astrology”), apparently the work of a German scholar of the 1930s with an attractive hand-drawn title page in red, yellow and black ink, is inserted at the end.

Provenance: 1) Heinrich Xaver Baron Wiser, minister of Palatinate-Neuburg at the court of Madrid in the 1690s and at Naples from 1709 to 1713 (his handwritten ownership to title); 2) Johann Oeler, legal advisor to the Barons Sturmfeder (his handwritten shelfmark and ownership, dated Mannheim, 24 Nov. 1806, on front endpaper); 3) Moritz (Carl August) Axt (1801–62), German classicist and educator (his handwritten ownership on flyleaf).


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**Inscribed by the author to Nobel**


With:


Collection of publisher’s promotional leaflets on “The Philosophy of Oriental Music” in French and English. € 2800
First edition in Arabic, inscribed by the author to an unidentified member of the Swedish Nobel family: “Présenté par l’auteur à Mr. le Maître Gunar Nobel avec les meilleurs salutations [...] Damas 10.5.1952”. The Syrian musicologist Allawerdi held that there were two basic forms of music: the oriental, natural one, based on the harmonic series, and the western, mechanical one, based on the tempered scale of 18th century instruments. While he associated the former with serenity and peace, he viewed the latter as artificial and complex, ultimately leading to restlessness, chaos, and war. Allawerdi strove to unify the “language of music” as a first step towards achieving world peace. He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1951.

A good copy, including several of the author’s further writings on the subject, one as an original authorial typescript.

A famous tract against Islam

22. ALPHONSUS DE SPINA. Fortalitium fidei [...].
(Lyon, Jean Moylin for) Etienne Gueynard, (11 Oct. 1525). Large 8º.
Numerous woodcut initials and marginal illustrations repeated throughout the volume. Contemporary full calf over wooden boards with blind-tooled ornaments and remains of clasps, rebacked in the 19th century with new spine and marbled endpapers. Remains of clasps.

€ 9500

This “Fortress of the Faith, against all the enemies of the Christian religion, restraining the rage of Jews and Muslims”, written c. 1458, is the principal work of the baptized Spanish Jew de Spina. It is considered the “methodical and ideological foundation of the Inquisition. The book, divided into five chapters, targets chiefly Jews and Muslims” (cf. LMA I, 408f.). The section on Islam lists the numerous Saracen wars, while the fifth book is devoted to the battle to be waged against the Gates of Hell and its resident demons, whose population the author calculates at over 133 million.

Block loosened in places. Clasps missing; binding rubbed but original blind-tooling of boards remains recognizable, even though partly obscured by the 19th century leather that replaced the spine. A fine post-inculabular edition, the final one to appear, embellished with numerous woodcut illustrations.


The first important work on the history of Egyptian medicine

23. ALPINI, Prosper and Jacob BONTIUS. De medicina Aegyptiorum, libri quatuor. Et Iacobi Bontii In Indiis archiatri, De medicina Indorum. Editio ultima.
Paris, Nicolaus Redelichuyisen, 1645. 2 parts in one volume. Small 4º (22.5 × 17.5 cm). Title page printed in red and black; woodcut chapter initial and head-tail pieces, 2 text illustrations and 3 full-page woodcuts.
Full vellum, title gilt on spine red label.

€ 3000

Somewhat later edition of the first important work on the history of Egyptian medicine. Alpini (1553–1617) was an Italian physician and botanist who spent three years in Egypt studying botany and hygiene as a companion to the Venetian Consul Giorgio Emo. This work is considered “one of the earliest European studies of non-western medicine. Alpini’s work dealt primarily with contemporary (i.e. Arabic) practices observed during his sojourn in Egypt. These included moxibustion—the production of counter-irritation by placing burning or heated material on the skin—which Alpini introduced into European medicine [...] Alpini also mentioned coffee for the first time in this work” (Norman). Jacobus Bontius (Jacques de Bondt, 1592–1631), whose work on Indian medicine is included, was a Dutch physician and botanist. He travelled to Persia and Indonesia to study the botany of the area. He was the first to study cholera on the island of Batavia in
1689, before it was known in Europe, and died on Java. His botanic and medical works were published after his death by Pisonius. He “was probably the first to regard tropical medicine as an independent branch of medical science. He spent the last four years of his life in the Dutch East Indies, and his book incorporates the experience he gained there. It is the first Dutch work on tropical medicine and includes the first modern descriptions of beri-beri and cholera” (Garrison/M. 2263, citing the 1642 first edition).

Binding slightly brownstained in places. Small tear to 3rd leaf, not affecting text; occasional browning.


Three works on Eastern languages, including Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Syriac and others

24. **ALTING, Jacob.** Fundamenta punctationis linguae sanctae, cum necessarii canonum, locorum S. Scripturae & vocum irregularium indicibus.
Frankfurt am Main, Widow of Friedrich Daniel Knoch and J.G. Eslinger, 1746.
Including:

(2) **ALTING, Jacob.** Synopsis institutionum Chaldaeorum et Syrarum.
Frankfurt am Main, Widow of Friedrich Daniel Knoch and J.G. Eslinger, 1747.

(3) **OTHO, Georg.** Synopsis institutionum Samaritanarum, rabbinicarum, Arabicarum, Aethiopicarum et Persicarum.
Frankfurt am Main, Friedrich Daniel Knoch, 1735. 3 works in 1 volume. 8º. Contemporary vellum.

€ 3500

Ad 1: A work on various Eastern languages, including Hebrew, Syriac, Arabic, Amharic and others. The first text deals with the Hebrew of the Bible and Torah, written by the Dutch linguist and theologian Jacob Alting (1618–1679). It starts describing the Hebrew alphabet, followed by chapters on vowels, syllables, regular and irregular verbs, grammar, etc. One chapter deals with the Aramaic language. Printed at the end are three Hebrew letters, and index of Biblical passages and an index with irregular Hebrew words. Ad 2 and 3 have their own individual title-pages with a different impressum, but both are mentioned on the title-page of ad 1.

Ad 2: A work on the Chaldean and the Syriac language, also by Jacob Alting. He deals with the alphabets, grammar, cases, etc., including many words together with their conjugations.

Ad 3: A work on various Eastern languages, written by the German orientalist and linguist Georg Otho (1634–1713). The first “synopsis” deals with the Samaritan language, the second on Mishnaic Hebrew, the third on Arabic, the fourth on Amharic (here called Ethiopian), and the last one on Persian.

With some faint (water) stains and some minor foxing, otherwise in very good condition.


Early bibliography

25. [AMADUZZI, Giovanni Cristoforo (ed.)]. Catalogus librorum qui ex Typographio Sacrae Congreg. de Propaganda Fide variis linguis prodierunt et in eo adhuc asservantur.
Rome, Typis Sac. Congreg. de Propaganda Fide, 1773. 8º. With woodcut printer’s device on title page (Christ sending the Apostles forth to spread the Gospel). Unbound as issued.

€ 4500

Very scarce catalogue of oriental books printed by the Propaganda Fide press. Pages 10–12 list no fewer than 28 publications in Arabic, many of which (such as Scialac’s and Sionita’s 1613 version of the “Doctrica Christiana”) are still considered milestones of Arabic typography. Prints in other languages such as Chaldaean, Persian, Syriac, and Ottoman Turkish bear further witness to the unrivalled excellence of the Propaganda Press in the field of Middle Eastern typography. A first such catalogue had appeared in 1765; of this second, expanded edition OCLC lists no more than two copies (Tübingen and Copenhagen).

Well-preserved throughout.

OCLC 46974789. Not in Besterman.
Portuguese discoveries in the East

26. ANDRADA, Francisco d’. Cronica do muyto alto e muito poderoso Rey destes Reynos de Portugal dom João o III. deste nome. Dirigida ha C. R. M. del Rey dom Felipe o III. deste nome nosso senhor.

Lisbon, Jorge Rodriguez for the author, sold by Francesco Lopez, 1613. 4 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With a central crowned coat of arms of Portugal on the title-page, title and coat of arms set in ornamental border, woodcut initials. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum.

First edition of this principal history of the reign of João III of Portugal (1502–1557), ruler of Portugal from 1521 until his death. His reign was marked by the introduction and establishment of the inquisition in Portugal from 1536 onwards. During his rule, Portuguese possessions were extended in Asia, the Middle East and in the New World through the Portuguese colonization of Brazil.

“Francisco de Andrada (ca. 1540–1614) was a Commander of the Order of Christ, a member of the State Council, Chief Keeper of the Archives and Chief Chronicler of the Kingdom. He was the son of Fernão Alvares d’Andrada, Treasurer to King João III” (Maggs).

With the bookplate (in gold) of the Huth Library on inside of front cover, embossed stamp of Antonio de Almeide Correa on the title-page. Very good copy of an important work on the discoveries and conquests of the Portuguese.

Bosch 52; Huth Library 177; Maggs, Bibl. Brasiliensis 164; Rodrigues 171.

Early Life of the Prophet

27. ANDRÉS, Juan. Confusione della setta macomettana.

Venice, Gio. Battista Ugolino, 1597. 8º. All edges sprinkled in red. Contemporary limp blue boards.

Last Italian edition of the 16th century: a famous account of Islam (with a life of the Prophet Muhammad) given by a Muslim convert to Christianity, first published in Spanish in 1515 and frequently reprinted and translated. The author gives his former name only as Alfaqui ibn Abdallah from Játiva near Valencia in Spain; he flourished 1487–1535.

Some browning and brownstaining throughout due to paper; a few pages waterstained; old ink notes to title page (some ink corrosion). Rare; only two copies in WorldCat (Paris-BnF and Mazarine); four in Italy (Venice, Prato, Modena, Messina); none in the U.S.


The famous Mu’allaqat of Antarah


Leiden, Samuel and Johannes Luchtmans, 1816. 4º. With text in Arabic and roman types. Contemporary boards, covered with grey paste-paper.

Early bilingual (Arabic-Latin) edition of the Mu’allaqat of Antarah ibn Shaddad (525–608), an Arab warrior poet, famous for both his poetry and his adventurous life. His chief poem forms part of the Mu’allaqat, a group of seven long Arabic poems that are considered the best work of the pre-Islamic era, which arelegendarily said to have hung on or in the Kaaba at Mecca. The edition is edited by Vincent Elias Menil and contains notes by Joannes Willmet.
With the owner’s inscription of the German orientalist Johann Heinrich Kalthoff (1803–1839). Some marginal waterstaining and the boards a bit rubbed, otherwise in good condition.

Lambrecht 1590; Marder, p. 164; NCC (5 copies).

Maritime atlas of the Middle East, Africa, Indian Ocean, Far East and South Pacific: a magnificent display of colonial power ca. 1780

29. APRÈS DE MANNEVILLETTE, Jean-Baptiste d’. Le neptune oriental, ...
Paris, Antoine Guénard Demonville; Brest, Romain-Nicolas Malassis, 1775.

With:

(2) APRÈS DE MANNEVILLETTE, Jean-Baptiste d’. Supplément au neptune oriental, ...
Paris, Antoine Guénard Demonville; Brest, Romain-Nicolas Malassis, 1781.

2 text volumes bound as 1, plus 1 atlas volume. Imperial 2º (55 × 42 cm). With engraved frontispiece and 72 large engraved nautical charts (33 double-page and 39 single-page, plate size about 50 × 68 and 48 × 35 cm). Uniform contemporary mottled, gold-tooled calf, with the crowned French royal arms on each board and “Conseil de la Marine” below it on each front board. Rebacked, with most of the original backstrips laid down.

(3) APRÈS DE MANNEVILLETTE, Jean-Baptiste d’. Instructions sur la navigation des Indes orientales et de la Chine, pour servir au Neptune oriental, dédié au roi ....
Paris, Jean-Claude Dezauche (colophon: Brest, printed by Romain-Nicolas Malassis), 1775.

(4) APRÈS DE MANNEVILLETTE, Jean-Baptiste d’. Supplément au Neptune oriental, ...
Paris, Antoine Guénard Demonville; Brest, Romain-Nicolas Malassis, 1781.

Large 4º (26 × 21 cm). 2 volumes bound as 1. “Maroquin”-pattern sheepskin (ca. 1840?), gold-tooled spine. € 75 000

Greatly expanded second edition, plus the rarer posthumous supplement published a year after the author’s death, of one of the greatest maritime atlases in the history of French cartography, devoted to exotic regions (the Middle East including the Gulf, the African coasts, the Indian Ocean and East Indies, Southeast Asia, parts of the Chinese coast, and the Pacific islands). Each section starts with a large territorial overview map and closes in on particular area in the subsequent charts. For example the Arabian Peninsula is first displayed on a large overview map showing the coasts along the Indian ocean, which is followed by a chart of the Arabian Sea, and separate charts of the coasts along the entry to the Red Sea, the complete Red Sea, in front of Jeddah and the Arabian Gulf.

It was compiled by Jean-Baptiste-Nicolas-Denis d’Après de Manneville (1707–1780), hydrographer to the French navy, supported by the French East India Company and the Académie des Sciences. “It was at once hailed as a major achievement and welcomed by navigators throughout the world” (Cat. Nat. Mar. Mus.). D’Après continued to improve and expand it for the rest of his life, serving as director of the Company’s nautical chart publishing office from 1762. One rarely finds two copies of Le neptune oriental with the same make-up, but the present copy shows its full extent immediately after D’Après’s death. The whole is not only a magnificent collection of sea charts, but also an essential key to understanding European colonial power ca. 1780.

The present copy of the Neptune may have first belonged to the Secrétairerie d’État. In 1806 Napoleon revived the Conseil de la Marine, which had been replaced by the Secrétairerie d’État in 1723, so those words must have been added in 1806. Also with bookplates. With a couple charts slightly browned (one of them also with an unintended crease), a few pages in the Instructions (mostly in its supplement) with a marginal worm trail, and an occasional very minor hole or spot, but generally in very good condition (most leaves of the Instructions fine). The Neptune has been expertly rebacked as noted, with the loss of parts of the backstrips, but the bindings of the Neptune and Instructions are otherwise very good. A splendid maritime atlas, beautifully bound for the French navy.

Cordier, Sinica 134; Cat. Nat. Mar. Mus. 294; Howgego A107; Phillips & Le Gear 3166, 3167 & 3168.
**The first months of the Mesopotamian campaign against the Ottomans**


Detailed official military reports from the war theatre in the Gulf region, issued by Generals W. S. Delamain, A. A. Barrett, and J. E. Nixon between February and August 1915 (covering operations as early as November 1914), in the early months of the British Empire's Mesopotamian campaign against the Ottoman Empire, while T. E. Lawrence was still posted to the military intelligence staff at the Arab Bureau in Cairo. A few edge and corner flaws to the first few pages.

**Incunable on poisons, using various Arabic sources**

31. ARDUINO, Sante. [Incipit: Incipit liber de venenis ...] (Colophon: Venice, Bernardino Rizzo, 1492). 2º (42 × 28 cm). Modern black- and gold-tooled calf. € 45 000

First edition of a work on poisons, compiled by Sante Arduino (or Ardoini) of Pesaro. “… the elaborate compendium on poisons in eight books which Sante Ardoini of Pesaro compiled in the years, 1424–1426, from Greek, Arabic and Latin works on medicine and nature, and which was printed at Venice in 1492, and at Basel in 1518 and 1562. … Although Ardoini quotes previous authors at great length, his work is no mere compilation, since he does not hesitate to disagree with such medical authorities of Peter of Abano and Gentile da Foligno, and refers to his own medical experience or observation of nature at Venice and to what fisherman or collectors of herbs have told him. He also seems to have known Arabic, and his occasional practice of giving the names of herbs in several Italian dialects is of some linguistic value” (Thorpndike). Ardoini makes extensive use of the works by Avicenna (Ibn Sina), who “held a high place in Western European medical studies, ranking together with Hippocrates and Galen as an acknowledged authority” (Weisser). Among the numerous other sources he used are Galen, Avenzoar (Ibn Zuhr), Rasis (al-Razi), Andromachus, Albucasis (Al-Zahrawi), Serapion the Younger and Dioscorides.

A very good copy, with only a few marginal waterstains. Binding slightly rubbed along the extremities and with a few scratches on boards.

BMC STC Italian, p. 927; Thorndike III, p. 545; USTC (no copies listed).

**Exceptionally large Persian/Arabic armillary sphere**

32. ARMILLARY SPHERE. [Rotating celestial globe, bordered by four pivotable concentric rings, the uppermost with ornamental mount].

Arabic, 1125 AH (1713 CE). 53 cm. Engraved and etched gilt brass with lettering in Arabic. Total height from ring to base: 53 cm. € 135 000

Exceptionally large armillary sphere with rich calligraphical and ornamental decoration as an image of the universe. The celestial sphere is surrounded in the centre by rings with the signs of the zodiac (outside) and various planet symbols. The names of the zodiac signs and months are engraved in Arabic. Signed and dated by the artist, an “Alexander”, in the year 1125 AH. A nearly identical object is kept at the Globe Museum of the Austrian National Library at Vienna (item GL. 214), there classified as “Persian/Arabic”. While simple celestial globes are not uncommon in the trade, elaborate specimens of the present size (53 cms) are very rare. Slightly soiled and corroded, but hardly rubbed.
Kufic coinage

33. **ARRI, Giovanni Antonio.** Novas observationes in quosdam numos Abbasidarum aliosque Cuficos […]. Turin, ex Regio Typographo, 1835. Large 4º. With 3 engraved plates (one folding). Contemporary orange wrappers. €1000


The only Arabic grammar printed in Rome during the 18th century


Venice, Giuseppe Gnoato, 1820. With an engraved portrait frontispiece. Early 19th century half calf with gilt-stamped spine title. €2500

First edition: the only Arabic grammar printed in Rome during the 18th century; much rarer than Erpenius’s similarly titled grammar, with which it is not to be confused. Includes an introduction to the Arabic alphabet as well as a Latin-and-Arabic parallel version of the the Lord’s Prayer, the Angelic Salutation, the Apostles’ Creed, the Ten Commandments, etc. The Propaganda Fide press “Catalogus Librorum” gives Assemani as the author: “Auctor est Praesul Iosephus Simonius Assemanus, eaque ope Linguae Latinae sunt explicata”. Some slight worming and waterstaining; damage to lower corner of four leaves (no loss to text). Handwritten early 20th century ownership of Alfred Jones, a picture dealer and collector of Bath; his donor’s bookplate (to the Bath Public Reference Library, 1915) on the pastedown. *Schnurrer p. 68f., no. 99. Catalogus librorum qui ex Typographio Sacrae Congreg. de Propaganda Fide varis linguis prodierunt (1773), p. 12. OCLC 50204336.*

A French view on the Arabs in a Dutch translation

35. **ARVIEUX, Laurent d’.** Reis naar de legerplaats van den Grooten Emir, en beschrijving van de zeeden en gewoonten der woestijn-bewoonende Arabieren ... Tweede druk.

Dordrecht, A. Blussé & Zoon, 1802. 8º. With 3 full-page engraved plates and 1 engraved illustration in text. Contemporary gold-tooled half calf, shell-marbled sides. €1350

A surprisingly rare re-issue of the first Dutch edition of D’Arvieux’s *Voyage*, translated by Gerard Kuipers. Dressed in local costume, D’Arvieux travelled widely in the Levant and was well-versed in Arabic, Turkish, Persian, Hebrew and Syriac languages. He resided in Sidon (or Saïda) from 1653 to 1664, when he was sent on a mission to the Arabs of Mount Carmel, which is narrated in the present work. The account includes a general description of the traditions and customs of nomadic tribes and is illustrated with 3 fine plates. The first edition was edited and posthumously published by Jean La Roque in 1717. The present Dutch edition is a re-issue with a new title-page of the 1780 edition, printed from the same setting of type, and apparently unrecorded. Binding with some light wear, otherwise in very good condition. *This edition not in Atabey, Blackmer, KVK, NCC, Saalmink, Tiele; WorldCat.*
“Ruler of group of Islands”

36. [BAHRAIN]. HH Sheikh Hamad ibn Al Khalifa with three other sheikhs. Gulf region, 1920s. Black and white photograph (gelatin silver print, 8 x 7 cm) mounted on brown cardboard (9 x 8.5 cm). Captioned in white ink. € 4500

HH Sheikh Hamad ibn Al Khalifa, KCIE, CSI (1872–1942) was the King (Hakim) of Bahrain from 1923 until his death. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, his palace in Al-Sakhir was a centre where both Gulf Sheikhs and British nobility, and political figureheads were regularly invited to dine and discuss foreign policy of the region. The photograph shows the monarch in a deck chair on a ship in the company of noble retainers. The caption reads “Sheikh Hamad. Ruler of group of Islands Persian Gulf”. A well-preserved, glossy print in good contrast.

First Arabic edition of Persian stories often added to the Arabian Nights


First Arabic edition of this series of Persian tales, a frame story deriving partly from the ancient Sanskrit Panchatantra (Bidpai) and often added as a supplement to the Arabian Nights. It was published in French as “Nouveaux contes Arabes” (Paris 1788), and William Owseley produced an English and Persian edition as “The Bakhtiyar Nameh, or, Story of Prince Bakhtiyar and the Ten Viziers” (London 1801). The present edition is based on an Arabic manuscript discovered in Cairo: a Latin translation with annotations followed (in dissertation form) in 1814. It is an elegant little book, well-printed on excellent paper. The Swedish scholar Gustaf Knös (1773–1828) studied in Göttingen and (under Silvestre de Sacy) in Paris. He held the Uppsala chair of oriental languages from 1814 until 1828. He is best known for his large Syriac chrestomathy and his present edition of the Bakhtiyar-namah. Later, following a spiritual crisis, Knös lost all interest in philology and produced no more publications.


The first Latin edition of Balbi’s account of the Gulf coast

All twelve books of Théodore de Bry’s “Petits Voyages”, the greatest single collection of material on early voyages to the East Indies and considered unique in its extraordinary wealth of cartographical and visual material on Africa, India, and South Asia. Notably, book seven includes Gasparo Balbi’s groundbreaking account of the Middle East, first published in 1590 as “Viaggio dell’ Indie Orientali” – a mere 16 years before this present issue, making this the second appearance in print altogether and the first Latin translation. Balbi, a Venetian jewel merchant, travelled extensively in the Arabian Peninsula in search of precious stones. While in the Gulf, he studied the pearl industry, noting that the best pearls were to be found at Bahrain and Julfar. He refers to islands in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (including Sir Bani Yas and Das) and to several coastal settlements that were to become permanently established, such as Dubai and Ras al Khaima. Balbi was the first to record the place names along the coast of modern Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Practically “none of the names of places on the coast between Qatar and Ras al Khaima occur in other sources before the end of the eighteenth century” (Slot).

A composite set, nine books in their first, the remaining three in their second edition. As several of the travellers were Protestants and their works banned by the Catholic church, this set was censored by the Spanish inquisition of Granada in 1708. Condemned authors are identified on the title pages, and various passages considered too crude or suggestive have been struck out or obliterated. Last in the library of Jean-Paul Morin, with his bookplate on the first flyleaf. Rather browned throughout, with occasional slight edge defects; two title pages are repaired. Wants a total of 11 plates, as well as the appendix on the Congo in vol. II and the Notice to the Reader in vol. IV. Balbi’s section is complete and well preserved, with only two minor censorship marks. The only comparable copy in recent trade history is the Macclesfield set in contemporary gilt calf skin, auctioned off at Sotheby’s in 2007 and currently offered by a U.S. dealer consortium for $150 000: that copy, however, is incomplete, wanting the final volumes XI and XII – the latter of which is “so rare that even Church lacked much of the text”.


First printed record of Abu Dhabi and Dubai

39. [BALBI, Gasparo]. DE BRY, Johann Theodor. Indiae Orientalis pars septima [...].

Frankfurt, Wolfgang Richter, 1606. 2º (21 × 32 cm). Title within engraved figurative border. With an engraved vignette, 22 engraved plates (2 of which double-page). Contemp. brown calf with gilt borders and decoration on middle of covers; blindtooled spine rebacked. Traces of ties. € 45 000

Book seven of Théodore de Bry’s “Petits Voyages”, the greatest single collection of material on early voyages to the East Indies, which is considered unique in its extraordinary wealth of cartographical and visual material. Crucially, this much-sought volume includes Gasparo Balbi’s groundbreaking account of the Middle East, first published in 1590 as “Viaggio dell’ Indie Orientali” – a mere 16 years before this present issue, making this the second appearance in print altogether and the first Latin translation. Balbi, a Venetian jewel merchant, travelled extensively in the Arabian Peninsula in search of precious stones. From Venice he sailed for Aleppo, proceeding to Bir and from there overland to Baghdad, descending the Tigris to Basra, where he embarked for India. While in the Persian Gulf, he studied the pearl industry, noting that the best pearls were to be found at Bahrain and Julfar. He refers to islands in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (including Sir Bani Yas and Das) and to several coastal settlements that were to become permanently established, such as Dubai and Ras al Khaima. Balbi was
the first to record the place names along the coast of modern Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Practically “none of the names of places on the coast between Qatar and Ras al Khaima occur in other sources before the end of the eighteenth century” (Slot). The volume also comprises the account of Joris von Spielfer’s voyage to Ceylon in 1601–04 (with excellent plates). Calf slightly worn, some browning due to paper. Title browned in the margins; some foxing to plates. Contemporary ownership inscription of Thomas Knyvett in upper margin of title (partly obliterated by a later owner), dated 27 June 1608; also inscribed “perlegi (I finished reading) 20 Octob. 1608 Tho. Kny.” near lower edge of the title. Armorial bookplate and later ownership of “T. Norcliffe” on inside of upper cover. Thomas Knyvett, 1st Baron Knyvett (also Knyvett, Knyvett, Knevett, Knevitt; 1545–1622) was an English courtier and Member of Parliament who played a part in foiling the Gunpowder Plot. Latterly the library of Swedish antiquarian bookdealer Björn Löwendahl (1941–2013).


**British intelligence reports on the Peninsula, hitherto inaccessible: no copy recorded in OCLC**


London, Air Ministry, August 1936. 8º. With 18 large, folded maps, plans and panoramic views in colour (measuring up to 750 × 780 mm), 2 plates showing Arab soldiers, and the map of Peninsula (775 × 915 mm) in the rear pocket. Sewn between original printed boards, as issued.

Classified as a secret document at the time of issue, never reprinted and still almost unobtainable, the present field notes remain the most important single source of geographical, historical, sociological, statistical and historical material on Saudi Arabia, gathered immediately after the formation of the Kingdom from 1932 onwards. While also covering Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and the other territories “open towards an undefined Sa’udi frontier” and ruled by “six independent Shaiks of the eastern coast of Arabia” (p. 50f.), the present volume was compiled with the main intention of providing British agents and policymakers in the Arabian Peninsula, the Gulf and London with a handbook to the “countries previously known as the Hejaz, Nejd, and Asir, and now included, with some outlying districts of the peninsula, in Ibn Saud’s dominion” (p. 2). With only a few hundred copies printed, the circulation was strictly limited to authorized personnel within British government departments and agencies. All authorized holders of a copy of the Field Notes needed to register separately and were “warned that unauthorized retention or destruction of this document is an offence against the Official Secrets acts” (title-page). Our copy is stamped No. 586 and was handed out at the residence of the British political agent for the Persian Gulf, with an autograph note by the recipient to the inner front board: “Received at Bushire under C.G.S. Receipt form No. 40278/M.0.3. Bks. dated 21/6/37”.

This is the first successful attempt to provide a detailed mapping of the region: apart from the vast general map we find large separate maps of air and sea routes, the tribal areas, administrative divisions, charts showing communication lines, the physical geography, magnetic variations, principal watering posts, frontier posts and garrisons together with plans and even panoramic views of the major cities and settlements including Jedda, Mecca, Medina, and Riyadh. Indeed, the volume contains a sheer mass of factual information which no serious researcher can afford to be without. A historical brief of the last two decades of battles, conquests and treaties is followed by detailed reports on the government system and the population of the Peninsula, including descriptions of the various races and their differing attitudes towards Europeans, their tribal element, education, diet, and religion (notably, the editor is highly sympathetic towards Wahhabism, defending it against being viewed as a sect and stating that, “properly speaking, [it] represents the purity” of Islam, as revealed by the Prophet). Physical and political geography are discussed in detail, as are climate and meteorology, flora and fauna. The last chapter is entirely devoted to the armed forces of the Kingdom, with numerous statistical tables and detailed insights into their organization, subsections and ongoing affairs. Of the utmost rarity: no copy recorded in OCLC (only listing separately three of the maps, all held by Oxford); not traceable at auction or in the trade of the last decades. A perfect copy, well preserved and complete with the five appendices, glossary, route reports 1–4 and all maps and charts as called for. A unique source for the early history and geography of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its neighbouring sheikdoms, compiled and secretly distributed before the profound effects of the oil industry began to be apparent. Due to the rarity of the present original the information contained has remained basically inaccessible until now, not even having been made available in reprint form as were most of the early records of the region such as Lorimer, Aitchison and others.

*Not in Macro.*
A 15th-Century Vernacular Account of a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

41. BARBATRE, [Pierre], Norman priest (b. 1525). Account of a Pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1480.
[France, circa 1490–1500], 4º (209 x 165 mm). Middle French decorated manuscript on paper (watermark pointing to Normandy: similar to Briquet 10387 & 10390 – Coutances 1497 and Frene d’Archeveque, 1499). 116 pp. Bound in a parchment leaf from an 11th c. codex. Stored in custom-made half morocco case. € 18,000

Rare document containing a first-hand vernacular account of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1480, the only expedition allowed to leave Venice for the Palestine in that year. – The priest Pierre Barbatre relates the story of his journey, which he begins at the Norman town of Vernon on the Seine. He travels south via Chartres and Orléans, Savoy, Turin, Leghorn and Padua to Venice; here, he spends a month, giving details of Venetian life, including the great festivals. On 6 June 1480 he embarks on the “Contarina” – the only pilgrim galley to make the voyage to the Holy Land that year, for the Ottoman-Venetian War of 1463–1479 had led to a sharp drop in the numbers of pilgrims, and boats were strictly controlled. Only about sixty pilgrims would return from the journey.

Barbatre gives accounts of the various places he visits during the voyage – especially Rhodes, which he portrays with much precision – before the ship reaches Jaffa on 24 July 1480. He describes his exhilaration at finally beholding the holy places of Palestine and visits Ramla, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Jericho as well as the Dead Sea; his story provides much information about the relic cult, local customs and the political situation after the recent Turkish offensive.

It appears that Barbatre did not manage to return to France after his pilgrimage, for his account of the return journey ends abruptly with the embarkation for Ancona.

While the present manuscript constitutes the sole witness for Barbatre’s travelogue, scholarship is lucky to possess three further accounts of this same 1480 pilgrimage by other authors.

Binding tattered, some writing on parchment faded, but stitching tight with the manuscript in excellent condition and well legible throughout. Provenance: a fair copy prepared in France, likely in Normandy, by a professional scribe after 1480, probably following the author’s own notes. Rediscovered in 1972 by the French physician Dr. Lemonnier in the estate of his grandmother Henriette Rooy. Previously in a collection owned by the Duguet family, connected with the painter Eugène Fromentin.


Albuquerque’s expedition to the Arabian Gulf

42. BARROS, João de. Decada primeira (-terceira) da Asia.
Lisbon, Jorge Rodriguez for Antonio Gonsalvez, 1628. Large 4º. 3 vols. Title vignettes (royal arms of Portugal). Without the folding plan present in some copies. Uniform contemporary limp vellum with Iberian handwritten spine titles and traces of ties. All edges red. € 12,500

Second edition of the first three “Decades” on Portugal’s Middle Eastern enterprises, all that was published during the lifetime of the author (a fourth volume was produced posthumously in 1615, and the set was continued by other hands). “This is considered by Du Fresnoy as being a good edition of the three first decades” (Clarke, The Progress of Maritime Discovery, p. 132). Books 2 and 3 of the “Decada Segunda” (fols. 21 ff.) offer a detailed narrative of Afonso de Albuquerque’s expedition to the Arabian Gulf and his conquest of Ormuz in 1507; the island remained under Portuese occupation from 1515 to 1622. As vassals of the Portuguese state, the Kingdom of Ormuz jointly participated in the 1521 invasion of Bahrain that ended Jabrid rule of the Arabian archipelago.

From the library of the Spanish Dukes of Medinaceli y Santisteban; old shelfmark on flyleaves. Occasional slight browning, but a very good set.

Illustrated edition of Portuguese voyages of discovery 1419–1539 (large paper copy)

43. BARROS, João de. De doorlugtige scheeps-togten der Portugysen na Oost-Indiën, mitsgaders de voornaamste gedeeltens van Africa en de Rooze-Zee met alle daer omtrent gelegene eylanden, ... Alles onlangs uyt het Portugys in ‘t Nederlands getrouwelyk vertaalt, ... Nu aldereerst dusdanig in twee stukken afgescheyleden in ‘t ligt gebragt.

Leiden, Pieter van der Aa, [ca. 1711]. 2 volumes. 1º. With 2 engraved title-pages, engraved dedication, 22 engraved maps (2 double-page, and 20 half-page on 10 leaves), and 60 engravings in text. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum, boards with a large blind-tooled centrepiece with the initials H.B.

Large paper copy of the so-called “folio-edition” of the Dutch translation of Barros’s accounts of 20 Portuguese voyages to the East Indies, Africa, China, the Arabian Gulf, the Red Sea and India, with many excellent maps and views. The voyages are arranged chronologically from 1419 (the discovery of Cape Non and Bojador and explorations along the African coast to the Cape of Good Hope and the neighbouring islands) to 1539. It includes Vasco da Gama’s first voyage to India in 1497, Niccolo de Conti’s voyages through the Islamic World, two different voyages to the East Indies by Pedro Alvarez Cabral in 1500 and Joa da Nova in 1501, voyages to the East Indies by Francisco d’Almeida, Pedro da Nhaya and Tristao da Cunha in 1505–1506, Fernando Perez de Andrade’s voyage from Malacca to the Gulf of Bengal and the coast of China in 1516, the extraordinary voyages and noble exploits, by land and sea, of Diego Lopes de Sequeira for the promotion of Portuguese rule and free trade in the East Indies in 1518, and numerous voyages and heroic exploits of Nuno da Cunha from 1528 to his death in 1539.

While all copies seem to be described as “folio” the present copy is in fact a 1º (full-sheet leaves), except for some title-pages and preliminary matter. Since copies were available on normal paper (80 guilders) and on large paper (100 guilders; Hoftijzer, p. 43), it seems very likely the present set is the large paper issue.

With bookplates. One of the engravings in the text apparently showed the incorrect image and the corrected one has been pasted over it as a cancel. In very good condition. Bindings slightly rubbed and soiled.

Muller, America 1887 & 1888; STCN (6 copies with both volumes); Tièle, Böhl. 6 (noting copies printed on large paper), cf. Sabin 3; for Van der Aa: P.G. Hoftijzer, Pieter van der Aa (1659–1733). Leids drukker en boekverkoper (1999).

Bellarmino’s Arabic catechism with the rare Arabic instructions for confession and communion

44. BELLARMINO, Roberto. Dichiarazione piú copiosa della dottrina Cristiana ...

Rome, [Propaganda Fide], 1770.

With: (2) BORGIA, Stefano. Irsad li-ajl al-i’tiraf wa-tanawul al-qurban, ... [= Instructions for confession and communion]

[Rom, Propaganda Fide, 1770?]. Both works are set entirely in Arabic type. 2 works in 1 volume. 8º (18 × 12 cm). Grey laid paper wrappers (ca. 1823). € 5500

Ad 1: Third Arabic edition of the complete text of Bellarmino’s immensely popular catechism. The catechism was translated into Arabic for the use of Catholic missionaries. Ad 2: Rare first and only edition of Stefano Borgia’s Arabic instructions for confession and communion. Borgia (1731–1804) was appointed secretary of the Propaganda Fide in 1770, the year they published the third Arabic edition of Bellarmino’s catechism. He added the present instructions, apparently intending them to be bound with the catechism.

With two library stamps. Title-page slightly dirty, wrappers slightly damaged, otherwise in very good condition and wholly untrimmed. A major product of the Propaganda Fide’s efforts to convert Arabic-speaking people in the 18th century, including the rare instructions for confession and communion.

Ad 1: De Backer & Sommervogel V, col. 1990; WorldCat (5 copies); Schnurrer 303; ad 2: De Backer & Sommervogel V, col. 1990 note; KVK & WorldCat (4 copies); Schnurrer 305 note.
Rare and extensive work on Algeria, spectacularly illustrated with 133 large plates, some in colour

45. **BERBRUGGER, Louis Adrien.** Algerie historique, pittoresque et monumentale, ou Recueil de vues, costumes et portraits faits d’après nature dans les provinces d’Alger, Bone, Constantine et Oran.

Paris, Delahaye (part-titles; printed by Donday-Dupré), 1843. 5 parts in 3 volumes. Royal 1º (57 × 42.5 cm). With chromo-lithographed general title-page, tinted lithographed frontispiece, 2 lithographed maps hand-coloured in outline, and 133 lithographed plates (image size up to 44.5 × 30.5 cm, nearly all non-botanical ones tinted and one with 2 chromolithographed and hand-coloured costume prints) by and after artists including Charles Bour, Eugène Flandin, Félix Emmanuel Henri Philippoteaux and Denis Auguste Marie Raffet. Also with lithographed views (and a few lithographed maps) printed in the tail margins at the ends of many chapters, and 45 white-on-black wood-engravings of coins (each with obverse and reverse) in the text. The 72 botanical illustrations on the last 10 lithographed plates are coloured by hand and highlighted with gum arabic. The non-botanical plates have the publisher’s embossed stamp in the foot margin. Contemporary, uniform dark green half goatskin morocco with a gold-tooled spine. € 28 500

First and only edition of a rare and extensive work on Algeria, with hundreds of stunning and very skilfully executed illustrations, the text by the conservator of the library in the Museum of Algiers, Louis Adrien Berbrugger (1801–1869). Parts 1 to 4 cover the four Algerian provinces: Alger, Oran, Bone and Constantine, while part 5 is subdivided into ethnic groups (Jews, Turks, Moors, Berbers and some of the nomadic peoples), coins and flora, with the plants arranged according to Jussiau’s system. The 133 beautifully executed lithographed plates also show city views, landscapes, portraits, costumes, scenes from daily life with people from a wide variety of professions and various layers of society, etc. They give a lively and realistic portrait of a country in which many different peoples and cultures coexist. They also show Algeria part way through its gradual conquest by France in the years 1830 to 1848, capturing and preserving images of both the survivals from hundreds of years as an Ottoman state and the early interactions with European society.

With 2 oval owner’s stamps on the general title-page erased, leaving 2 small blank areas in the chromolithographed background pattern, the first botanical plate severely browned, several plates slightly foxed and a couple more seriously. The binding has some small scuffs at the corners and small cracks at the end of some hinges, and the front hinge of volume 3 has some restorations, but the binding is still good. An extensively and splendidly illustrated description of Algeria.

Colas 298; Hiler, p. 81; Lipperheide Ma 23; Tailliart, L’Algérie dans la littérature française, 718; WorldCat (2 copies); not in Atabey; Blackmer.

Diplomatic and commercial relations between Venice and Persia

46. **BERCHET, Guglielmo.** La repubblica di Venezia e la Persia.

Torino, G.B. Paravia e comp., 1865. 8º. With 5 photographic plates. Original publisher’s printed brown paper wrappers. € 750

First edition of a work on the relation between the Republic of Venice and the Persian Empire (present-day Iran), focusing on their diplomatic and commercial relations, written by the Italian historian and politician Guglielmo Berchet (1833–1913). It contains valuable information on how goods from Asia, like spices and silk, were transported to Venice via Persia. Included at the end are transcriptions of related material, mostly state documents and letters, dating from 1463 to 1718. Some foxing and plates slightly browned. Paper wrappers worn, cracked along the spine, partly separating the bookblock. Fair copy.

Rare first re-issue of the first Gospel printing in the interlinear Arabic and Latin version


Rome, Typographia Medicea, (1591)–1619. 2º (26 × 36.6 cm). Title page printed in red and black, with the Medici arms. With 149 text woodcuts by L.N. Parassole after Antonio Tempesta. Contemporary Italian flexible boards with ms. title to spine.

The rare first re-issue, with new preliminary matter only, of the first Gospel printing in the interlinear Arabic and Latin version, prepared at the same time and printed by the same press as the first Arabic-only Gospel. These were the first works ever produced by Ferdinando de’ Medici’s “Medicea” press, founded by Pope Gregory XIII to spread the word of Christ in the Orient. Supervised by the able scholar Giovambattista Raimondi (1536–1614), its strength lay in oriental, especially Arabic, printing. After Raimondi’s death, the press relocated to Florence.

The Arabic text is printed in Robert Granjon’s famous large fount, generally considered the first satisfactory Arabic printing type; as all early printed editions of the Arabic Gospels, it is based on the Alexandrian Vulgate (cf. Darlow/M. 1636). The Latin version is by Leonardo Sionita. As issued in 1591, the work began with page 9, without a title page or any preliminary matter at all: “the intended prefatory matter was apparently never published” (Darlow/M.). The 1619 re-issue contains 4 pages of preliminary matter (title page and a note “typographus lectori”); there exist copies with two additional leaves of dedications not present here. Another re-issue, much more common, was released in 1774.

Occasional browning; a good, untrimmed and hence wide-margined copy in its original temporary binding.

Darlow/Moule 1643. Mortimer 64 (note). Streit XVI, p. 866, no. 5138.

Large folio Bible with 6 maps and 336 illustrations, in contemporary colouring with extensive gold


Amsterdam, widow of Paulus Aertsz. van Ravesteyn, 1660. 3 parts in 1 volume. Large 2º (47.5 × 32 cm). With an integral engraved general title-page, 6 double-page engraved maps, including a world map and a plan of Jerusalem, and 336 Bible-illustrations by Claes Jansz. Visscher (after Matthäus Merian?) on 42 numbered single-page plates. The maps and illustrations coloured by an early hand with extensive use of gold. 18th-century black so-called sharkskin over bevelled wooden boards (ca. 1770?), with 8 large silver corner-pieces and 2 large silver clasps with catchplates and anchorplates, all with matching stamped relief decoration, gilt and gauffered edges. The silver furnishings bear Amsterdam city hallmarks with year letter C and master’s mark DF. Rebacked with most of the original backstrip mounted on the spine.

€ 65 000
Extra-illustrated large folio edition of the Dutch Statenbijbel (States Bible) with 6 maps and 336 illustrations hand-coloured, the translation officially authorized by the Dutch Reformed Church and published with a privilege from the States General of the Dutch Republic. The 1619 Synod of Dordrecht established a committee to prepare the new translation, and leading Dutch scholars worked on it for nearly twenty years before Paulus Aertsz. van Ravesteyn (ca. 1586–1655) published the first edition in 1637. The 6 maps and the engraved illustrations were produced to be inserted into Van Ravesteyn’s folio editions. The series of 336 illustrations by Claes Jansz. Visscher with eight to one leaf, are engraved by Cornelis Danckerts. With some browning, but still generally in good condition and with large margins. The binding has been rebacked, as noted, and the “sharkskin” on the boards has some cracks and wear, but the silver furnishings and gauffered edges are well-preserved. A stunning, large States Bible with 6 maps and 336 illustrations coloured by an early hand with extensive gold.

Poortman, Bijbel en prent I, p. 235 (cf. pp. 147, 151); cf. Darlow & Moule 3355; for the maps: Poortman & Augusteijn 27:1–6; the prints not in Hollstein; Poortman Bijbel en prent; for the zilver furnishings: Vos, Amst. zilversmeden 448–449.

**The second book printed in Arabic from movable type and a primary source for Columbus’s second voyage to America**

49. **[BIBLE—POLYGLOT]**. Psalterium, Hebr[a]eum, Gr[a]ecu[m], Arabicu[m], & Chalda[e]u[m], cu[m] tribus Latinis i[n]terp[re]tat[i]o[n]ibus & glossis. (Colophon: Genoa, Pietro Paulo Porro, November 1516). 2º (33.5 × 25 cm). Title-page and first double-page opening of the main text printed in red and black, the former with a woodcut arabesque border, Porro’s white on black woodcut leek device on the final leaf. With parallel text in Hebrew, Latin (3 versions), Greek, Arabic and Chaldean Aramaic (set in roman, Greek, Hebrew and Arabic type), giving 8 columns to each double-page spread (the 8th for notes) with 41 lines per columns, and 13 woodcut floriated initials (5 Latin, 4 Hebrew, 2 Greek and 2 Arabic). 16th-century blind-tooled brown calf. Rebacked and with later endpapers. € 48 000

First polyglot edition of any part of the Bible, and the first significant polyglot work ever published: a psalter in Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, Chaldean Aramaic and Latin, and a pioneering work of both biblical scholarship and book production. It is of the utmost importance in several further respects: the second book printed in Arabic from movable type (following Gregorio de Gregorii’s *Kitab salat as-sawa’i*, a book of hours for the Lebanese Melchites, printed in 1514), and the earliest Arabic printing of any portion of the Bible. It also contains the first edition of the Aramaic text of the Psalter and offers for the first time Kabbalistic texts from the Zohar. Furthermore, Giustiniani’s commentary provides the first substantial biographical reference to Columbus, making it an important Americanum.

With a contemporary owner’s inscription and marginal and interlinear manuscript notes. With water stains, mostly confined to quires A, E and F, and an occasional leaf slightly browned. Binding rebacked as noted and carefully restored with the edges and corners repaired. A pioneering work of biblical scholarship, Arabic printing and the study of Christopher Columbus.

Alden & Landis 5164; Darlow & Moule 1411, 1654 & 2492; Sabin 66468; Smitskamp, Philologia Orientalia 256.

50. **[BIBLE—SINHALESE]**. PHILIPSZ, Henricus (translator). Het tweede boek Moses genaam Exodus, inde Singaleesche tale overgeset en met de grond-text wel overeengebragt, mitsgaders met goedkeuringe van de hooge overheid deses eylands, in ’t ligt gegeven. [Colombo], Johan Frederik Christoph Dornheim at the VOC’s printing office, 1786. With 2 title-pages, the Dutch one with the woodcut device of the VOC’s Colombo printing office on the title-page (an elaborate cartouche with a view of the Colombo output, with 3 natives in the foreground), and the Sinhalese one with a woodcut vase of flowers. Set in 3 sizes of Sinhalese type, mostly in 2 columns. Contemporary gold-tooled sheepskin, each board with a border made from an attractive floral roll (170 × 9 mm) edged on the outside with a smaller roll. Rebacked in red morocco, with new endpapers.

€ 12 500
Rare first edition of the first Sinhalese translation of the Book of Exodus, printed by the VOC (Dutch East India Company) at their printing office in Colombo, Ceylon (Sri Lanka). The Dutch brought a printing press to Ceylon for missionary purposes in 1732 and Gustaaf Willem baron van Imhoff (1705–1750) Dutch governor of Ceylon from 1736 to 1740, had a printing office set up at Colombo, its first book (a Sinhalese prayer book) appearing in 1737. The reverend Henricus Philipssz. (1733–ca. 1791) born in Ceylon, studied theology in Utrecht and returned to Ceylon in 1756 as minister of the churches there, living near Colombo. He began a long series of translations of scripture, beginning with the Acts of the Apostles in 1771, inaugurating a much more active period for the press. His first ventures with the Old Testament were the first five books: Genesis (1783), the present Exodus (1786), Leviticus (1787?), Numbers and Deuteronomy (1789?), all very rare. These remained the only published Sinhalese translations of the Old Testament, until Tolfrey completed his Sinhalese Bible in 1823.

Lacking the final blank leaf. With a water stain in the lower half throughout and traces of former mildew (treated) in the lower corners of the first few and last few pages. Otherwise in good condition. The covering of the boards shows numerous small surface cracks but is now stable and the binding structurally sound. A rare pioneering effort in the publication of the Sinhalese Old Testament and milestone in Sinhalese printing.

Darlow & Moule 8306; Landwehr, VOC 739 (4 copies); WorldCat (1 copy).

Tamil Protestant catechism: one of the earliest books printed in Ceylon, supported by the VOC

51. BRONSVELD, Sigisbertus Abrahamsz van. Catechismus, ofte onderweyzing in de Christelicke leere, die in de hervormde kerken en schoolen geleerd word, ten dienst der kerken en schoolen, in de Tamulsche spraak overgezet, en, op goed-keuring van de hooge overheid deezes eilands, in ’t licht gegeven, ...

Colombo, Johann Bernhardt Arnhardt at the VOC’s printing office, 1754. 4º. Set in roman, italic and 3 sizes of Tamil types, with the pages numbered in Tamil alphabetic numerals. Later 18th-century maroon sheepskin. Rebacked in red morocco, new endpapers.

Rare first edition of a Tamil translation of the Heidelberg catechism by the reverend Sigisbertus Abrahamsz. van Bronsveld, printed and published in Colombo, Ceylon for the Tamil-speaking Protestant congregation there, for schools and for missionary work. In 1741 the VOC’s press in Colombo had printed Willem Konyn’s Sinhalese translation of the Heidelberg catechism, but it had received disappointingly little use and Bronsveld hoped his own Tamil translation would meet greater success.

The VOC had brought a printing press to Ceylon in 1732 to set up the island’s first printing office together with the Dutch Reformed Church, the first book (a Sinhalese prayer book) appearing at Colombo in 1737, followed soon after by religious works in Tamil. A major impetus for setting up the press was the fact that after the Dutch wrested control of much of Ceylon from Portugal with help from the indigenous population in 1640, the Portuguese Catholic priests still retained a great deal of influence and were able to convert some Tamils and Sinhalese. The VOC saw this as a threat to its powerbase and economic position, which centred on the cinnamon trade. They therefore encouraged the Dutch Protestant Church to expand its missionary work, hoping it would curtail the Portuguese Catholic missionary work.

With stains from former mildew (treated), mostly in the foot margin of the first few and last few pages. Otherwise in good condition. The binding has been rebacked as noted, but is otherwise good.

Landwehr, VOC 791.
52. **BIBLIOTHÈQUE ROYALE.** Notices et extraits des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque du Roi (vols. 1–3); Bibliothèque Nationale (vol. 4); Bibliothèque Nationale et autres bibliothèques (vols. 5–7); Bibliothèque Impériale et autres bibliothèques (vols. 8–9); Bibliothèque du Roi, et autres bibliothèques (vols. 10–14), ... Tome premier-[quatorzième].

Paris, 1787–1843. 14 volumes, some in 2 parts. 4º. With woodcuts on title-pages; occasional illustrations, including folding plates (at least 1 hand-coloured), to show facsimiles of manuscripts, maps, miniatures, etc.; some texts (for example Manchu in vol. 13) printed in red and black. Set in roman and italic type, with extensive use of the printing office’s extensive collection of non-Latin types (Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, Samaritan, Syriac, Armenian, Sanscrit, Mongolian, Manchu (a variant of the Mongolian), Tibetan, Chinese and perhaps more). Uniform tree sheepskin (ca. 1835–ca. 1845), richly gold-tooled spines. € 25 000

First editions of the first 14 volumes of the officially authorized publications of the manuscripts of the French Bibliothèque du Roi and its successors, with commentaries and notes by leading French authorities, such as Antoine Isaac, Baron Silvestre de Sacy (1758–1838), the leading orientalist of his day, for the many Arabic manuscripts and several other non-Latin manuscripts. Louis-Mathieu Langlès (1763–1824), Armand-Pierre Caussin de Perceval (1795–1871) and others also made important contributions. Many volumes begin with the “oriental” manuscripts (chose in non-Latin scripts) in a separate part. In one folding plate (showing an Arabic text) many vowel points and some letters have been rendered in outline and hand-coloured in red, apparently to show where the editor has filled out the original. These were important pioneering studies of Arabic and other non-European texts and also serve to display the materials of the printing office, which had one of the world’s largest collections of matrices for non-Latin types. Many of the types were cut exclusively for the printing office and Napoleon confiscated others from the Propaganda Fide in Rome soon after he declared himself King of Italy in 1805.

With the bookplates of the Bibliothèque de Mouchy and Bibliothèque du Château de Mouchy-Noailles. The former is probably from Charles-Arthur-Tristan Languedoc de Noailles (1771–1834), Duc de Mouchy, and/or his younger brother Antonin (1777–1846), who succeeded him as Duke. With a few water stains in the first leaves of vol. 1, but generally in very good condition. The bindings of several volumes are slightly tattered, but most are in good condition. A remarkable and important set of scholarly editions of manuscripts, especially strong in Arabic and other non-Latin manuscripts.

*Cat. de la bibliothèque du Château de Mouchy (1872), item 2466 (this copy).*

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53. **BINNING, Robert B[lair] M[unro].** A Journal of Two Years’ Travel in Persia, Ceylon, etc.


First edition. – Binning (1814–91) enjoyed a career as an administrator in the East India Company Service in Madras. He travelled in the Cape of Good Hope and in Syria, Palestine, Arabia and Egypt in 1845–1847, but had to quit his post for health reasons in 1850. For the next two years he travelled again, in Ceylon and Persia, which he described in the present “Journal”. After Ceylon the author travelled from India to Bushire by way of the Persian Gulf, and made the return trip by the same route. An enthusiastic linguist in Arabic, Persian and Hindi, Binning collected historic manuscripts and other examples of the use of these languages, and published an Arabic grammar in 1849.

Errata to vol. I printed underneath the table of contents; errata to vol. II on separate slip bound after the preliminaries. Bindings somewhat rubbed; extremities lightly bumped. Inner hinges reinforced with adhesive tape. Provenance: Contemporary handwritten ownership “Gladswood” to pastedown; later stamp of the Hamburg civil servant Dr. Hans-Georg Strauf to flyleaf.

**The Medici Library’s Oriental Collection, built by Michelangelo**

54. BISCIONIO, Antonio Maria. Bibliothecae Mediceo-Laurentianae catalogus [...]. Tomus primus [no more published], codices orientales complectens.

Florence, ex Imperiali Typographio, 1752-(1757). 2º. With engr. frontispiece, engr. title vignette, 36 engr. plates, numerous text engravings (one full-page), and several engr. initials, head- and tailpieces. All edges sprinkled in red. Contemp. vellum with gilt label to spine. 

First and only edition of this ambitiously conceived catalogue of the Hebrew, Syriac, Arabic and Greek manuscripts at the Laurentian Library (“Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana”) in Florence. The 9 engraved plates of the first part show the architectural details and ornaments of the library that was planned and partly built by Michelangelo; the plates of the second part show examples from the illuminated manuscripts of the collection – a rich trove of Near-Eastern and Middle-Eastern book art. Antonio Maria Biscionio (1674–1756) was a celebrated scholar and the appointed keeper of the Laurentian Library. “No more published; later catalogs were issued by Biscioni’s successor as librarian, Angelo Maria Bandini. An abridgment appeared in 1757 under title: ‘Bibliothecae ebraicae graecae florentinae, sive Bibliothecae mediceo-laurentianae catalogus’” (OCLC).

Vellum slightly rubbed at extremities; foxing to edges of final pages. Rare; only two copies in international auction records since 1950.

Graesse I, 432. OCLC 6475224.

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**The Sultans, illustrated**

55. BOISSARD, Jean Jacques. Vitae et icones sultanorum Turcicorum [...].

Frankfurt am Main, Theodor de Bry, 1596. 4º. Engraved title page and 47 full-page portrait engravings by Jean Jacques Boissard (all in the pagination); numerous woodcut vignettes and initials. 19th century vellum, bound to contemporary style, with ms. spine title.

First edition of this work, the high artistic quality of which is due to the participation of Georg (Joris) Hoefnagel. “This beautiful book contains portraits of the Sultans from Osman I to Murad III and also contains portraits of Scanderbeg and his family, Tammas Khuli Khan, Barbarossa, Roselana thw wife of Suleiman the Magnificent, and pashas of the Ottoman Empire (Cario etc.) [...]” The portraits were engraved by Theodore de Bry after drawings by Hoefnagel who apparently took them from medals brought from Constantinople. The portraits are circular within elaborate borders composed of fruits, animals and grotesques within a strapwork frame” (Blackmer). “The text is a very diligent compilation and treats the Hungarian wars extensively. But the principal interest in this book must lie in the masterful portraits and unique borders showing flowers, insects, birds and other animals” (cf. Apponyi). “Ce volume rare et assez recherché” (Brunet).

Several mispaginations. A very slightly browned copy showing barely any foxing. Some 18 portraits are rather deftly coloured in places. A fine, well-preserved copy of this rare work.

Luxury Palestine souvenir album

56. [BONFILS, Félix]. Jerusalem.

[Palestine, 1880s]. Oblong album (44.5 × 31.5 cm) With 71 large albumen photographic prints, mostly ca. 22 × 28 cm, signed and captioned in the negative (in French and English), mounted on both sides of the album’s leaves. Includes a three-part folding panorama of Jerusalem from Mount Olivet, measuring 82 × 21 cm. Original auburn morocco with gilt upper cover, gilt edges.

€ 18 000

A rare and unusually massive Palestine souvenir album containing 71 photographs by the renowned studio of Félix Bonfils (1831–85), the French-born photographer who had come to the Levant with General d’Hautpoul in 1860 and remained active in the East. Based in Beirut, Bonfils produced thousands of photographs depicting Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Greece and other parts of the Ottoman Empire. In the early days of western tourism to the Middle East, his works soon became popular as souvenirs. The photographs were available both separately and as individually arranged albums, but sets of this scope were uncommon, very few exceeding fifty images. The sumptuous binding which the owner chose underlines that this was a luxury souvenir for a more than ordinarily wealthy traveller. It features landscapes and city views, famous sights such as Jaffa Gate (Bab el-Khalil), sites sacred to the three religions (Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Church of the Flagellation, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Mosque of Omar, Wailing Wall), but also sights outside Jerusalem, including Hebron, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea, the River Jordan, Jericho, Wadi el-Kelt, Khan-el-Ahmar, Bethany, Nazareth, and Emmaus.

The photographs occasionally show some insignificant loss of contrast, but are altogether in good condition. A few edge flaws to the cardboard leaves, including a chafe mark across the lower edge where the paper has buckled. Binding in good condition, with occasional scuffing (more obvious on lower cover). A fine album of photographs of Palestine.

Madagascar and its opportunities for trade and colonization, detailing the trade with India and countries along the Arabian Sea

57. BOOTHBY, Richard. A breife discovery or description of the most famous island of Madagascar or St. Laurence in Asia neare unto East-India.


€ 35 000

First separately published edition of Boothby’s description of Madagascar and its opportunities for trade and colonization, detailing the trade with India, Persia (including Ormuz, captured in 1622 by a joint Anglo-Persian force) and other countries along the Arabian Sea and touching on a large variety of subjects including Saint Augustine’s harbour, culture of the natives, opportunities for plantations, natural resources, pearl fishery and trading practices of the English, Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch.

The British merchant Richard Boothby had reinvested his capital in the East India Company around 1615, after which he sailed to India where he was jailed as a result of a dispute with company officials. Upon his release he returned to London by way of Madagascar, which inspired his enthusiasm so much that he wrote the present
book advising the East India Company’s rivals to take advantage of it as the ideal location for a European colony.

With the bookplate Crosby Gaige (1882–1949). Several chapters are heavily annotated in English in an early hand. These give information about a voyage or voyages and would reward further study. With the gutter margin of the title-page and all margins of the last leaf restored but otherwise in good condition, with a small tear in the fore-edge margin of the title-page and a couple minor spots. Rebacked, but binding otherwise good.


Ledger recording involvement in numerous infrastructural projects in Africa, Asia and the Middle East (1952–1955)


Manuscript ledger recording the work hours of F.A. Boulten, from 1952 to 1955. Although Boulten’s specific field of work, or even the company he worked for, is not stated, he worked on engineering and infrastructure projects in the British colonies, the Commonwealth and other states in Britain’s sphere of influence (most notably Iraq). Each day he devoted 1 to 3.5 hours to multiple power plants, oil terminals, bridges, dams and harbours. As Boulten worked on most of the projects before construction had started, it is probable that his firm was related to the initial financing of the project. A probable suspect for the latter is the Colonial Development Corporation, founded by Great-Britain after World War II for the economic development of its colonial territories. The CDC provided loans for many of the projects mentioned in the ledger. These projects include: the power stations of Aden, Melbourne and Singapore, the oil jetties at Al-Faw near Basra, the harbours of Sierra Leone, Lagos and Mombasa and in Iraq the Adhamiyah Bridge, Darbandikha Dam, Taq Taq Bridge, Lake Tharthar and the Mujahrah Canal. Boulten worked 7.5 hours, five days in a week and mentions the days the office was closed, Bank Holidays, sick leave and days off, including one to have an X-ray taken. One of his off days was 2 June 1953, Coronation Day, and he drew a crown above the name of the month. On 15 February 1952 he marked the funeral of King George VI, but spent the day at the office. Binding worn at the extremities; slightly thumbed; in very good condition.

The Arabic primer of an Algerian Muslim leader


Widely received introduction to Arabic by L. J. Bresnier (1814–69), a disciple of Silvestre de Sacy and the first professor of Arabic in Algiers. Some insignificant foxing to margins, but a fine copy in a unique binding, from the library of the Algerian essayist and Muslim leader Mourad Kiouane, a participant in the World Muslim Conference held in Karachi in February 1951 (with his ownership stamps). Even many leaders among the Algerian Muslims of the 1950s, educated by the French colonial system, spoke good French but only Algerian Arabic rather than the standard variety, which hampered their ability to converse with the leaders of other Arab nations. Famously, Algeria’s first president Ahmed Ben Bella broke out in tears when invited by Nasser to speak for the first time before an Egyptian audience, but finding himself unable to do so. Partly in response to this, and to promote pan-Arabism, Nasser sent droves of Arabic instructors to Algeria in the 1960s.

OCLC 929616431.
Chinese voyages to the west, based on Chinese sources, presentation copy


First separately published edition of a work on Chinese travellers from the 13th century, by the Baltic physician and sinologist Emil Bretschneider (1833–1901). “His writings both on botany and geography are extremely valuable” (Couling). The book is divided into four chapters, each devoted to a different Chinese traveller or voyage to the west. Bretschneider starts each chapter with a brief introduction, followed by a translation of Chinese sources including many Chinese characters. The first chapter describes the travels the Taoist monk Qiu Chuji (1148–1227) to Persia and India in the years 1221–1224 to meet the Mongol Khan. The second chapter narrates the journey of a Mongol embassy to western Asia, and chapter three is an “account of Western countries”, written by an envoy of the Chinese Jin dynasty around 1220. He describes the customs and culture of the “Mohameddans” he meets in the west, probably describing the city Herat in Afghanistan. The last chapter describes the travels of the Khitan statesman Yelü Chucai, who served Genghis Khan, to present-day Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Presentation copy, with a note by the author to “V. Gauvain” in ink on first flyleaf. Title-page with some faint water stains, otherwise in very good condition.

Cordier, Sinica, col. 2667; Couling, p. 64.

Ground-breaking first printed illustrated travel account: a voyage to and in the Middle East, also a great masterpiece of book production and illustration

61. BREYDENBACH, Bernhard von. [Peregrinatio in Terram Sanctam]. (Colophon: Mainz, printed by Erhard Reuwich, 11 February 1486). Chancery 2º (33 × 22.5 cm). With a woodcut frontispiece, a woodcut female figure with the Henneberg arms below the colophon, 3 (of 7) double-page and larger folding plates with large woodcut views; 5 (of 7) woodcut illustrations and 5 (of 6) woodcut alphabets of exotic languages; all woodcut views on the integral leaves and one folding plate coloured by a contemporary hand. With about 110 spaces left for initials, filled in with red “Lombardic” uncial; rubricated throughout. Lacking 4 plates and 1 printed integral leaf, and with 2 other (uncoloured) plates added from other copies (one from a later edition). Contemporary panel-stamped and blind-tooled calf over wooden boards. € 45 000

First edition, in the original Latin, of the first illustrated travel account ever printed, considered the first authentic Western source for the Near and Middle East, as the text and illustrations were prepared based on actual observation of the sites and people described. Bernard Breydenbach (ca. 1435/40–1497), a canon of Mainz cathedral, set off from Oppenheim in April 1483 to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, accompanied by two friends. They took along an interpreter and the painter Erhard Reuwich (ca. 1455–ca. 1490), originally from Utrecht, who provided a visual documentation of the trip. The present first edition gave many Europeans their first view (both figuratively and literally) of Middle and Near Eastern people, costumes, animals, architecture, religions, cultures and languages. The Middle East attracted many travellers from both East and West, so Breydenbach was able to provide first-hand accounts of people even from regions beyond those he visited.

With owner’s inscriptions and manuscript notes. Lacking 1 integral leaf (with 3 woodcuts) and 4 large folding views, while the views of Methoni and of Rhodes have been loosely inserted. Further with the frontispiece cut down to the border and mounted, some small marginal stains, tears and chips and some smudges. Binding rebacked and with some scuffs, chips and cracks. In spite of these defects most of the surviving leaves are in very good condition and nearly untrimmed. A masterpiece of woodcut artistry and book production, and a ground-breaking source for European knowledge of the Middle and Near East.

BMC I, pp. 43–44; Davies, Breydenbach I (pp. 1–4); Guiff B189; GW 5075; Howgego B66.
British trade with the “Pirate Coast”

62. [BRITISH TRADE WITH THE TRUCIAL COST]. Trade with the Muscat region. – Board of Trade. – Commercial Intelligence Committee. – Report on the condition and prospects of British trade in Oman, Bahrein, and Arab ports in the Persian Gulf. By H. W. Maclean, Special Commissioner of the Commercial Intelligence Committee of the Board of Trade.

London, H. M. Stationery Office, Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1904. 2º. Loosely sewn as issued. € 6500

Contains reports on the condition and prospects of British trade in Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait and the “Pirate Coast” – specifically, the ports of Sharjah, Dubai, and Abu Dhabi, now parts of the United Arab Emirates. The information covers climate, import and export statistics (including pearls and horses), coinage, weights, freight, and the course of trade. With a final chapter on “questions affecting the [...] Gulf regions generally”, expanding on problems of the growing international trade in the region and ways to solve existing impediments to the same. Title and final page of text dust-soiled; slight edge defects; a few old cataloguing reference numbers in the top right-hand corner of the title. Internally clean copy of a scarce publication. 


Oil operations between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait


A history of the creation of the Neutral Zone between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, discussing the historical and legal background of both countries, a comparison with the Trucial Sheikhdoms, the establishment of the Neutral Zone, and the ongoing oil operations in the Zone, with an appendix of legal documents. Based on an unfinished manuscript left by the author upon his death in 1959, the volume was completed posthumously by staff of the Middle East Research and Publishing Center. Dedicated to John Paul Getty.

The Neutral Zone, a 5770 km² area between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, had been left undefined when the border was established by in 1922. Partitioning negotiations finally commenced when the rulers of both countries met and decided, in October 1960, that the Neutral Zone should be divided. On 7 July 1965, the two governments signed an agreement, which took effect on 25 July 1966, to partition the Zone adjoining their respective territories. Ratification followed on 18 January 1970.

Quite rare; traced to 19 institutions including 6 on COPAC. OCLC 32070547.

Large paper copy of the beautifully illustrated first edition of De Bruyn’s travels to the Levant

64. BRUYN (LE BRUN), Cornelis de. Reizen van Cornelis de Bruyn, door de vermaardste deelen van Klein Asia, de eylanden Scio, Rhodus, Cyprus, Metelino, Stanchio, &c. Mitsgaders de voornaamste steden van Aegypten, Syrien en Palestina. 

Delft, printed by Hendrik van Kroonevelt [engravings printed by Petrus Schenk and Gerard Valck?], 1698. Large 2º (39,5x26 cm). With engraved frontispiece, engraved author’s portrait, large engraved folding map of the Mediterranean Sea, 103 engraved plates (many double-page and folding) and 18 engravings in text. 18th-century, gold-tooled, tanned goatskin; rebacked, with original backstrip laid down and modern endpapers. € 25 000
Large paper copy of the first edition of the beautifully illustrated account of De Bruyn’s first journey, visiting Egypt, Syria, The Holy Land, Rhodes, Cyprus, Scio and Turkey. The Dutch traveller and painter Cornelis De Bruyn (1652–1726/28) left The Netherlands in 1674 to travel through the Levant by way of Italy. He stayed in the Levant for seven years before settling in Italy in 1685 and returning to the Netherlands in 1693. The work is especially valued because of its engravings after the drawings made by De Bruyn and executed by well-known artists as Jan and Caper Luyken and others, which include, amongst many others, folding panorama’s of Alexandria, Sattalia, Constantinople, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Rhodes and Chios.

With some occasional spots, some folds and edges of the plates reinforced or mounted on new stubs; a very good copy. The binding rebacked as noted and with some wear to the tooling.

Atabey 159; Howgego, to 1800, B177; Klaversma & Hannema 521; Tiele, Bibl. 207.

Rare set of beautiful views of a journey to India, by way of Egypt and Arabia, including views of Aden, a group of Arabs and Suez.


€ 9800

A very rare set of beautiful views of an overland journey from England to India, by way of Egypt and Arabia. Including a view of the entrance to the natural harbour of Aden, showing its mountains, two armed Arabs, a building complex, and a steamer and two smaller ships on the water, a caravan through the desert, awaited by a group of Arabs, and the harbour of Suez. "[I]n the early years of the nineteenth century he [Delamotte] was one of a group of pioneering younger British artists that included Constable and Turner, who sketched landscape in the open in oils" (ODNB). He was active as the drawing-master at the Royal Military College. The title-page and the drawings bear the date 1847 and the publication is mentioned in volume 38 of The new monthly magazine and humorist published in 1848.

A few minor spots and slightly browned along the edges, otherwise in very good condition.

Abbey, Travel 522; WorldCat (5 copies); for Delamotte: Luke Herrmann, "Delamotte, William (1775-1863)", in ODNB (online ed.).

782 Arabic proverbs collected before 1817, with explanatory notes.

66. BURCKHARDT, Johann Ludwig. Arabic proverbs, or the manners and customs of the modern Egyptians, illustrated from their proverbial sayings current at Cairo, translated and explained ... London, John Murray (colophon: printed by C. Roworth), 1830. Large 4º (28 × 22 cm). With a large folding engraved map of the Sinai, the Holy Land and parts of Egypt and Syria, showing Burckhardt’s travels, and a few small woodcut illustrations in the text. Set in roman and italic type with the proverbs also in the original Arabic. Mid-19th-century half tan calf, spine with gold-tooled bands.

€ 8000
First edition of a ground-breaking trove of 782 Arabic proverbs, published here in the
original Arabic with English translations and (sometimes extensive) explanations of their
meaning. Burckhardt took some from a collection assembled by the Egyptian scholar
Shered ad-Din Ibn Assad, adding others “as he heard them quoted in general society or
in the bázár ... Several Scriptural sayings and maxims of ancient sages will be found here
naturalized among Arabs; as well as some Proverbs which have generally been supposed
of European origin” (preface). This makes the present publication an essential primary
source for Islamic, Egyptian and Arabic oral history, preserving popular proverbs
collected before 1817.

The Swiss explorer, orientalist and archaeologist Burckhardt (1784–1817) travelled
through Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Nubia and the Arabian Peninsula, and rediscovered the
ancient city of Petra. Disguised as an Arab, he crossed the Red Sea to Jeddah under the
name “Sheikh Ibrahim”, passed an examination in Muslim law and participated in a
pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

With bookplate. Endpapers browned, slightly affecting the title-page, last page and
folding map, but otherwise in very good condition. Binding somewhat worn and
scuffed, but structurally sound. An expert Arabist’s annotated collection of Arabic
sayings, giving insights into Arabic culture.

Gay 1965; Howgego, 1800–1850, B76.

The Burmah Oil Company in early photographs

67. BURMAH OIL CO. Photograph album.

Burma, ca. 1904. Oblong 2º (420 × 312 mm). Contemporary half leather album of 56 large format photographs, ca.
27 × 20 cm.

A photograph album containing views of Burma, including images of
the staff and works of the Burmah Oil Company, the majority uncap-
tioned, though several are captioned in the negative and a couple are
identified by hand. The Burmah Oil Company was formed in Scotland
in 1886 and by the early 20th century owned the largest oil fields in the
British Empire, producing 90% of Burma’s oil output.

The first eight images show group portraits of staff, the following 48
are topographical or portrait photographs, including views of oil fields,
Rangoon, the countryside, an oil blaze and elephants at work.

Album slightly worn; 5 additional large format and 2 small photos
(group portraits, a brass band, oil fields enveloped in smoke) loosely
inserted. Overall in good condition.

Bilingual edition of the “Qa’ida al-Burda”, the first western translation

68. BUSIRI, Sharaf al-Din Muhammad ibn Sa’id, Al. Carmen mysticum
borda dictum ... e codice manuscript ... Latine conversum. Accedunt origines
Arabico-Hebraicae.

Breda, Johannes van Schoonhoven
(colophon: printed by Willem de Groot),
1771. 4º (19.5 × 16.5 cm). With the Arabic
text (in Arabic type) and the Latin text (in
Roman type) on facing pages. Slightly later
marbled boards.

€ 3000
Reissue of the rare first bilingual (Arabic-Latin) edition of the *Qa‘ida al-Burda* (Poem of the mantle), a famous poem in praise of prophet Muhammad, by the 13th-century Berber poet Al-Busiri. The Latin translation is made by the orientalist Johannes Uri (1726–1796) and it’s the first translation of this poem in a Western language. It is followed by a small exposition of him, on the origins of Arabic and Hebrew.

Title-page slightly thumbed, spine a bit rubbed, otherwise in very good condition. 

*Schurrer* 207.

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**Grazie, Jeevesiano: the mutual education of master and servant**

**69. CAGGIO, Paolo.** Iconomica [...].

Venice, Pozzo, 1532. Small 8°. With woodcut device to title-page, 1 woodcut initial and 1 full-page emblematic woodcut at the end.

*With: (2) ROSELLO, (Lucio) Paolo.** Due dialoghi [...].

Venice, (Comin da Trino di Monferrato, 1549). With publisher’s device to title-page and full-page, different device to the reverse. Contemporary boards.

First editions: two rare Italian Renaissance treatises about prudent household management, including the role and treatment of family and servants, directed at the paterfamilias and couched in the form of dialogues. Caggio’s treatise contains advice on how to make a house salubrious through the layout and size of the rooms, and generally provides an uncommonly detailed window into the familial mores of his native Palermo during the mid-16th century, frequently betraying the pervasive misogyny of Sicilian society: the two-page table of contents promises answers to problems such as, “Why did nature make men robust and valorous and women weak and of little spirit”, and further along gives advice on, “What damages are caused by wives who are pompous, proud, and domineering.”

The 1549 treatise by Rosello, a Padovan cleric frequently at odds with the censorship of his church, contains two dialogues. The first develops the subject of the mutual education of master and servant, demonstrating that the latter will show all the more “prudentia, modestia, gentilezza, & costumi civili” if the master is indulgent and forbearing toward him. The second notoriously portrays life at court as an anarchic war of all against all in which the courtier, lacking a specific professional or classical education, must continually adapt to circumstances like a chameleon. Binding rather severely rubbed, extremeties bumped; book’s contents inscribed on upper cover.

Interior shows occasional weak waterstains. Several old annotations to endpapers and title-page (some in Italian); a cipher alphabet is inscribed to the lower endpaper. Provenance: from the collection of the historian and director of the Viennese court library, Sebastian Tengnagel (1563–1636), who willed his large private library to the Emperor in 1633. His autograph ownership is on the title-page: “Ex lib. Sebast. Tengnagel i.v.v. et Caes. Biblioth.”, and it is possible that the cipher alphabet is also written by him. The pastedown shows the later bookplate of the library of Pfannberg castle in Styria, the collection of the Austrian industrialist Baron Franz Mayr von Melnhof (1810–89).


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**The first book printed in Egypt: an Arabic type specimen and guide to the script**


The first book ever printed in Egypt (Hebrew presses excepted), a specimen of a naskh Arabic type, including the extra characters needed for setting Turkish and Persian, and at the same
time a guide to the Arabic script and its use. It is unquestionably the most important and one of the rarest of the early books printed in the Middle East, published only weeks or months after Napoleon introduced Western printing into the Arab world.

Only in October 1798 did Marcel arrive in Cairo with his employees and types to organize the Imprimerie Orientale. “The expedition of Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt from 1798 until 1801 was a prelude to modernity. It was to change permanently the traditional Arab world ... The French brought Arabic typography to Egypt, where it was practised under the supervision ... of Jean Joseph Marcel ... Only a few days after the French troops landed ... they set up the Imprimerie Orientale et Française there. It was an extraordinarily important turning point. For, leaving aside the Hebrew printing presses in Egypt of the 16th to the 18th centuries, until this date announcements and news addressed to Arabs there, as well as in other parts of the Arab-Islamic world, had been spread only in hand-writing or orally, by criers, preachers or storytellers” (Glass & Roper).

Slightly spotty in places, but well preserved. No copy in auction records or in libraries within the Arab world.

Geiss, Imprimerie en Égypte, p. 146, no. 1; Glass & Roper, The printing of Arabic books in the Arab world, in: Middle Eastern languages and the print revolution (2002), pp. 177–225, at 182; Schnurrer 140 note; WorldCat (8 copies); not in Audin Livrets typographiques (2nd ed. with a 1951 supplement, 1964).

Signed by Napoleon in Egypt

71. [CAIRO PRINTING]. NAPOLEON, Emperor of the French (1769–1821). Document signed («Bonaparte»).

Cairo, Quartier-Général, 1er Pluviôse an 7 (20 January 1799). 2º. € 15 000

As general-in-chief of the Egyptian campaign, to the army’s chief purser Hector Daure (1774–1846), requesting him to send the necessary cloth for the trousers of the 14th Dragoons with a list of the regiment’s active debts. Written on Napoleon’s personal folio stationery (“Bonaparte, Général en chef”), printed by the Imprimerie Orientale, which had introduced the modern printing press to the Arab world only a few months earlier, in October 1798: “The expedition of Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt from 1798 until 1801 was a prelude to modernity. It was to change permanently the traditional Arab world [...] The French brought Arabic typography to Egypt, where it was practised under the supervision [...] of Jean Joseph Marcel [...]. Only a few days after the French troops landed [...] they set up the Imprimerie Orientale et Française there. It was an extraordinarily important turning point. For, leaving aside the Hebrew printing presses in Egypt of the 16th to the 18th centuries, until this date announcements and news addressed to Arabs there, as well as in other parts of the Arab-Islamic world, had been spread only in hand-writing or orally, by criers, preachers or storytellers” (D. Glass/G. Roper, The Printing of Arabic Books in the Arab World, in: Middle Eastern Languages and the Print Revolution [Gutenberg Museum Mainz 2002], p. 177–225, at 182).


Important collection of 45 rare “Ordre du jours” from the French campaign in Egypt, printed in Cairo by Jean Joseph Marcel

72. [CAIRO PRINTING]. Au quartier-général du Kaire … Ordre du jour.

Cairo, Imprimerie nationale, 1799–1801. Small 2º. Collection of 45 placards, mostly single leafs printed on both sides, but also some single leafs printed on one side and a few 2ºs with three to four pages. All with the woodcut symbol of the French Republic showing Marianne, and with the header: Liberté. Egalité. Republique Francaise. Preserved in a modern faux-leather box. € 35 000
Important collection of 45 rare “Ordre du jours” (orders of the day) from the French campaign in Egypt, published from 1799 to 1801 by the Imprimerie Nationale in Cairo headed by Jean Joseph Marcel. It includes regulations for the payments of wages, the treatment of the injured and the sick, clothing, public safety, sanctions etc., giving an interesting view of the daily affairs of the French military in Egypt.

“The expedition of Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt from 1798 until 1801 was a prelude to modernity. It was to change permanently the traditional Arab world ... The French brought Arabic typography to Egypt, where it was practiced under the supervision ... of Jean Joseph Marcel... Only a few days after the French troops landed ... they set up the Imprimerie Orientale et Française there. It was an extraordinarily important turning point. For, leaving aside the Hebrew printing presses in Egypt of the 16th to the 18th centuries, until this date announcements and news addressed to Arabs there, as well as in other parts of the Arab-Islamic world, had been spread only in handwriting or orally, by criers, preachers or storytellers” (Glass & Roper).

All placards are very well preserved, especially considering their ephemeral nature, and are wholly untrimmed.


Exceedingly rare production of J.J. Marcel’s Cairo press

73. [CAIRO PRINTING]. Extrait de l’ordonnance du 1er Mars 1768, pour régler le service dans les places et dans les quartiers.

Cairo, Imprimerie nationale, an 9 (1800). Small 8º. Contemporary boards with giltstamped red spine label. € 15 000

First edition thus. An exceedingly rare production of J. J. Marcel’s Cairo press, the “Imprimerie Orientale” (recast as the “Imprimerie nationale” in 1799) which in late 1798 had introduced modern printing to the Arab world: the French army regulations which had been issued by King Louis XV in 1768 and remained in force until well into the 19th century. “The expedition of Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt from 1798 until 1801 was a prelude to modernity. It was to change permanently the traditional Arab world [...] The French brought Arabic typography to Egypt, where it was practiced under the supervision [...] of Jean Joseph Marcel [...]. Only a few days after the French troops landed [...] they set up the Imprimerie Orientale et Française there. It was an extraordinarily important turning point. For, leaving aside the Hebrew printing presses in Egypt of the 16th to the 18th centuries, until this date announcements and news addressed to Arabs there, as well as in other parts of the Arab-Islamic world, had been spread only in handwriting or orally, by criers, preachers or storytellers [...] The French printed [...] chiefly military orders, dispositions and proclamations [...] When the French withdrew from Egypt in 1801, according to most researchers they also took their printing press with them” (Glass/Roper, p. 182f.).

Long treasured by military scholars, ‘reglements’ such as these constitute important historical sources, “the most solid and most authoritative deposits of our knowledge of military affairs—if not of its high regions, then of its broad and essential bases” (cf. Jähns, Geschichte der Kriegswissenschaften 111, 1927), yet “they have become so rare that they should almost be considered as unprinted archival material” (cf. Lehmann, Werbung & Wehrpflicht [Leipzig 1911], 136).

Extremeties slightly bumped. Insignificant browning, still a good, untrimmed copy in its first binding.


Rare printing from Cairo

74. [CAIRO PRINTING]. Annuaire de la République Française, calculé pour le méridien du Caire, l’an 1x de l’ère française.

Cairo, Imprimerie Nationale, l’an 1x [1800]. Small 4º. Title-page printed in red. Contemp. half calf with gilt spine. € 15 000
Rare Cairo imprint. Includes navigational tables, a concordance between the Muslim and the French Republican calendar, and a comparison of French and Egyptian units of measure. Of particular importance is a table of French army in the Orient, showing the members of the administration, of finances, of the Commission of Sciences and Arts, of the Institute, etc.

Only in October 1798 had J. J. Marcel arrived in Cairo with his employees and types to organize the Imprimerie Orientale, thus introducing modern printing to the Arab world. “The expedition of Napoleon Bonaparte to Egypt from 1798 until 1801 was a prelude to modernity. It was to change permanently the traditional Arab world [...] The French brought Arabic typography to Egypt, where it was practised under the supervision [...] of Jean Joseph Marcel [...]. Only a few days after the French troops landed [...] they set up the Imprimerie Orientale et Française there. It was an extraordinarily important turning point. For, leaving aside the Hebrew printing presses in Egypt of the 16th to the 18th centuries, until this date announcements and news adressed to Arabs there, as well as in other parts of the Arab-Islamic world, had been spread only in hand-writing or orally, by criers, preachers or storytellers” (D. Glass and G. Roper, cf. below).

Careful repairs to binding. From the library of the British physician and army surgeon Sir Robert Alexander Chermside (1787–1860) with his bookplate. Rare; only 3 copies in France (Paris, Strasbourg, Lyon).

Dedication copy, printed in Arabic throughout


Paris, (typographie Arbieu), 1856. Large 8º. With 12 portraits and 5 engraved plates as well as several maps and plans in the text. Green half calf with gilt crowned “N” to spine and lower board, upper board with gilt dedication “Offert a Mr le Comte de Breteuil”. Moirée endpapers. All edges gilt. € 7500

First edition, rare. – Historical work on Emperor Napoleon I by Colonel Louis Calligaris (1808–70). Apart from his work as orientalist, Calligaris is remembered for founding the military academy at Tunis and for serving as aide-de-camp to the monarch of Tunisia. In 1861 he was appointed professor of Arab studies at the University of Turin, a position he held until his death. The 12 portrait plates include Napoleon, Joséphine, Napoléon III, and Louis Philippe; the engravings show the Estates General, the Battle of Arcole, the Battle of the Pyramids, etc.

Occasional brownstaining. Binding slightly rubbed, endpapers torn, otherwise in good condition. A remarkable typographic effort of the Second French Empire, this copy a gift for the diplomat and statesman Achille Le Tonnelier de Breteuil (1781–1864), who had already served Napoleon I in various capacities and was made a member of the Senate in 1852.

Ibrahim-Hilmy II, 58.

Camel Racing and Horsemanship in Upper Egypt

76. [CAMEL RACE]. “Minieh, Février 20, 1914”. Photograph album of an important camel racing and horsemanship event.

Minya, Upper Egypt, 1914. Oblong 2º (455 × 365 mm). 28 matte photographs (195 × 280 mm or the reverse), individually mounted on cards, recto only. Contemporary sewn red morocco gilt, flat spine, upper cover titled in gilt and with the photographer’s name in gilt. Marbled endpapers. € 45 000
Fine album of 28 black/white mounted photographs showing officials and dignitaries, horse and camel trainers, riders, and races at an unknown celebration or festival during the last days of the Khedivate and Ottoman rule in Egypt. A similar album, comprising merely 24 photographs, is kept at the UC Santa Barbara, Special Research Collections (Bernath Mss 185). Several mounts loosened or detached. Binding worn at extremeties, some water-staining to covers.

77. [CANTER, Frans]. Deductie gedaan ... uit den name ende van wegens bewindhebberen van de Oost-Indische Compagnie ter kamer Amsterdam, eerst requiranten van appointement van anticipatie, en nu gedaagdens by mandament van revisie, ter eentre, op ende jegens Aaltje Franse, weduwe van Cornелиis Canter, Jan Canter, en Hendrik van Greuninghen, als in huwelyk hebbende Anna Canter, zeggende te zyn moeder, broeder,, en zwager respective, van Frans Canter, alle wonende te Amsterdam, ...

[Amsterdam, 1752]. 2º (31.5 × 20.5 cm). Bound as sewn; the back of the last page has a letterpress title, which upon folding served as a title-wrapper.

With: (2) Missive van de bewindhebberen van de generale Neederlandsche geoctroyeerde Oostindische Compagnie ter vergadering van Seeventienen.

[Amsterdam, 1758]. 2º (33 × 21 cm). Bound as sewn.

Rare first and only edition of a legal injunction against the mother, father, and brother-in-law of Frans Canter, manager of the VOC (Dutch East India Company) factory at Basra in southern Iraq, from 1746 till 1750, who upon a summon to Batavia (apparently regarding misconduct), fled to Europe. Added is an even more rare missive from the directors of the VOC, on the misconduct of the company’s personnel, including a summary of the case against Canter. In this period the VOC was plagued by rising debts and corruption.

“The Dutch representatives in Basra had quite a bad reputation with their principals. … Frans Canter, resident in Basra from 1747 to 1750 seems to have had a bad conscience too. When in 1750, the High Government sent him a successor to Basra, Tiddo Frederik van Kniphhausen, Canter did not wait for Kniphausen to arrive and take over his books, but he fled first to Kuwait and from there to Aleppo and finally Holland. There the Company was unable to call him to justice because the Burgomasters of Amsterdam refused to recognize the jurisdiction of the Company over one of the citizens of their town while residing under their protection. Of more interest to the history of the Gulf is the fact that the documents on Canter’s flight give for the first time explicit proof that caravans from Aleppo used Kuwait as an alternative terminal for Basra” (Slot).

Ad 1: First and last leaf soiled, some marginal thumbing and (water) staining, last leaf (acting as a wrapper) damaged, otherwise still in good condition. Ad 2: Old fold and the head of the first leaf soiled (not reaching the text), otherwise also still very good.

Ad 1: Cat. KITLV, p. 6ü: Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC 1020 (3 copies); STCN (5 copies, incl. at least 1 the same); ad 2: Cat. KITLV, p. 6ü: NCC (2 copies); not in Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC, STCN; cf. Slot, The Arabs of the Gulf, pp. 353–354.
Biographies of three early Arab poets: Akhtal, Al-Farazdaq and Jarir

78. CAUSSIN DE PERCEVAL, Armand-Pierre. Notice sur les trois poètes Arabes Akhtal, Farazdak et Djérir
Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1834. 8º. Later grey paper wrappers. € 1750

Offprint, with new title-page, page numbers and quire signatures, of a work on three early Arab poets: Akhtal (ca. 640–710), Al-Farazdaq (ca. 641–728) and Jarir (ca. 650–728), by the French orientalist Armand-Pierre Caussin de Perceval (1795–1871). Each poet is discussed in a separate chapter, with comments on their names and ancestors, anecdotes about their lives, their influence and rise to fame, several poems (sometimes including the text in Arabic), and their work in general. Caussin de Perceval based parts of his texts on the Kitab al-Aghani, a collection of poems and songs from the 10th century. The text was first published in volume 13 of the Nouveau journal asiatique in the same year. Second half of the book foxed, otherwise in good condition.

C.V. Frolov, Classical Arabic verse, p. 351; WorldCat (3 copies).

Treaty on the Dutch and Portuguese commerce and territories in Ceylon

79. [CEYLON]. Provisioneel en[de] particulier tractaat, ... tusschen de heer Francisco de Sousa Continho, raedt ende ambassadeur vanden ... coningh van Portugael ... ende de heeren gedeputeerden vande ... Staten Generael ... aengaende de controversie over de jurisdictie ende territorie van ’t fort Galle, etc.
The Hague, Widow and heirs of Hillebrant Jacobsz van Wouw, 1645. 4º. With the woodcut arms of the States General (lion with sword and 7 arrows) in an elaborately decorated cartouche with military attributes on title-page. Modern black paper wrappers. € 750

Early edition of the Dutch translation of a provisional agreement made between the Dutch States General and the Portuguese ambassador Francisco de Zousa Continho on the jurisdiction and territory of Fort Galle in Ceylon (Sri Lanka), one of the most important outposts both strategically and as a trading centre. The Dutch had captured it from the Portuguese in 1640 and they had been fighting in the region since that time. The treaty notes the losses and battles caused by the dispute between the two powers and the demands made by the Dutch government to secure their position in the East Indies. This includes their demand for a yearly supply of cinnamon, through which the Portuguese are to pay off their debt, and restitution by both parties for the losses they caused one another. The parties agree to honor the treaty and not trespass on each other’s rights and territories.

In very good condition.
STCN 036718416; cf. Knuttel 5202 & 5205b; Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC 242 (other editions).

The Don Quixote of Mexico

80. CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de. El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha [...]. Nueva edicion corregida por la Real Academia Españia.
Madrid, Don Joaquín Ibarra for the Real Academia, 1780. 4º (295 × 220 mm). 4 vols. including additional engraved title-pages, portrait of the author, 31 engraved plates after various artists, and 1 double-page engraved map. Bound in contemporary mottled sheep, richly gilt with tooled borders and spines and with red morocco title labels. Sympathetically restored with later endpapers. With the bookplate of the executed Emperor of Mexico, Maximilian, on pastedown. Additional bookplate of Laurent Veydt (1800–77, Belgian Minister of Finance), as well as letter recording the presentation of the these volumes to Jules Malou (1810–86, Belgian Prime Minister) in 1876. € 70 000
A large copy of the most famous edition of “Don Quixote” ever produced, with a remarkable provenance. The “Ibarra” edition of 1780 was described by Palau as “magnificent, superior in artistic beauty to all others produced in Spain or abroad”; Richard Ford declares that “no grand library should be without it” and undoubtedly it was on these merits that Ibarra’s edition was famously cast in Roman Polanski’s 1999 thriller “The Ninth Gate”. The present copy was purchased by Emperor Maximilian of Mexico during his brief reign (1864–67) as part of what he hoped would become the nucleus of a National Library; after his execution by firing squad his books were salvaged and sent by mule-back to Vera Cruz, in order to be sold at public auction in Leipzig.

Even during Maximilian’s lifetime one of his critics in French parliament, Jules Favre, mercilessly derided him as a ‘veritable Don Quixote’. Such comparisons were undoubtedly justified; yet the romance of Maximilian’s tragic misadventure in Mexico is only heightened by the physical evidence that he once owned a personal copy of Cervantes’ great novel – in a spectacular and highly sought-after edition, no less.

The Ibarra edition was prepared at great expense over the course of seven years for the Real Academia, printed on deluxe paper in a specifically-designed typeface and illustrated by the foremost Spanish artists of the time. To this day it remains a monument of Spanish printing, and a fitting tribute to what many regard as the first modern novel in the Hispanic tradition.

The dispersal of Maximilian’s library itself forms a fascinating chapter in the present volumes’ history. Rebels under the command of Benito Juarez captured and shot the emperor on the 19th June 1867. Likely at the instigation of the Mexican bookseller José Maria Andrade, who had yet to be paid for Maximilian’s purchases, the books were packed onto mules and dispatched to Vera Cruz, from whence they sailed for Europe. Their sale in 1869 was one of the greatest of the 19th century – and perhaps the greatest sale of Spanish Americana of all time. As the bookplates show, the present volumes soon made their way into the possession of the Belgian Minister of Finance, Laurent Veydt, who in 1876 presented them to his Prime Minister.


81. CHAMPIER, Symphorien. Castigaciones seu emendationes pharmacopolarum, sive apothecariorum, ac Arabum medicorum Mesue, Rafis, Alpharabii, & aliorum iuniorum medicorum...
(Colophon: Lyon, Johannes Crespin, 1532). 2 parts in 1 volume (bound in reverse order). 8º. With armorial woodcut on title-page to the second part (bound as opening title-page), repeated several times in text, and numerous woodcut initials. Contemporary vellum, richly blind-tooled in a panel design. € 12 300

First and only edition of a work on the history of medicine by the French doctor Symphorien Champier (1472–1539). During his career Champier switched several times from being appreciative to critical towards Arab authors. In one of his earlier works, he describes Avicenna (Ibn Sina) as “a man of most outstanding genius and certainly the most distinguished of all” (Siraisi). On the other hand, he later criticised Italian doctors, “who allowed their schools to be occupied by ‘Arabs, Persians, Indians and Mahometans’” (Siraisi). In the present work, which he wrote late in his career, he takes a more moderate view, admitting that Arabs indeed made useful contributions to the study of medicine, and calling Avicenna the noblest of them all. The text can be seen as a brief history of medicine, dividing it in three sections: Greek, Latin and Arabic medicine. For the Latin he makes a distinction between Latini, those who follow Galen and Hippocrates (Boqrat), and barbari, those who set out their own path. With some manuscript annotations in the margins. The two parts bond in reverse order. Very slightly browned and some occasional minor spots. Binding has the corners bumped and the spine soiled. Overall a very good copy.

Durling 930; Parkinson 505; cf. N.G. Siraisi, Avicenna in renaissance Italy: the canon and medical teaching in Italian universities after 1500 (1987), pp. 72–73.

82. CHANLAIRE, Pierre Gregoire and Edme MENTELLE. Carte du théâtre de la Guerre en Orient.
Paris, Chanlaire & Mentelle, 1798–1799. Original outline colour. Dissected and laid on linen in two sections, 880 × 940 mm & 660 × 940 mm. € 28 000

Napoleon Bonaparte’s ambitions in the East
A two-sheet wall map showing Prussia, Turkey, Egypt and Abyssinia in the west, and the Aral Sea in Kazakhstan, Persia, Arabia and Somalia in the east. Two inset maps show the routes from Siré to Gondar and from Gondar to the sources of the Nile. According to the inscription, the map is based on that of “the late J. B. Laborde” (Jean-Benjamin de Laborde [1734–94], a traveller and musician), with amendments; however we have been unable to trace a map of the region by him.

The vast map was published to satisfy French interest when their seemingly-unstoppable General Bonaparte turned his attention to the conquest of Egypt in 1798. Already Napoleon had captured Malta en route to Egypt, and the oval title vignette shows him overseeing the burial of the French dead under Pompey’s Pillar after the capture of the important port city of Alexandria (July 1798).

After the defeat of the Mameluk army at the Battle of the Pyramids it was Napoleon’s intention to subdue the rest of the Ottoman Empire before moving to threaten British interests in India. However, as the political situation in Paris was deteriorating, Napoleon decided to leave his army in Egypt in 1799, returning to France to become First Consul. His army was less fortunate, surrendering to the British at Alexandria in 1801.

This map is very scarce: the French citizens’ interest in maps of the Orient evaporated as quickly as Napoleon’s.

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**With extracts from sura 26**

83. CHARDIN, [Jean]. Journal du voyage du chevalier Chardin en Perse et aux Indes orientales [...].

Lyon, Thomas Amaury, 1687. 8º. 2 vols. With engr. portrait frontispiece, additional engr. title, folding engr. map and 15 engr. plates (12 folding). Contemp. French full calf with giltstamped spines. Edges sprinkled in red. € 2800

Second French edition of Chardin’s account of his travels in Persia and India. Includes extracts from the Qur’an (sura 26) as well as Muslim religious songs extolling the greatness of Prophet and the city of Mecca. The French traveller Jean Chardin (1643–1713) had spent the years 1665–70 and 1671–77 in the Middle East and is considered the most knowledgeable westerner of his period with regard to Persian geography and customs (cf. Henze).

Some browning; spine-ends chipped; a few tears to individual plates professionally repaired. Altogether a good copy. Rare; OCLC cites a single copy (in the BnF), while Quebec appears to possess a four-volume 12º variant, and a separate first volume is in the Newberry Library.

**OCLC 457498604. Cf. Howgego I, 216f. Henze I, 557f.**

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**French merchant travels through Persia and becomes personal jeweller to the Shah**

84. CHARDIN, Jean. Voyages de mr. le chevalier Chardin, en Perse, et autres lieux de l’Orient.

Amsterdam, J. L. de Lorme, 1711. 10 volumes. 12º. With an engraved frontispiece portrait of Johannes Chardin, 1 engraved map, 79 engraved folding plates and 6 letterpress folding tables. Contemporary half morocco, gold-tooled spine. € 4500

First complete edition of the famous voyages of Jean Chardin in Persia, around the Gulf, and other Eastern countries. Jean Chardin (1643–1713) was the son of a wealthy Parisian jeweller. Since he was bent on travelling to the East, he proposed to his father to go and set up a diamond-trade with the East. On his first trip in 1665 he travelled through Persia and to Isfahan, the Persian capital. There
he gained access to the court of Shah Abbas II, to whom he became the personal merchant jeweller. After extensive travelling through Persia, studying the religion and culture, he returned to Paris in 1670. Later in 1671 Chardin left again for the East and, meeting with many difficulties and dangers, took two years to reach Persia by way of Constantinople and Southern Russia. From Persia he proceeded to India and returned to France by way of the Cape of Good Hope in 1677. Among the numerous fine engravings are folding views of Tiflis, Erivan, Isfahan, Persepolis, etc., and some beautiful plates of architecture and costumes. Chardin is one of the most detailed observers of the Gulf’s pearl fishing in this period.

Each volume with an amorial bookplate on pastedown. Binding rubbed along the extremities, some volumes are slightly cracked at the hinge. Leaves slightly browned, some occasional minor spots and a few owner’s notes in pencil. Overall a very good copy.

Anabey 229; Houreggo, to 1800, C102; STCN (4 copies); cf. Carter, Sea of pearls, seven thousand years of the industry that shaped the Gulf, pp. 94 & 101.

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**Greek description of Palestine, from the library of George III**

**85. CHRYSANTHOS, Metropolitan of Durazzo, Brusa, and Smyrna.** [Proskynetarion tes hagias poleos Hierousalem kai pases Palaistines]. Vienna, Johanna Schrämbl, 1807. 2º. With engraved frontispiece and 51 leaves of plates (8 double-page-sized or folded). Near-contemporary red half morocco with gilt rules and marbled covers, spine richly gilt (loss of label). Marbled endpapers. All edges gilt. € 9500

Rare description of the Holy City of Jerusalem and of Palestine; a reissue (with changed title) of the edition published by Josef Baumeister in Vienna in 1787. Previous editions had appeared in Venice in 1728, then in 1749 and 1781, while the 1787 edition boasted “a new text and different iconography” (Staikos). This latter edition is here reproduced largely unchanged save for bringing the name of the Patriarch of Jerusalem up to date (from Abraham to Anthimus), as well as that of the editor, Apostolos Boras, on the title page. “The engraving of the Patriarch on his throne is unchanged except for the name; it is signed (in Greek): ‘engraved by Schindelmayer in Vienna’ […] A large-sized, impressive book” (Staikos). “A portrait of the Patriarch [Anthimus] forms the frontispiece; also, there is an illustration of the Palace of David, and a plan of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, though the view of its cross-section is quite haphazard […] The author expands on Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, and the sacred sites of Galilee. The text is apparently more or less that of the Venice 1728 edition; apart from that, it is generously interspersed with highly appealing illustrations in the true taste of modern Greece” (cf. Tobler 135). Extremeties bumped; spine-ends chipped. Still a beautiful volume from the library of King George III of the United Kingdom (1738–1820) with his royal cypher on the spine.


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**The best edition**

**86. CHURCHILL, Awnsham & John.** A Collection of Voyages and Travels.

London, Henry Lintot & John Osborne, 1744–1746. 2º. 6 vols. Title printed in red and black. With 187 engraved plates (many folding) and 9 engravings in the text (showing maps, plans, views, costumes, flora, fauna, scenes, portraits etc., including 2 bound as frontispieces), as well as numerous woodcuts in the text (showing arms, seals, devices, coastal views, details, machinery etc.). Uniform full calf with red labels to spine (gilding oxydized). € 35 000

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46
Third and best edition of this important and profusely illustrated collection of travel reports, compiled by the brothers Awnsham and John Churchill, based on Hakluyt and Purchas. It includes the accounts of Martin Baumgarten (Egypt, Arabia, Palestine, Syria), Thomas Roe, Philipp Balde and Johan Nieuhoff (East Indies), J. Gemelli Careri (Turkey, Persia, India), Nicholas Rolamb (Constantinople), John Barbot (West Africa, with a chapter on “Mahomet and his Alcoran”), as well as of Yemen and various journeys to China, Korea, Greenland, Iceland, Africa, North and South America (including Columbus).

The count of the illustrations is notoriously complicated: the “List of the Copper Plates” counts 305 illustrations and maps, of which as many as four are placed on a single plate, and some are placed within the text. Compared to this list, the present set lacks 52 illustrations, or ca. 20 plates, whereas the first volume contains 5 additional plates not called for in the List.


**With thirteen songs, including their original Arabic text and English translation**

**87. CHURI, Joseph H.** Sea Nile, the Desert, and Nigritia. [...] With Thirteen Arabic Songs, as Sung by the Egyptian Sailors on the Nile.


First edition. – The Lebanese Maronite Churi trained at the Congregation of Propaganda in Rome from 1842 to 1849. He later left Rome and made his way to London, where he gave lessons in Arabic, Latin, Italian, and Hebrew. Captain W. Peel was amongst his pupils and persuaded him to accompany him on a tour of the Middle East between October 1850 and February 1851. The present work is an account of a second journey the pair undertook to Egypt and the Sudan between August 1851 and February 1852. Some wear to spine and boards. Mild occasional foxing, otherwise in very good condition. Nice original, unblemished yellow endpapers. Rare.


**Italian merchant voyages and trade with Arabia, Egypt and the Ottoman Empire**

**88. CIGNANO, Ludovico.** Quieta solitudine di varii ragionamenti, discorsi, et concetti, ove si narra quattro navigazioni …

Bologna, Alessandro Benacci, 1587. Small 4° (21 × 15 cm). With a woodcut coat of arms on the title-page. Goatskin morocco (ca. 1870/80?), richly gold-tooled spine and turn-ins, signed in foot of front turn-in by the Paris bookbinders “DARLAUD FRÈRES”, gold fillets on sides and board edges. € 45 000

Rare first and only edition of Italian literary musings concerning merchant voyages, including information about commerce with the Ottoman Empire, Egypt, Syria, Arabia, Persia, India and China, with references to Mecca, Constantinople, Cairo and other cities. There are seven numbered chapters (each called a “Spatio”). One discusses a voyage to the East Indies and many refer to real places, but some of the other destinations, as well as the names of some of the people and ships, seem to be allegorical. Chapter one argues for the benefits of travel abroad in general. Chapter 2, discusses the voyage of two ships to the East Indies and mentions many real places along the way and beyond. Chapter 3 concerns the ship *Pistri*. Chapter 4 describes a voyage to “Tana” by “Mandrilio” (a baboon?), “Quintilius” (the unfortunate Roman general?) and “Fausto” (Doctor Faustus?). Chapter 5
concerns the voyage of the ship Castorea and mentioning Mecca and Arabic and Persian merchants. Chapter 6 offers advice in the form of ten rules “che gli furno date da Medici”. Chapter 7 names ten (fictitious?) academic doctors and (satirically?) presents the “elegantissime conclusioni con loro dottrina”.

Washed by the 19th-century binder but book and binding in very good condition. A charmingly bound copy of a rare and curious work on the Near and Far East.

USTC 822650 (citing Edit 16); not in Atabey; Blackmer; Howgego (neither real nor “invented and apocryphal”); Mortimer.

1500-page Turkish dictionary that helped make Leipzig Europe’s leading centre of oriental studies

89. CLODIUS, Johann Christian. Compendiosum lexicon Latino-Turcico-Germanicum … accessit triplex index, ac Grammatica Turcica, ...

Leipzig, Wolfgang Deer (printed by Andreas Zeidler), 1730. 8º. With an engraved frontispiece showing 6 turbaned figures in the interior of an Ottoman library. Set in roman, italic, Arabic and fraktur types with incidental Greek and Hebrew. Modern half calf, gold-tooled spine.

First and only edition of Clodius’s Latin, Turkish and German dictionary, issued together with the first and only edition of his Turkish grammar. These were the most extensive reference works for the study of the Turkish language that had been published at the time and were to remain standard works for decades. Clodius became professor of Arabic at Leipzig University and his work was the “Beginn einer äußerst fruchtbaren Phase der Orientalistik in Leipzig” (Liebrenz).

The main body of the dictionary is arranged alphabetically by the Latin words, set in roman type. Each is followed by the Turkish in Arabic type, a transliteration of the Turkish in italic, the German in fraktur, and sometimes further information in Latin. The three very extensive indexes are arranged alphabetically by the Turkish words in Arabic type, the transliterations of the Turkish and the German. The type appears to be that cut by Johann Adolf Schmidt in 1673 and cast in Leipzig, first by Anton Janson, but here probably by the Ehrhardt foundry and later by Breitkopf.

With the errata misbound. With some browned patches, primarily in 1 sheet and the edges of the first and last leaves, but otherwise in good condition.


Rare first edition of a famous collection of 10 Dutch & English voyages & circumnavigations (1594–1617), plus first edition of Spilbergen’s circumnavigation

90. COLIJN, Michiel and Marten HEUBELDINCK (editors). Oost-Indische ende West-Indische voyagien, namelijck, De waerachtighe beschrijvinge vande drie seylagien, drie jaren achter malkanderen deur de Hollandtsche ende Zeelandtsche schepen, by noorden Noorweghen, Moscovien ende Tartarien nae de coninckrijcken van Catthay ende China ghedaen.

Amsterdam, Michiel Colijn, [1617–]1619. With engraved frontispiece and 166 engraved maps, plans and views.

With: (2) SPILBERGEN, Joris van. Oost ende West-Indische spiegel der 2. leste navigatien, ghedaen inden jaeren 1614. 15. 16. 17. ende 18.


Rare first edition of an important collection of 10 of the most famous voyages of the two preceding decades, brought together by the Amsterdam publisher Michiel Colijn and the bookseller Maarten Heubeldinck in Groningen. All the well-known names are present.
Gerrit de Veer, Cornelis Houtman, Jacob van Neck, Joris van Spilbergen, Sebald de Weert and Olivier van Noort. The present copy belongs to the issue with the dedication by Michiel Colijn (Tiele, Mém., p. 8, issue c). The voyage of Van Neck and Van Warwijck includes a visit to the Sultanate of Ternate, one of the oldest Muslim kingdoms in Indonesia. With an engraving of a procession towards the mosque on the island and a dialogue between Abdias and Mohamed. The first edition of an interesting account of Joris van Spilbergen’s circumnavigation in 1614–18 is bound at the end.

Some insignificant tears in textleaves and some maps (mostly repaired), some leaves a bit shaved (with loss of the imprint of part 8) and slightly thumbed. Good set of a rare and important collection of voyages, with many maps and views.

Muller, America 3284 (of the utmost rarity); Sabin 14349; Tiele, Bibl. 1178; Tiele, Mém., pp. 6–9; ad 2: Tiele, Bibl. 1025; Tiele, Mém., pp. 65–65, 70–72.

Suppressing the East African slave trade in the Gulf region


First edition of a very detailed and well-illustrated account of a British naval campaign to suppress the East African slave trade in the years 1868 to 1870, published only eight years after the end of the United States’ Civil War and the abolition of slavery there. Slavery was not outlawed in the Ottoman Empire (which at the time of publication included Egypt and what is now Iraq) until 1882 and in Iran and most of the Gulf States not until the 20th century. The book was written by Captain Philip Howard Colomb (1831–1899), Commander of the HMS Dryad from 1868 to 1870, who lead the campaign. He operated primarily in and around the Gulf, Oman and Zanzibar, and captured seven slave ships during those two years. The illustrations show the Dryad and some of the slave ships, individual and group portraits of slaves encountered during the campaign and views of ports where slave trading occurred.

Slightly browned with a few stains. Binding rebacked and slightly worn along the extremities, mostly the corners, bookblock detached from binding at front hinge. Overall in very good condition.


On the sales of arms and arms deals in the Middle East


Document printed by the government of the United States of America, concerning several hearings of witnesses of events in the Middle East and South Asia, especially concerning “arms sales or pending arms deals with some of the oil-rich countries of the Persian Gulf, especially Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait ...” (p. 1). Included are a list of witnesses, their statements, tables listing military transactions and import/export numbers, and relating documents, including memorandums, biographies of the witnesses, letters and articles. Inserted is a letter from Eric Barnes to the Congressman Kazen, requesting a copy of the present book.

A very good copy.

Document printed by the government of the United States of America, concerning “the escalating level of arms sales to Gulf states” (p. V). Included are statements of witnesses, memorandums, tables and other important documents concerning the (illegal) arms trade. Occasionally a marginal annotation in red ink. Otherwise in very good condition.

94. CONCOREGIO, Giovanni. Practica nova medicine [...]. Summula [...] de curis febrium.

(Venice, heirs of Ottaviano Scoto, 19 Febr. 1515). 2º. With woodcut printer’s device at the end and numerous woodcut initials. Modern red morocco, blindstamped to style, with gilt spine and inner dentelle. Marbled endpapers. All edges sprinkled in red. In cloth slipcase.

A rare medical compendium drawing strongly on the Arabic physicians who dominated the medieval medical schools of France and Northern Italy, including the author’s treatise on fevers, based on Avicenna, who is variously quoted. Some of the surprisingly modern ailments discussed include tinnitus, diabetes, and manic depression (an extensive chapter). This is the third edition of the collection first published thus in 1501 (not counting the only incunabular edition of 1485).

Some waterstaining to margins (more pronounced near beginning). Bound in a sumptuous modern morocco binding decorated with rollstamps showing Renaissance heads, likely for the 20th-century physician and collector Piergiorgio Borio (his bookplate on the front pastedown). Only 3 copies in Italy (Biblioteca comunale dell’Archiginnasio Bologna; Biblioteca Angelica Roma; Biblioteca Casanatense Roma).


Tinnitus, diabetes, manic depression: a medical manual drawing on Avicenna

95. CONDE, José Antonio and Jules Lacroix de MARLÈS. Histoire de la domination des Arabes et des Maures en Espagne et en Portugal, depuis l’invasion de ces peuples jusqu’a leur expulsion définitive. Paris, Alexis Eymery, 1825. 3 volumes. 8º. Contemporary dark brown half morocco, gold- and blind-tooled spines.

First edition of the French translation of a very detailed history of the Islamic presence on the Iberian peninsula, first published as Historia de la dominación de los Árabes en España ... (Madrid, 1820–1823). After several introductory chapters giving background information about Islam and the Caliphate in general, it gives a detailed account of the Islamic state in its various guises in what is now southern Spain and Portugal (al-Andalus) from Abd al-Rahman I’s conquest of Córdoba in 756 to Castile’s annexation of Granada under Ferdinand and Isabella in 1492. During part of this period it was the Caliphate of Córdoba, an important centre of Islamic culture. It was enormously influential both through the original Spanish edition and through the translations into German, English

Extensive history of the Muslim rule of Spain and Portugal
Confidential reports on trade with the Middle East

96. [CONSULS—SECRET REPORTS]. Reports in Relation to Trade with Turkey in Asia, Persia, and Central Asia.

With:

(2) Reports on Trade with Turkey.
(3) Turkish reforms: The Development of Asia Minor by the “Etappen” System.
(4) [With a report from] Mr. R. Thomson to the Marguis of Salisbury.
(5) Memorandum by Lieutenant-Colonel Ross on Southern Traffic Routes [with Persia].
(6) Memorandum by Mr. W. J. Dickson on Commercial Relations between Persia and Great Britain and Communication with Persia. London, Foreign Office, 1880. 6 works bound in one volume. 8º. Contemporary half calf over marbled boards, spine with gilt rules, gilt lettered red label, gilt initials to the foot of the spine. Folding map to the second work. €5800

A bound collection of confidential reports from consular officials primarily regarding trade with the countries of the near and Middle East. The first work contains reports from cities such as Baghdad, Aleppo, Trebizond and Beirut. The second includes numerous short reports from all across the region, including a one and a quarter page report from the Consul at Jeddah describing local trade along with brief descriptions of the state of transport and communications routes. Repairs to the upper ends of both joints, very good.

Portuguese shipwreck off the coast of Africa, a classic of Portuguese literature

97. CORTE REAL, Jerónimo. Naufrago, e lastimoso sucesso da perdição de Manoel de Sousa de Sepúlveda, e Dona Lílianor de Sá, sua mulher, e filhos, vindo da Índia para este reyno Náo chamada o Galiaó grande S. João, ...
Lisbon, Francisco Rolland, 1783. Small 8º (15 × 11 cm). Contemporary limp vellum. €650

Second edition in the original Portuguese of one of the most important works of Portuguese literature, by the poet, painter and musician Jerónimo Corte Real (ca. 1533–1590), first published in 1594. After Camões, Corte Real is considered the greatest Portuguese epic poet. His Sepúlveda is a narrative of the disastrous shipwreck and ultimate fate of Manoel de Sousa de Sepúlveda, of Donna Leonora, his wife, and their children on their voyage from India to Portugal, on board the great galleon Saint John, which was lost at the Cape of Good Hope on the Coast of Natal. With an owner’s inscription on title-page. In good condition, some small defects. Binding with a small chip at the foot of the spine and some small scuff marks. Influential second edition of a great Portuguese epic poem.

Innocêncio III, 262–263 & X, 128; Palau IV, 65005; Porbae (2 copies); SAB I, p. 633.

Continuation of João de Barros’s famous work on Portuguese colonial history in the Orient. First published in 1602, this is the first edition to include decade IX. Do Couto (1542–1616), chronicler and custodian of Torre do Tombo, begins with Decada IV, in continuation of de Barros’s Decada III. (When de Barros’s own Decada IV was discovered and posthumously published in 1615, the work effectively acquired another treatment of the same period with a different text, both numbered IV). "The ‘Decades’ contain “the early history of the Portuguese in India and Asia and reveal careful study of Eastern historians and geographers, as well as of the records of [the author’s] own country. They are distinguished by clearness of exposition and orderly arrangement. They are also lively accounts” (Enc. Britannica).

Vols. 1 and 11 bound in a single volume. Some worming to spine-ends, with traces of worming to inner margin of the final four leaves of vol. 111. A clean copy.


**€ 4500**

99. **CRUZ, Gaspar da**. Tractado em que se co[n]tam muito por este[n]so as cousas da China, co[m] suas particularidades, [e] assi do reyno d[’]Ormuz. Evora, André de Burgos, 1569 (colophon: 1570). Small 4º in 8s (18.0 × 14 cm). Title-page with woodcut Portuguese royal coat of arms and a 4-piece woodcut border, and further with some woodcut initials. Modern richly gold-tooled red morocco, boards gold-tooled in a panel design, with earlier brass clasps and catchplates.

An account of a chronicle of the kings of Hormuz, based on a Persian or Arabic manuscript now lost, and thus “an irreplaceable source for the early history of the kingdom of Hormuz” (Loureiro), and a chapter on the Chinese Islamic communities in China. Very rare first edition of “the first European book devoted exclusively to China” (Lach). A highly important work, the first printed book published in the West on the subject, serving as the primary source on China for European authors and their readers — most of whom never set foot in the East — for many decades following its publication.

In 1548 Gaspar da Cruz, along with ten fellow Dominican friars, departed for Portuguese India with the purpose of establishing a mission in the East. Cruz visited Goa, Chaul, Kochi, and Portuguese Ceylon. In 1554 Cruz was in Malacca and then left for Cambodia in a (failed) attempt to found a mission there. In 1556 he was in Canton bay on the island of Lampacao and later went to Canton itself to preach. Cruz left China in 1560, sailed to Hormuz and stayed there for three years. In 1565 he sailed back to Goa and returned home to Lisbon in the next year. His *Tractado* provides a highly unusual and remarkable eyewitness account of Ming China, including many details never before published in the West. Comparing the work to the more renown account of Marco Polo’s travels to Asia, Boxer remarks: “there can be no doubt that the Portuguese friar [Cruz] gives us a better and clearer account of China as he saw it than did the more famous Italian traveler” (Boxer).

With a couple manuscript annotations and underscoring (one shaved). Some restorations (to title-page, leaves a2, d3, e4, f8, quires a, b and k, and a few tiny corners), faint water stains in the head margins and washed. Still a good copy.

**€ 265 000**

*Cordier, Sinica, col. 2065; Lach, Asia and the making of Europe I, p. 310 & 748; Purbahe (5 copies, incl. 1 incomplete); R. Loureiro, “ in: Christian-Muslim relations: a bibliographical history VI, pp. 369–373; USTC 346100 (5 copies); WorldCat (5 copies); cf. Boxer, South China in the sixteenth century.*
First Italian edition of first overland journey from Spain to the East Indies, by way of Iran

100. CUBERO SEBASTIAN, Pedro. Peregrinazione del mondo. Naples, Giuseppe Criscolo`, 1683. 4° (15.7 × 20 cm). With additional engraved title and 2 portraits. Original papered boards with handwritten lettering to spine.

First Italian edition of an interesting and detailed account of the first overland journey from Spain to the East Indies (1671–80) made by the Spanish missionary Sebastian Pedro Cubero. Interestingly, Cubero covered most of his route by land, as would later Careri, thus constantly being able to observe the customs, religions, ceremonies and costumes of the peoples he visited, describing them in considerable detail. After spending time in Italy, where he was appointed as a missionary to Asia and the East Indies, Cubero travelled by way of Istanbul and Moscow to Iran, visiting Isfahan (“Hispaham”) and Bandar Abbas, after which he finally arrived in India. After crossing to Malacca he was imprisoned by the Dutch and later banished from the city. He then proceeded to the Philippines and ultimately, by way of Mexico, back to Europe. Included are three very three very detailed chapters of devoted to China, Tartary and the Chinese-Tartarian wars. Additionally, there are important discussion of Persia, India, Malacca, the Philippines, and Mexico; chapter xx (pp. 136–156) contains an extensive discussion on Islam, the birth and death of Mohamed and Mecca and Medina. Chapter xxxi (p. 225–229) contains a discussion of the Kingdom of Ormuz and Bandar Abbas, the city on the Straits of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

Bookplate of the New York “Explorers Club” (James B. Ford Library) to pastedown. Old inscriptions to front flyleaf; occasional stains. Lacks lower flyleaf; small tear to corner with loss of some text to fol. O4. This is the only copy of this edition that appears in the auction records over 30 years, no copy in the trade.


Third copy located of an extremely rare ethnographic photo album

101. DAMMANN, Carl Victor and Friedrich Wilhelm. Ethnologischer Atlas sämtlicher Menschen-Racen in Photographien, . . . Hamburg, Otto Meissner, [1876]. With letterpress title-leaf and 179 albumen prints mounted on 25 paperboard leaves (31.5 × 46.5 cm), each leaf with a short general description in German, and all photos with irregularly numbered captions. Loose in a modern black half cloth clamshell box, with the original printed title-wrapper mounted on front.

Extremely rare collection of photographs intended for the use at schools, by Carl Victor and Friedrich Wilhelm Dammann, who are best known for their massive photographic work Anthropologisch-Ethnologisches Album in Photographien published in instalments between 1873 and 1874. The collection contains photographs of ethnic types from all over the world, including Africans, Arabs, Chinese, Japanese and indigenous Americans, starting with the “civilised” Western-Europeans and ending with Australians, Melanesians and Micronesians. We have located only two other copies. With contemporary large bookseller’s ticket of “Vetter’s plastische leermiddelen” in Rotterdam, specializing in education. Paperboards slightly browned and foxed, some minor stains and occasional damage to the photos. Original wrapper rubbed. Extremely rare photo album.

Ibrahim-Hilmy 1, p. 154; KVK/WorldCat (1 copy); cf. Theye, “Einige Neuigkeiten zu Leben und Werk der Bruder Carl Victor und Friedrich Dammann”; not in Ferguson; Sabin; South African Bibliography, etc.
**Albuquerque in the Arabian Gulf**

**102. DANVERS, Frederick Charles.** The Portuguese in India.

London, W. H. Allen & Co., 1894, 2 vols. 8º. With 2 frontispieces and numerous folding maps and views; a large folding map inserted into a pocket at the back of vol. 2. Publisher’s original armorial gilt blue cloth.

€ 2500

First edition. – Modern, encompassing history of Portuguese India, including an extensive account of the campaigns and operations of Afonso de Albuquerque in the Arabian Gulf, which he entered as the first European. “In 1506 Albuquerque was despatched from Lisbon on an expedition, intended to consolidate Portuguese supremacy in the Indian Ocean. [...] Sailing from Socotra with six ships, Albuquerque coasted the Arabian peninsula, sacked Muscat and Sohar, and then launched an attack on Hormuz during the months of September and October 1507. In spite of the overwhelming forces assembled against him by the island’s twelve-year-old ruler, Albuquerque mounted a successful siege, with the result that the ruler become a vassal of the Portuguese crown” (Howgего 1, 19ff.).

Signed “A. J. Whittle” on half-titles (but struck out in vol. 1). Slight rubbing to extremeties, fine altogether.

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**Transcriptions of letters written during first years of the East India Company**

**103. DANVERS, Frederick Charles (introduction) and William FOSTER.** Letters received by the East India Company from its servants in the East, transcribed from the ‘original correspondence’ series of the India office records.

London, Sampson Low, Marston & Comapny, 1896–1902. 6 volumes. 8º. With each title-page printed in red and black. Original publisher’s blue cloth, with the arms of the East India Company in gold on front cover and title in gold on the spines.

€ 4850

Complete set of an extensive work containing transcribed letters from the records of British East India Company, covering the years 1602–1617, with an introduction by Frederick Charles Danvers (d. 1906). “This collection comprises letters, with enclosures, from their agents and others to the East India Company, and is styled ‘original correspondence from India, with collateral documents, originating at any place between England and Japan’ (introduction). The letters cover an enormous range of subjects (trade, war, treaties, ship logs, diplomacy, etc.) as well as a large area: the English possessions in the East, Asian trade posts, the Near and Middle East, other Europeans active in the East, etc. In his introduction Danvers gives a brief history of the Indo-European trade. With bookplate and deaccession stamp. And a presentation label on first fyleaf (“Presented by the secretary of state in council of India”). Bindings slightly rubbed, spines slightly discoloured. Overall in very good condition.


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**Classic description of Africa with ca. 100 maps, views etc.**

**104. DAPPER, Olfert.** Naukeurige beschrijvinge der Afrikaensche Gewesten van Egypten, Barbaryen, Lybien, Biledulgerid... Den tweeden druk van veel fouten verbetert.

With: (2) DAPPER, Olfert. Naukeurige Beschrijvinge der Afrikaensche Eylanden: als Madagaskar, of Sant Laurens, Sant Thomee, d’Eilanden van Kanarien, Kaep de Verd, Malta, en andere: ... Met afteikeningen der eilanden, en verscheide afbeeldingen, &c.
Amsterdam, Jacob van Meurs, 1676. 2 parts in 1 volume. 2º (32.5 × 22 cm). With 2 title-pages, the first in red and black and each with a different woodcut vignette or device, engraved frontispiece, 15 engraved maps (14 double-page, 1 larger folding) 28 engraved plates (27 double-page and 1 larger folding), 33 half-page engravings in the text. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum.

Second edition of a classic description of Africa, unsurpassed in detail, illustration, influence and popularity. It covers every imaginable aspect of the entire continent as far as it was known at the time (indeed sometimes farther!) and the ca. 100 engravings cover topography, ethnology, zoology, botany and more. The account of the islands (including Malta) is usually regarded as a part of the main work, though it has a separate title-page, series of signatures and pagination. With armorial bookplate on upper paste-down; upper hinges restored. Very good copy of a classic 17th-century history of Africa.


Major source of information on the Islamic world in the 17th century

DAPPER, Olfert. Naukeurige beschrywing van Asie: behelsende de gewesten van Mesopotamie, Babylonie, Assyrie, Anatolie, of Klein Asie: beneffens eene volkome beschrijving van gantsch gelukkigh, woest, en petreesch of steenigh Arabie …

Amsterdam, Jacob Meurs, 1680. 2 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With engraved frontispiece, 16 engraved views and maps (2 folding, 14 double-page), and 22 engraved illustrations in the text. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum.

First edition of Olfert Dapper’s important description of the Middle East. The first part is devoted to Mesopotamia or Algizira, Babylonia, Assyria and Anatolia, while the second is entirely devoted to Arabia. The work is especially important for the original and new information on Islam, Arabic science, astronomy, philosophy and historiography. Besides a map of Arabia, the fine plates include views of Mount Sinai, Bagdad, Basra, Nineveh, Abydos, Smyrna, Aden, Muscat, Mocha and the Tower of Babel. The second part includes a description of coffee: “In Arabia Felix alone, and in no other place of the whole world, there grows a seed or corn or bean shrub which the Arabs call ’Bon’ or ’Ban’, of which they prepare a drink by cooking it in water over the fire …” (part 2, pp. 61–62). The present copy includes a plate showing the plants “Abelmosch”, “Sensen” and “Sambak”, not called for in the binder’s instructions, but included in some copies.

Vellum on inside front board partly detached, front hinge cracked, otherwise in very good condition.

Arabes 522; Hage Chahine 1206; Hânersdorff. Coffee, p. 386; Tiele, Bibl. 300; cf. Blackmer 450 (German ed.).
11 articles on the history of the Islamic world, including the autobiography of Ibn Khaldun

106. DEFRÉMERY, Charles and others. [Collection of 11 French offprints and extracts on the Islamic world]. [Paris (1 Leipzig), 1831–1859]. 11 items in 1 volume. 8º. With many passages in Arabic. Contemporary half vellum, manuscript title on spine. € 6500

Collection of 11 French offprints and extracts of articles concerning the history of the Islamic world, all by notable orientalists, covering diverse topics such as the architecture of the Arabs and Moors, the astronomy of the Chaldeans, the Hindustani language, the Persian chronicle Majmal al-tawarikh, the Ghurid dynasty, the kings of Aklath and Mardin (modern-day Turkey), the Persian Mozaffarid dynasty, the Persian Sultan Barkiarocq, and India, but also including the autobiography of the famous Arab historiographer and historian Ibn Khaldun.

Most of the authors were students of the distinguished orientalist Silvestre de Sacy. “it was inevitable that French Orientalism in the first half of the nineteenth century should be dominated by de Sacy’s students. The most prominent of these was Etienne-Marc Quatremère (1782–1857)” (Irwin). Four of the articles are written by a student of Quatremère, Charles Defrémery (1822–1883), who had a “high reputation as an orientalist” (Cooper) himself.

Including:

1. GARCIN DE TASSY, Joseph. Discours … a l’ouverte de son cours d’Hindoustani à l’école spéciale des langues orientales vivantes près la bibliothèque Impériale, le 5 décembre 1852.

2. CHIARINI, Luigi. Fragment d’astronomie Chaldéenne, découvert dans le prophète Ezeéchiel.


   Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1844.

6. IBN-KHALDOUN and William MCGUCKIN, Baron de Slane (translator).
   Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1844.

   Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1843.

   Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1845

   Paris, Imprimerie Impériale, 1853.


With a manuscript index to the articles. A couple leaves slightly browned and a small tear in the title-page of the third article, otherwise in very good condition. Binding very good as well.

*Cf. Irwin, For lust of knowing, p. 148; for Defrémery: Cooper, Men of the time (1884), pp. 330.*

“The Persian Gulf Pilot contains sailing directions for the Persian gulf and the approaches thereto, from Ras al Hadd, in the south-west, to Cape Monze, in the East”. Also includes copious information on politics, population, languages, trade, currencies, pearl fishery, meteorological information (climate, winds, weather, temperature, humidity), as well as currents, tides, communications and other miscellaneous information.

Binding rubbed and faded. Only two copies in auction records of the past decades (Peter Hopkirk’s copy fetching £ 1300 at Sotheby’s, Oct 14, 1998, lot 1043).

Hydrographic Office Publication 158. OCLC 798448977.


A lovely set, exquisitely and uniformly bound, magnificently restored in the most gentle and respectful of manners, of the entire original run of De Bry’s “Great American Voyages”, the magnificent work that is responsible for shaping the European image of the New World, inventing it in the minds of the masses. For more than a century, the European view of the New World was dominated by the present work. The present set is a mix of the German and Latin volumes (which appeared simultaneously), and as always in a mix of editions and issues. Due to the great scarcity as well as the complex bibliographical nature of “The Great American Voyages”, no sets of this great work are said to be alike. They are always made up of different languages, editions, and issues, and there is said to be no such thing as a “complete set”. Copies of sets are almost always in very poor condition. With the book plate of John Jay Paul (dated 1913 and 1914) to each volume, and each volume with a tipped-in manuscript note describing issue points and/or the main restoration work (one dated 1919). Gentle washing, pressing, and a few restorations; some maps neatly mounted, 2 maps supplied in facsimile (being the map in both copies of vol. VIII, which is not always present and thus technically not lacking), and a few leaves supposedly supplied from other copies. Occasional slight cropping. All in all a very handsome and well preserved.

109. [DE LAET, Johannes]. De imperio magni Mogolis sive India vera commentarius. Leiden, Bonaventura Elzevier, 1631. 24° (10.5 × 5.5 cm). With an engraved title-page by Cornelis Claesz. Duysend and a full-page botanical woodcut. Contemporary mottled calf, gold-tooled spine.

One of the first Western works on the Mughal Empire.
First edition, one of the two simultaneously published issues, of a compilation of texts devoted to the Mughal Empire, assembled by the Dutch geographer Johannes de Laet (1581–1649), director of the Dutch West India Company (WIC). At the time of publication, it was one of the few books on the Mughal Empire available to the public, and definitely the best. It contains ten texts, most of them not mentioning the author. The first describes the Mughal Empire and its topography, the second its climate and flora. The following chapters deal with the empire’s population; political and civil structure; court; coins; wealth; and warfare. The ninth text is an extract from García de Orta’s *Colóquios dos simples e drogas da India*. The book closes with a history of India, a conclusion and an index.

With a stamp on the engraved title-page, some brown spots. Binding rubbed along the extremities. Overall in good condition.


Compilation of texts on the Ottoman Empire, with two chapters on Algeria and Tunisia

Leiden, Bonaventura Elzevier, 1634. 16º (10.5 × 5.5 cm). With an engraved title-page.
19th-century textured brown cloth. € 750

Second edition of a work on Turkey, including a section on Algeria and Tunisia, compiled by the Dutch geographer Johannes de Laet (1581–1649), director of the Dutch West India Company (WIC). It is a compilation of several texts on Turkey written by different authors, including Montalbano, De Busbecq, Leunclavius, Lazarus Soranzi, and some anonymous authors. They mostly deal with the Ottoman Empire and its rulers, Constantinople, Turkish warfare, religion and the role of Christianity in the area, customs, their relations with surrounding countries, and occasionally commenting on its flora and fauna. Included at the end are two brief chapters on Algeria and Tunisia, based on texts by Jean-Baptiste Gramaye.

Binding slightly discoloured, otherwise in very good condition.

STCN 832705888.

The first scientific contribution to the study of Arabic dialects

Vienna, Camesina, 1800. 4º. With 1 folded engraved plate. Uncut, contemporary blue blank wrappers, handwritten labels on spine. € 4000

First edition. Franz von Dombay (1758–1810), an Austrian orientalist born in Vienna, studied oriental languages at Maria Theresa’s academy before being sent as an interpreter to Morocco in 1783, then to Madrid and Agram. In 1792 he was appointed adviser to the secret chancery and interpreter at the Imperial court. He is the author of several esteemed works. This grammar of the “vernacular of the inhabitants of the empire of Morocco”, including a Latin-Moorish-Arabic vocabulary, is hailed by Fück as “the first monograph on the Maghreb dialect and the first scientific contribution to the study of Arab dialects”.

Slight spine defects, otherwise a good copy.

Gay 3396. Brunet, II 800. Fück 151f. Schnurrer 91, 139.
112. DOUGHTY, Charles Montagu. Travels in Arabia Deserta. Cambridge, University Press, 1888. 8°. 2 vols. With a large, cloth-mounted folding map in full colour and numerous folding plates; illustrations and plans etc. within text. Modern green full library cloth with blindstamped covers and giltstamped spines. € 6500

First edition. Doughty’s journey, undertaken between 1875 and 1878, “did much to advance knowledge of north-western and central Arabia” (cf. Henze). He was the first European to see the city of Mada’in Salih, near the northern border of Hijaz, crossed the expanse of Arabia to Jeddah, and returned via Bombay. Doughty’s “unique style of English, which [he] vehemently refused to have edited”, led to four commercial presses turning down his manuscript before the Cambridge University Press agreed to publish it in 1888. “The result was one of the great classics of travel literature which, although exceptionally demanding for the reader, passed through numerous reprintings” (Howgego III, p. 246). The geological and geographical descriptions are of such accuracy and detail that it became a military textbook for the British Army in the final phases of the Arab revolt. The sensitive observation of Bedouin life is unsurpassed, whether describing how scarlet dye is made from toadstools and camels’ urine or the construction of tent ropes.

Some occasional edge chipping and paper flaws. Removed from the Metropolitan Borough of Holborn Public Library (Reference Library) with their bindings, bookplates, shelfmarks, and stamps.


113. [Du BARTAS, Guillaume de Salluste]. La divina settimana: tradotta di rima Francese in verso sciolto Italiano. Tours, Giametto Metaieri (Jamet Mettayer), 1592. 12°. With the title within a border, built up from cast fleurons, and some woodcut initials and headpieces. Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment. € 7500

First edition of the Italian translation by Ferrante Guisone of Du Bartas’s world-famous La Sepmaine, ou création du monde (1578), an epic poem on the creation of the world, divided into seven parts, for each of the seven days of creation. Guillaume de Salluste du Bartas (1549–1590) was one of the most important French Renaissance poets and a Huguenot soldier under King Henry IV. La Sepmaine is his most celebrated work.

Only some minor wormholes to the head of the first few leaves, not touching the text, otherwise in very good condition.

Adams D973; Labarré, Répert. bibl. des livres impr. en France (Tours), p.106, no. 166; L.C. de Ris, La typogr. en Touraine, 99; not in Gamba.

114. DULAC, Antonio Maximino. Genuina exposição do tremendo marasmo politico em que cahio Portugal, com desenganada indicação dos unicos remedios apropriados a’ sua cura radical... Tomo I [–II]. Lisbon, Imprensa Nacional, 1834. 2 volumes bound as 1. 4°. With lithographed frontispiece, and a small woodcut Portuguese royal coat of arms on title-page of each part. Contemporary half sheepskin, gold-tooled spine. € 2800

Portugal’s political and economic decline, with extensive chapters on France and the Umayyad Caliphate.
Rare first and only edition, in Portuguese, of a monograph on Portugal’s political and economical decline, in two volumes, by Antonio Maximino Dulac (1768–1850). The author examines the historical, political, agricultural and economic background of Portugal, comparing it to other countries in Europe and elsewhere, and trying to find “remedies” to “cure” the Portuguese state. The first volume includes an extensive discussion of France, and the second of ancient Egypt and the Arabs in the Iberian Peninsula. He gives special attention to the Umayyad dynasty, especially the reigns of Abdullah (855–912) and Abd-ar-Rahman III (889–961). Some marginal stains and some pages somewhat thumbed. Binding worn along the extremities, especially at the foot of the spine. Overall in good condition.

Porbase (5 copies); WorldCat (4 copies).

Splendidly bound dedication copy of a wholly engraved music guide

115. [DUMAS, Antoine-Joseph]. L’art de la musique enseigné et pratiqué par la nouvelle méthode du bureau typographique.
Paris, Sr. Auguste [for the author], [1753]. Large oblong 4º (26 × 33.5 cm).
Wholly engraved, including an engraved title-page, two-page engraved dedication, a double-page folding engraved musical table (“Elémens de la musique. Plan général du bureau typographique musical”) and 427 engraved text pages by Mademoiselle Vandôme. Contemporary gold-tooled dark green (goatskin) morocco, richly gold-tooled spine with red morocco title label, gold-tooled boards with the coat of arms of Louis-Philippe d’Orléans (1725–1785) on both sides, gold-tooled board edges and turn-ins, pink silk endleaves, gilt edges (attributed to Jean-Charles-Henri Lemonnier).

€ 37 000

Dedication copy of the first and only edition of a beautiful, wholly engraved music guide by Antoine-Joseph Dumas (1705–ca. 1785), the son of teacher and musician Louis Dumas (1676–1744). The present copy comes from the library of the dedicatee Louis-Philippe d’Orléans (1725–1785) and has his arms on its attractive gold-tooled binding. Although the binding is not signed, it was very likely made by Jean-Charles-Henri Lemonnier, documented as bookbinder to the Duc d’Orléans in 1759.
The work explains a method of teaching music based on the “bureau typographique” (the typographic office), a visual and mnemonic game that Louis Dumas had invented earlier, in the 1730’s, to teach children French and Latin. Based on this scheme, L’art de la musique proposes and explains the principles of music according to three divisions. The first covers solfège and the interrelation of notes and keys. The second presents a three octave range and melodic transpositions for vocal and instrumental students. The third prescriptively elaborates the preceding section in detail. The whole system is based on a unified clef and simplified notation. A few leaves with some faint foxing, the silk endleaves a bit worn, and the binding slightly rubbed along the extremities, otherwise in very good condition.


Eyewitness account: Dutch sieges of Portuguese fort São Sebastião (in Mozambique) 1607–1608

116. DURÁN, António. Cercos de Mocambique, defendidos por Don Estevan de Atayde, capitan general, y governador de aquella plaça.
Madrid, widow of Alonso Martin [= Francisca de Medina], 1633. Small narrow 4º (19.5 × 13.5 cm). With the large woodcut crowned coat of arms of the dedicatee Gaspar de Guzmán y Pimentel on the title-page. Richly gold-tooled 19th-century parchment.

€ 17 500

Very rare first and only early edition (fifth copy located) of an important Spanish eyewitness account of three unsuccessful Dutch sieges of the fort of São Sebastião (on the island of Mozambique), a strategic stronghold for the defence of the Portuguese possessions on the coast of Southern Africa, an important trading-post on the route to India and since 1991 a World Heritage site. The work opens with a description of the island, its inhabitants, geography, and the fortifications. Then follows the extensive eyewitness account by the soldier Antonio Durán or Durão (active ca. 1605–1633) of the three attacks on the fort in 1607 and 1608.
The Sheikhs of the Gulf


The most comprehensive and relevant edition of “a work which may almost be regarded as the standard one on the subject to which it is devoted” (Preface), i.e., the legal code in force within the provinces ruled by the British East India Company – a rule which would last until 1858, when, following the Indian Rebellion of 1857, the British Crown would assume direct control. Numerous statutes concern the slave trade in the Arabian Gulf or regulate relationships with the local Arab Sheikhdoms, such as 12 & 13 Victoriae, Cap. LXXXIV: “An Act for carrying into effect Engagements between her Majesty and certain Arabian Chiefs in the Persian Gulf”, citing the chiefs “Sultan Bin Sugger, Shaiq of Ras-el-Khyma and Shargah in the Persian Gulf, the chief of the Joasme Arabs”, “Muktoom Bin Buttye, Shaiq of Debaye”, “Abdool Azeez Bin Rashid, Shaiq of Eginan”, “Shaiq Abdullah Bin Rashid, Shaiq of Amulavine”, and “Saeed Bin Tahnoon, Shaiq of the Beni Yes, chief of Aboothabee”, as well as “Shaiq Mahomed Bin Khuleefa Bin Subman, chief of Bahrein”, and the engagements they concluded with the British crown (pp. 414ff.). Other acts relate to engagements with “Syed Syf bin Hamood, the Chief of Sohar, in Arabia” (p. 437), with Seid Saeed bin Sultan, the Imam of Muscat (pp. 220, 383), etc.

Very well preserved, in a modern binding in contemporary style.

OCLC 3062490.

A journey through Egypt in the spring of 1895

118. [EGYPT]. Photograph album. Egypt (and Australia), 1895. Large 2° (470 × 350 mm). A total of 52 albumen prints (36 from Egypt, signed Zangaki brothers, all 215 × 275 mm, and 16 from Australia, mostly signed Hitch & Co., 150 × 200 mm), all mounted on cardboard, each with handwritten identifying captions. Dark brown morocco binding gilt on upper cover with golden corner fleurons and gilt title “February – April 1895”. Moirée endpapers. All edges gilt.

A charming and sumptuously bound album commemorating a journey through Egypt in the spring of 1895. The photos include four views of Suez and the Canal, numerous impressive scenes of Cairo, its streets and palaces, with panoramic views, the Mosques of Muhammad Ali and of Sultan Hassan, the Citadel, the Tombs of the Caliphs, the Tombs of the Mamelukes, the road to the pyramids (with locals posing), the Sphinx and an ascent of the Great Pyramid, the statue of Ramses II at Saqqara and the Pyramid of Djoser, the Obelisk at Helipolis, Pompey’s Columns at Alexandria, etc.

Some occasional fading, but generally in very good condition. The brothers Georgios and Constantinos Zangaki, originally hailing from Greece, set up their first studio in Port Said around 1870, and a second one in Cairo around 1895. After the inauguration of the Suez Canal in 1869, which opened Europe to Egypt and Eastern Asia, Egypt became a desirable destination for Western tourists. The brothers produced attractive images of Egypt for the growing market of European tourists, drawing on a familiar genre of orientalist scenes.
Beautiful watercolours of Arabian boats on the Nile near Cairo

119. [EGYPT]. [Binding title: Nile Boats].
Cairo, 1862–1863. Oblong 8º. With 6 leaves of text, 12 pencil drawings and 14 drawings in ink and watercolour of boats on the Nile near Cairo. Contemporary buckram. € 3500

Charming album containing drawings in watercolour and in pencil of sailing vessels near Cairo, drawn between May and September 1863, probably by an Englishman or woman. The drawings show feluccas and dahabeahs on the river Nile, as well as a few other vessels.

In the Hand-book for travellers in Egypt (1847), John Gardner Wilkinson (1797–1875) describes several types of vessels which can be seen on the Nile: “the largest are the germs, which are only used on the Nile during the inundation, or between ... ports on the Mediterranean ... The ma¿ild ... is of a very similar construction, but smaller ... The aggub is only used for carrying stone ... the garib is the fishing-boat, and the ma¿édéë the ferry ... the mash, dahabéëh, and cangia, are the three peculiarly adapted for travelling on the river, being furnished with cabins”.

Wilkinson also notes that it is in October that “the cool weather begins, and the northerly winds prevail; and boats may then go up the Nile without the impediments of calms and contrary winds”. Since the album of drawings shows only boats near Cairo, it is possible that the artist began his or her Nile travels in October, bringing along a new album.

One leaf near the end is torn out. Lightly foxed with water stains on the first and last pages and paste-downs, but the drawings are in good condition.


Gift From the King of Sweden, Hand-Coloured in 1797

120. EISENBERG, [Friedrich Wilhelm] von. L’art de monter a cheval, ou description du manege moderne, dans sa perfection.

A truly royal copy of Eisenberg’s famous riding school, which boasts beautiful illustrations of horses and horsemen (repeated from the 1727 first edition). Arabian horses in particular are lauded as “the most beautiful produced by the Orient. They are exceptionally fine animals, especially those from the hills of Mokha [...] Arabian horses are full of fire and vigour in general and are possessed of a great natural agility [...] Their start is like lightning, and so they are incomparable for racing and tournaments, for they are skillful as well as swift”.

Wants a single plate (no. 37, "Le Superbe") and explanatory text, otherwise an excellent copy in full near-contemporary colour.

Provenance: gift from Prince Gustaf of Sweden (1736–92, later King Gustaf 11) to Claes Julius Ekeblad (1742–1808), son of the agronomist countess Eva Ekeblad, the first female member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and of Claes Claesson Ekeblad, with autograph ownership to engraved title: “j’ai eu ce livre de S. A. R. Monseigneur le Prince Gustave, Prince Hereditaire de Suede, Le 23 Novembr. 1764 Claes Julius Ekeblad”; additional note “illuminerad 1797 med färgor af ayaren / Claes Ekeblad” (“coloured with egg tempera in 1797”). Engraved armorial bookplate with the motto “speravit infestis” (“hopeful in adversity”) to pastedown.

**First edition of the Pentateuch in Arabic**

121. ERPENIUS, Thomas (editor). Turat Musa al-Nabi alayhi al-salam id est Pentateuchus Mosis Arabicè.

Leiden, Thomas Erpenius for Johannes Maire, 1622. 4º. With the title in a woodcut architectural frame. Contemporary vellum. € 14 000

“First printing of the Pentateuch in Arabic characters” (Smitskamp). Edited by Thomas Erpenius and printed with his influential nashk Arabic types, cut under his direction by Arent Corsz. Hogenacker in Leiden. It gives the text of a 13th-century translation of the Pentateuch in the Maghreb dialect (spoken in Mauritania). Erpenius was one of the most distinguished orientalists and by far the best Arabist of his day. He published an influential Arabic grammar and several excellent critical editions. His own private printing office, equipped with Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, Ethiopic and Turkish type, produced its first works as early as 1615.

With bookplate, owner’s inscription and library stamp of Verplanck Colvin (1847–1920). Occasional spots, some leaves with a minor waterstain in the upper or lower margin, nor affecting the text. A good copy, with generous margins. Binding slightly soiled and with a restoration to the front inner hinge, but otherwise good.

Breugelmans 1622–2; Darlow & Moule 1645; Smitskamp, Philologia orientalis 86.

**Erpenius’s excellent Arabic grammar**

122. ERPENIUS, Thomas. Rudimenta linguae Arabicae.

Leiden, Boneventura and Abraham Elzevier, 1628. Small 8º (15 x 9.5 cm). With title-page printed in red and black. 19th-century green sheepskin. € 2800

The rare second, corrected edition of Erpenius’s influential Arabic grammar, which remained popular until well into the 19th century. Erpenius, one of the most distinguished orientalists of his day, published his famous Grammatica Arabica in 1613, followed in 1620 by the Rudimenta linguae Arabicae, a slightly abridged version of the Grammatica. It is dedicated to the Maronites Johannes Hesronita and Gabriel Sionita, the latter of whom would later edit the 1638-edition of the Rudimenta. It includes the Arabic text with Latin transcriptions of chapter 64 of the Quran.


Rahir 265; Schnurrer 60; Smitskamp 69b; STCN (3 copies); Willems 295.

**Best edition of a classic Arabic grammar, with fables, proverbs and quotations**

123. ERPENIUS, Thomas. Grammatica Arabica; cum varia praxios materia, cujus elenchum versa dabit pagella.

Leiden, Johannes Maire, 1656. 2 parts in 1 volume. 4º. Mid 19th-century half tan calf, gold- and blind-tooled spine. € 3500

Third edition, expanded and edited by Jacobus Golius, of Erpenius’s classic Arabic grammar. The present edition is augmented with an Arabic chrestomathy that Fabricius had published in 1658. Erpenius (1584–1624) revolutionized Arabic scholarship in Europe and made the Netherlands the most important European centre of Arabic studies before he died of the plague in 1624. His grammar remained the standard work in the field for two centuries.

With the owner’s inscription on a free endleaf, and a meticulously lettered note on p. 42 of the Lockman fabels. Some small defects, but otherwise in very good condition, with only a small marginal tear repaired and an occasional minor and mostly marginal spot or stain. Binding with a restoration at the head and foot of the spine but otherwise good, with slight wear at the hinges and extremities. The best edition of a classic Arabic grammar.

Schnurrer 81 & 220; Smitskamp, Philologia orientalis 72; STCN (7 copies).
Exquisitely produced work on falconry and horse riding, with many coloured illustrations

124. E.S., N.J.A.P.H. van. De hippische sport en het korps rijdende artillerie 1793–1908 … te gedeelte [valkerij]. te gedeelte [hippische sport]. Arnhem, Coers & Roest and G.J. Thieme, [1913]. 2 volumes. Large 4º (375 × 31 cm). With ca. 80 lithographed plates and numerous illustrations and decorations in text, many beautifully coloured by hand and some highlighted with silver and/or gold. Original publisher’s gold-blocked blue cloth, with a coloured hooded hawk on front boards, upper edges gilt, other edges untrimmed. € 18 000

Very rare, limited first and only edition of an exquisitely produced work on falconry and equestrian sports, a showpiece of Dutch art nouveau book illustration. The first volume on falconry, contains smaller versions of the plates from Schlegel and Wulvenhorst’s Traité de fauconnerie (1844–1853), “the finest work on falconry which has ever been produced” (Harting). The second volume treats the equestrian sports in the Netherlands, England, France, Germany, Belgium, and contains illustrations of races and hunts.

With a presentation inscription of the author to Colonel Harhoff dated 1913, in both volumes, and with library stamps of the Royal Garrison Library Copenhagen. Bindings only slightly scuffed at the foot of the spine, otherwise in very good condition.

NCC (4 copies); Sloos, Gewapend met kennis, pp. 376–379; cf. Harting, Bibliothea accipitraria 194.

Ethiopic manuscript Psalter in its original wooden boards

125. [ETHIOPIAN MANUSCRIPT]. [Psalter].

[Ethiopia, early(?) 18th-century]. 4º (19.5 × 17.5 cm). Manuscript in Ge’ez (classical or ecclesiastical Ethiopic) language and written in a fine Ethiopic manuscript hand on parchment. It contains the 151 numbered Psalms of David, 15 numbered Biblical Canticles, Solomon’s Song of Songs in 5 numbered parts and hymns in praise of the Virgin Mary, those for the seven days of the week followed by the “Gate of light”. On two facing pages (105v and 106r) in the middle of psalm 88, the text was erased by or for an early owner and the two pages filled with two paintings in coloured gouaches. The first shows Saint George with his lance on a white horse, vanquishing what looks more like a person than a dragon. The second shows the scene described in Luke 7:37–38, where a sinful woman (often equated with Mary Magdalene) washes Christ’s feet with her tears. These two scenes are slightly primitive but very lively.

The foot and fore-edge margins are sometimes thumbed with use and there are a few minor holes, spots or stains, but the written text remains generally in very good condition. The boards have been broken vertically and stitched together, and the sewing has come loose at a couple places, but the binding still gives a clear picture of the book as it was originally used. A finely written manuscript Ethiopian Psalter in its original Ethiopian wooden boards.

Four articles on the date palm in the Middle East, northern Africa and America


With:

(2) KEARNEY, Thomas Henry. Date varieties and date culture in Tunis. Washington, Government printing office, 1903. With the same wood engraved device on title-page and 10 plates with reproductions of photographs.

(3) SWINGLE, Walter Tennyson. The date palm and its utilization in the southwestern states. Washington, Government printing office, 1904. With a wood engraved device of the United States department of agriculture on title-page, 21 (of 22) plates (including 2 chromolithographed maps) and 10 illustrations in text.

(4) SWINGLE, Walter Tennyson The date palm and its culture. ... (Reprint from Yearbook of Department of Agriculture 1900).

[Washington, Government printing office, 1900]. With 9 plates with black and white photographic reproductions. 4 works in 1 volume. 8º. Modern blue cloth, each work bound in with its original printed paper wrappers. € 3500

Ad 1: First edition of Bulletin no. 54 of the USDA Bureau of plant industry, being a brief article on the introduction of date trees from the Arabian Gulf to America, written by the American botanist David Fairchild (1869–1954). He distinguishes many varieties of the palm growing in the Middle East (Bagdad, Basra, Al-Hasa, Masqat and more).

Ad 2: First edition of Bulletin no. 92 of the USDA Bureau of plant industry, on different date palm varieties growing in Tunisia by Thomas Henry Kearney (1874–1956). He gives a description of geography, climate, the cultivation of the tree in Tunisia, the different types of dates and fruits and their characteristics.

Ad 3: First edition of Bulletin no. 53 of the USDA Bureau of plant industry, devoted to the date palm growing in the south of America, also by Swingle. It deals again with the cultivation of the tree, but in much more detail than in ad 1. A large part is devoted to the trees resistance to alkali, comparing alkali conditions in Algeria and America. Besides many photographs, it includes two chromolithographed maps of California showing where the date can grow and showing the variation in soil.

Ad 4: Offprint of an article on the date palm in America by the American botanist Walter Tennyson Swingle (1871–1952). He describes the characteristics of the date palm, its history in America, its cultivation, commenting on the proper climate, irrigation, fertilizing, soil, etc., and the uses of its fruits.

Paper wrappers of ad 1 very slightly damaged, ad 2 lacking 1 plate (no. vi); text-leaves slightly browned, otherwise in very good condition.

D.R. Hodel, Imported and American varieties of dates, p. 106 (ad 3 & 4) and p. 108 (ad 1 & 2); not in Bradley.

Falcon watercolours

127. [FALCONRY]. Collection of ten original watercolors showing various falcons.

Probably Scandinavia, c. 1840. Various sizes, c. 14 × 22 cm to c. 20 × 25 cm. Mounted on 2º backing paper. Stored in custom-made sand coloured half morocco solander case. € 15 000

Ten finely executed pen-and-ink drawings of different falcons in various poses, all captioned and vividly watercoloured by a mid-19th-century artist. Includes the Saker Falcon, Iceland Falcon, Greenland Falcon, Merlin, Lanner Falcon, Norway Falcon etc.

Well preserved.
128. [FALCONRY]. [MEURER, Noe]. Wie weidmennisch vonn allem Weydwerkh zu reden. 

Probably Southern Germany, later 16th century. Oblong 4º (222 × 172 mm). 50 pp. German manuscript (dark brown ink) on paper, fine calligraphy by a single scribal hand (titles and headlines in blackletter, text in cursive script). Later limp vellum wrappers, spine reinforced with a fragment of a 15th century vellum manuscript with red and blue rubrication. Stored in a modern custom-made half morocco case. € 12 500

Calligraphically appealing 16th century manuscript on the art and terminology of hunting and falconry, written by a professional scribe for an unidentified sponsor, though likely for a highly placed personage or member of the nobility in South-Western Germany. The manuscript contains contemporary extracts from the end of the third part of Noe Meurer’s “Von Forstlicher Oberherrlichkeit und Gerechtigkeit”, an important study of hunting first published in Pforzheim in 1560, and then, in expanded form, in Frankfurt in 1561. The present extracts comprise the only parts of Meurer’s book concerned with the practical, technical aspects of hunting, rather than with its legal foundations. They include sections on hounds, canned and net hunting, the hunting of stags, roes, boars, foxes, rabbits, bears, wolves, ibexes and chamois, as well as a section on how to tell a deer from a roe when viewing the animal from the rear. The final part is dedicated to hunting with falcons and hawks. The entire section on deer is not part of the first edition of Meurer’s book, suggesting that the scribe based his work on the second edition of 1561. Yet the order of the individual sections does not follow the published book in all particulars, and the present arrangement would seem to reflect the scribal editor’s or the sponsor’s private considerations.

The paper stock for this manuscript is from a paper mill in Meurer’s native Memmingen (watermark: Gothic letter “P” – or more likely “Q” – with the arms of Memmingen: Briquet III, no. 8750 and p. 468; cf. Briquet I, p. 72; specimens dating from the late 1580s to 1590s). Very well preserved and legible, untrimmed manuscript from the collection of the Swiss-born German merchant and entrepreneur Hans Dedi (1918–2016), chairman of the “Quelle” mail order concern and the Schickedanz business group, with his bookplate in the marbled solander case and his gilt signet on the spine. Cf. VD 16, M 5017.

129. FÜRER VON HAIMENDORF, Christoph. Itinerarium Aegypti, Arabiae, Palaestinae, Syriae, aliarumque regionum orientalium.

Nuremberg, Abraham Wagenmann, 1621 (colophon: Nuremberg, printed by Abraham Wagenmann, 1620). Small 4º. With finely engraved full-page portrait of the author by Peter Isselberg, full-page engraved Fürer von Haimendorf coat of arms, 6 folding engraved plates. Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment. € 12 500

Posthumously published first edition, second issue, of an account of a 1565/66 pilgrimage to the Middle East, primarily Egypt and Palestine, by the Nuremberg Ratsherr Christoph Fürer von Haimendorf (1541–1610). Fürer visited Alexandria, Cairo, the Sinai, Rosette, Gaza, Jerusalem and other sites. The 6 illustration plates show Mounts Sinai and Catharine, a plan of Jerusalem in bird’s-eye view, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem (exterior, 2 interiors and a floor plan), “Fürer ... travelled extensively from 1563–66, first in Italy and then to the Ionian Islands, Egypt and Palestine. The works is concerned with the latter, though Fürer does provide some information on Corfu, Zakynthos, Crete and Cyprus. He is the first to give a description of Vesalius’s tomb on Zakynthos” (Blackmer).

With an early owner’s name on the title-page. The “Mons Calvarius” plate slightly shaved at foot, affecting only the foot of the two sepulchers in the inset views, but otherwise in very good condition and with generous margins, with very faint water stains in the foot margin of a few quires, slight and mostly marginal foxing. An illustrated account of a Nuremberg nobleman’s 1565/66 pilgrimage to the Middle East. Blackmer 640; Macro 995; Tobler, p. 70; VD17, 23:247529C.
The world’s nations illustrated: one of the greatest publishing ventures ever, the rarest work to be found complete

130. FERRARIO, Giulio (ed.). Il costume antico e moderno o storia del governo, della milizia, della religione, delle arti, scienze ed usanze di tutti i popoli antichi e moderni […].

Milan, tipografia dell’editore, 1829–1834. 2º (380 × 265 mm). 37 vols. incl. supplements and index. With 7 engr. folding maps, 5 engr. maps, 1619 coloured aquatints (2 double-page-sized), 2 engr. portraits, 2 engr. plates of musical notes, and 4 tables. Late 19th century half calf with giltstamped spine title. Untrimmed. € 280 000

Without question the largest pictorial encyclopedia of the world published during the 19th century, and one of the rarest works to be found complete. Printed in a press run of no more than 300 copies, this set is numbered “12” and was inscribed to a friend of the author (“del socio Signor G. Ferrario”); as such, it was printed on superior paper and coloured particularly carefully (according to Brunet, most of the 300 copies produced were issued entirely uncoloured).

The purpose of this 37-volume set in large folio format was to provide a complete account of all known parts of the world not only by describing in detail the various peoples’ costumes, governments, religion, habits, military, arts and science, but also by showing them in splendid illustrations, all of which are here individually coloured by hand. The engravings include not only many costumes, but also buildings, objects of religious and of everyday use, monuments, historical scenes and much more. The plates are printed on wove paper and bear the publisher’s drystamp. In spite of the enormous number of plates, the colouring is meticulous throughout.

Of the utmost rarity: we could not trace a single complete copy on the market since 1950. Auction records list only the abridged 8º reprint or single volumes of the present folio edition (Sotheby’s, May 28, 2002, lot 426: £ 8720 for vol. I, pt. 3 only). Interior shows occasional slight foxing to blank margins. Altogether an excellent, complete set of the luxury edition: uniformly bound, untrimmed and wide-margined.


Spectacular late 18th-century Italian illustrated manuscript on fireworks

131. [FIREWORKS]. Arte Pirotecnia.

[Italy, late 18th century]. Large 4º (27 × 19.5 cm). With 72 very interesting pen drawings, with brown, yellow and reddish washes. Contemporary boards. € 27 500

A spectacularly illustrated manuscript describing and illustrating many pyrotechnic moveable and rotating units and machines, and rockets. With 84 numbered instructions for use and composition, and prescriptions for making fireworks. The illustrations include two fine double-page plates with war-scenes and numerous sorts of revolving, spouting, exploding and firing units, rockets and other gadgets, and three objects to be illuminated: a vase with an aloe, a tree and a coat of arms with the inscription “Dini”, suggesting a possible connection between this manuscript and the papal Master of ceremonies Msgr. Giuseppe Dini, who died in November 1799. Spine slightly damaged; some browning. In good condition.
Including the famous views of Mecca and Medina

132. FISCHER VON ERLACH, Johann Bernhard. Entwurf einer historischen Architektur.
Leipzig, 1725. Royal 2º (540 × 410 mm). 5 vols. in 1. With engr. title page, engr. dedication, 5 engr. half-titles and 86 engr. plates (3 folded, 1 map). Contemp. full calf with giltstamped red morocco label to richly gilt spine. All edges red.

First edition of this splendid work, which was reprinted five times until 1742 (including an English edition). The first three volumes deal with historical and legendary monuments (among them the seven wonders of the ancient world as well as monuments of the “Arabs and the Turks”). The fourth volume is dedicated to buildings of Fischer von Erlach himself; the fifth volume shows vases and sarcophagi. Binding slightly rubbed, some dampstaining near end, otherwise a fine, wide-margined and complete copy.

A history of coins, with 120 attractive embossed plates

Leipzig, Ernst Schäfer, 1855. 8º. With embossed illustrations of numerous coins printed in gold or silver on 120 plates, with a bright blue background. Contemporary half calf, rebacked.

Second edition of an overview of the coins in use from 1648 till 1800, in all states and cities of Europe and the United States of America, all illustrated and accompanied by short historical, genealogical, heraldic and numismatic explanations. Waterstain throughout, only slightly affecting some plates, rebacked; a fair copy.

The first world chronicle
to include bio-bibliographies of Arab scholars

134. FORESTI DE BERGAMO, Jacobus Philippus. Supplementum chronicarum.
Brescia, Boninus de Boninis, 1. XII., 1485. 2º. Double rules along inner margins of text and between table columns, rubricated throughout. Contemporary blindstamped vellum over wooden boards, bound in the monastic shop of the Würzburg Benedictines, two clasps.

Early edition of a popular world chronicle by an Augustinian cleric, a fine copy in a monastic binding. In his chronicle Foresti proposed to bring together the most important historical facts from each year, starting with Genesis. Although he often placed legend and myth on the same plane as documented history, Foresti’s chronicle was the first world history to include short bio-bibliographies of Arab scholars. These were not taken over from any of the principal sources cited by the author (Vincent of Beauvais, Boccaccio, Platina, and St Anthony of Florence), attesting to the breadth of his scholarship (cf. Hasse, Success and Suppression: Arabic Sciences and Philosophy in the Renaissance [2016], p. 32).
Beautifully printed, this edition contains numerous aids to the reader, presumably at least in part as instructed by the author. Two tables in quire aa comprise an alphabetical index of passages mentioning famous women and an alphabetical index to cities named in the text. A double-rule chronological bar runs along every page, separating two calendars: on either side of the bar is printed, at the head of each annual section, the date since Creation and the Christian year. Finally, the quire register on the last leaf summarizes the contents of each gathering.

Provenance: Würzburg, Benedictines of St. Stephen (contemporary inscription on front pastedown, "Iste liber pertinet ad S. Stephanum In herbipoli"); a few contemporary marginalia, mainly single words in books 2, 9 and 13). Latterly in the collection of the Aschaffenburg scholar and bookseller Bernd Pattloch (1940-2014) with his bookplate.

Magnificent atlas with 80 mostly coloured manuscript maps and fortification plans

135. [FORTIFICATION ATLAS]. [Collection of 80 manuscript maps and plans of fortifications, fortified towns and fortified estates].

[The Netherlands, ca. 1624–1628]. Large 2º (42.5 × 29.5 cm). With 80 manuscript maps and plans, 75 double-page (2 with a flap folded in), 4 larger folding (including 3 assembled from 1 1/2 sheets), and 1 also double-page in size but assembled from 2 smaller sheets. Most include a scale and 71 are coloured, mostly in opaque gouaches. They show plans of fortifications and towns in the Netherlands (51), Germany (16), Italy (3), France (4), Poland (2), Belgium (2), Malta (1) and Brazil (1). Early 18th-century(?), sprinkled tanned sheepskin, rebacked and restored. € 165 000

Magnificent atlas containing 80 mostly coloured manuscript maps and plans showing fortifications, fortified cities, fortresses and castles, often representing the situations during sieges in the first decade of the Thirty Years’ War (the later part of the Dutch Eighty Years’ War). Most of the maps were drawn soon after the end of the Twelve Years’ Truce (1609–1621), when the Eighty Years’ War with Spain was resumed. About 50 of the 80 maps show closely related paper stocks. The fact that so many plans show closely related watermarks suggests that most of the drawings were made together, rather than at the sites during the sieges, but they were probably based on sketches and measurements made at the sites.

Four name the draftsmen, whether of the final plan or of the preliminary one on which it was based. That of Bahia in Brazil is by Goos Coeck, master military engineer; that of Bergen op Zoom by the engineer Tretaran; the 1612 map of Mülheim by Jordan von der Waghe; and that of the 14th-century fortified estate “Huis ter Eem” for the Bishopric of Utrecht by a certain J... ... whose name was deliberately obscured by an early owner who scribbled over it in ink.

From the Blenheim Library, assembled by Charles Spencer (1675–1722), third Earl of Sunderland. With most maps in very good condition, a few with small tears on the edges or along the folds. The binding has been re-backed and shows other restorations. A unique and important primary source for the study of the Dutch fight for independence from Spain, the cities of the period (especially in the Netherlands) and their fortifications at a time when the newly proclaimed Dutch Republic was revolutionizing military engineering.

**Splendid manuscript on the state, condition and organization of the French Royal navy in 1732, from the library of Henri Beraldi**


[Paris?, 1732]. 13.5 × 19 cm. Manuscript in brown-black, red and blue ink on vellum, some of the lettering and borders gilt. With a beautiful frontispiece painting in coloured gouaches (14 × 9.5 cm) pasted on the page facing the opening of the text, showing a small warship at a shipyard in a small harbour being repaired by workmen. Contemporary red morocco, gold-tooled spine, gold-tooled fillets on boards and board edges, richly gold-tooled frame, gilt edges. € 95 000

Splendid vellum manuscript on the condition and organisation of the French Royal Navy of King Louis XV in the year 1732, including maritime data on the French colonies in Canada, Louisiana and the West Indies. The manuscript is beautifully calligraphed in a formal roman and italic in brown-black, red and blue, sometimes with gold covering the ink, with 2 decorated initials in gold over red. The use of the high quality vellum, the fine gouache illustration, the lavishly executed calligraphy and the beautiful contemporary binding, indicate that the manuscript must have been produced for an important person, probably a head of the marine or an official at the court. The manuscript gives a complete survey of the size and organisation of the French navy of the Ancien Regime in 1732 and must have been top secret at the time!

From the library of the well-known art historian and book collector Henri Beraldi (1849–1931). The manuscript is generally in fine condition, with only an occasional minor spot or small stain. The binding is slightly worn at the hinges, head and foot of spine and on the raised bands, but is also generally fine. A remarkable and luxurious manuscript providing a wealth of information on the French Royal Navy in 1732.


**Dutch translation of the accounts of three Germans in service of the Dutch East India Company**

137. **FRICK, Christoph, Elias HESSE, Christoph SCHWEITZER, and Simon de VRIES (translator)**. Drie aenmercklijcke reysen nae en door veelerley gewesten in Oost-indien; gedaen van Christophorus Frikius, chirurgijn; Elias Hesse, bergh-schrijver; Christophorus Schweitzer, boekhouder; yeder bysonder, van ’t jaer 1675. tot 1686.

Utrecht, Willem van de Water, 1694. 4º. With engraved frontispiece and 7 engraved plates (1 folding), including 2 signed by Casper Luyken, 2 signed by Jan van Vianen and 3 unsigned (1 by Casper Luyken). Contemporary vellum (rebacked). € 9500

Rare first and only edition of the Dutch translation by the prolific Dutch writer Simon de Vries, of the well-known accounts of Frick, Hesse and Schweitzer, three Germans in service of the Dutch East India Company (VOC). The first account is by Christoph Frick (1659–after 1717). He served the VOC as a surgeon from 1680 until 1685. Of primary interest is his account of the war with Bantam in 1682.
The second account is by Elias Hesse (1659–after 1689). “In addition to descriptions of Sumatra and the mines, Hesse describes Java, Batavia, and the Malabar coast of India. Some of his descriptions were borrowed from other works—especially the material on India—but much of it was, if not new, at least based on his own observations” (Lach & Van Kley).

The third account is by Christoph Schweitzer. After a brief stay on Java, he was assigned to Ceylon, where he spent the remainder of his five-year enlistment. “Much can be learned from Schweitzer’s journal about the daily life of VOC soldiers and the society they created in the Dutch outposts” (Lach & Van Kley).


Landwehr & V.d Krogt, VOC 320; STCN (7 copies); cf. Howgego, to 1800, F75 & S71 & H77; Lach & Van Kley III, pp. 539–542.

The rarest treatise on Falconry


Augsburg, Johannes Praetorius (Hans Schultes), 1596. 8º. With magnificent double-page woodcut illustration and woodcut printer’s device on title page (repeated on recto of final leaf). 17th century mottled calf, spine gilt. €25,000

First edition, extremely rare. “The first edition of a classic on hawking, held to be the best and most comprehensive treatise, which, with original Italian and Latin manuscripts, has been the study and research by many writers” (Schwerdt). This classic treatise on ornithology and falconry was written by Frederick II (1194–1250), Holy Roman Emperor. Frederick’s original manuscript is lost, but his work exists in two book versions, by his two sons Manfredi and Enzo. The most famous copy of this treatise is the manuscript commissioned by Manfredi, between 1258 and 1266, and contains twelve short additions made by himself. The present publication is the editio princeps of that version; the “1560 Venice” and “1578 Basel” editions mentioned by Lallemant, Souhart, etc. are spurious. The woodcut faithfully reproduces one of the miniatures in Manfredi’s version (in the Vatican library): an expressive image of the Emperor with two falconers at his side. Also includes the treatise “De Falconibus Asturibus, & Accipitrribus” (p. 357 ff.) by a German dominican philosopher and theologian Alberto Magno, written in Cologne between 1262 and 1280 and first time printed in Rome in 1478.


“one of the most renowned nineteenth-century photobooks”

139. FRITH, Francis. Egypt and Palestine. Photographed and described.

London, James S. Virtue, [1858–1859]. 2 volumes. 2º (44.5 x 32.5 cm). With 76 photographs on plates by Francis Frith (sizes ca. 145–165 x 215–230 mm), each with a separate leaf of text. Contemporary red morocco, spines and covers gilt. Marbled endpapers; all edges gilt. €40,000

First edition of this important and early photobook on the Near East. During the years 1856–59, Frith (1822–98) made three visits to Egypt and the Holy Land; this selection of his photographs, from wet-collodion 9 x 7 negatives taken with an 8-by-10 inch camera, was published in 25 fascicles of 3 prints each, a work hailed as “one of the most renowned nineteenth-century photobooks” (The Photobook). Most of these images are dated 1857 either in the plate or the printed caption. They include a portrait of the artist in oriental costume folgen and views of Abu Simbel, Aswan, Baalbek, Bethlehem, Damascus, Giza, Hebron, Jerusalem, Karmak, Luxor, Nazareth, Philae, Tiberias, Wadi Kardassy etc. The preliminaries of vol. 1 include title, introduction, table of contents, and subscribers, those of vol. 2 encompass title and contents. Each plate is accompanied by a full-page letterpress description. “Francis Frith
is undoubtedly one of the best-known photographers to work in the Near East. His trips to the Levant were a brilliant commercial success as well as an artistic one” (Perez 163).

Some foxing to blank margins, as well as to a few photographs. Modern bookplate of the German anthropologist Jasper Köcke. Bindings very slightly rubbed, but hinges somewhat brittle; unobtrusive chafe-mark to upper cover of vol. 2. Overall a fine, appealingly bound copy.


The natural history, politics and medicine of India and Persia, with a section on Muscat


First and only edition of a Dutch translation of a highly accurate account of India and Persia, with numerous anecdotes and told with a fine sense of humour. The account is based on the experiences of John Fryer (ca. 1650–1733), a British East Indian Company surgeon who arrived in India in 1673, spending time at Masulipatam and Madras on the Coromandel Coast and at Bombay and Surat on the West Coast, with trips to Gokarna, Karwar, Goa, and Junnar. From 1677 to 1679 he travelled Persia, visiting the southern parts of the country and giving an extensive description of Isfahan. In 1677 he sailed through the Strait of Hormuz and visited Muscat, commenting on the city’s Imam, religion and merchandise. At the end of 1677 Fryer left Isfahan and returned to India, where he remained until 1681. The text is divided into eight “letters”, each devoted to a different region and a different period of his travels, describing the flora and fauna, religion, architecture, climate, government, etc. Fryer’s writings “display a lively curiosity, which, sharpened by his scientific training, produces accurate observations in geology, meteorology, and all aspects of natural history. Fryer also provides some shrewd insights into the nature of Mughal government in the later years of Awrangzeb’s reign (r. 1658–1707). … His professional background makes Fryer a valuable commentator upon contemporary medicine as practiced in Surat” (Franklin).

Good copy, a smudge in the gutter of the first few leaves, some occasional minor thumbing and a faint waterstain throughout the lower margin, only noticeable on a dozen leaves. Binding somewhat rubbed, but still firm.

Astronomical and surveying instruments from the time of Galileo, with a world map in two hemispheres with movable volvelles

141. GALLUCCI, Giovanni Paolo. Della fabrica et uso di diversi stromenti di astronomia, et cosmografia, ove si vede la somma della teorica, et pratica di queste due nobilissime scienze.

Venice, Roberto Meietti, 1598. 4º (22 × 16.5 cm). With engraved title-page, folding woodcut plate, 3 woodcut volvelles with moving parts, and numerous woodcut illustrations in text. Including a world map in two hemispheres (incl. America and a scattering of islands at the location of Australia) on two facing pages, they reappear with volvelle attachments on both sides of leaf 149 and leaf 153. Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment. € 35 000

First edition of a well-illustrated encyclopaedia of astronomical and surveying instruments available since classical history, by the Italian astronomer Giovanni Paolo Gallucci (1538–ca. 1621), a well-known private teacher to the Venetian nobility and founding member of the Second Venetian Academy. It gives a comprehensive summary of the knowledge of astronomy, cosmography and mathematics at the time of Galileo. “It describes instruments designed by others (Finé, Apian, Gemma Frisius, etc.) and gives credit to the original inventors. The one exception to this is the Visorio, which Gallucci claims as his own, but an identical instrument by Waldseemüller can be found illustrated in the 1512 edition of *Margarita Philosophica* by Gregor Reisch. Other instruments, such as the Hemispherical Uranico (a complicated device used for computations dealing with the moon, sun and stars), appear to be of Gallucci’s invention. Besides the usual portable instruments, he also includes a simple quadrant and a two-ringed armillary built into the church of Santa Maria Novella in Florence” (Erwin Tomash). For some of the instruments this is the only description available.

The present second issue of the first edition appeared a year after the first. With the owner’s label of the Capuchin friar and astronomer Agostino da Piacenza (1747–1839) and the relating library stamp “Bibliotheca Capucinorum Placentiae” on the engraved title-page. A few marginal water stains and some occasional spots, otherwise in very good condition.

Adams G167; Burden 96; Cantamessa 1688; Crone 98; Erwin Tomash 23; Shirley 199; for Gallucci: G. Ernst, “GALLUCCI, Giovanni Paolo” in: Treccani LI (1998).

Shipwrecked

142. GASPAR de Saõ Bernardino. Itinerario da India por terra ate este Reino de Portugal com a discricpam de Hierusalem (...).

Lisbon, Vicente Alvares, 1611. 8º. With engraved title page. 19th century calf with gilt cover borders and gilt spine. Marbled endpapers. € 17 500

First edition. – The author, a Franciscan monk, was shipwrecked on his journey from Goa to Portugal near the isle of S. Lourenço. He was rescued and describes his travel from Mombasa through East Africa and Persia. Arabia and the Kingdom of Ormus are treated especially in chapter 10 and 11.

Old ownership on title page obliterated (paper flaws from ink corrosion); old stamp “M. Osorio, Quinta das Lagrimas, Coimbra”. Binding a little rubbed. A good copy.

Considered unobtainable as a complete set

143. GASTALDI, Giacomo. La Descrittione della Prima Parte dell’Asia.
With:
(2) Il disegno della seconda parte dell’Asia.
(3) Il disegno della terza parte dell’Asia.

Venice and Rome, G. Gastaldi and A. Lafreri, 1561. A total of three maps, each on two sheets joined (447 × 744 mm; 480 × 752 mm; 480 × 732 mm). Stored in custom-made half morocco case with gilt title to spine. €195,000

Gastaldi’s mapping of Asia, published in three parts, is considered one of the most influential cartographical ventures in the 16th century. All three maps would go on to be prototypes for the depiction of the region well into the early 18th century. As official cosmographer to the Venetian Republic, Gastaldi had access to the most up-to-date geographical information in compiling his maps, which represent the most accurate and detailed renderings of their time. Having been established in the city for two decades, by the late 1550s Gastaldi was devising the large-scale monumental masterpieces that would confirm his legacy. The travels of Marco Polo, published in Ramusio’s “Navigazioni et viaggi” (cf. Cat. No. 328), heavily influenced Gastaldi’s geography of these three maps, which are considered to be far superior to all previous maps of Asia. The “Prima Parte” covers Asia Minor and the Levant coast to Afghanistan, including Persia, northern Arabia, and the Caspian Sea; the second map centers on the Arabian Peninsula extending from the Horn of Africa to Calcutta; while the third and final part provides a magnificent perspective of India, the Malay Peninsula, and southern China.

The first part, in the second state, is printed by Lafreri in Rome, the other two are published in Venice by Gastaldi himself. All maps show vertical crease folds, some reinforced on verso, first map remargined at lower right-hand corner, second with an irregular crease mainly in Indian Ocean, and trimmed close to lower edge just touching longitude scale. Overall an excellent set, well preserved. Considered unobtainable as a complete set, the three separately published maps are traceable only individually at auction within the last decades. Although broadly geographically contiguous, the three parts do not join, and so today – even in institutional possession – complete sets are of the utmost rarity.

Karrow 30/85.1, 30/91 & 30/92. Nordenskiöld II, 130, 57, 61 & 62.

The most important early map of the region

144. [GASTALDI, Giacomo]. Il disegno della seconda parte dell’ Asia.

Rome, Pietro de’ Nobili and Paolo Graziani, 1561 [ca. 1580]. Engraved map, printed from two copper plates (75 × 48.3 cm). Matted and framed. €95,000
“The first modern map of the Arabian peninsula” (Al-Ankary), here in the extremely rare second state as produced by Paolo Graziani. Still the most sought-after map of the region Gastaldi’s two page wall-map served as a model for all further mapping of the peninsula until the 19th century. Gastaldi is regarded as “the most important 16th century Italian cartographer. His maps are very rare, as they were issued separately to order and were not part of an atlas” (Al-Qasimi, 1st ed., p. 23). Gastaldi used various sources including Portolan charts of the region drawn by the 16th-century Portuguese explorers. Many details, such as the coastline of the Arabian Gulf, certain coastal towns, or the peninsula of Qatar, are mapped and named for the first time. “Although the shape of the peninsula is distorted by modern standards, the Qatar peninsula and Bahrain are both shown—details that are missing on some maps produced up to almost 300 years later” (Stuart McMinn Catalogue).


Gastaldi’s Map of Africa and Arabia

145. GASTALDI, Giacomo. Descrittione dell’Africa.

Venice, Paolo Forlani, [1562]. Engraved map on two sheets, joined. 440 × 600 mm. Matted and framed. €45,000

Rare. Based on the large mural map of Giacomo Gastaldi in the Palazzo Ducale in Venice, in 1550, considered the culmination of his work on the cartography of Africa through the 1540s. (The mural was subsequently lost to overpainting.) Shows the continent with southern Europe and Arabia; large strapwork dedication cartouche to Thomaso Ravenna at lower left; compass rose centre right. Trimmed to the outer neat lines; some wear and repairs to old folds, with loss of a few letters of the dedication. Two small areas of sea supplied in pen facsimile. Faint spotting, a pale uneven wash.

Tibbetts p. 47, 51. Not in Sultan bin M. Al-Qasimi, The Gulf in Historic Maps (1st or 2nd ed.).
Famous military manual in magnificent contemporary colouring,
from the library of the last Margrave of Bergen op Zoom

146. GHEYN, Jacob II de. Waffenhandlung von den Rören. Musquetten. undt Spiessen. Gestalt nach der
ordnung dess Hochgeboren Fursten und Herrn herrn Moritzen Printzen zu Oranien, Graffen zu Nassaw.
The Hague, [Hillebrant Jacobsz. van Wouw, 1607–1608]. 3 parts in 1 volume. Small 1º (37.5 × 28 cm). With engraved
title-page and 117 full-page engraved plates (ca. 26 × 19 cm). All plates and the engraved title-page magnificently
coloured and lavishly highlighted with silver and gold by a contemporary hand. 18th-century mottled calf, gold-tooled
with the arms of the Count Palatine of Sulzbach and his wife on each board and richly gold-tooled spine. € 250 000

Magnificent copy of one of the rare 1608 editions, with the
German title, English dedication and note to the reader and text
in English, French, German and Dutch. Known in English as
The exercise of arms, it was written and illustrated by Jacques de
Gheyn and quickly became a famous pictorial army manual for
use of officers to teach the young recruits how to handle their
weapons: the arquebus (part 1), musket (part 2) and pike (part 3).
It gives an excellent picture of the successful army of the Dutch
Republic after its reform by Prince Maurits, who (re)introduced
exercises and discipline. It also immortalizes Prince Maurits as a
military thinker and commander of the most disciplined army of
his age.
The book met immediate success and makes a considerable con-
tribution to our knowledge of military history. Fully coloured
copies like the present were produced largely for princes and
other important persons and were probably coloured by De
Gheyn himself who was certainly responsible for the high
standard of the colouring.
In the 18th century our copy was owned by and bound for
Charles Philippe Theodore Count Palatine de Sulzbach (1724–
1799), Duke of Bavaria, Jülich, Kleve and Berg, Prince of Mörs,
Count of Veldenz, Lord of Ravenstein and last Margrave of
Bergen op Zoom (1733–1794), with his and his wife’s coat of arms
on each board.
The slips on the title-page have browned slightly and there is
occasional minor soiling, mostly in the lower right margin, but
the book is in very good condition. A magnificently coloured
copy of a work of major importance in military history.

Meij, Jacques de Gheyn II als tekenaar, p. 12, nos. 15–20 (pp. 45–47); New

Early and esteemed work on falconry, by the falconer of the Gonzagas’ court in Mantua

147. GIORGI, Federico. Libro ... del modo di conoscere i buoni falconi, astori, e
sparavieri, di farli, di governarli, et di medicarli, come nella tavola si puo vedere.
Venice, Gabriel Giolito de Ferrari, 1547. 8º. With Giorgi’s woodcut phoenix printer’s
device on title-page and a stunning larger one at the end. Blue stiff paper wrappers (ca.
1800). € 15 000

First edition of an early and “esteemed” (Harting) work on falconry, containing detailed informa-
tion on the breeding and training of falcons, hawks, and sparrow hawks, with notes on their feeding
and care. It was an important source for Turberville’s The booke of faulconrie or hawking, the best
known work on hawking of the 16th century. With a dedication to Marchese Carlo Gonzaga, whom
Giorgio appears to have served as falconer. Carlo Gonzaga was a member of the well-known Italian
Gonzaga family, which ruled Mantua from 1328 to 1708. At the Gonzaga court there, falconry
was practiced according to ancient traditions and was an important part of the family’s favourite
pastime: hunting.
With early owner’s inscription. Several restorations in the gutter, some spots on the title-page, thumbing in the first couple leaves, and faint dampstains in in the margins of the last leaves. Good copy. Some brown specks on the wrappers and the spine slightly soiled, but otherwise good.

Cereoli, p. 286; Harting 268; Schwerdt I, p. 206; Souhart, cols. 216–217; cf. G. Malacarne, Lords of the sky: falconry in Mantua at the time of the Gonzagas.

Three works on falconry and the care of birds

148. GIORGI, Federico. Libro [...] del modo di conoscere i buoni falconi, astori, e sparavieri [...].
Milano, Filippo Ghisolfi, 1645. 12º. With woodcut title vignette and 10 woodcuts in the text.
With:
(2) CARCANO, Francesco. Dell’arte del strucciero con il modo di conoscere, e medicare falconi [...].
Ibid., 1645. With woodcut title vignette and 7 woodcuts in the text (2 full-page).
(3) MANZINI, Romano. Ammaestramenti per allevare, pascare, & curare gli uccelli.
Ibid., 1645. With woodcut title vignette and 8 woodcuts in the text. Contemp. vellum with ms. title to spine.

€ 9500

Fine sammelband containing three classic Italian works on hawking, falconry, and the care of birds in their final edition. I: “Well-known book” (Schwerdt), first published in 1547. The English author Turberville drew heavily on this work for his famous “Booke of Faulconrie or Hauking”.
II: “A small book on hawking, by a practical falconer” (Schwerdt).
III: The third edition of a book “on bird catching and the care of birds. The first edition was published at Milan by Pacifico Pontio in 1575 and must be rare” (Schwerdt). “This little book relates solely to cage-birds [...] It is usually bound up with the books on Falconry by Francesco Carcano and Federico Giorgi, and might be supposed to relate to that subject” (Harting).

Bookplate of Hans Dedi von front pastedown. A good copy of this collection of rare works in a contemporary binding, in excellent state of preservation.


“Most realistic, least moralizing and most informative” account of the Ottoman Empire

149. GIOVIO, Paolo. Commentario de le cose de’ Turchi, …
(Colophon: Rome, printed by Antonio Blado “in le case de” Gioanbatista di Massimi, 1535). 4º (20 × 14 cm). With Blado’s woodcut device on title-page (repeated below the colophon). Modern blue-grey paper wrappers made with ca. 1750 materials.

€ 9500

Treatise on the origins and nature of the power of the Ottoman Empire. The Ottoman victory at the battle of Mohács in Hungary (1526) spread panic through Christian Europe and the Ottoman siege of Vienna (1529), even though it finally failed, roused many Europeans to action. Giovio (1483–1552), personal physician to Pope Clement v11, wrote the present book with the anti-Ottoman campaign clearly in mind, dedicating it to the Holy Roman Emperor Charles v on 22 January 1531. “Of the various treatises written for Charles v on the Turkish menace, Giovio’s was probably the most realistic, the least moralizing, and the most informative” (Price Zimmerman, p. 121). In fact, he was so willing to acknowledge and sometimes even admire the positive aspects of the Ottomans (such as their military discipline) that some Christians accused him of sympathizing with the enemy. Some early owner’s marks. With small marginal restorations in the first few leaves, but in very good condition. Pioneering work on the Ottoman Empire, set in one of the most famous italic types of all time.

150. [GLUBB, John Bagot]. Handbook of the Nomad, Semi-Nomad, Semi-Sedentary and Sedentary Tribes of Syria. G.S.I. (T). Headquarters, Ninth army, 1942. 8º. With large folding map and two folding tables. Bound in modern navy cloth, lacking original wrappers and four preliminary bank leaves but retaining errata slip (on other, reddish paper). € 4500

“This document is the property of H.B.M. Government, and is issued for the information of officers and responsible officials”.

Very rare. COPAC lists three holdings in the UK, at SOAS, the British Museum and Oxford. OCLC adds five holdings, at the American University in Beirut, Princeton, Duke University, Monash University and Keio University.

Interior very browned throughout, some marginal chipping to final pages and with a typescript insert (updating the information therein). One of the folding tables is split along the fold.


Ad 1: Second edition of Goes’s early and very popular work on Ethiopia, including his translation of the exposition on the principles, practices and rituals of the Ethiopian Christians by the Ethiopian emissary Zagazabo, who was sent to Portugal in 1527 to win recognition for the Ethiopian church as a member of the Western Christian community, and an exchange of letters between Manuel, Dawit, João and the Pope concerning the Ethiopians, previously published by Paolo Giovio. As an introduction, Goes added his own history of Portugal’s relations with Ethiopia and the search for Prestor John. Although the great Portuguese humanist Damião de Goes (1502–1574) never visited Ethiopia himself, the present work is important because of its uncensored native sources. It contained so many references to rituals and practices considered shocking that it was banned, causing Goes to be dismissed from the Portuguese court. It also includes a reference to Columbus and his voyages. Ad 2: First and only edition of a description of Spain by the Belgian physician Ludovicus Nonnus (1553–1645), well known to today’s art world because he had his portrait painted by Peter Paul Rubens. It is an erudite work containing numerous references to authors from classical antiquity. In Ad 2 the bifolium 5v. is misbound in quire X and X2.5 in X3.4, but still complete. Some leaves slightly browned, two leaves with some thumbing and the head and foot of the title-page of ad 2 slightly damaged, otherwise in very good condition.


152. GOES, Damião de. De bello Cambaico ultimo commentarii tres. Louvain, Servatius Sassenus de Dienst, January 1549. Small 4º (19.5 x 13.5 cm). With an emblematic woodcut printer’s device on title-page, repeated on the last page. Modern sheepskin parchment over flexible boards.

Rare first edition of three Latin commentaries on the Portuguese wars in Gujarat, India, by the great Portuguese humanist Damião de Goes (1502–1574). The title refers to the kingdom of Khambhat around the Gulf of Khambhat in southern Gujarat. The Portuguese had had a strong presence at Diu on the western side of the Gulf of Khambhat since defeating the Sultan of Gujarat and the Mamluks
in 1509, even though the Ottoman Empire and the Venetians supported the anti-Portuguese forces. Portugal quickly became the Ottoman Empire’s leading rival for control of the region’s spice trade. In 1535 the Muslim Sultan of Gujarat, now under attack from the Mughals, made an alliance with the Portuguese and allowed them to build a fortress at Diu, which became a keystone for the defence of the Portuguese colonies and the security of their spice trade on the Malabar coast. Although relations quickly soured, the Sultan of Gujarat was also wary of the growing Ottoman power. When an enormous Ottoman fleet besieged the Portuguese fortress at Diu in 1538 the Sultan of Gujarat provided less than enthusiastic support and the Portuguese were able to hold out through the monsoon season until a large Portuguese relief fleet arrived and forced the Ottomans to withdraw. In April 1546 the Gujarats began a second siege of Diu. The Portuguese sent reinforcements from Goa several times but they proved insufficient until João de Castro, Governor of Goa, whose son had died in the hostilities, came himself with a large fleet and 3000 men in November (once again after the monsoons ended), broke the siege and killed hundreds or thousands of Muslims, including civilians. This solidified Portuguese colonial rule in the region and set the stage for the later British colonization.

With a one word corrected in the margin in a contemporary hand. Some faint browning (only more pronounced on the last leaf), some occasional spots, a few minor smudges and a minimal waterstain in the lower margins, nonetheless still a very good copy. An important source for Portuguese relations with the Muslim world and the Portuguese spice trade in India.


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**Golius’s epoch-making Arabic dictionary**

153. **GOLIUS, Jacob.** Lexicon Arabico-Latinum, contextum ex probationibus orientis lexicographis. Accedit index Latinus copiosissimus, qui lexici Latino-Arabici vicem explere possit. Leiden, printed by Bonaventura and Abraham Elzevier, also sold by Johannes van Ravesteyn [and others], Amsterdam, 1653. 2º. Recased in 17th-century vellum, with 19th-century spine-label and modern endpapers. € 4500

First edition of Golius’s ground-breaking Arabic lexicon, which remained the most important dictionary in European Arabic studies until Freytag’s dictionary appeared in the 1830s. Golius based his dictionary on a variety of Arabic lexicographical texts, the most important being al-Jawhari’s *Sahih* and Firuzabadi’s *Qamus*, but he also used geographical and zoological sources such as al-Damiri’s book on animals. His dictionary included, moreover, Arabic words derived from other languages, most notably Turkish and Persian, which he translated directly from the source language, using Turkish and Persian glossaries. The work concludes with an extensive index, containing some 10,000 entries.

“The manner in which Golius arranged his dictionary, according to the Arabic root letter and the verbal and substantival forms with all their derivatives, is still the fundamental criterion of Arabic dictionaries in European languages” (Vrolijk & Van Leeuwen).

Numerous 18th-century annotations, referring to a list of books written on the last blank. Title-page with owner’s inscription, last page with stamp. Some marginal water stains, slightly soiled, but overall in good condition. Head of the spine damaged. An influential Arabic-Latin dictionary by a leading Arabist.

Schnurrer 79; Vrolijk & Van Leeuwen, Arabic studies in the Netherlands, pp. 47–48; Willems 735.

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**Four Women in the Middle East: Camels, Harems, Pyramids, and the Beauty of Palestine**

154. **GOODWIN, Mary Mackenzie**, British traveller (b. 1855). Middle Eastern travel journal.

4º (182 x 226 mm). Autograph manuscript (black ink) on paper. 65 pp. excluding blanks, with 6 pen-and-ink sketches. Original dark green limp morocco with gilt cover fillets, marbled endpapers and edges. € 12 500
The unusual and lively account of a tour of the Middle East by four unaccompanied young British women, a fair copy transcribed from her own travel diary by Mary Goodwin, a bishop’s daughter whose party also included her friends Grace, Miss Fox, and Miss MacInnes. Unlike the pilgrimages to Palestine of earlier centuries, which followed much the same routes, their journey was in fact one of the very first modern “package” tours to the Middle East organized by a commercial operator, Thomas Cook & Son. The foursome set out for the continent from London’s Charing Cross station on the morning of 16 February 1880, ferrying across to Calais. Via Paris they travel by train to Italy, then embark on the “beautiful boat ‘The Saïd’” at Naples on the 28th, and arrive at Alexandria on March 3 after a rough voyage.

Goodwin meets the educationist and missionary Mary Louisa Whately (1824–89) at her school in Cairo, watches the dancing and the howling dervishes, and visits Sultan Hassan’s Mosque. They climb the pyramids, attended by their colourfully described local guides, then go to a “rather grand harem”. Travelling onwards by train via Ismailia, they soon reach Port Said. The party departs for Jaffa on the 13th of March, where they cast anchor only after three days of being tossed about in a dreadful storm, though the beauty of Palestine is described in glowing terms. Occasional insignificant browning; binding a little rubbed, with the spine cracked and chipped in places, but still an elegantly bound notebook. Mary Mackenzie Goodwin was the youngest daughter of Harvey Goodwin, the Bishop of Carlisle (1816–96). She proves not only an intrepid woman traveller at the dawn of a new age of tourism, but also a spirited raconteuse, with artistic talent, a quick eye for detail, and touches of wry British humour.

On the expediency of British rule in the East Indies

155. GRANT, Robert. The expediency maintained of continuing the system by which the trade and government of India are now regulated.
London, printed for Black, Parry and J. Hatchard (back of title-page: printed by Cox and Baylis), 1813. 8º, with 2 letterpress folding tables (1 printed in red and black). Contemporary calf, gold-tooled.

First and only edition of a history of the relation between Great Britain and their possessions in the East Indies, written by the British lawyer and politician Robert Grant (1779–1838), son of Charles Grant, chairman of the directors of the East India Company. “The projected work was intended to exhibit, first, a historical sketch, derived from authentic sources, of the past proceedings of the East-India Company: in the next place, a correct view of the actual nature and effects of their present system, both political and commercial ... and lastly, an investigation of the objections adduced or adducible against the present system...” (p. 11). The main text consists of four large chapters, followed by appendices, mostly tables listing officers, troops, and commerce details. The work is mostly written in defence on the East India Company’s conduct, believing in “the Company’s ability to improve conditions in India” (Tuck).
Slightly foxed and binding slightly rubbed, otherwise in very good condition.


The Sack of Cyprus: Barberini Dedication Copy

156. GRAZIANI, Antonio Maria. De bello Cyprio libri quinque.
Rome, Alessandro Zanetti, 1624. Small 2º. Engraved architectural title page. With woodcut printer’s device on final page and several initials, head- and tailpieces. Contemporary full red morocco, lavishly gilt, with the arms of the Barberini family on an inlaid shield of different-coloured leather on both covers. All edges gilt.

€ 15 000
First edition, dedication copy. – One of the fundamental sources for the Ottoman conquest of Cyprus in 1571, when the Turkish forces invaded the island with 400 ships and some 100,000 men, massacring Nicosia’s 20,000 inhabitants. Thus wrested from the Venetians, Cyprus would remain under Ottoman rule until 1878.

The author having died in 1611, his account was published only posthumously: it was edited by his son, who dedicated the book to Cardinal Francesco Barberini, nephew of Pope Urban VIII. Barberini was created a cardinal in 1623; in 1627 he became librarian of the Vatican, and in 1632 vice-chancellor. The engraved architectural title (by Claudio Mellan after Antonio Pomeranci) shows History, “magistra vitae”, seated atop an elaborate Baroque structure which incorporates Barberini’s arms. This is the dedication copy bound for Cardinal Barberini himself: both covers show the crowned bee arms of the Barberini family on dark green leather, enclosed within borders of blind rules and double fillets with corner fleurons and two different bee cornerpieces, all set within a wide floral border and double gilt fillets. Even the spine is richly decorated with bee tools running up and down between a floral railing. Corners insignificantly bumped, joints barely starting at foot. Some browning and slight waterstaining throughout, also visible on covers, but endpapers replaced with old paper. Later armorial bookplate of the collector John Stafford Reid Byers (1903–84), of Waterfoot House, Newcastle, County Down, to pastedown.


Marking the brief golden age of Christianity in the Arabian peninsula


First edition of the sole surviving work of Saint Gregentius, the 6th-century archbishop of Zaphar, in modern day Yemen. It records a dialogue held in Zaphar, between Gregentius and Rabbi Herban, the chief representative of the local Himyaritic Jews. During the debate Christ was said to have appeared, causing Jews in attendance to be struck blind. This miracle spurred mass conversions to Christianity and the afflicted individuals regained their sight upon baptism. Legend has it that the number of Jews converted and baptized in consequence was 5.5 million. This miracle marks the brief golden age of Christianity in the Arabian peninsula, only decades before Muhammad conquered the peninsula and effectively ended Christianity in the region. The work is translated and edited by the French humanist scholar Nicolas Goulu (1530–1601).

Slightly browned throughout an the binding with some stains, otherwise still in very good condition.

Cioranesco 10933; Lowndes, British librarian 223; USTC 170848.

The rare first edition of the foundation work of modern international law

158. GROTIUS, Hugo. De jure belli ac pacis libri tres. Paris, Nicolas Buon, 1625. 4º. Woodcut printer’s device on title. Contemp. French calf, spine with 5 raised bands richly gilt in compartments, marbled endpapers, red-sprinkled edges. € 150 000

First edition of the “foundation of modern international law” (PMM): an attempt, a century before the spread of the Enlightenment, “to obtain a principle of right, and a basis for society and government, outside the church or the Bible” (M. Pattison, art. “Grotius”, Enc. Brit. 1911, v. 12, p. 623). “The distinction between religion and morality is not clearly made, but Grotius’ principle of an
immutable law, which God can no more alter than a mathematical axiom, was
the first expression of the ‘droit naturel’, the natural law which exercised the great
political theorists of the eighteenth century, and is the foundation of modern interna-
tional law” (PMM).
Buon commenced printing the work in November 1624. By using two or three
presses, a few copies, presumably of the first state, were ready to be sent to the
Frankfurt fair in March 1625. This first state (of which Ter Meulen and Diermanse
record only one copy, at the Bodleian) contains no table, indices, addenda or errata;
all but the errata were added, constituting a second state, copies of which are also
extremely rare, as it appears not to have been published. Both first and second states
contain substantive textual variants. Our copy conforms to state III.
Leaves a3 and a4 loose, short tear in blank margin of p. 213, little occasional spotting
and browning of text, small wormhole to lower corner of first few leaves. Occasional
light pencil annotations, text markings and corrections in contemporary hand.
Provenance: M. de Kernier (bookplate to front pastedown), De Lherberti, Lieutenant
Criminel au Chateau du Loire (inscription on title-page). An outstanding, clean and
completely unsophisticated copy.

Luxurious Arabic grammar, intended for native speakers

159. GUADAGNOLI, Filippo. Breves arabicae lingua institutiones.
Rome, Propaganda Fide, Joseph David Luna, 1642. 2º. With the Propaganda
Fide’s woodcut rectangular Jesus and Apostles device on the title-page, their
round Jesus and Apostles device above the colophon. Contemp. limp vellum
with ms. spine title.

First and only edition of Guadagnoli’s Latin grammar of the Arabic language, in a
luxurious folio format. In 1632 the Propaganda Fide had begun work on an Arabic Bible
that was not to be completed until 1671. Guadagnoli was one of the correctors for the
Bible and in the present grammar, set in the same type, he notes that they have taken
special care with their Arabic setting and with the metre to suit them to the desires of
native Arabic speakers. The texts used as examples include the first printing of two poems
taken from manuscripts in the oriental library collected by Pietro della Valle in Rome: the
“Carmen Chazregiacum” and the “Carmen de invocationibus”. The Arabic type may have
been cut by the Propaganda Fide’s in-house punchcutters for their Arabic folio Bible. The
book also provides a synopsis of the Propaganda Fide’s large Hebrew type.
Some browning throughout; a few old ink markings to the margins; contemp.
ownership “J. Venturi” on t. p. An important Arabic grammar intended for native
speakers.

A 1718 voyage from Goa to Macao, published in Lisbon

160. GUERREIRO, Joao Tavares de Velez. Jornada, que Antonio de Albuquerque
Coelho, governador, e capitao[i] general da cidade do Nome de Deos de Macao na China,
fez de Goa até chegar á dita cidade no anno de 1718.
Lisbon, Officina da Musica (Jaime or Jayme de la Te y Sagau), 1732. 8º. Contemporary
tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spine, rebacked.

Second edition of a journal of the voyage of António de Albuquerque Coelho (Brazil ca. 1682—Goa ca.
1745) from Goa in India to Macao on the coast of southern China. The journal was written by João
Tavares de Velez Guerreiro, a captain in the Portuguese navy, serving in India, who accompanied the
governor on the voyage as his chief of staff. Coelho had been appointed governor of the city of Macao in 1717 and they arrived there in May 1718. They travelled via Madras, through the Malay peninsula and along the coasts of Indochina and China. Part 1 gives an account of the voyage itself and part 2 an account of their stay in Johor at the southern tip of the Malay peninsula, where they played a role in a coup d’état by a Sumatran adventurer.

Printed on thick paper. With a 1732 inscription on the title-page. In very good condition. The first few leaves are slightly tattered at the fore-edge and have been professionally restored. The binding has been rebacked, and the boards show a few minor cuts and scrapes, but it remains in good condition. A valuable eye-witness account of India, Southeast Asia and China in 1718.

Cordier, Sinica 3219; Howgego A47; Löwendahl 377; PerBase (4 copies).
foot of the page. With the New Testament are two complementary works by Gutbier, produced in matching format and intended to accompany it: his Syriac lexicon giving the Syriac words with their Latin equivalents, followed by an index of the Latin words; and his extensive notes on the Syriac text of the New Testament, with alternative readings from the many sources he examined. The New Testament relates stories that would have first been told (and in some cases probably also written down) in Aramaic, the vernacular language of Palestine in Jesus’s time. Syriac, another dialect of Aramaic, served as the vernacular language of much of the Middle East. The Syriac text therefore provides valuable clues to the Aramaic sources of the New Testament.

With a 1691 Amsterdam purchase inscription and two 1859 owner’s inscriptions. In good condition, with the lower right corner of the engraved title-page under-inked, the paper slightly browned and an occasional minor spot or small stain. Binding with some of the vellum tapes broken at the hinge, some cracks in the hinges and with the back of the bookblock reinforced, but still generally good. Three complementary books forming the most important reference work for 17th- and 18th-century Syriac studies.

**Translated from an unknown Arabic source**

163. GURMENDI, Francisco de (transl.). Doctrina phisica y moral de principes. [...] Traduzido de Arabico en Castellano. Madrid, Andres de Parra & Gaspar Garcia, 1615. 8°. Early 20th century half vellum with giltstamped red spine label and marbled blue boards. Edges sprinkled in red. € 3500

First and only edition (not reprinted until 2004) of this rare and little-received example of the “education of princes” genre, translated into Spanish from an unknown Arabic source. “Francisco de Gurmenidi learned Arabic in Madrid at the school of Marcos Dobelo, a Syrian who worked for a time as a translator of the ‘plomos’. Gurmenidi eventually achieved enough facility with the language to publish ‘Doctrina phisica y moral de principes’ (Madrid, 1615), a translation of an Arabic text” (A. K. Harris, From Muslim to Christian Granada [Baltimore 2007], p. 170). Recently, the work was the subject of a 2016 doctoral thesis at the University of Alicante: M. I. Llopis Mena, „Teoría política árabe y persa en la corte de Felipe III: la Doctrina Phísica y Moral de Príncipes de Francisco de Gurmendi”.

Slight browning; paper flaws to title page (no loss to text). Exceedingly rare; not a single copy in auction records.

Palau III, 453. OCLC 804490168.

**The Mahmal en route to Mecca**

164. [HAJJ—ILLUSTRATED BROADSHEET]. Pilgrimage from Cairo to Mecca. [Weißenburg, Burckardt, c. 1880/90]. Stencil-coloured lithograph. 42.5 × 63.7 cm. Matted and framed. € 15 000

An extremely rare illustrated broadsheet showing the procession of the Egyptian Mahmal en route from Cairo to Mecca, with a colourful reception of a group of pilgrims in an Egyptian desert village. The Arabic caption states that the print was made from a drawing made on the spot by Sheikh Yunus, citing Hassan Uways in Abidin Road, Cairo, as the publisher. The true publisher, Camille Burckardt in Weißenburg, is not named: it was company policy to obscure the European provenance of these broadsheets so as to improve their sale potential in the Middle East. All of these prints are very rare; another copy of this print commanded £21 250 at Sotheby’s in 2012.

Des Mondes de Papier 120.
165. [HAKLUYT SOCIETY]. The complete series of the first 200 works issued by the Hakluyt Society. London, for the Hakluyt Society, 1847–1958. 8°. 210 vols. in 212, comprising a complete run of the first series (vols. 1–100) and second series, part 1 (vols. 1–110). Illustrated. Original green and blue cloth, spines gilt. € 85 000

A primary reference work on the history of travel and exploration, including the principal accounts of the great voyages to the Middle East. This is a complete run of the first series and a large part of the second series (with its first part complete), dating from 1847 to 1956, of the publications of the Hakluyt Society. Early volumes of interest to the student of the exploration of the Muslim world, but also of the world’s exploration by Muslims, include the travels of Abd-er-Razzak, the travels of Ludovico de Varthema in Egypt, Syria, Arabia Deserta and Arabia Felix, and the History of the Imâms and Seyyids of ’Omân by Sall-ibn-Razîk (providing the first indigenous account of the history of Oman in English), as well as the travels to Tana and Persia, by Josafa Barbaro and Ambrogio Contarini. The “Commentarios” of Afonso de Albuquerque, the first European to enter the Arabian Gulf, are present in a careful edition from 1875ff.

Founded in London in 1846, the aim of the still-thriving Hakluyt Society is to "advance knowledge and education by the publication of scholarly editions of primary records of voyages, travels and other geographical material". For 170 years the society has published an annual or bi-annual volume of original accounts of such voyages. Their historically significant texts and translations, often appearing in print for the first time, are fully annotated, well illustrated with maps and plates, and conform to the highest standards of scholarship. As such they often represent the last word on the material they embrace, and are widely valued by historians and geographers throughout the world. Full complete sets of the publication are only held in institutional libraries, and this is the largest run to have appeared in the trade in over 40 years.

Some spines and covers chipped or repaired; library marks on spine. Provenance: The Western Reserve Historical Society Library (bookplates).

166. HAMAKER, Hendrik Arent. Specimen catalogi codicum mss. orientalium bibliothecae Academiae Lugduno-Batavae, ... Leiden, S. and J. Luchtmans, 1820.

With:
(2) CHAHAN DE CIRBIED, Jacques. Notice de deux manuscrits Arméniens contenant l’histoire de Mathieu Eretz; ...
Paris, Imprimerie Impériale, 1812.

(3) TOCHON D’ANNECY, Joseph-François. Dissertation sur l’époque de la mort d’Antiochus VII évergètes sidétès, Roi de Syrie, sur deux médailles antiques de ce prince, ...
Paris, L.G. Michaud, 1815. 3 works in 1 volume. 4°. First work set in roman, italic and Arabic types, the second set in roman and Armenian types with incidental italic, the third with an engraved frontispiece and an engraved illustration on title-page. 19th-century red, grained half sheepskin. € 4500

Ad 1: First edition of a thorough and extensively annotated catalogue of oriental manuscripts held in the Leiden University Library. Though the catalogue describes only 12 volumes of manuscripts, the numerous scholarly notes and long quotations make it an essential source of information rather than a mere guide to the collection. It describes many of the important manuscripts collected by Levinus Warner, including al-Baladhuri’s Kitab Futub al-Buldan.
Ad 2: First edition of a treatise on two Armenian manuscripts about the first crusade, owned by the Bibliotheque Impériale. They were believed to form part of the famous chronicle by the Armenian poet and historian Matthew of Edessa (died 1144). Cirbied’s book opens with his extensive discussion of the manuscripts (pp. 3–31), followed by a long extract in French translation (pp. 32–57) and in the original Armenian (pp. 58–92).

Ad 3: A numismatic study centring on two medallions and their relation to Syriac chronicles of the Seleucid Empire during the last years of the reign of Antiochus VII Sidetes (from 138 to 129 BC), also illustrating other medallions from the time of other Seleucid rulers. Some manuscript annotations and owner’s entries. Some browning, spine worn along the joints and slightly damaged at the head, otherwise in very good condition.

In Egypt with the Turkish expeditionary forces


First edition of Hamilton’s observations on Egypt, made while accompanying a Turkish expeditionary force on a British mission primarily to prevent the removal of antiquities by the French, including the Rosetta Stone. “There is much matter of interest to antiquarians and historians with regard to nearly all the names occurring in the map of Egypt; but the most important of its contents is his transcript of the ‘Greek Copy of the Decree on the Rosetta Stone’, with a translation in English” (DNB). Toning to leaves throughout text volume. Some soiling to map heading atlas volume, with crease. Scattered foxing throughout. Paper repair to upper margin of final four leaves, and another at 3F2.

Arabic poetry


First printing of the famous “Maqamat” (“Assemblies” or “Sessions”) of al-Hariri of Basra (1054–1122): a virtuoso display of Arabic poetry, consisting of fifty anecdotes written in stylized prose which used to be memorized by scholars. Hariri’s masterpiece had continued to captivate European Arabists since the 17th century (cf. Fück, 148): the first part only was published in Arabic and Latin by Fabricius in 1638, followed by Golius in 1676. Schultens published the first three chapters in Arabic and Latin in 1731, with parts 4 through 6 following in 1740. Caussin de Perceval published the full Arabic text in 1819 (following an 1809–14 Calcutta edition), but it was de Sacy’s edition that made the text well-known among orientalists. A fresh, clean copy, appealingly bound, with handwritten ownership “Alfes” on endpapers.
A history of the many religions of the world,
one volume devoted to the Ottoman Empire and the Middle East

169. HAZART, Cornelius. Kerckelycke historie vande gheheele wereldt, namelyck vande voorgaende ende teghenwoordighe eeuwe, ...
Antwerpen, Michiel Cnobbaert, 1667–1671. 4 volumes. 2º. With an engraved frontispiece in each volume; volume 1 with a title-page printed in red and black and 45 engraved plates; volume 2 with 17 engraved plates; volume 3 with 37 engraved plates; volume 4 with 19 engraved plates (total of 122 engraved plates, incl. frontispieces). Contemporary mottled, tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spines.

Complete set of the first edition of a historical work devoted to the many religions of the world, paying special attention to the role of Christianity and missionaries in the covered areas, compiled by the Belgian Jesuit priest Cornelius Hazart. The fourth volume deals with religion in Palestine, Syria, the Middle East, Morocco, Turkey, Greece and Tartary. It opens with a description of the life of the Prophet Muhammad and the rise of Islam. Furthermore it includes accounts of the first Christian Roman Emperors, martyrs and ascetics in the East, but also of the rulers of the Ottoman Empire and Persia and their religions over time. Beside a description of the country’s religion and the role of Christianity and Jesuit missionaries in the area, Hazart often includes brief sections on history, geography (Isfahan, Ormus, Fez), politics, trade, customs, costumes, etc. The first volume covers the religions from Japan, China, India, “Bisnagar”, Peru, Mexico, Brazil, Florida, Canada, Paraguay and “Maragnan” (present-day Brazil). The second volume deals with Abyssinia (Ethiopia), Angola, Congo, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Sweden, Denmark and France. The third volume is wholly devoted to the Netherlands and England.

Each volume with a library stamp on half-title. Slightly browned with some (water) stains and marginal thumbing, some leaves restored at the outer margin. Bindings slightly worn along the extremities, some wormholes in the spines, second volume lacking one of the two clasps and third volume lacking both clasps.

De Backer & Sommervogel IV, p. 185; Sabin 32115; STCV 3122644.

Arabic grammar with an essay on Arabic calligraphy

170. HERBIN, Auguste François Julien. Développemens des principes de la langue arabe moderne, suivis d’un recueil de phrases, de traductions interlinéaires, de proverbes arabes, et d’un essai de calligraphie orientale, avec onze planches.
Paris, Françoise-Jean Baudouin, 1803. Large 4º (30.5 × 23 cm). With 10 numbered engraved plates (5 folding) plus the engraved calligraphic Arabic title-page serving as frontispiece, and 16 folding letterpress tables. Modern tanned sheepskin. Untrimmed.

First and only edition of Herbin’s Arabic grammar. It sequentially treats orthography, syntax and elocution, followed by several texts in Arabic with Latin translations: the fables of Luqman, excerpts from Abu Al-Fida’s description of Egypt and Arabic proverbs. It concludes with an essay on oriental calligraphy, illustrated with 10 fine plates plus the frontispiece.

Auguste François Julien Herbin (1783–1806) was a promising orientalist whose plans to also publish an Arabic-French and French-Arabic dictionary remained unfulfilled due to his premature death. Some soiling, otherwise in very good condition.

Schnurrer 147.
**The Sultan’s Mosque**

171. HERZ, Max and Lajnat Hifz AL-ATHAR AL-`ARABIYAH. La mosquée du Sultan Hassan au Caire. Cairo, Imprimerie de l’Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale, 1899. 2º. With 20 tables and 9 illustrations within the text. Leaves and plates stored loosely in original decorated dark green cloth portfolio.

First edition of this fundamental work on the Sultan Hassan mosque in Cairo, built in 1356/59 during the Mamluk era. One of the largest mosques in the world, it is famous not only for its sheer size, but also for its monumental portal, itself a work of art.

Herz, born a Hungarian in Arad County and trained as an architect in Budapest and Vienna, joined the Technical Office of the Egyptian Ministry of Culture in 1882. In 188 he was made head architect of the Cairo “Comité de conservation des monuments de l’art arabe” and head conservator of Arabic monuments at the Egyptian ministry for religious foundations (waqf). His hopes that the publication of the monograph would lead to a commission for restoring the mosque were not to be fulfilled.

Occasional minor edge flaws, but well preserved. Rare: a single copy on the market since 1975.

OCLC 7065880.

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**The first modern French-Turkish dictionary**


Contemp. brown half leather with giltstamped red spine label, spine in six compartments. All edges red.

First edition of the first modern French-Turkish dictionary; rare. Artin Hindoglu was a 19th-century Ottoman etymologist, interpreter, and linguist. Of Armenian descent, he was born in Constantinople and lived there until the age of ten. He moved to Austria in 1812 and served as professor from 1824 to 1831 before being appointed interpreter to the Emperor. His first publication was an Ottoman Turkish grammar intended to help understand ordinary conversation (Vienna 1829). This was later translated into French and published in 1834 as “Grammaire théorique et pratique de la langue turke telle qu’elle est parlée à Constantinople” (Theoretical and practical grammar of the Turkish language as spoken in Constantinople). In 1830 he composed a German-Armenian dictionary, which he had published in Venice at the Armenian Mekhitarist monastery at the San Lazzaro degli Armeni.

Occasional foxing. From the library of Swedish antiquarian bookdealer Björn Löwendahl (1941–2013).


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**Law in Arabic sources**


First edition of a work on Arabic sources dealing with laws, by the German lawyer and professor Karl Ferdinand Hommel (1722–1781). He stresses the importance of also including sources written in Arabic when researching law, because they often contain new or different information, but are often overlooked or ignored. The first half of the book lists some Hebrew sources discussing law, and the second half contains many Arabic sources on law. Included at the end is an index listing all the mentioned authors.

Title-page restored in the gutter and on the back. Brownd, but otherwise in good condition.

G. Le Bon, La civilisation des Arabes (1884), p. 670; not in VD18.
1472 incunable of an encyclopaedia of the world, containing references to Arabia, Syria, Palestine, and the Saracens

174. HONORIUS AUGUSTODUNENSIS. [Incipit:] … de ymagine mundi.
[Nuremberg, Anton Koberger, 1472(?)]. 2º (31 × 22 cm). Rubricated throughout and about half of the spaces left for initials filled in by hand in red ink. 19th-century red sheepskin. € 45 000

First edition of Honorius Augustodunensis’s (1080–1154) popular *Imago mundi*, an encyclopaedia of popular cosmology and geography combined with a chronicle of world history. He takes the river Nile as the boundary between Africa and Asia and calls the whole latter continent “India”. This places Arabia, found in the subsection on Mesopotamia, under “India”. Mesopotamia, found along the Tigris and the Euphrates, also includes the Kingdom of Sheba, home of the Queen of Sheba, and is inhabited by the Moabites, Syrians, Saracens and others. After Mesopotamia we find Syria, including Phoenicia, which is followed by sections on Palestine and Egypt. Augustodunensis’s *Imago mundi* exemplified the picture of Africa and the Orient prevalent in the West ca. 1100 as lands full of marvels. It is one of the five earliest books printed by the great and prolific Nuremberg printer Anton Koberger.

With bookplate on pastedown and some early manuscript annotations in the margins. Lacking the second of the two last blank leaves. With a few wormholes, a couple leaves attached to stubs, but otherwise in very good condition. Binding slightly rubbed.

BMC II, p. 412; Goff H323; Hain 8800; ISTC ih00323000; not in Atabey; Blackmer.

On the sediments of the Arabian Gulf

175. HOUBOLT, Jacob Jozef Herman Christiaan. Surface sediments of the Persian Gulf near the Qatar Peninsula.
The Hague, Mouton & co., 1957. 8º. With 8 leaves with reproductions of (microscopic) photographs, and 8 loosely inserted folding tables and maps. Original publisher’s printed paper wrappers. € 400

First edition of a thesis on sediment samples of the Arabian Gulf, by the Dutch Jacob Jozef Herman Christiaan Houbolt. He mentions in his preface that the samples were “collected as a sideline of operational activities in the marine concession of Shell Company of Qatar”. Houbolt describes the climate and topography of the Arabian Gulf, the relief sea bottom in the Arabian Gulf, his methods of investigation, the composition of the sediment, and his results. Back wrapper and a few of the plates slightly foxed, otherwise in good condition.

Clarke, Change and development in the Middle East, p. 186.
On Assab, Eritrea, and the first years of the Italian government

London, Harrison and sons, 1882. 2º. Modern blue paper wrappers. € 1950

Official document, presented to the British Houses of Parliament, regarding Assab (Eritrea) and its politics. It includes a wide variety of letters and reports written by British naval officers, generals, the India Office, tradesmen, etc., concerning the politics of the Sultan of Raheita, the Italian government in Eritrea, territorial shifts, the relations with Egypt and Ethiopia and more.
Slightly browned around the margins, with manuscript page numbers on the upper outer corner (627–831), otherwise in very good condition.

Lockot, Bibliographia Aethiopica 8127.

Trade within Ethiopia

London, Harrison and sons, 1900. 2º. With a folding lithographed map with some coloured details. Bound as sewn. € 1250

Diplomatic document, presented to the Houses of Parliament, on the trade of the Ethiopian cities Addis Ababa and Harar. It includes many letterpress tables, showing imported and exported tradeware, its quantities, prices, and origin, occasionally with some other remarks. The maps shows various trade routes from the two cities to other cities, towns and ports.
In very good condition.

Correspondence concerning the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company

London, His Majesty’s stationery office, December 1951. 8º. With the British royal coat-of-arms at head of title-page. Modern wrappers with clear plastic as front. € 2500

Official document, presented to the Houses of Parliament, containing correspondence between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Persian Government concerning the oil industry, especially dealing with the conduct of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (previous the Anglo-Persian Oil Company and now BP).
With a stamp of the “Law Society London” on title-page. In very good condition.

Garden Cities

179. HOWARD, Ebenezer. To-Morrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform.
London, Swan Sonnenschein & Co., 1898. 8º. With 7 chromolithographic plates, of which one folding. Publisher’s red cloth, upper cover lettered in black. Housed in black cloth solander box. € 18 000
First edition, first issue: a very rare and influential landmark work re-issued in 1902 under the title “Garden Cities of To-Morrow”, outlining the concept of the Garden City. Howard, a British nonconformist who in the United States had come under the influence of Emerson and Whitman, aimed to realize the ideas of Edward Bellamy’s utopia “Looking Backward”, building “by private enterprise pervaded by public spirit an entirely new town, industrial, residential and agricultural”. This was the idea upon which he enlarged in the book published in 1898 and which he carried forward nine months later by the formation of a Garden City Association (PMM).

The seven chromolithographic plates include a depiction of the famous “Three Magnets” diagram, illustrating Howard’s utopian view that the Town and Country magnets “must be made one”.

Binding carefully refurbished with colouring to head and tail of spine, spine somewhat faded. Light spotting to first few leaves; 1928 newspaper obituary of Howard tipped onto front free endpaper. Provenance: from the library of the British socialist Archibald Gorrie (1885–1941) with his handwritten ownership on the title page. Gorrie was a founder-member of the Leicester Branch of the Socialist League, which he served as secretary. PMM 387. Not in Stammhammer (Social-Politik).

Revised and enlarged edition

180. HUZAYYIN, S. A. Arabia and the Far East. Their commercial and cultural relations in Graeco-Roman and Irano-Arabian times.

Cairo, Institut français d’archéologie, 1942. 4º. With 12 folding maps printed with additional colours. Uncut. Modern half calf with giltstamped title to gilted spine with raised bands. With the original stiff wrappers bound in. € 2500


Macro 1244.

Arabic syntax: first edition

181. IBN AL-HAJIB. Kafiyah.

[Rome, Typographia Medicea, 1592]. 4º. Contemp. yellow boards with restored calf spine.

€ 35 000

First edition. “Editio princeps of this popular short syntax of the Arabic language, written in the 13th century. Two centuries later an Oriental printed edition was published in Istanbul (1786), but in the meantime this edition, printed in Arabic (30 point) throughout, could well have passed for a manuscript” (Smitskamp).

Composed by the Arabian grammarian Uthman Ibn Umar, known as Ibn al-Hajib (1175–1249), and printed at the Medicean Press, founded in 1584 by Cardinal Ferdinando I de’ Medici and directed by Giambattista Raimondi (1536–1614), an able scholar of Arabic. Some edge faults (professionally repaired), old repairs to title page, with slight loss to letterpress. A wide-margined copy, generously printed in 13 lines per page. An exceptionally appealing typographical achievement.

Alhazen's optics: the exceedingly rare first edition of a milestone in Arabic science


First edition of "the most important work of its kind in Arabic literature" (cf. Poggendorf). Ibn al-Haytham (965-c. 1040), known as Alhazen in the Latin tradition, has been hailed as "the greatest Muslim physicist and one of the greatest students of optics of all times [...] The Latin translation [...] exerted a great influence upon Western science. It showed a great progress in experimental method. [Alhazen's book contains] research in catoptrics, [a] better description of the eye, and better understanding of vision [as well as an] attempt to explain binocular vision [and the] earliest use of the camera obscura" (Sarton). "This combined edition served as the standard reference work on optics well into the 17th century, influencing scientists such as Brahe, Kepler, Galileo, and Descartes" (Norman).

Variously browned due to paper, but altogether quite a crisp, wide-margined copy, with an apparently contemporary handwritten ownership to the title page (deleted some time in the 17th or 18th century), a very few inconspicuous repairs to the edges, a faint waterstain to the lower margin and some slight worming to the lower gutter. Binding tight and well-preserved, with 17th or early 18th century library shelfmarks to front pastedown. An unusually fine specimen of a principal work of Arabic science as received in the West.


First Arabic edition of an important eyewitness account of the life of Tamerlane

183. **IBN ARABSHAH, Ahmad ibn Muhammad.** [Kitab 'Aja'ib al-maqdur fi aghbar Timur | ... Vitae & rerum gestarum Timuri, qui vulgo Tamerlanes dicitur, historia. Leiden, Bonaventura & Abraham Elsevier, 1636. 4º. With half-title printed in dark blue and red, title-page printed in red and black with a woodcut architectural border containing the letterpress title and (in a heart-shaped cartouche) imprint, and leaf *3 printed in red, dark blue and black. Later stiff paper wrappers. € 25 000

First Arabic edition of an important eyewitness account of the life of Tamerlane (Timur), the successful and barbaric 14th-century Turkish conqueror, printed entirely in Arabic except for the Arabic and Latin title-page. "An interesting feature of the book is the use of blue ink for the printing of the word 'Tamerlanis' (between two red lines) on the half-title, as well as for one typographical ornament on leaf 3 recto" (Smitskamp). The text is based on the original Arabic manuscript, completed in 1437–1438, by the Syrian author Ahmad ibn 'Arabshah, secretary of Sultan Ahmad of Baghdad. In the 16th century Timur became famous in Europe through Christopher Marlowe's play Tamburlaine (1590). The present work was edited and prefaced by Jacob Golius. The Arabic manuscript used by him is still preserved at Leiden University Library and contains many notes in his hand. With an unidentified library stamp on title-page. Some leaves heavily foxed and a few small spots, but otherwise a good copy.

De Nave 90; Smitskamp 353; STCN (8 copies); Willems 454; not in Atabey; Blackmer.
First substantial English translation of Ibn Batuta’s travels through the Islamic world and beyond

184. IBN BATUTA and Samuel LEE (editor). The travels of Ibn Batuta; translated from the abridged Arabic manuscript copies, preserved in the public library of Cambridge. With notes, illustrative of the history, geography, botany, antiquities, &c. occurring throughout the work.

London, printed for the Oriental Translation Committee (colophon: by J.L. Cox). Large 4º (32 × 26). With various passages including the original Arabic text. Later half calf.

First edition of the first substantial English translation of the travel account of Abu Abdullah Muhammad ibn Batuta (1304–1368/69), known in the West as the Arabian Marco Polo, with extensive footnotes. “While on a pilgrimage to Mecca he made a decision to extend his travels throughout the whole of the Islamic world. Possibly the most remarkable of the Arab travellers, he is estimated to have covered 75,000 miles in forty years” (Howgego). His journeys included trips to North Africa, the Horn of Africa, West Africa and Eastern Europe in the West, and to the Middle East, South Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and China.
The account known as the Rihla, is esteemed for its lively descriptions of his travels, giving notable information on the history, geography and botany of the countries and cities Ibn Batuta visited. He describes, for example, the city of Aden as follows: “From this place I went to the city of Aden, which is situated on the sea-shore. This is a large city, but without either seed, water, or tree. They have, however, reservoirs, in which they collect the rain-water for drinking. Some rich merchants reside here: and vessels from India occasionally arrive here. The inhabitants are modest and religious” (p. 55).
Endpapers, half-title and subscription leaf foxed, some spots on the title-page, otherwise a very good copy, only slightly trimmed leaving generous margins.
Binding very good as well.
Howgego, to 1800, t. 847.

First publication of the poetical masterpiece “Maqsurah”


Harderwijk, Johannes Mooijen, 1768. 4º. With text in Arabic type and with Scheidius’s manuscript signature at the back of the title-page. Modern bordeaux red cloth.

First and only edition of a poem by the famous Arab poet, lexicographer and philologist Ibn Duraid (837–933). It is the first publication of his poetical masterpiece Maqsurah, giving the text in Arabic, preceded by an introduction in Latin by Everard Scheidius (1742–1794), professor of oriental languages at Harderwijk. Scheidius published the text after a manuscript now in the collection of the Royal Academy of Arts & Sciences in Amsterdam.
The work is often quoted as being the second publication of the text (after Haitsma 1773 edition), based on an error in the year of publication (“1786”), which has been copied numerous times.
Slightly browned, otherwise in very good condition.
Bibl., Marsdeniana, p. 156; Lambrecht 1222; STCN (4 copies); not in Schnurrer; cf. Witkam, inventory of the oriental manuscripts … Acad. 120.
The great Arabic historiographer’s autobiography


First separate edition of this translation. The great Arab scholar Ibn Khaldun (1332–1406) distinguished himself as a historiographer; he is also claimed as a forerunner of the modern disciplines of sociology and demography. His autobiography, of which an abridgment is given here, is to be found at the end of his History of the Berbers. The Irish scholar William McGuckin de Slane (1801–78), a disciple of Silvestre de Sacy, served as Principal Interpreter of Arabic of the French Army and Professor of Arabic at the École de langues orientales in Paris.

From the famous library of the orientalist, diplomat and collector Charles Henri Auguste Schefer de Carlwaldt (1820–98) with his bookplate on the front pastedown. Some foxing throughout; numerous annotations in red ballpoint by a later scholar. Rare; no copy in America.


First edition of an abridgement of Ibn Sina’s masterpiece

187. IBN SINA. Flores Avicenne.
(Colophon: Lyon, by Claude Davost for Barthélemy Trot, 1508). 8°. With several botanical woodcut initials. Contemporary goatskin, blind-tooled in a panel design.

First edition of Michael de Capella’s abbreviation of the greatest work of the esteemed Islamic physician Ibn Sina (ca. 980–1037), known in Europe as Avicenna, his Canon medicinae (Canon of medicine, or in Arabic Kitab al-Qanun fi al-tibb), completed around 1024. It is a comprehensive medical encyclopaedia, mixing a thorough compilation of Greek and Islamic medical knowledge (including the work of Aristotle, Hippocrates, Galen and al-Majusi) with Avicenna’s own original contributions. It revolutionized European medicine long before it first appeared in print in 1472.

“The preface … refers to the importance in medicine of aphoristic works that can readily be committed to memory and to the example of Hippocratic writings. The task of abbreviation was undertaken with such enthusiasm that Avicenna’s chapter on the elements was compressed from about 550 words in the full Gerard of Cremona version into 53 in the Flores” (Siraisi).

With the bookplate of Karl and Thilde Wagner. Binding somewhat worn, especially at the spine. Some spots throughout, ink stains on title-page and a couple minor stains in text; a good copy.

Adams A2395; Darling 441; USTC 145578; cf. N.G. Siraisi, Avicenna in Renaissance Italy (2014), p. 132.

The greatest work of Islamic medicine, illustrated

Venice, heirs ofLucantonio Giunta, 1562. 2 volumes. 2° (26 × 37 cm). With woodcut device on title, colophon and index, a nearly full-page woodcut diagram of the ocular anatomy (fol. 406v), two full-page woodcuts with a total of six illustrations showing the practice of osteopathy (fols. 480f.), and 5 small woodcuts of plants and anatomical instruments in the glossary of Andreas Bellunensis. Modern vellum bindings preserving much of the old material for covers, entirely rebacked, on 3 raised bands.

€ 45 000
Rare, early 16th-century edition of “the most famous medical text ever written” (Garrison/M. 43). Giunta’s was the first edition ever to contain illustrations (six meticulous woodcuts of a physician performing chiropractic treatments, as well as a diagram of the human eye anatomy). Includes Giulio Palamede’s general index added in 1557 with a separate title page.

Ibn Sina’s “Keta-b al-qanun fi’l-tebb” (“Canon of Medicine”), written in Arabic but widely translated throughout the Middle Ages and the basis of medical training in the West as late as the mid-17th century. Finished in 1025, the Qanun is divided into 5 books, devoted to the basic principles of medicine, the Materia Medica (listing about 800 drugs), pathology, diseases affecting the body as a whole and finally the formulary.

Ibn Sina (c. 980–1037), in the West known by his Latinized name Avicenna, was physician to the ruling caliphs. The influence of his Qanun can hardly be overestimated. Translated into Latin in the 12th century, it became a standard textbook of Galenic medicine, influencing many generations of physicians. “From the early fourteenth to the mid-sixteenth century Avicenna held a high place in Western European medical studies, ranking together with Hippocrates and Galen as an acknowledged authority” (Weisser). “[T]he final codification of all Greco-Arabic medicine. It dominated the medical schools of Europe and Asia for five centuries” (Garrison/M. 43).

Occasional worming and dampstaining throughout, light soiling to a few leaves. Handwritten ownership, dated 1660, on title page (Frater Ferdinandus de Regaddini, gift of the physician Giovanni Battista de Sardi of Cremona); a few annotations by the same hand.

Stamps of the Biblioteca degli Israeliti di Mantova.

Occasional worming and dampstaining throughout, light soiling to a few leaves. Handwritten ownership, dated 1660, on title page (Frater Ferdinandus de Regaddini, gift of the physician Giovanni Battista de Sardi of Cremona); a few annotations by the same hand.

Stamps of the Biblioteca degli Israeliti di Mantova.


First and only edition of one of the earliest works on Persian grammar


Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1661. 4°. Modern contemporary-style ivory vellum, handwritten title on spine. € 8500
Extremely rare first edition of this valuable Persian grammar printed in Rome on the presses of the "Propaganda Fide". The third work of this kind, preceded only by those of Louis de Dieu (Leiden 1639) and of Greaves (London 1649). Willems notes that G. B. Raimondi, as early as 1614, produced a grammar in Rome for the use of missionaries which remained virtually unknown in the west, but this existed only in manuscript. The grammars of Greaves and of the present author were both "largely based on De Dieu" (Smitskamp).

Ignazio di Gesù (Carlo Leonelli) was a 17th century Italian missionary. He "belonged to the Order of Discalced Carmelites, and preached the Gospel in Turkey, Asia Minor, Armenia, and Persia, where he stayed over a long period. He especially tried to convert to the Catholic faith the so-called sectarians of Saint John (in eastern Mendaï). He returned to Rome in 1650" (cf. Hoefer). An account of his travels was included in the collection of Thevenot. His present small work, though not the work of an orientalist nor indeed a scholar, is still a true grammar based on elements collected during the author's journeys.

Some light foxing and browning as common, slight abrasion on title (vignette very slightly affected), lacks final blank leaf. Old library shelfmark in ink to title. A very good copy.


A manual on horses, illustrated with 21 large miniatures

191. [INDIAN CARE OF HORSES]. Shalihotra Samhita.

North-west India, 19th century. 4º. Illustrated manuscript on paper in Hindi, ruled in black and red. With 21 painted miniatures, partly heightened in gold and silver. Bound in modern Indian cloth.

€ 15 000

A strikingly illustrated 19th c. manuscript excerpt of the "Shalihotra," a classic of Ayurvedic hippiatry attributed to the legendary founder of Indian veterinary science. Horses were a vital part of Indian culture, and a tradition of hippiatry developed in parallel to human medicine. Shalihotra's treatise on the care and breeding of horses was translated into many languages and edited into many recensions. This manuscript contains 21 detailed illustrations of horses in various states of distress, with one -- depicting a horse being led by a male figure -- heightened in gold. It is written in at least four hands and may represent a "core" recension of the text with additional medical knowledge added over time. Several later manuscript annotations in blue ink and pencil record herbal recipes for analgesics and other cures, while the upper corner on one leaf bears a talismanic square made up of an Arabic prayer. Some leaves bound upside down; light dampstain affecting first 30 leaves, marginal paper repairs affecting text on 14 leaves, but still overall a very appealing manuscript. From the library of Jay Snider, with his bookplate loosely inserted.

The Hammer of Witches--editio princeps

192. INSTITORIS, Heinrich. Malleus maleficarum.

[Speyer, Peter Drach, before April 1487]. 2º. Rubricated, with lombardic initials in red and blue, occasional pen flourishes, paragraph marks at beginning of chapter headings, some capital strokes. 19th-c. white paper boards with printed paper spine label. Stored in custom-made full green morocco gilt clamshell box.

€ 175 000

First edition of the notorious "Hammer of Witches", which laid down procedures for finding out and convicting witches. Due to the innovation of the printing press, it contributed significantly to the early modern witch craze. "The most important and most sinister work on demonology ever written. It crystallized into a fiercely stringent code previous folklore about black magic with church dogma on heresy, and, if any one work could, opened the floodgates of the inquisitorial hysteria [... it was] the source, inspiration, and quarry for all subsequent treatises on witchcraft" (Robbins, Encyclopaedia of Witchcraft and Demonology). The book was published
and republished in at least 13 editions up to 1520, then revived from the late 16th century, undergoing at least 16 editions between 1574 and 1669, as well as numerous editions in German, French and English. Complete copies of the first edition are rare, and only a few copies are found in American institutions.

Upper cover stained and soiled, first three pages of text with some soiling and staining, neat repair to final printed leaf. All in all, a remarkably fine, clean copy from the famous Donaueschingen library of the princes of Fürstenberg with their printed spine title and shelfmark “298” on the spine label.


The Hammer of Witches

193. INSTITORIS, Heinrich. Malleus maleficarum. Opus egregium [...].
(Nuremberg, Friedrich Peypus), 1519. 4º. With fine woodcut title border. Modern vellum with giltstamped red spine label. € 12,000

Fourth Nuremberg edition. The fine title borders shows St Peter and St Barbara. Some traces of moisture throughout, with more substantial damage to final leaf (some loss to last two lines of text; rebacked). Last leaf but one remargined, as are the title and second leaf.

Bookplate of J. B. Holzer, ownerships of Baron Per Hierta, Främestad (dated 1904) and the Tegernsee monastery (17th c.).


The rarest of all works by the pioneer of witch-hunting, from the library of the Bohemian witch hunter Jan Vodnansky

194. INSTITORIS, Heinrich. Sancte Romane ecclesie fidei defenseonis propungnaculum adversus waldensium seu Pickardorum heresim [...].
Olmütz, Conrad Baumgarten, 20 April 1501. 2º. With half-page title woodcut, full-page woodcut on verso, large woodcut initial, and printer’s device at the end (all with contempor. touches of red ink), as well as numerous fleurons and Lombardic initials in red and green. Rubricated throughout. Contemp. blindstamped gothic binding: dark brown calf over wooden boards, remains of engraved brass clasps. € 85,000

First edition of this polemic against the Bohemian Brethren, written by the author of the notorious “Malleus Maleficarum”: a “Bulwark of Faith of the Holy Roman Church Against the Heresy of the Waldensians and Picards”. Extremely rare: the present copy represents the hitherto unknown first impression of the first edition, still bearing a slightly different title.

In the year 1500, 15 years after he first published his “Malleus Maleficarum”, Institoris had been installed by Pope Alexander VI as inquisitor to Bohemia and Moravia, where he was to take action agains heretics, sorcerers, and witches. The inquisitor who prided himself on having sent no less than 200 witches to the stake discusses other heresies as well: fol. 86ff. contains an entire chapter “De origine legis machometicae”.

From the library of the disputatious Bohemian Franciscan friar John Aquensis, who in 1502 was to publish his own polemic against the “Picards”, with his marginalia and his autograph ownership on the title page. Some staining to first and last leaf; occasional insignificant waterstaining, otherwise very clean, showing very little browning. Altogether an excellent copy in its contemporary, original binding. The individual blindstamps could not be traced in the Kyriuss or Schunke collections; the clasp hitches are engraved with an invocation of the Virgin (“MARIA AVE”). Text carefully rubricated throughout; the inhabited initials depict dragons and other mythical creatures, as well as the bearded head of an old man. Of the utmost rarity: this present first edition is not listed in German or international auction records. The last copy of any edition in the trade was that formerly in the Broxbourne collection (1502 second ed.: Sotheby’s, 8 May 1978, lot 408, to Breslauer).

“The bulk of the inhabitants of Dubai territory belong to the tribe of Al Bu Falasah, a branch of the Bani Yas”

195. [IRAQ PETROLEUM COMPANY]. Handbook of the territories which form the theatre of operations of the Iraq Petroleum Company Limited and its associated companies.
London, Iraq Petroleum Company, 1948. 8º. With a portrait of King Faisal I of Iraq, 27 plates, and 1 folding map. Publisher’s original cloth. € 3500

First edition, second issue, of this overview of the Middle Eastern regions emerging as the great oil exporting countries of the century: Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Bahrain, the then Trucial Coast (now the UAE) and Qatar, including the “Hinterland Tribes”, Oman, and Kuwait, as well as Iraq and the Levant. Providing details of the companies, the local geography, climate, culture, and political history, this forms an invaluable compendium on the region and ruling personalities as they presented themselves in the immediate postwar years: “The Trucial Rulers acknowledge the paramount position of H.M.G., represented by the Political Resident, but no restrictions are placed upon their independence provided that they adhere to the various Conventions which they have signed [...] Each of the Rulers [...] is thus in direct treaty relations with the British Government [...] The Shaikhdom of Qatar covers the Peninsula of that name [...] Dohah is the Shaikh’s capital and the only considerable village. [...] The Shaikhdom of Abu Dhabi is in size of territory by far the largest of the Trucial Coast [...] The ruler, Shaikh Shakhbut bin Sultan of the Al Bu Falah, is a quiet, nervous personality. He has three brothers, Hazza’, Khalid and Za’id, of whom the last named is probably the outstanding and most influential person in the whole of Trucial Oman [...] The bulk of the inhabitants of Dubai territory belong to the tribe of Al Bu Falasah, a branch of the Bani Yas. The Shaikh’s authority is largely confined to the coast. Dubai creek has been used as a landing-place for flying boats [...]”. Profusely illustrated, including “Early Days in Qatar”, etc. A good copy.
OCLC 5464854. Not in Macro.

“Ode to the Persian Gulf”

196. IRWIN, Eyles. A Series of Adventures in the Course of a Voyage up the Red-Sea, on the Coasts of Arabia and Egypt [...].
London, J. Dodsley, 1780. 4º. With 3 folding maps and 3 plates. Contemporary full calf, spine elaborately gilt, leading edges gilt, red morocco label. € 12 500

Second edition (the earliest mentioned). Irwin relates the series of misadventures which occurred on his journey back from India after his dismissal from the East India Company. Following the near wreck of his ship he was taken prisoner by Arabs who took him to the Nile, whence he traveled to Cairo on his release. The author recounts his imprisonment in Yanbu, Arabia, and further voyage to Jeddah, as well as his adventures in Egypt, his journeys through the Peloponnese and Balkans as well as Persia. He includes an “Ode to the Persian Gulf”, which extols the beauties of Bahrain. In 1802, Irwin was to produce a musical play, “The Bedouins, or Arabs of the Desert: a Comic Opera in Three Acts” (1802), which played in Dublin for three nights. The plates include views of the town of Mocha (al-Mukhah) on the shore of the Red Sea in Yemen, including its early mosques, and of the Straits of Bab al Mandab (“Babelmandel”). Also shown is a detailed view and chart of Yanbu, the port giving access to al Medina. Macclesfield bookplates to front pastedown and free endpaper. Plates somewhat toned and offset, otherwise an excellent copy, sumptuously bound.
Animal Fables

Berlin, Weiss/Nicolaische Buchhandlung, 1811. 8°. Modern marbled boards with printed spine label. Edges sprinkled. € 1500
First edition. – A scholarly account, and partial German translation, of Ali Vasi Celebi’s “Humayunnama” – a Turkish translation of the Persian “Anvar-i suhayli” (Light of Canopus), completed before 1543, which is in itself an adaptation of “Kalila wa Dimna”, or the “Fables of Bidpai”, a collection of animal fables with didactic overtones designed to illustrate wise conduct. A fine copy, well-preserved throughout.

The first Islamic geography

198. KATIB CHELEBI (HAJI KHALIFA/Mustafa IBN ABDALLAH). Gihan Numa, geographia orientalis.
Lund, Berling, 1818. 8°. 2 vols. Later marbled wrappers. € 7500
Only Latin edition of the first modern geography and atlas of the Islamic world. For his famous universal Islamic geography the Ottoman historian and bibliographer Katib Chelebi (1609–57), one of the principal intellectual figures of the 17th century Ottoman empire, drew on Mercator’s and Hondius’s “Atlas Minor” as well as other Western sources, making them available to the Islamic world for the first time. It was first printed at the first Turkish press by Ibrahim Muteferrika in 1732. “Of the utmost interest both as the best-known work of Ottoman geographical literature and as the document of a pivotal moment in the history of ideas” (Wolff, Mercator 2.12.a).
Occasional brownstaining due to paper; occasional duststains to margins. Untrimmed, uncut copy of this rare edition.
Brunet III, 8. OCLC 84953456.

The first printing of any work by Katib Chelebi in any language

199. KATIB CHELEBI (HAJI KHALIFA/Mustafa IBN ABDALLAH). Cronologia historica scritta in lingua Turca, Persiana, & Araba [...].
Venice, Andrea Poletti, 1697. 4°. With woodcut printer’s device on title. With:
(2) PIRHING, Ehrenreich, SJ. Facilis, et succincta S.S. canonum doctrina [...].
Venice, Nicolo Pezzana, 1693. Title printed in red and black with two-coloured woodcut vignette. (And):
(3) MORETTO, Bernardo. Propugnacolo della cartolica, apostolica, e universale Santa Romana Chiesa alle false obiettioni de scismatici, & heretici [...].
Venice, Andrea Poletti, 1685. With engraved armorial vignette on title. Contemp. blind-stamped leather over wooden boards with 2 clasps. All edges red. € 12 500
First Italian edition of the “Taqwim al-Tawarikh”, an annalistic chronicle from the creation of Man to the year 1648, when it was composed by the famous Turkish polymath Katib Chelebi (1609–77). This is, at the same time, the first printing of any work of Katib Chelebi’s in any language: the chronicle was not published in the original mixture of Persian and Ottoman Turkish until 1733, by Muteferrika.
Bound before this are two other rare Venetian works of the late 17th century, namely a single-volume reduction of the "Jus Canonicum" (1674) by the Bavarian Jesuit Pirhing (1606–79), and the second edition of an instructional dialogue between a Catholic and a heretic by the Venetian jeweller Moretto (first published in 1647).

Some brownstaining and waterstaining; a few edge and corner flaws. Last leaves rather wrinkled, lacking lower flyleaf.

I: Babinger, GOW, 197. BN XXIII, 990. Encyclopaedia of Islam² IV, 762. OCLC 565744142, 45754994.
II: De Backer/Sommervogel VI, 834.

**Rare first edition of Thomas à Kempis in Arabic**

200. KEMPIS, Thomas à. *De imitatione Christi libri quatuor*, de Latino in Arabicum versi a P.F. Coelestino à S. Liduina (= Petrus Golius). ...

Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1663, 8°. With the title in Arabic and Latin in a frame built up from cast fleurons, woodcut Propaganda Fide device on the back of the title-page. With the main text set in Arabic type and the preliminaries also in roman and italic. Gold-tooled red morocco (1838?), each board with a large and elaborately decorated cross in the centre, blue watered silk endleaves, gilt edges. € 25 000

First Arabic edition of Thomas à Kempis, *De imitatione Christi*, translated from the Latin by the Dutch Catholic Petrus Golius (Pieter van Goöll) (1597–1672), brother of the Protestant orientalist Jacobus Golius at Leiden University. *De imitatione Christi*, written in Zwolle in the Northern Netherlands ca. 1427, is one of the most important Catholic devotional works of all time, going through thousands of editions and translations into almost every language. Its emphasis on internal spirituality rather than liturgy and ceremony (which it shared with the Islamic Sufism) suited it especially to remote regions but also made it dangerous in some eyes as it was less dependent on central Church authority. It was popular among many splinter groups including some Protestants.

With an Arabic owner’s(?) inscription at the foot of the title-page and on the facing endleaf, that on the title-page struck through and an inscription in Syriac written in instead, owner’s inscription facing the title-page, and an ink stamp on an endleaf. Slightly browned, and the ink of the arabic inscription has eaten some small holes in the paper of the flyleaf, but otherwise in very good condition. The binding is worn at the hinges but also otherwise very good. Rare first edition of Thomas à Kempis in Arabic.

De Backer, Essai bibl. ... Imitatione Christi 2476 (see also 2793); Loop, Johan Heinrich Hottinger: Arabic and Islamic studies in the seventeenth century, pp. 214, 246–147; Schnurrer 255; WorldCat (3 or 4 copies); cf. Amaduzzi, Cat. lib. Propaganda Fide (1773), pp. 11–12 (1742 ed.).

**Celebrating the history of the rise of Abdulaziz ibn Saud**


New York, George Kheirallah, 1951. With frontispiece and 80 black and white photographs, 13 of which are coloured. Publisher’s original full red leather binding with gilt title to covers and spine (in Arabic to lower cover). Red marbled endpapers. Top edge gilt. Stored in red slipcase. € 4500

The exceedingly rare, luxuriously produced first edition, privately printed for the author, celebrating the history of the rise of Abdulaziz ibn Saud and the creation of modern Saudi Arabia. The physician George I. Kheirallah (1879–1939), editor and publisher of The Arab World magazine, was born in Alexandria (Egypt) and educated at Beirut. He emigrated to America and devoted himself to the study and spread of Islamic history and culture. Minor scuff marks to spine, otherwise perfectly preserved in original slipcase. OCLC lists only the 1952 reprint published by the University of New Mexico Press (with drawings by Charles O. Naef) – an entirely different production, sometimes erroneously referred to as the first or indeed only edition.

Not in Macro (who cites two of the author’s articles in The Arab World). Not in OCLC.

Editio princeps of this important ethical treatise. The 16th-century Anatolian jurist and philosophical author Ala’ al-Din ‘Ali Kinalizade "was a very industrious writer. He wrote glossaries and commentaries on a series of theological works. He became famous by his ethical work ‘Akhlak-i ‘Ala’î’ written in 972 (1564) for the Beylerbey of Syria, ‘Ali Pasha, the original manuscript of which is in the library of Raghib Pasha in Stambul (No. 966). This work [...] was printed in Shawwal 1248 (February 1833) at Bulak [...] and besides translated either in full or in parts" (Brill). Binding scuffed with traces of professional repairs; spine rebacked. Interior shows marked damp- and waterstains, but complete. Near-contemporary notes in Ottoman Turkish to flyleaf.


203. KITCHIN, Thomas and others. Kitchin’s general atlas, describing the whole universe. London, Robert Laurie, James Whittle, 1808. Imperial 2º (53 × 39.5 cm). With 28 engraved maps (numbered in 41 parts) assembled from 67 sheets. Most include elaborate cartouches with pictorial decoration. With the maps coloured in outline. Contemporary half calf.

Rare revised and enlarged edition of an English world atlas. Eleven of the maps are made from 4 sheets each, each numbered and bound in 2 parts, and the map of Asia with the islands of the Indian Ocean, Arabia, the East Indies, Australia and the Southwest Pacific is made from 6 sheets numbered and bound as 3 parts. The 4-sheet maps include the world in 2 hemispheres, Europe, England & Wales, Scotland, Ireland, the Holy Roman Empire, the East Indies, Africa, North America and South America. The extraordinary 4-sheet map of the world by Samuel Dunn, with the routes of various voyages of discovery (the main map after D’Anville), includes an inset map in Mercator projection, celestial hemispheres, the solar system (with orbits of comets) and even a map of the moon, hence the atlas title’s reference to "the whole universe". Kitchen was a cartographer, engraver, and hydrographer to King George III. In very good condition. The marbled sides are badly rubbed and the spine cracked, chipped, and restored at the head and foot. A magnificent world atlas with one 6-sheet and eleven 4-sheet maps.

Phillips & Le Gear 6027 (one 4-sheet map lacking & another incomplete); WorldCat (3 copies).
On Ibn Khaldun’s cultural history

204. KREMER, Alfred von. Ibn Chaldun und seine Culturgeschichte der Islamischen Reiche.
Vienna, Karl Gerold’s son (back of title-page: Adolf Holzhausen), 1879. 8º. With 4 leaves with Arabic text. Contemporary paper wrappers.

Offprint of an essay on the cultural history written by the Arab historian Ibn Khaldun (1332–1406), written by the German Orientalist Alfred von Kremer (1828–1889). It opens with a brief introduction on Ibn Khaldun’s works and life. Other chapters deal with the cultural aspects in Ibn Khaldun’s works: basic needs, customs, societies, etc. Included at the end are four brief texts in Arabic type transcribed from manuscripts.

With some pencil underscoring, otherwise in very good condition.


The principal breeds of horses illustrated

205. KUNTZ, Rudolf. Abbildungen sämtlicher Pferde-Racen [...].

First edition, self-published by the author in Karlsruhe, with Ebner’s Stuttgart address pasted on the wrapper’s upper cover. All that was published of this splendid and rare work about the principal breeds of horses, issued in what must have been a very small press run by Kuntz (1797–1848), Painter to the Court of Karlsruhe, Baden, who is also known for drawing the full-blooded Arabian horses of the Royal Württemberg Stud, the first Arabian stud in Europe. For the present work Kuntz made extensive travels in Hungary, London and Paris to draw his exquisite portraits of Arabian, Persian, Egyptian, Nubian, English and many other thoroughbred horses from life.

Binding professionally repaired at the edges. Interior somewhat foxed and fingerstained. From the officers’ library of the Württembergian Uhlans (light cavalry) regiment no. 19.


Travels through the Middle East, India and Europe, with 34 woodcut illustrations

206. LA BOULLAYE LE GOUZ, Francois de. Les voyages et observations du seur de la Boullaye-le-Gouz gentil-homme Angevin, où sont décrites les religions, gouvernemens, & situations de estats & royaumes d’Italie, Grece, Natolie, Syrie, Palestine, Karamenie, Kaldée, Assyrie, grand Mogol, Bijapour, Indes orientales des Portugais, Arabie, Egypte, Hollandse, grande Bretagne, Irlande, Dannemark, Pologne, isles & autres lieux d’Europe, Asie & Afrlique, où il a séjourné, le tout enrichy de figures ...

Paris, Francois Clousier, 1653. 4º. With a woodcut and an engraved author’s portrait and 34 woodcut illustrations in text, including several full-page. Contemporary calf, gold-tooled spine.

€ 18 000
Rare first edition of a travelogue by the French explorer, merchant and diplomat François de la Boullaye-Le Gouz (ca.1610–1669). The largest part of the book deals with his travels through the Middle East and India, while a smaller part treat Le Gouz’s travels through Europe. In 1643 he travelled the Middle East under the name Ibrahim Beg, visiting Syria, Palestine, Persia, Egypt, Anatolia and Armenia. A few years later he was sent by the French king with an embassy to the Mogul emperor Shah Jahan, where he met and became great friends with the Jesuit Alexandre de Rhodes (1591–1660). La Boullaye-Le Gouz describes the routes he takes, the cities he visits and the people he meets along the way, with frequent observations on religion, natural history and commerce. The illustrations show various Indian deities, some city views or buildings, Indian and Eastern costumes, plants and trees. Pages 243–255 deal with plants, fruits and trees in India, including several palm trees, a fig tree, a jack tree and a melon tree. “The work is notable for its information on northern India and its relations to Persia, and for its inclusion of a summary of the Ramayana” (Howgego).

Occasionally a small (water) stain, internally otherwise in very good condition. Binding rubbed, restored and front hinge partly cracked.

*Atabey* 645; *Hamilton, Europe and the Arab world* 22; *Howgego*, to 1800, L4; *Slot, The Arabs of the Gulf* 1662–1784, p. 410; *WorldCat* (5 copies).

From the library of Ibn Saud’s translator: Bill Eddy’s “Voyage to Arabia the Happy”

207. **[La Roque, Jean de]**. *A voyage to Arabia the happy by the way of the Eastern ocean, and the streights of the Red-Sea.* London, G. Strahan and R. Williamson, 1726. 8º. With folding map and 3 plates. Later binding in contemporary panelled style mit red morocco label to gilt spine. **€ 4500**

The rare first English edition of this conflation of reports from French expeditions to Arabia during the years 1708–13, first published in French in 1716. The Atabey copy sold at Sotheby’s in 2002 (lot 1473) commanded £ 2868. Occasional duststaining, but well-preserved altogether. Provenance: from the library of William Alfred Eddy (1896–1962) with his armorial bookplate (“Crux mihi grata quies” – The Cross is to me a welcome rest) on pastedown. The Sidon-born Eddy, fluent in Arabic and Arabic culture, variously served as U.S. Marine Corps officer, Aramco consultant, U.S. minister to Saudi Arabia, university professor of English Literature and college president, intelligence operative and one of the fathers of the CIA. His Ph.D. in English studies, written on “Gulliver’s Travels” (1922), would seem to befit a traveller so able in the art of reversing perspectives. At the historic meeting between King Abdalaziz al-Saud and President Roosevelt on board the U.S.S. Quincy in the Suez Canal on 14 February 1945, it was Eddy who served as interpreter for both the King and the president at Ibn Saud’s personal request.


Explorations in Arabia and vicinity, with 69 spectacular plates

208. **Laborde, Léon Emmanuel Simon Joseph de**. *Voyage de l’Arabie Pétrée.*

Paris, Giard (colophon: printed by the Imprimerie Normale/Jules Didot l’aîné), 1830[—1834]. Royal 1º (42 × 59,5 cm). With lithographic title-page (with a large lithographed title vignette separately printed on “India” paper and mounted on the title-page) and lithographed coat of arms of the dedicatee Wilhelm II of Hesse printed directly on dedication leaf, 69 lithographed plates (3 double-page and 1 larger folding) showing views, maps and plans after Laborde and Linant de Bellefonds, most separately printed on “India” paper and mounted on the leaves. With 1 zoological plate (of a marmot and young; “El Oueber”) subtly coloured as published. Period-style half calf with gilt title to spine. **€ 45 000**
First edition of “an important work” (Blackmer) of a stunning and beautifully illustrated account of some of the earliest explorations in the Sinai, southern Jordan and northwest Arabia, complete with all the magnificent views in extremely large format, the double-page plates measuring about 58.5 × 83 cm and the folding map of the Sinai about 74 × 102 cm. All subsequent editions, including the English one, were published in octavo and contained only a few plates based on the present first edition, all in drastically reduced format. The plates show maps, plans of ancient sites, views of ruins and other buildings, coastal and other topographic views, costume plates, hieroglyphic and other inscriptions, flora and fauna. Laborde journeyed to the ancient city of Petra in what is now Jordan with the engineer Linant de Bellefonds in 1828, travelling from Suez via St. Catherine’s and through Wadi al-‘Araba to Akabah. The topographic term Arabie Pétrée derives from Ptolemy’s division of Arabia into three. The maps in the present book show it as the Sinai peninsula, the southern part of what is now Jordan and the northwestern part of the Arabian peninsula. The city of Petra itself is extensively documented in many of the present beautiful plates. Slight browning and foxing, occasional waterstaining and tears to folds; a small tear in the map repaired, but in all a good, wide-margined copy in loose sheets, apparently never bound. Rare: the last complete copy came up for auction in 2009 (Christie’s, 3 June, lot 120: £23,750).


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The pre-Islamic coinage of the Arabs


First edition of a monograph on the pre-Islamic coinage of the Arabs by the French historian, orientalist and numismatist Victor Langlois (1829–1869). The book is divided into five chapters, treating the coins of Nabataea, Characene, Palmyra, Edessa and Hatra, and is followed by an appendix on the Arab colonies, including the rare coins from Abyssinia. Spine slightly discoloured, but otherwise in very good condition, wholly untrimmed with all bolts unopened and in the original printed wrappers.

Gay 3581; Hage Chahine 2621; “La numismatique musulmane” at: Cosmovisions.com.

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Complete astronomical and mathematical works by leading Copernican, some published here for the first time

210. LANSBERGE, Philip van. Opera omnia. Middelburg, Zacharias Roman, 1663 (parts 1635–1663). 9 works in 1 volume. 2º. With an engraved general title-page, 10 letterpress title-pages (1 with an engraved view; the other 9 each with any of 6 different woodcut astronomical diagrams), full-page portrait of Lansbergius by W. Delff, 1 folding and 4 double-page engraved plates and 1 large folding letterpress table, many diagrams and tables in text. Contemporary vellum. € 15 000

The complete mathematical and astronomical works, in Latin, of (Johan) Philip van Lansberge (1561–1632), one of the most famous mathematicians and astronomers of the Dutch Republic during its golden age. These collected works were published by Zacharias Roman at Middelburg who had also published many of Lansberge’s works separately. He assembled the present complete works primarily by reissuing the separate editions that had been printed earlier, but printed new preliminaries, the previously unpublished Horologium and apparently parts of the Tabulae motum coelestium.
We number them here according to the numbered list of contents in the preliminaries, but there are several bibliographical irregularities. What we call item 4.5 does not appear in the list but is apparently a normal part of the book. Item 5 (the Horologium) is the first edition, published 31 years after Lansbergen’s death and item 4.5 (the Sphaera plana) is the first Latin edition. With an early owner’s name on the half-title, repeated with another at the head of the dedication, all difficult to decipher, but clearly Geo[gel] ... and probably ... Brook. The binding with some small cuts and somewhat dirty. In good condition. The Opera contain the following works, all with many woodcut illustrations in the text:
- 1–2: *Triangulorum geometriae libri quattuor* ... *Item Cyclometriae novae libri duo*. Ab autore recognita, multisque in locis aucta. Middelburg, Zacharias Roman, 1661.
- 3: *Uranometriae libri tres*. In quibus lunae, solis, & reliquistorum planetarum, & inerrantium stellarum distantiae à terra, & magnitudines, hactenus ignoratae aeternique demonstrantur. Middelburg, Zacharias Roman, 1662.
- 4: *Horologium nova*. Item 5 (the *Horologium*) is the first edition, published 31 years after Lansbergen’s death and item 4.5 (the *Sphaera plana*) is the first Latin edition.
- 5: *Horologiographia plana: in qua omne genus scietetricorum horologiorum* ... ostenditur. Middelburg, Zacharias Roman, 1663.
- 6: *Commentationes in motum terrae diurnum, & annuum; et in verum adspectabilis coeli typum*. Middelburg, Zacharias Roman, 1660.
- 7: *Tabulae motuum coelestium perpetuae; ex omnium temporum observationibus contractae, temporumque omnium observationibus conscientiess. Item, novae & genuinae motuum coelestium theoricae. & Astronomicarum observationum thesaurus*. Middelburg, for Zacharias Roman, 1663.

The Army surgeon of Napoleon’s campaign

211. LARREY, [Dominique-Jean]. *Relation historique et chirurgicale de l’expédition de l’armée d’orient, en Egypte et en Syrie*. Paris, Demonville & Soeurs, an XI – 1803. Contemporary full calf with gilt cover borders and gilt spine (rebacked) with green labels; gilt inner dentelle and leading edges; marbled endpapers. All edges gilt. € 4500

First edition. – Baron Dominique-Jean Larrey (1766–1842), the “most famous army surgeon of the modern age” (Hirsch), introduced the revolutionary “ambulances volantes” (“flying field hospitals”), mobile medical units that attended to casualties as part of the immediate avant-garde. In 1798 he was assigned to Napoleon’s Egyptian expedition in the rank of chief medical officer. His present volume offers both an account of the military operations and the medical aspects of the campaign, documenting the wealth of his experience gained in the Middle Eastern theatre. He would expand on the present account in the monumental state-published “Description de l’Égypte” (1809).

In a beautiful, contemporary French binding signed by Courtave (active from 1796 to 1836) on the marbled flyleaf (covers somewhat rubbed and chafed; spine and hinges professionally repaired). Old stamps of the Medical Society of Buda and Pest (Societas Medicorum Pestensis et Budensis); old ownership “Hessel” to half-title. Ibrahim-Hilmy I, 358. Waller 5602. Wellcome III, 451. Hirsch III, 615. OCLC 422338032.
“A unique showcase of Ottoman technical competence”: the earliest comprehensive study on the history and theory of Ottoman architecture


Constantinople, Imprimerie et Lithographie Centrales / Pascal Sebah, 1873. 2º. With 190 lithographed plates (14 in colour). Modern full black morocco gilt, spine in six compartments gilt, remains of original wrapper cover title inset within lower cover.

First and only edition of “the earliest comprehensive study on the history and theory of Ottoman architecture” (Ersoy, p. 117). Only a few copies of this rare work, produced to the most exacting standards of the day, appear to have been printed. It was produced under the patronage of Edhem Pasha, president of the Imperial Ottoman Commission for the Vienna Exhibition of 1873. The text (in German and French, followed by Turkish) consists of a series of monographs. The set is not infrequently encountered incomplete: even the Blackmer copy lacked a plate, and that of William Morris (now in the Calouste Gulbenkian Library) lacked three.

Occasional slight brownstaining (not concerning plates), but entirely complete and finely bound to style.


Including Lawrence’s “Story of the Arab Movement”


Cairo, Government Press and Survey of Egypt, 1919. Small 2º (23.4 x 30 cm). With Allenby’s portrait frontispiece, 56 coloured maps and facing explanatory texts printed on versos. Contemporary Jerusalem olive wood boards with bevelled edges and giltstamped calf spine.

First edition, edited by Harry Pirie-Gordon as a souvenir album: an account of the 1917–19 campaign in the Middle East. Contains two reports written by T. E. Lawrence: “Sherifian Co-Operation in September” and “Story of the Arab Movement”, in which he details the Ashraf contribution to the War effort and narrates his own involvement in a third-person report.

A near-flawless copy, beautifully bound in boards of polished olive wood with the Cross of Jerusalem engraved on the upper cover and the word “Jerusalem” calligraphically painted on the lower one. Includes a printed “Programme of the Passion-Week Ceremonies Which Will be Held at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre” (April 12–20, 1919) with pencilled annotations.

O’Brien Asst.
114. LEGENDRE, A. M. Usul al-Handasat. Bulaq, Cairo, the Bulaq Press, 1839. 4º. With 13 lithographed folding tables. Contemporary gold-tooled calf. € 3500

Usul al-Handasat (Elements de Geometrie by A. M. Legendre, 1794) was translated from the Arabic (after a Turkish translation). The colophon says: "We have concluded the translation of his book by the help of God, The Giving King, on wednesday 22. Rab-al-Awwal 1255 [June 6. 1839] and the editing was finished on Thursday 15. Rabath-Th-n- 1255 [June 28. 1839] ... Usûl al-Hansasah is finished." The Bulaq or El-Amiriya Press is the first official and governmental printing press to be established in Egypt in 1820 by Mohamed Aly. The Bulaq Press was part of Mohamed Aly’s inclusive development plans for the modernization of Egypt.

Binding shows some wear, otherwise in good condition. OCLC 122787498.

115. LEO AFRICANUS, Johannes. Historiale description de l’Afrique, ... Tome premier. Tome second de l’Afrique, ... iusques aux Indes, tant Orientales, que Occidentales, parties de Perse, Arabie Heureuse, Pierreuse, & Deserte. Lyon, Jean Temporal, 1556. 2 volumes. Small 2º (33 × 22 cm). With all illustrations coloured by a contemporary hand, including 2 title-pages in the same woodcut border, a woodcut map of Africa (repeated in volume 2), including Arabia, a nearly full-page map of Middle and East Africa, also including Arabia and 36 woodcut illustrations text. 19th-century calf, gold-tooled spine. € 55 000

Well-produced and illustrated first edition of the French translation of a justly celebrated work from the first half of the 16th century, describing the geography of Islamic Africa and Arabia, with the illustrations coloured by a contemporary hand. It was originally written in Arabic around 1526 by the Islamic scholar Hasan ben Muhamed el-Wazzan-ez-Zayyati (1485–1552). His work long remained the principal source of information on the geography of Africa in general and the Sudan in particular. He is thought to have written his description of Africa directly in Italian, although he certainly relied also on Arabic notes, some of which he might have composed while travelling in Northern Africa.

Some occasional minor foxing and browning and the last leaf of the second volume reinforced and with a large tear restored. Very good copy. Adams L482; Gay 258; USTC 1136; Sabin 40044.

116. LEO AFRICANUS, Johannes. Historiale description de l’Afrique, tierce partie du monde. Lyon, Jean Temporal, 1556. 2º. Vol. 1 (of 2) only. Wood-engraved title border, double-page woodcut map of Africa, including Arabia, and 26 illustrations, all but one coloured by a contemporary hand. 18th c. mottled calf with gilt-stamped red label to fully gilt spine. Marbled endpapers. € 28 000

Famous description of Islamic Africa and Arabia, with hand-coloured maps and illustrations.

In original colour throughout.
Scarce first French edition of the famous description of Islamic Africa and Arabia, with the illustrations coloured by a contemporary hand; the first collection of voyages printed in France. The book was originally written in Arabic around 1526 by the Berber Andalusi geographer and traveller al-Hasan ibn Muhammad al-Wazzan al-Fasi (ca. 1494–ca. 1554), known in the West as Johannes Leo Africanus, translated into Italian by the author and first published in Venice in 1550. The Arabian Peninsula is depicted nearly complete on the double-page woodcut map and is treated extensively in the first chapter, which contains information on its people, cities, geography, religion, customs, costumes, etc. Illustrations include Arabian camels and veiled women.

Binding somewhat rubbed; spine head and hinges professionally repaired. Repairs to lower margin of first two leaves (very slight loss of title border), some toning and soiling, water- and inkstains. Very occasional marginal tears or worming. Early marginalia and ink ownerships on title page (“Pacaud” and “Ex Bibliotheca Joh. Huyseri”, i.e. Johann Huyser). No other auction record of a coloured copy in RBH or ABPC.


First Latin edition of the most important Renaissance source of information on Africa

217. LEO AFRICANUS, Johannes. De totius Africae descriptione, libri ix. Antwerp, Johannes Laet, 1556. 8º. With printer’s device on title-page. Later sheepskin, gold-tooled flat spine, each side with blind-tooled coat of arms. € 18 500

First Latin edition of a justly celebrated work on African geography by the Islamic scholar Hasan ben Muhamed el-Wazzan-ez-Zayyati (1485–1552), better known under his Latin name Johannes Leo Africanus. His work long remained the principal source of information on the geography of Africa in general and the Sudan in particular. He is thought to have written his description of Africa directly in Italian, although he certainly relied also on Arabic notes, some of which he might have composed while travelling in Northern Africa.

With owners’ inscriptions and library stamps. Title-page slightly dirty and the prilims and last leaves with a faint waterstain. Spine slightly damaged and most of the tooling gone, front hinge reinforced, but otherwise in good condition.

Adams L-480; Belg. Typ. 1874; Gay 258; South African Bibliography III, p. 86.

Magnificent world atlas with 119 very large maps, in contemporary colouring

218. L’ISLE (DELISLE), Guillaume. Atlas nouveau, contenant toutes les parties du monde. With: SANSON, Guillaume. Inleidinge tot de geographie. Amsterdam, Johannes Covens & Cornelis Mortier, [1741 with additions to 1745], 3 volumes. Imperial 4º. With an engraved frontispiece drawn and executed by Romeyn De Hooghe, 2 letterpress title-pages in red and black, each with an engraved vignette; 119 engraved maps (plus 1 duplicate), all double-page except for 7 larger folding. With the frontispiece and all but two maps coloured by a contemporary hand, the maps in outline. Contemporary, uniform, mottled and richly gold-tooled calf, each board with a large centrepiece. Some tools appear to match those used by the so-called Waaierbinderij in The Hague, active ca. 1732–ca. 1745. € 65 000
A rare, beautiful, accurate and influential world atlas with 119 very large maps (most 54 x 65 cm & plate size ca. 48 x 60 cm, but a few larger folding), all but 2 coloured in outline by a contemporary hand. Many of the maps include fine pictorial decorations, inset maps or city plans, coats of arms or decorative cartouches. Nearly all are by the great Paris cartographer Guillaume de l’Isle (1675–1726). The present copy includes Philippe Durell’s rare 1740 map of the 1739 naval Battle of Portobello in Panama, where British forces defeated the Spanish and took the city of Portobello, giving them control of the strategically important bay. The atlas includes 16 maps at the end that attempt to show the world during antiquity and in the Middle Ages. Romeyn de Hooghe “c[ommissarius] r[egius] et [juris] u[triusque] d[octor]” originally drew and executed the lovely allegorical frontispiece for Pieter Mortier’s atlases in 1694, with a dedication to the Louis, Duke of Burgundy (later known as Le Petit Dauphin). Michael Bischoff singles it out as “an absolutely over-the-top highpoint” of the art of the emblematic frontispiece in early modern atlases. Koeman locates only one copy of the atlas, but notes another in a 1963 auction that might be the present copy (we have not seen the catalogue).

With a tear along the fold at the foot of 1 folding map (running 1 cm into the map image), and a tear in the fore-edge margin of 2 text leaves (just entering the text block) but otherwise in very good condition and with large margins, retaining many deckles on the fore-edge and only slightly trimmed at the head and foot. The chemicals used to mottle the calf binding have eaten into the surface of the leather, the hinges are cracked and there are chips (mostly in the spine and at the corners), but most of the tooling remains clear. A magnificent hand-coloured atlas of the world, with 119 very large maps, mostly by De l’Isle.

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**Detailed observations of life in the Ottoman Empire, Egypt and elsewhere in the Levant and Middle East ca. 1610**

**219. LITHGOW, William.** Nineteen years travels through the most eminent places in the habitable world. London, for John Wright & Thomas Passinger, 1682. 8°. With a folding woodcut frontispiece, 6 folding woodcut plates and 1 woodcut in the text. 19th-century dark brown sheepskin. € 3500

Third complete edition (the first under the present title) of a classic account of three voyages by the Scotsman William Lithgow (1582–1645?), mostly on foot, from Rome to Greece, Crete, Turkey, Cyprus, the Holy Land, Egypt and Malta, continental Europe and North Africa, and through the British Isles and the Iberian peninsula. He gives the earliest clear account of coffee drinking in Europe, describes Turkish baths and long Turkish tobacco pipes, pigeon post between Aleppo and Bagdad and the hatching of chicken eggs by artificial incubation. The book went through more than a dozen editions in the course of two centuries. “He ... had a greater knowledge of the interior of the countries he visited than most travellers of this period. He provides interesting details of the society, men, and manners he observed” (Blackmer).

Some plates bound at wrong position. With an occasional small tear or hole; trimmed, occasionally shaving a running head; and with the frontispiece backed with later paper. A pioneering travel account, including detailed observations of life in the Ottoman Empire, Egypt and other parts of the Middle East.

Howgego, to 1800, L134; Wing L2541; cf. Blackmer 1021 (1640 ed.); for Lithgow: DNB XXXIII, p. 561.

Paris, de l’Imprimierie Royale, 1820. 8º. Contemp. grey wrappers. € 6500

First Arabic edition. “Silvestre de Sacy translated the Last Will and Testament of Louis xvi into Arabic and had the translation printed together with the French original in 1820, in hopes that it might prove a comfort and encouragement to the Christians of the Orient, while giving Muslim readers a demonstration of Christian submission and evangelical meekness” (cf. Fück).

The orientalist de Sacy, a monumental figure in the development of oriental studies in France, began his career as professor of Arabic at the École des Langues Orientales Vivantes in 1796. In 1806 he was offered the chair of Persian at the College of France and in 1824 was appointed director of the school of oriental languages. He also acted as advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, translating political propaganda into Arabic, including the “Bulletins of the Grande Armée” (cf. Atabey 1134).

Occasional slight duststaining near margins, but a good, untrimmed and wide-margined copy, the central bifolium remaining uncut.

Fück 144 (note 377). Bibliothèque de Sacy III, 478;f. OCLC 25217458.


Leiden, Joannes Maire (colophon: “excudebat” Willem Christiaens van der Boxe, “typis” Johannes Janssonius), 1636. 4º. With Maire’s woodcut device on the title-page and Van der Boxe’s woodcut device above the colophon. Early 19th-century boards covered with blue brocade paper. € 6500

Second edition, in the original Arabic with a Latin translation and notes by Thomas Erpenius (1584–1624), of the classic fables by Luqman (Lokman). Luqman “the greatest figure in the whole corpus of pre-Islamic myth and legend” (Cambridge history of Arabic literature, p. 378) is to Arabic what Aesop is to Greek, a real but much mythologized figure, said to have gathered his wisdom from observation of (and by some accounts conversation with) animals. Surat 31 of the Quran is named after him. Luqman’s animal fables became an important part of pre-Islamic Arabic culture, were incorporated into early Islamic culture and remain popular today in both Western and Islamic culture. The fables are first given in Arabic, followed by a translation in Latin and Erpenius’s notes.

Erpenius, appointed professor of Arabic at Leiden University in 1613, set up a printing office for Arabic and other “oriental” languages and had Arabic type cut under his supervision by Arent Corsz. Hogenacker. He printed the first edition of Luqman’s fables as his first trial publication, still without vowel points for the Arabic type. He annotated his own copy of the first edition extensively, and these revisions were incorporated into the present second edition, printed with vowel points. The present edition uses a new Arabic type, also by Hogenacker. The larger Arabic type (a single line on the title-page) was also new and this is almost its only use in the Netherlands. Some manuscript notes on the title-page and later owner’s pencil notes in Arabic in margins and on final flyleaf. Lower outer corner torn off title-page, some marginal thumbing and waterstains and a few small wormholes. Otherwise in good condition.

Definitive edition of Erpenius’s seminal Luqman text, bringing the greatest Arabic fables to the Western World.

222. LÜTFI PASHA and Rudolf TSCHUDI (ed.). [Asafname – German]. Das Asafnâme des Lutfi Pascha [...].
Berlin, Mayer & Müller, 1910. 8º. With a portrait frontispiece. Contemporary half calf with marbled covers and giltstamped red spine label. All edges red. € 850

Edition of the Turkish text (with the first German translation) of the “Asafname”, a mirror for ministers written by the Albanian-born Ottoman statesman Lütfi Pasa (1488–1564), grand vizier of the Ottoman Empire under Suleiman the Magnificent. The translation, forming the dissertation of Rudolf Tschudi, was issued as vol. 12 of the “Türkische Bibliothek” edited by Georg Jacob, Professor at Erlangen.
An attractively bound copy with the bookplate of the collector Franz Pollack von Parnau (1903–81), who assembled a famous library in the Viennese palais of his father, the textile magnate Bruno Pollack von Parnau.

Travelling the Gulf after the sack of Ras al-Khaimah

223. LUMSDEN, Thomas. A Journey From Merut in India, to London, Through Arabia, Persia [...].
London & Edinburgh, Black etc., 1822. 8º. With a folding hand-coloured map and a plate (view of Mount Ararat). Contemporary polished calf, spine gilt, rebacked retaining original spine. Marbled endpapers. € 18 000

First edition. – Rare travel report by the British lieutenant Thomas Lumsden, who journeyed from Meerut near Delhi down the Ganges to Calcutta, then onwards by boat to the Arabian Gulf and by land through Persia (Iran), the Caucasus, and southern Russia. A German translation appeared in the same year (and was republished in 1824). The author gives a detailed account of his voyage through the Gulf from Muskat to Bushire immediately after the British Navy’s controversial 1819 campaign against Ras al-Khaimah, and notes approvingly the Arabs’ kindness and hospitality toward their foreign guests (“which could hardly have been the case, had their detestation of Christians been in reality as great as the Koran tends to inspire”), as well as the entire absence of the cruel mistreatment of the sailors so common on European ships. Plate slightly browned; a fine copy.


Discovery of the Canary Islands in Arabic and Portuguese sources

224. MACEDO, Joaquim José da Costa de. Memoria em que se pretende provar que os Arabes não conhecerão as Canarias antes dos Portuguezes.
Lisbon, printing office of the Academia Real das Sciencias, 1844. 2º. With a woodcut Portuguese coat of arms on the title-page. Modern brown paper wrapper. € 1500

A detailed scholarly study of ancient sources for the history and geography of the Canary Islands, attempting to prove that the Portuguese discovered them before Islamic explorers, and that Islamic geographers knew them only through classical Greek and Roman sources. The main text is followed by extensive notes from a wide variety of sources and transcriptions of numerous primary sources, some in Greek or Arabic. In passing it also provides a wealth of information about navigation in the Mediterranean and Atlantic by classical Greek and Roman and by Islamic explorers. While Macedo’s claim for Malocello’s discovery of the Canaries in 1336 is no longer accepted, the Islamic geographer Idrisi noted a Portuguese voyage to the Canaries already before 1114.

In fine condition and wholly untrimmed, giving very large margins. The modern wrapper is slightly tattered.

Porbase (1 copy); cf. Innocêncio IV, 96 and XII, 80 (issue in proceedings); for the author: www.academia.edu/6742675.
In Khabari Wadha with Ibn Saud: the formation of the Kingdom in mostly unpublished photos

225. MACKAY, Ulrich Sinclair Peter. Two photo albums of private and operational (restricted) photos of campaigns over the Gulf region and Iraq, together with Mackay’s RAF Pilot Flying Log Book and his RAF Certificate.

[Mainly Middle East, 1928–1931]. 2 volumes. Oblong 4°. With ca. 220 photos of Middle Eastern locations and people, including many RAF aerial reconnaissance images (as well as a small number of others showing various other subjects). Photos measure ca. 5 × 8 to ca. 16 × 20 cm. Contemporary sheepskin and cloth covered boards. € 45 000

An unusual, copious collection of rare original photos, assembled by a British airman who happened to be in the right places at the right time, with a quick eye for telling images and uncommonly good access to restricted documentation. The owner of these albums, the New Zealand-born RAF pilot, U. S. Mackay, saw service in Arabia, Iraq and the Gulf area during the late 1920s and early 1930s, at the very time when Abdulaziz Ibn Saud was consolidating his rule over Hejaz and Nejd and striking down the Ikhwan tribal army’s insurgency and their incursions into the neighboring British protectorates Iraq and Kuwait, which threatened his rule. In 1932, Ibn Saud would succeed in uniting his territories into a single state, forming the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Stationed with the 84B Squadron at Britain’s Shaibah Air Base near Basrah, Mackay was one of the limited number of western officers well placed to witness at first hand the events leading up to the founding of the Kingdom. In his first album (whose tone is set by the opening photo on the pastedown, a large print of a Nejd riding camel), some twenty photographs—both private and rare army images—cover the arrival of the defeated Ikhwan leaders Faisal Al Dawish and Naif ibn Hithlain at the air base at Basrah after their surrender to the British on 10 January 1930 and their ensuing extradition to the King. Among this set is a fine, large group portrait of Ibn Saud with Hafiz Wahba and other retainers, together with the British officers and diplomats Hugh Biscoe, Charles Burnett and H. R. P. Dickson, taken on 22 January at the King’s camp at Khabari Wadha, half-way between Basrah and Riyadh, where the captured rebels were subsequently flown to be handed over to their ruler (cf. V. Dickson, 40 Years in Kuwait, p. 80f. and plate 5; H. R. P. Dickson, Kuwait and her Neighbors, pp. 318 ff.). Several photos show the captured Shaikhs—the gaunt figure of Ibn Hithlain and the hunched one of Al Dawish, who was still labouring from the abdominal injury he had sustained at the Battle of Sabila the previous March; another shows H.M.S. Lupin in the Shatt-al-Abab, the ship where they were first detained. Numerous previously unknown photos show Ibn Saud’s camp at Khabari Wadha: the royal tents, the King’s luxury car, Arab retainers seated among British planes with their gyrfalcon, and Air Commodore Burnett in conversation with one of Ibn Saud’s eldest sons. Another shows the “ar[r]ival of [the] Hejas Airforce”, the English planes and pilots Ibn Saud had commissioned from the British government for what would be his new state. There are also photo reproductions of the pencil portraits which H. Stewart drew of the rebels at Shaibah during their surrender negotiations (cf. H. R. P. Dickson, plate opposite p. 260), as well as several of British officers. Among the many other noteworthy images in the album are street scenes in Baghdad, Basrah and other towns, British war ships in the Gulf (some identified in the captions), a flying boat over Kuwait and the Gulf, an Imperial Airways de Havilland Hercules at Shaibah, a British armoured car, Arab guides and sentries, “Two Arab Murder[er]s and Escort” before a tent, the flogging of a local overseen by British officers, and an excursion to the ruins of Baalbek in Syria, along with group photos of British squadron officers and scos stationed in Iraq and the Gulf during the time. Yet perhaps among the most intriguing of these albums images are the large number of strategic aerial photographs taken either by Mackay himself or by specialist army staff on his squadron’s reconnaissance flights, mostly restricted RAF imagery showing aerial views of cities (Basrah, Baghdad, the Ctesiphon Arch, Zubayr, Kut, Samarrah, Sulaymaniyah, among others), military operations (“Bombing Arab Villages Hammur Lakes” with the buildings blazing, bomb hits observed from the plane immediately above), desert fortifications and encampments (As-Sulam Fort and biplanes overflying Busaiya Fort, which had been attacked by the Ikhwan in the winter of 1927/8), etc. These aerial views—exclusively in large, well-defined prints—dominate the second album, where they are accompanied by crisp in-flight images of the various aircraft used by the British in the late 1920s and early 30s.

The collection includes Mackay’s RAF Flying Log Book, documenting his ongoing flight training on various types of airplanes (ending with the entry “aircraft crashed” after “crazy flying practice” in 1931). As Mackay’s RAF Certificate shows, he completed his basic flying training in 1927 with the assessment “might have done better if he had tried harder. Has done well in some subjects”, though his Wing Commander thought him “an exceptionally good soldier”. Mackay continued serving in the RAF as pilot and died at the end of WW2 of altitude sickness. He had been renowned for flying at extreme heights and when in charge of Spitfires refused to use pressure equipment. A few of the loose photos have marginal tears or corner flaws, but overall are in excellent condition. An important ensemble providing first-hand views of Northern Arabia at a crucial time in its history, including rare documents of Anglo-Saudi diplomacy immediately before the founding of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the majority entirely unpublished.
The first folio atlas published in the Islamic World


The rare Cedid Atlas, the first world atlas printed by Muslims, of which only fifty copies were printed (Library of Congress). Several copies were reserved for high ranking officials and important institutions. The remainder was partially destroyed in a warehouse fire during the Janissary Revolt of 1808. Based on several estimates and accounting for the single maps sold worldwide, it is believed that a maximum of 20 complete examples could be present in libraries or in private collections, whereas some sources suggest that there exist only 10 complete and intact copies in the world.

This work, a prestigious project for the Ottoman Palace with the seal of approval of the Sultan Selim III, was one of the avantgardistic enterprises promoted by Mahmoud Ra’if to introduce western technical and scientific knowledge to the Ottoman state. Composed of 25 maps based upon William Faden’s ‘General Atlas’, it is the first Muslim-published world atlas to make use of European geographic knowledge. On each of the maps the place-names are transliterated in Arabic.

This copy is without the double-page celestial chart missing from most recorded copies, but is complete with all 24 maps, including the two world maps and fold-out maps of the continents. Contemporary ownership entry in Arabic, “Sheikh Abudulla bin Sefik”, dated AD 1879. A few restored tears in the folded maps; two maps expertly remargined. Somewhat browned in places, but still a very good copy in comparison to the known examples in institutional possession. A severely defective copy recently commanded an auction price of USD 118,750 (Swann Galleries NY, 26 May 2016, lot 199).

OCLC 54966656. Not in Philipps/Le Gear. Not in Atabey or Blackmer collections.

Remarkably early and very detailed manuscript guide to the Malay language

227. [MALAY LANGUAGE]. Bahasa djawi, ija itoe Malajoe. De Djourse, dat is Malayse taal oft de Malayse letterkunde waarin het wesen der Malayse taal in haare orthographia, etymologia, en syntaxis, vertoond wordt. [Batavia?, ca. 1725/35?]. 2º (13 × 10.5 cm). Manuscript in Dutch with many words and a few longer passages in Malay, written in brown ink on laid paper in a semi-gothic hand, with the Malay written in Arabic script, sometimes with transliterations in the Latin alphabet. Contemporary or near contemporary block-printed decorated paper wrappers.

A very detailed manuscript guide to the Malay language, written in Dutch but with many words and occasional longer passages in Malay written in Arabic script (jawi), sometimes with transliterations in the Latin alphabet (rumi), probably produced for the use of the VOC (Dutch East India Company). It discusses grammar, orthography, syntax and etymology. Although undated, the manuscript was probably produced between 1725 and 1735 and almost certainly between 1720 and 1740, remarkably early for such a detailed guide to Malay and probably before the first significant printed guide to the Malay language, George Henric Werndly, Maleische Spraakkunst (Amsterdam, 1736). Although the manuscript names neither the author nor the place where it was written, the fact that the Dutch author wrote much of the Malay in the Arabic script and clearly had access to many extensive Malay manuscripts, suggests that it was written in the Dutch East Indies, most likely at Batavia for the practical use...
of merchants, government officials and other members of the VOC. It now serves as an essential primary source for the evidence it provides about the Malay language as it existed in the early 18th century, for the Dutch colonial view of the Malay language and for the early history of the Dutch transcription of Malay in both the Arabic and the Latin alphabet.

The manuscript is somewhat browned, with some water stains (especially in the first and last leaves), some leaves with tattered edges, and 1 leaf with the lower 2/3 of the fore-edge cut back by 1 cm, shaving off the last letters of the lines. The wrappers stained and restored. In spite of these defects, the text remains clear and legible and most of the leaves remain sound. An important primary source on the Malay language and the colonial Dutch view of the language ca. 1730, probably drawn up at Batavia for the use of the VOC.

For the general background: Liaw Yock Fang, A history of classical Malay literature (2013); R. Leow, Taming Babel: language in the making of Malaysia (2016).

Letters on the transition from Arabic to Greek medicine

228. MANARDI, Giovanni. Epistoliarum medicinalium libros xx. … Eiusdem in Ioan. Mesue simplica & composite annotations … Basel, Michael Isengrin, 1540. 2º. With woodcut device on title-page (repeated on last blank). Modern half vellum. € 5000

Very rare Isengrin edition of a selection of medical letters and a commentary on Mesue the younger (also known as Masawaih al-Mardini). "The letters illustrate in an interesting way — and this is their value — the transitions from Arabian to Greek dominion. The opinions of Avicenna, Hippocrates and Galen are quoted on every page" (Bibl. Osleriana). Foxed throughout, but still a good copy.

Durling 2915; USTC 664048 (2 copies); VD16 M473; cf. Bibl. Osleriana 3316.

Adventurous travels in the East

229. MANDELSLO, Johann Albrecht von. Morgenländische Reyse-Beschreibung. Hamburg, Christian Guth, printed by Johan Holwein, Schleswig, 1658. 2º. With engraved frontispiece, engraved author’s portrait, double-page engraved map, and 21 large engravings in text, mostly signed by Rothgiesser. Contemporary leather, remnants of ties. € 11 000

First complete German edition of this important and entertaining travel account by Johann Albrecht von Mandelslo, edited by Adam Olearius. Mandelslo was attached to the diplomatic mission of the Duke of Holstein-Gottorp to Moscow and Persia. The ambassadors remained in Persia, but Mandelslo travelled further. He sailed from Hormuz to Surat and proceeded through Gujarat to Agra, Lahore, Goa, Bijapur and Malaba, visiting Ceylon, Madagascar, the Cape of Good Hope, and St. Helena on his return voyage in 1639. Before his death five years later, he had entrusted his rough notes to Olearius, who subsequently published them with a third part containing descriptions of the Coromandel coast, Bengal, Siam, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Bantam, the Philippines, Formosa (Tai-wan), China and Japan.

Small contemporary owner’s inscription. Some spotting and soiling; tears in lower margin of pp. 31 and 137. A very good copy of this important account of an embassy to Persia and further to the East.

Alt-Japan-Katalog 943; Cordier, Japonica, cols. 362–368; Howgego, to 1800, M38.
14th-century tales of travels in Turkey, the Middle East, Near East, India and the East Indies, illustrated with about 60 woodblocks

230. MANDEVILLE, John. The voyages & travels of Sir John Mandevile, Knight, ... to the Holy Land, and to Hierusalem: as also to the lands of the Great Caan, and of Prestor John: to Inde, and divers other countries: ... London, Richard Chiswell, Benjamin Walford, Matthew Wotton, George Conyers, 1696. 4º. With a woodcut ship on the title-page and about 60 woodcut illustrations in the text (mostly about 5.5 × 8 cm) plus about 10 repeats. Gold-tooled, red goatskin morocco by Robert Riviere in London (ca. 1875/80), one of England’s best binders. €22'500

A rare 17th-century English edition, with about 60 different woodcut illustrations, of a classic and partly fictional 14th-century account of travels presented as voyages of Sir John Mandeville through Turkey, Egypt, Ethiopia, Syria, Persia, Arabia, India and the East Indies. It was originally written in French and is thought to have been compiled from various sources by Jehan d’Outremeuse (1338–1400) of Liege. It includes many well-known stories and illustrations of monstrous people and animals in exotic lands: a man with only one enormous foot that he can use as a parasol, a dog-headed man, a man with his face in his chest, a girl who turns into a dragon, griffins, nine-meter giants, ants that gather gold, diamonds that mate and give birth to baby diamonds and much more that spoke to the imagination. The book also includes genuine descriptions of the regions covered and gave many Europeans their first notions of the Near East, Middle East, India and East Indies. The part on Arabia includes an account of the birth of Muhammad.

With early owner’s inscription and bookplates, along with a loosely inserted signed autograph letter (ca. 1900). 8 leaves with their margins extended at the fore-edge and foot, the title-page and last page somewhat worn and dirty, but further in good condition, with a few minor defects. The spine is slightly faded but the binding is still very good.

Arber, Term catalogues II, p. 593, item 8; ESTC R217088 (5 copies); Wing M417 (same 5 copies).

14th-century tales of travels in Turkey, the Middle East, Near East, India and the East Indies, including an account of the birth of Muhammad

231. MANDEVILLE, John. The Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundevile, Kt. Which Treateth of the Way to Hierusalem: and of Marvayles of Inde [...]. London, J. Woodman, D. Lyon & C. Davis, 1725. 8º. Title page printed in red and black. Contemporary calf with giltstamped cover fillets, rebacked to style with giltstamped red label, leading edges gilt. All edges sprinkled in red. €7'500

Rare, reliable 18th-century English edition of the classic (though partly fictional) 14th-century account presented as voyages of Sir John Mandeville through Turkey, Egypt, Ethiopia, Syria, Persia, Arabia, India and the East Indies, published from a 15th-century manuscript in the Cottonian Library (MS Titus c. xvi). “This is the completest edition up to date” (Cox). The book also includes genuine descriptions of the regions covered and gave many Europeans their first notions of the Near East, Middle East, India and East Indies. The part on Arabia includes an account of the birth of Muhammad (p. 169). Occasional slight browning, but well-preserved. Provenance: Sold as a duplicate by the Bodleian Library (with the Radcliffe Infirmary’s armorial bookplate and cancellation stamp); later in the collection of H. C. Gleave (his bookplate).

An Arabist advocating archaeological research of the Near East

232. MANGER, Samuel Hendrik. Oratio inauguralis, de incremento philologiae sacrae ab idonea Arabiae atque Palæstinae exploratione sperando. Franeker, Willem Coulon, 1762. 2º. With the woodcut coat of arms of Friesland on the title-page. Mid-19th-century marbled wrappers. € 1250

First and only edition of a Latin oration delivered at the University of Franeker by Samuel Hendrik Manger (1735–1791), Arabist and specialist in Oriental languages and Hebrew antiquities, who had been appointed professor of oriental languages at the University in 1760. It shows his interest in archaeological research carried out in the Near East by means of voyages instigated by the German scholar Johann David Michaelis. Manger thought this kind of research would herald a new age in our understanding of the scriptures.

Some minor marginal browning and a couple small marginal tears, but still in very good condition. Top of wrappers chipped. An oration on archaeology’s contributions to biblical studies, in a stately presentation.


Rare contemporary report of Albuquerque’s conquests in the East


Rare second(?) edition (published about five weeks after the first) of an extremely important letter by King Manuel I of Portugal to Pope Leo X, proudly reporting the victories of Don Afonso de Albuquerque in India and the East Indies, especially his conquest of Malacca in 1511–1512. Albuquerque (1453–1515) advanced the three-fold Portuguese grand scheme of combating Islam, securing the Portuguese trade in spices and establishing a vast Portuguese empire in Asia. He was the first European to enter the Arabian Gulf, led the first voyage by a European fleet into the Red Sea, and was also the first westerner to reach the coast of southeastern Arabia.

With an owner’s inscriptions. With some marginal stains and restorations, the stains slightly affecting a word or two in the lower outside corner of some pages, but otherwise in very good condition. Binding fine. Rare and important account of the Portuguese conquests in India and especially the East Indies.

M. Denis, Wiens Buchdruckergeschicht (1782), no. 86 (p. 82); Porbase (1 copy); USTC 651777 (2 copies); VD16, P4374; cf. Houwegen A43.

The first anatomical atlas in the Islamic world

234. MANSUR BIN MUHAMMAD BIN AHMAD BIN YUSUF BIN FAQIR ILYAS. Tashrih-i badan insan [The Anatomy of the Human Body, or “Mansur’s Anatomy”].

Probably Mughal India, AH 1072 (= AD 1661/62). 4º (180 × 283 mm). Persian manuscript on paper, 33 leaves, written in small neat nasta’liq script in black ink, significant words and headings picked out in red, 6 main diagrams with numerous captions, 6 further unfinished or preparatory diagrams, probably used for teaching purposes. Wants binding.

€ 19 500
A manuscript of the author’s principal work, the “Tashrih-i badan insan”: the first coloured atlas of the human body, the achievement for which the early 15th century Persian physician Mansur from Shiraz, Timurid Persia, is best known. The 12 diagrams illustrate the skeletal and the nervous system, the muscles, arteries, veins, and an embryo in the womb. While Mansur’s “Anatomy” was not the first notation of the human body, it is considered the first colour atlas ever created. It led to a substantial change in the contemporary Islamic perception of human anatomy, as such an atlas had previously been considered contrary to Islamic law. Mansur is also credited with one of the earliest anatomical sketches of a pregnant woman: while his other illustrations are likely inspired by earlier Latin and Greek writings, the pregnant woman is considered an original work.

Some edge defects (remargined, with occasional loss to text), wants binding.

Manuscript compilation of texts on Arabian horses

235. [MANUSCRIPT—HORSES]. Chevaux. Observations sur les chevaux Arabes du désert. ...
[France, ca. 1794–ca. 1813]. 2º. Disbound. € 4500

Manuscript compilation of texts concerning horses (chevaux) and hair (cheveux), compiled over several years. The first 20 pages deal with horses, especially focussing on Arabian horses. It opens with a 4-page transcription of a section on Arabian horses. It describes the beauty of these horses, the breeding process, trade, and how they were used in warfare. The next 6 pages contain a section of the chapter on horses, describing several breeds: the Arabian horses, the Barb or Berber, the Spanish horse (Andalusian), English, French, Italian, Danish, German, Dutch, Tartar and Icelandic breeds. Following are 3 pages also dealing with Arabian horses, “les meilleurs”. The last entry on horses concerns Arabian horses, especially in Yemen.

With a water stain on the last three leaves, otherwise in good condition.

Complete set of all resolutions of the Dutch States General regarding maritime matters (1597–1771)

236. [MARITIME HISTORY—STATES GENERAL]. Recuëil van alle de placaten, ordonnantien, resolutien, instructien, lysten en waarschouwingen, betreffende de admiralityteten […].
The Hague, Jacob, Paul & Isaac Scheltus, 1701–1773. 4º. 11 volumes.
With a folding table in vol. 8. Contemporary vellum, numbered in manuscript on the spine, red sprinkled edges. € 35 000

Complete set of a compilation of all resolutions, ordinances, treaties and other statements and motions by the States General of the Dutch Republic, regarding all maritime matters. The collection starts in 1597 with the establishment of the five admiralties in the Dutch Republic and ends in 1771, although a few resolutions from the period of Habsburg rule (the oldest from 1487) have been included. Most of the resolutions concern trade, including the trade with the Baltic, East and West Indies, North Africa and the Turkish Empire, but also fishery, the equipping of battleships and the administration of the colonies in the West Indies, including slavery. Several tables give interesting information regarding the costs of the
building and outfitting of ships and the formation of regiments for the colonies. One very large table presents the tariffs for all sorts of products, including numerous types of wood, glass, porcelain, fish and furs. With the bookplates of the collector Jan Willem Six de Vromade (1874–1936), a descendant of the politically and culturally significant Six family, in the first volume, and of the Dutch politician and historian Leonard de Gou (1916–2000) in all volumes. Bindings slightly smudged. Somewhat browned and stained throughout, most notably volume 8, and with a small tear in the front flyleaf of volume 6. A very good set of an important source for Dutch maritime history.


**Famous hippiatric manual**

237. MARKHAM, Gervase. Markham’s Maister-Peece [...].
London, William Wilson, 1651. 4º. With additional engr. title page, 4 full-page text woodcuts (2 folding) and several smaller woodcuts in the text, as well as 1 folding woodcut plate, latterly backed with cloth. Sumptuous mid-19th-century three quarter morocco binding with gilt spine.

€ 15,000

Extremely rare and early edition of this great English hippiatric manual, first published in 1615, by one of the earliest western owners of and dealers in Arabian horses. Gervase (Gervais, Jarvis) Markham, as well as his father Robert, a Nottinghamshire MP and Sheriff, was the owner of valuable horses, and “is said to have imported the first Arab. In a list of Sir Henry Sidney’s horses in 1589 ‘Pied Markham’ is entered as having been sold to the French ambassador, and Gervase sold an Arabian horse to James I for £500” (DNB).

Variously browned; occasional corner faults (no loss to text). From the library of Sir Robert Throckmorton, Bt. (1800–62), member of an eminent Anglo-Catholic noble family who sat in the House of Commons from 1831 to 1835 (his bookplate on front pastedown; a later bookplate is opposite on the flyleaf).


**Important survey of the Ottoman Empire’s military administration**

238. MARSIGLI, Luigi Fernando. L’état militaire de l’Empire Ottoman, ses progrès et sa décadence.
The Hague and Amsterdam, P. Gosse & J. Neaulme, 1732. 2º. With 3 titles printed in red and black with engraved vignettes, 34 plates (several folding), 10 engravings in the text, and two large maps of the Ottoman Empire coloured in outline in a contemporary hand. Contemporary full calf with giltstamped label to gilt spine. Marbled endpapers. All edges red.

€ 12,500

First edition of this early, finely produced classic, a survey of the Ottoman Empire and its military administration, finance, and commerce. “His important work on the military system of the Ottoman Empire concerns itself with its finances, revenues, commerce, etc. Marsigli gives an account of the different military functions as well as a description of the different types of artillery, mines, fireworks, etc.” (Blackmer).

Variously browned. Engraved armorial bookplate “Le Chevalier de la Cressonnière” on pastedown (rubbed and duststained). Inner hinges reinforced with cloth. Old ownership removed from first title (remargined with old paper). Some scuff-marks to binding, still a good copy.

The most powerful book of the century


Hamburg, Otto Meissner, 1867. 8º. Slightly later half cloth with marbled covers. Stored in custom-made cloth case with gilt spine label.

€ 135 000

First edition: a fine copy of one of the most influential books ever published. The exceedingly rare first volume was the only one to be completed by Marx in his lifetime, while the second and third volumes were completed posthumously by Engels from Marx’s papers (1885 and 1894). “The history of the twentieth century is Marx’s legacy […] Within one hundred years of his death half the world’s population was ruled by governments that professed Marxism to be their guiding faith. His ideas have transformed the study of economics, history, geography, sociology, and literature” (Wheen). “Marx himself modestly described ‘Das Kapital’ as a continuation of his ‘Zur Kritik der politischen Oekonomie’, 1859. It was in fact the summation of a quarter of a century’s economic studies, mostly in the Reading Room of the British Museum” (PMM).

Stamp of the Würzburg Volksbildungsverein on title page (slightly trimmed at bottom during rebinding ca. 1900). Occasional slight staining to edges near beginning, not touching text; a few pencil annotations by an economic scholar, ca. 1900. Altogether a tight, well-preserved specimen.


Important Latin translation of the lost Arabic original

240. **MAŠA’ALLAH IBN ATARI and Joachim HELLER.** De elementis et orbibus coelestibus.

Nuremberg, Johann vom Berg & Ulrich Neuber, 1549. 4º. With several woodcut astronomical diagrams in text. Modern marbled boards with morocco label to girt spine. Marbled endpapers.

€ 25 000

A collection of astrological writings in Latin translation first published in 1504. The work provides a comprehensive account of the whole cosmos along Aristotelian lines. The 8th-century Persian Jewish astrologer and astronomer Maša’allah ibn Atari “wrote on virtually every aspect of astrology […] His brief and rather primitive ‘De scientia motus orbis’ [or ‘De elementis et orbibus coelestibus’] combines Peripatetic physics, Ptolemaic planetary theory, and astrology in such a way that, in conjunction with its use of the Syrian names of the months, one strongly suspects that it is based on the peculiar doctrines of Harran, to which al-Kindi and Abu Masar were also attracted […] This important Latin translation by Gerard of Cremona of the lost Arabic original of this exposition was published by J. Stabius (Nuremberg, 1504) and by J. Heller (Nuremberg, 1549)” (DSB).

Bookplate of the Marques de Viana, Conde de Urbasa on front pastedown. In excellent condition.

**Bedouins in Egypt and Syria, with 25 plates in colour**

Paris, Ferra jeune, 1816. 3 volumes. 12º. With 24 steel engraved plates. Contemporary long grained red morocco, decorated raised bands, gilt fillet and decorative frames on covers, gilt edges.

First edition of this early study of the Bedouins of Egypt and Syria, covering their manners, laws, civil and religious customs. Illustrated with 24 steel engraved plates by Charlin after F. Massart and finely watercoloured at the time. The notes by Dom Raphaël were most probably taken during the French occupation of Egypt. Raphaël Monachis (Rufa’il Zakhûr) was born in Egypt of Syriac ancestry and was a monk in the Greek community in Cairo. He was an Arab member of the French Institute of Egypte and the first interpreter of the Diwan from Cairo. Rare complete copy, some corners slightly scuffed, spine faded, otherwise in good condition.

Gay 3587; Macro 1555; OCLC 25988256.

**Pop-up book celebrating Mecca, its pilgrims, and surrounding areas**

Prague, Artia, 1977. 2º (23 × 32.5 cm). Tabletop pop-up display. Printed in four colours; lower cover showing six photographic views of the holy sites and the Hajj. Green cloth spine.

Charming pop-up display designed by the Czech illustrator Vojtech Kubašta for the Iranian market. "In 1977, the Artia Foreign Trade Corporation exported nine Kubašta titles in the Farsi language to Iran. Kubašta’s panoramic books [were] protected by a Czech patent. Using the Panascopic format but without text, and for the first time combining photographs and illustration, Kubašta designed a pop-up book celebrating Mecca, its pilgrims, and surrounding areas" (Rubin).

Corners slightly bumped; a few hinges reinforced. A fine specimen.

Rubin, The Life and Art of Vojtech Kubašta.

**The Muslims’ Pilgrimage to Mecca**

243. [MECCA]. PISCATOR, Benedict A. (auct.) and Johannes HERMANSSON (praes.). De peregrinatione Muhammadanorum Meccana dissertatio.
Uppsala, Werner, [1722]. 8º. Unsophisticated wrappers.

Rare Uppsala philological dissertation by the theologian Bengt Piscator (1694–1776), later vicar and provost of Ålvadalen in Värmland, about “The Muslims’ Pilgrimage to Mecca” (discussing the holy sites, with mention of the Kaaba, as well as the ceremonies and circumstances of the Hajj proper). An exceptionally rare treatise, unknown to all the great bibliographers of the region, constitutes a remarkable document of Northern European scholarly interest in the Arabian peninsula’s geography and culture four decades before Niebuhr’s famous expedition. Some soiling to first and last leaves. Title trimmed at lower margin with some loss to recto and verso (remargined).

Burrell sale 628. OCLC 257252927. Not in Macro or Gay.
Early thirteenth century medical manuscript

244. [MEDIEVAL MEDICAL MANUSCRIPT]. Fragments from four leaves from a medical treatise. [France, early 13th century]. Decorated manuscript in Latin, ink on parchment. Four cuttings once re-used to form pastedowns and endleaves for a landscape format volume (measuring 140 by 200 mm). Remains of single column up to 32 lines in a tiny early gothic bookhand. Rubrics in pale red, initials in red or blue with contrasting penwork. € 4500

Fragments from four leaves from a medical treatise discussing diseases and disorders of the stomach. There are entries here on pleurisy, pain in the stomach, vomiting, and on childbirth, as in the medieval tradition this was often grouped with other stomach disorders. – 17th-century ownership of Michel Bonnier inscribed to one cutting. Some scuffs, small holes and discolouration, otherwise in good condition.

Satire disguising the French elite as Arabs

245. MELON, Jean-François. Mahmoud le Gasnevide, histoire orientale. Fragment traduit de l’Arabe, avec des notes. Rotterdam, Jean Hofhoudt, 1730. 8º. Contemporary marbled calf, gold-tooled spine, boards, board edges and turn-ins, both boards with the gold-tooled coat of arms of Louis Marie Alexandre, Duc d’Aumont, gilt edges. € 1500

Second edition, in the original French, of an allegorical novel satirizing the establishment of the Régence, the period just after King Louis xiv’s death, when Louis xv was still a minor and France was ruled by the regent Phillipe d’Orléans. The novel incorporates the most important figures during the Régence, but they have been given oriental names. The author, Jean-François Melon (1675–1738), states he translated it from an original Arabic text, but actually wrote the novel himself.

With the coat of arms of Louis-Marie Alexandre, Duc d’Aumont (1736–1814) in gold on both boards. With some marginal water stains. Overall in good condition.

Cioranescu 44265; Olivier 3642.

With the portrait of Abdullah ibn Saud in hand colour and the earliest map showing Riyadh

246. MENGIN, Felix. Histoire de l’Égypte sous le gouvernement de Muhammad-Aly […] Paris, A. Bertrand, 1823. 2 text vols. in 8º and atlas in 2º. With 12 lithogr. plates (6 of them hand-coloured), including a folding hand-coloured plan and the folding, double-page map of the Nejd. Contemp. full calf with giltstamped spine labels (text) and original green cardboard portfolio with printed title label to cover (atlas); maps and plates loosely inserted within. € 25 000

First edition, the extremely rare coloured issue. Mengin’s history of Egypt from the end of the French expedition to Khedive Muhammad Ali’s dramatic reforms of Egyptian society and culture is mainly sought for its extensive appendix containing an early chronicle of the Wahhabis, with an account of the sack of Derrieh. The folio-sized atlas contains the celebrated portrait of Abdullah ibn Saud, leader of the first Saudi state, who was executed by the Turks for sedition, and the famous, large map of the Nejd country with an inset of the environs of “El-Derreth” near Riyadh by E. F. Jombard. His commentary on the map
is of particular note, being a synthesis of Arab and western knowledge, with many place names added for the first time. This "notice géographique" (vol. II, pp. 549–613) also includes a "nomenculture du pays de Nedjid", mentioning – among other places – Dubai and Qatar both in the original Arabic and in French transliteration.

Some waterstaining throughout, but confined to margins. The work is rarely found complete with both text volumes and the atlas as present; even the map has separately commanded several thousand pounds at auctions (cf. Sotheby’s London, 6 May 2010, lot 147). Copies in contemporary hand colour are highly uncommon.


One of only two copies on large paper


Second edition, produced in a total press run of 502 copies, of which only two were printed on large paper (cf. Graesse, Ebert and Wurzbach). The normal-paper copies measure a mere 36 cm, compared to the present copy, which stands 45 centimetres tall.

As the first edition, published in 1680, had been rare from the start, most copies having perished in the Siege of Vienna, and plans for a new London edition had fallen through, a second edition was becoming increasingly desirable. With the financial support of Empress Maria Theresa, who granted an advance of 8000 fl., the monumental work was edited by the Austrian orientalist Bernhard Freiherr von Jenisch. The first volume also contains a bio-bibliography of Meninski, “De vita et scriptis Meninski”.

Vols. II–IV contain only half-titles as issued. All volumes rubbed and bumped at extremeties; top edge of volume IV has and old brown inkstain. Altogether a fine, untrimmed copy on large paper with only marginal light browning on a few pages.

€ 28 000


Life (and death in Morocco) of King Sebastião I of Portugal

248. MESA, Sebastian de. Jornada de Africa por el Rey Don Sebastian y union del reyno de Portugal a la corona de Castilla. Barcelona, Pedro Lacavalleria, 1630. 4º. Each page framed with thin printed rules. Contemporary gold-tooled leather (blackened and flaking), each board with the helmed and mantled arms of the Mazarin family in the centre. € 12 000

First and only edition of an account of the life, death and succession of King Sebastião I of Portugal (1554–1578). Sebastião became king of Portugal at the age of three, after the death of his grandfather João III. He thought of himself as a Christian knight, who was going to fight and rescue the “misguided” muslims in Africa from their faith. He was killed in the bloody and disastrous Battle of the Three Kings at Alcazarquivir in the north of Morocco. Many supporters refused to believe he had died, and many awaited his return for decades. This resulted in Sebastianism, a messianic religious belief that lasted well into the 19th century.

In good condition, the first few leaves with foxing or very slight browning and small, mostly marginal worm holes. The leather on both boards is badly damaged, perhaps by chemicals used to prepare it combined with abrasion. The arms, lying somewhat lower, have survived, that on the front board in fairly good condition.

Diaz 566b; Palau 166152; not in Gay.
Instructions for Carsten Niebuhr’s expedition to Arabia

249. MICHAELIS, Johann David. Recueil de questions, proposées à une société de savants, qui par ordre de Sa Majesté Danoise font le voyage de l’Arabie. Amsterdam, S.J. Baalde; Utrecht, J. van Schoonhoven & comp., 1774. 4º. Set in roman type with incidental Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac and 1 word in Coptic. Near-contemporary tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spine. € 3500

Hans Bernhard Merian’s French translation of Michaelis’s Fragen an eine Gesellschaft gelehrender Männer (1762), prepared during the early stages of Carsten Niebuhr’s Danish expedition to the Middle East. It is the first edition in any language to be printed in the Netherlands. Johann David Michaelis, a famed German Orientalist and theologian, was one of the scholars who prompted the important Danish expedition to Egypt, Arabia and Syria (1761–1767), led by Carsten Niebuhr. Michaelis hoped to investigate the relationship of the southern Arabic dialects to Hebrew, and to verify obscure botanical and zoological information in the Bible. For this purpose he composed the present 100 “questions”. It includes the instructions for the expedition by Frederick V of Denmark, a 35-page account of Yemen and an extract of Carsten Niebuhr’s account of Arabia (not included in the first French edition of 1763).

Back of first free endleaf with traces of removed bookseller’s (?) ticket. With an occasional small rust spot, but otherwise in very good condition and only slightly trimmed, leaving large margins. Binding with minor surface damage and wear at the hinges and extremities, but otherwise also very good. Important preparatory studies concerning Egypt, Arabia and Syria, written and first published during the early stages of a voyage.

Chadenat 1933; Gay, Bibl. de l’Afrique en de l’Arabie 3166; STCN (3 copies); Macro, Bibliography of the Arabian Peninsula 1993.

Extensive work on Mosaic law, with a section on Arabic horses

250. MICHAELIS, Johann David. Mosaïsch recht, of de ziel der wetten van Moses; ...

Including: Byvoegsels en verbeteringen op het Mosaïsch recht, ... achter aan enige byzonderheden over de oudste geschiedenisse der paarden en stoeteryen in Palaestine en de nabuurige landen, in zonderheid Aegypten en Arabien. Haarlem, Jan van Walré, 1781–1782 (part 1–2); Jan Bosch, 1774–1776 (part 3–6), 1778 (part 7). 7 parts in 3 volumes. 8º. Contemporary, uniform half calf, gold-tooled spines.

€ 750

Complete set of the Dutch translation of an extensive work on Hebrew law and legislation, by the German theologian Johann David Michaelis (1717–1791). “In its six volumes Michaelis discussed Jewish public, private, international, and criminal law; analysed social norms (such as polygamy and revenge in the name of family honour); reviewed environmental and zoological phenomena; and observed agricultural and economic practices, from horse- and sheep breeding to international commerce. This work was not merely intended for philologists, orientalists, and theologians. Michaelis addressed it specifically to statesmen and civil servants interested in the evolution of legal systems” (Lifschitz). The Byvoegsels contain a section wholly devoted to Arabian (race) horses and stud farms. Michaelis deals with Arabic breeds, the mixing of these breeds with English horses, the origin of horses (which according to Michaelis is very likely to be Arabia), many Biblical passages which mention horses, and some early writers who wrote about Arabian horses.

With some (water) stains. Bindings rubbed along the extremities, slightly damaged at the top and bottom of spine, hinges partly cracked. Otherwise in good condition.

A. Lifschitz, Language and enlightenment, pp. 109–118; STCN 186340923 (part 1–2), 15444823X (part 3–6), 15444852X (part 7).
251. MILES, Samuel Barrett. The countries and tribes of the Persian Gulf.

London, Harrison and Sons, 1919 [=1920]. 2 volumes. Large 8º (24.5 x 18.5 cm). With a frontispiece portrait of the author and 8 plates with reproductions of photographs. Original publisher’s grey cloth. € 35 000

Second printing of the first edition of a history of the Persian Gulf and its surrounding countries by the British army officer Samuel Barrett Miles (1838–1914), “a most significant contribution to the European knowledge of Oman” (New Arabian Studies). It starts with the ancient civilizations in the region, followed by chapters on the advent of Islam on the Gulf coast, the Portuguese era in eastern Arabia, and various dynasties, including the Yaareba and the Al-Bu Saeedi dynasty. Other chapters describe the commerce and economy of the Gulf, its pearl fishery and the different tribes living there, with an entry on the Al-Kowasim, “a powerful Maadic tribe occupying the sea ports on the Pirate coast” (p. 430) and the Beni Yas and “their two towns Abu Thabi and Debaye” (p. 438).

The book remains an authoritative source on Omani history and provides a storehouse of knowledge for any reader interested in the Gulf states.

The final two lines of text on the title-page have been removed by a previous owner, including the note “Reprinted 1920”. Title-page of first volume browned and some occasional minor foxing in both volumes. Binding slightly rubbed along the extremities. Overall in very good condition.


252. [MILITARY UNIFORMS]. [Military and quasi-military uniforms, portraits and scenes of battles, uprisings etc.].

[Austria or Saxony?, ca. 1870?]. Large 2º album (39 x 30.5 cm). With 84 large watercolour drawings (28 x 16 cm to 25.5 x 36 cm) on wove paper, with captions in German and/or French, mounted on the (ca. 1962) album leaves, and with the coat of arms of Von Lindeman(n) of Sachsen-Anhalt (in coloured gouaches plus gold) mounted on the first page. Early 20th-century(?) half tanned sheepskin.

An extraordinary set of original watercolour drawings, apparently unpublished, celebrating the creation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire through the military events that led up to it and the uniforms of the various nations and regiments involved. Except for one drawing concerning 1631, the events depicted are dated from 1757 to 1852. Officers and others in uniform from every corner of the Empire are shown: Prussians, Hungarians, Austrians, Poles, Czechs, Croats, Dalmatians, Transylvanians, Serbians, Bosnians and many more, with a few examples of local militias and of foreign army regiments from France, the Ottoman Empire, Russia and the British Isles (including kilted Scottish Grenadiers at Waterloo). A few appear in Islamic dress, including turbans. Some show portraits of leading figures, including Frederick the Great (1712–1786), King of Prussia and Muhammad Said Pasja (1822–1863) wali (governor) of Egypt. The uniforms are depicted in great detail, with vivid and bright colours, and some show the changes in uniforms at two or three different dates in a short span of years. The present set of 84 was no doubt part of a collection of at least 536. They may have been prepared for a publication that remained unrealised.

With occasional mostly marginal tears (3 drawings with significant tears into the image and 1 with a smaller one), and occasional spots or small scuff marks, but most of the drawings are in good or very good condition. The binding is somewhat rubbed, but otherwise good. A wide-ranging view of military and quasi-military people and events, with special emphasis on uniforms, in the prehistory of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, 1757–1852.
**Eighteen orientalist dissertations**

**253. MILL, David.** Dissertationes selectae.

Leiden, Conrad & Georg Jacob Wissoff, 1743. 4º. With 6 folded engraved plates and a few engravings in the text. Contemp. full vellum with gilt spine title. All edges sprinkled in red. € 4500

Collection of 18 orientalist dissertations by the Königsberg-born theologian and linguist David Mill (1692–1756), longtime professor of oriental languages at Utrecht. Includes treatises on “Muhammadism before Muhammad” and on Arabic etymologies, a speech on Muhammad in old Hebrew manuscripts, as well as miscellaneous oriental studies.

Well preserved.


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**Inscribed to Baillet de Latour**

**254. MILLER, Moritz von.** Vorlesungen über angewandte Taktik zum Unterrichte und zum Selbststudium [...]. 1ter [–2ter] Theil.

Freiburg/Br., Herder, 1833. 2 vols. in 1 (4º) and atlas (2º). Contemp. red morocco with elaborately gilt spine and covers. Gilt title to spine, leading edges and inner dentelle gilt. All edges gilt. Atlas contains 32 lithographed maps and plans (some folding or colored) with lithogr. title. Stored loosely in contemp. red half morocco portfolio with gilthestamped covers and title. € 4900

First edition of Miller’s principal work on military tactics. Finely bound copy, inscribed by the author for Count Theodor Baillet de Latour (1780–1848), later the Austrian minister of war. Full-page autograph inscription by Miller, Colonel of the Royal Württembergian general staff, on front flyleaf; recipient’s signature on title page. Baillet de Latour himself had been head of the military staff in the army of the Crown Prince of Württemberg in 1814; in 1815, he was made field marshal’s lieutenant (major general) in the Austrian army. Created minister of war in 1846, he was lynched by revolutionaries during the riots of 1848.

Portfolio slightly dusty and bumped, otherwise in fine condition.

*Katalog der k. k. Kriegs-Bibliothek (1853), 161.*

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**European anatomical illustration comes to Persian physicians**

**255. MIRZA MOHAMMAD-VALI.** [In Arabic script: cheragh haa rewshenaaa der asewl pezeshekea = Illumination of the fundamentals of medicine].

Tabriz (Iran), Dar al-Tabae [State Printing Office], 1271 AH [= 1854/55]. 2º (34 × 21 cm). A wholly lithographed book in nashk Arabic script, with 3 title-pages, 56 lithographed anatomical illustration plates, a page of floral and arabesque decoration serving as a divisional “title”, and the 1st and 2nd title-pages each followed by 2 text pages with elaborate floral and arabesque borders, the first page headed by the crowned Iranian emblem. Contemporary blind-tooled light brown goatskin. € 48 500

Very rare first (and only?) edition of an extensive Persian-language medical handbook by Mirza Mohammad-Vali, chief physician of the army under the fourth Qajar Shah, Nasar al-Din (reigned 1848–1896). It is a pioneering work of Iranian printing, which introduced European anatomical illustration to Persian physicians and helped to promote the study of European medicine, primarily in the army. While the book provides a broad introduction to medicine in general, its most remarkable feature is the collection of anatomical illustrations:
56 lithographed plates showing human skeletons and bones; muscles, tendons and ligaments; internal organs (male and female); and the respiratory, nervous and circulatory systems. They are based on European models such as Vesalius, Scarpa and Fabrici. Bound differently than the pagination suggests, with the first two series of page numbers combined to form a single subdivision. Slightly browned and with a small restoration in the decoration of the main title-page but still in good condition. A half dozen pages are slightly dirty and there is an occasional minor marginal defect. The binding is slightly worn and much of the decoration of the inlaid parchment is lost, but the binding remains structurally sound. A rare and remarkable Iranian lithographic medical work, with 56 anatomical plates.


A history of the British, Dutch and Portuguese colonial activities in the East Indies


Second edition of a history of the colonial activities of the British East India Company, the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and the Portuguese in the East Indies, written by Philipp van Mokern, a merchant who lived in India for fifty years. The work is divided into two parts, with a total of 32 chapters. Van Mökern starts with a history of India, its inhabitants, religion, art and science post Alexander the Great. Another chapter is devoted to various Muslim conquests in India and surrounding areas, the spread of Islam, and some of the first emperors of the Mughal Empire. The majority of the chapters deal with the Indian trade, the role of the Portuguese, the British and the Dutch in the East Indies, the shifts in power, the relations with the colonists and the native inhabitants, etc. Chapter 14 is devoted to the lives of Muslims in India in the early 19th century. Some chapters in the second part describe Mysore under Tipu Sahib (1750–1799) and the Anglo-Mysore wars. Slightly browned around the margins and some stains on the first few leaves. Binding slightly worn along the extremities. Overall a good copy.

A. Beer, Allgemeine Geschichte des Welthandels, p. 186; Gesamtverzeichnis des deutschsprachigen Schriftums 98, p. 82.

The first known printed reference to the Arabian Gulf region, with the earliest map to call the Gulf “Sinus Arabicus” instead of “Sinus Persicus”

257. MONTALBODDO, Fracanzano da. Itinerarium Portugallensium e Lusitania in Indiam et inde occidentem et demum ad aquilonem. [Milan, J. A. Scinzenzeler], 1508. 2º (25 × 19.5 cm). Title-page with woodcut map (second issue, with “Arabicus” replacing “[P]er[sicus]”). Early 20th-century red morocco, gilt edges. € 650 000

First Latin edition of the most important and “earliest printed collection of voyages and discoveries” (PMM). Also the only edition of this collection of travel reports to include the map showing Africa, Arabia and part of Europe, illustrating for the first time the new discoveries in the eastern hemisphere. This map, not included in the original 1507 Italian edition or any subsequent edition, is the earliest to show Africa completely surrounded by seas and, as one of the first non-Ptolemaic maps to include Arabia, definitely the earliest “modern” printed map to show Mecca. Published in 1508, it raises a controversy still with us more than 500 years later: it labels the Red Sea and the Gulf as a single body of water and calls it the Gulf, but in the first state of the block it was called the
“Persian Gulf” (“Sinus Persicus”). For reasons unknown, the editor revised the block with a patch to rename it the “Arabian Gulf” (“Sinus Arabicus”). The map therefore exists in two different states in copies of this edition. Ours is the rarer second one, with “Sinus Arabicus”.

From the famous collection of Dr. Samuel X. Radbill. Foot of map creased as folded for binding, head of first 3 leaves with a stain and last 5 leaves with corner stains, binding slightly rubbed. Overall a very bright and clean copy.

Borba de Moraes, p. 580; Harrisse 58; Sabin 50058; cf. PMM 42; Romano, Historical atlas of the United Arab Emirates (New York, 2004), 26.

First complete edition of Cosmas's Christiana topographia describing his travels in the Red Sea and the Arabian Gulf

258. MONTFAUCON, Bernard de (editor). Collectio nova patrum et scriptorum Graecorum, Eusebii Caesariensis, Athanasii, & Cosmæ Aegyptii. Paris, Claudius Rigaud, 1707. 2 volumes. 2º. With 4 engraved plates, and 3 woodcut illustrations in the text. Each volume with an engraved headpiece, the first incorporating the coat of arms of Pope Clement XI, and the second that of Jean-Paul Bignon. Contemporary calf, richly gold-tooled spine and binding edges. € 25 000

First edition, second issue, of a monumental collection of Greek voyages, often overlooked in the literature, including the first complete edition of Cosmas of Alexandria’s celebrated Christiana topographia. Cosmas, a merchant from Alexandria, sailed in the Red Sea and the Arabian Gulf and visited Ethiopia ca. 530. Though he was known as “Indicopleustes”, or Indian Voyager, it is doubtful whether he actually visited India. In his Christiana topographia Cosmas aimed to show that the earth was flat and the cosmos shaped like a rectangular vaulted box.

Several of the engravings in the present volume, reproduced from a manuscript, illustrate this view. One shows the earth as a rectangle with three notches, one notch representing the Arabian Gulf, and the whole surrounded by an ocean, with in the east another rectangle representing Paradise, out of which four rivers flow into the inhabited world.

Slightly browned, with some occasional minor foxing or thumbing, and some faint stains, otherwise in very good condition. Binding also very good, only slightly rubbed and the spine of the second volume slightly damaged at the head.


“It is believed that Qatar will become one of the world’s major producing countries”


A thesis presented to the School of Politics and International Affairs, Princeton University, 1948, with appendices and additions 1951. Chapters discuss the political and historical background to 1923, the oil options covering the Province of Hasa, the Neutral Zone, Kuwait, and Bahrein, and the development of the concessions in Bahrein, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia, including a section on the concession granted in 1935 by Sheikh Abdullah bin Jassim Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar, and subsequent development of the Qatar oil fields ("It is believed that Qatar will become one of the world’s major producing countries").

OCLC 587668. Not in Macro.
Photographs taken by the author between 1905 and 1915


Rare photographic work documenting important cities and parts of the countryside in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, and Palestine. Most of the photos were taken by the author during his travels between 1905 and 1915. The images of northern Hejaz, Mecca, and Medina, which Moritz was unable to visit, were taken by Turkish friends. The images also show the construction of the Hejaz Railway between Damascus and the holy sites of Mecca and Medina, as well as views of Medina, Mecca, Jeddah, Petra, and Jerusalem.

Plates and text are well preserved; portfolio shows slight traces of repairs.

Utopia: against the new statesmanship of all-powerful autocracy

261. MORE, Sir Thomas. De optimo reip. statu deque nova insula Utopia libelluns vere aureus [...]. Basel, (Johann Froben, 1518). 4º. With woodcut title border and a border in the text by Hans Holbein, 2 woodcuts in the text (1 full-page) by Ambrosius Holbein, and 6 woodcut initials; printer’s device on final page. Modern giltstamped full calf. € 20 000

Rare third, revised edition (the first one printed in Basel) of the famous “ideal state” novel that gave its name to a whole literary genre. Edited by Erasmus of Rotterdam, whom More had sent the manuscript in 1516. Like ‘Gulliver’s Travels’, Utopia was written “as a tract for the times, to rub in the lesson of Erasmus; it inveighs against the new statesmanship of all-powerful autocracy and the new economics [...] just as it pleads for religious tolerance and universal education [...] More had all Swift’s gift for utterly convincing romance: the beginning, when Rafael Hythlodaeus recounts his voyages, has a vividness which draws the reader on into the political theory. [More] is a saint to the Catholic, and a predecessor of Marx to the Communist. His manifesto is and will be required reading for both, and for all shades of opinion between” (PMM).

Insignificant browning; endpapers somewhat fingerstained, but a beautiful, clean copy. Handwritten ownership of Gerard van Assendelft, dated 1603, at the top edge of the title page.

262. MORSE, Edward George.
A journal of remarks and observations as kept by E. G. M. . . .
[mostly on board the barque Sarah of London], April 1831–14 March 1833 (with additions to 1835), with an engraved view as frontispiece, 15 full-page, 1 nearly full-page and 1 smaller manuscript maps and coastal profiles, plus a small engraved view (“Tomb of Napoleon”) mounted on 1 page.
Including: MORSE, Edward George.
Lecture Book [notes on anatomical lectures by Joseph Constantine Carpue].
[London], November-December 1828, with a matching pair of engravings of a scull on and facing the title-page, and 27 pencil and/or ink anatomical drawings (including 2 full-page), some also with red. 4º (19.5 × 16.5 cm).
Contemporary sheepskin parchment.

€ 35,000

A manuscript ship’s journal kept by Edward George Morse (Bromyard 1805?-Deal post 1850?), who no doubt served, among other functions, as the ship’s surgeon. Morse made his earliest dated entries in April 1831 at the island Mauritius in the Indian Ocean and others at Madagascar and its surrounding islands from May to August 1831. Morse provides extensive notes on the natural history, topography and people of the Seychelles, Madagascar and the neighbouring islands, and provides detailed maps of many of the islands and coastal areas, along with a few coastal profiles.
The two manuscripts are written in a single album of laid paper. Morse used it 1828 to take notes when he attended the London lectures on anatomy and blood circulation by the innovative surgeon Joseph Constantine Carpue, who had pioneered facial reconstructive surgery by introducing ancient Indian techniques. He was famous for illustrating his lectures with chalk drawings, which no doubt served as the models for the anatomical illustrations in Morse’s notes.
A few clippings and hand-written notes have been inserted.

Printed in colour by Vienna’s Imperial Print Shop


€ 12,000

Very rare monograph about Henri Moser’s collection of oriental arms and armour. The present copy in German is no. 103 of a small press run of 125 German copies (total number of copies: 300). The outstanding plates, printed in colour by the Vienna Court Printing Office, show extraordinary pieces of Moser’s precious collection containing over 1300 weapons. The Swiss merchant and art patron Henri Moser (1844–1923) left Schaffhausen at the age of 23 and began travelling through Asia. During his expeditions he collected many pieces of art, weapons, armour, and hunting trophies. His remarkable collection was displayed at various museums throughout Europe.
Cloth portfolio splitting at hinges. A few insignificant edge flaws; some staining, mainly confined to the text fascicule, otherwise in excellent condition.
Considered lost: unique specimen of the rarest and most sought-after view of Mecca

264. [MOURADGEA D’OHSSON, Ignace]. Ka’bat Allah Aleulya [The Supreme Kaaba of Allah].
[Paris], Charles-Nicolas & Joseph Varin, 1791. Large engraving from a single copper plate, 887 × 458 mm. Captioned in Arabic only, image unobscured by numbers, no key.
€ 150 000

Considered unobtainable: the large-scale engraving of the earliest view of Mecca, the press run of which was thought to have perished in a fire. Commissioned by the orientalist and diplomat Mouradgea d’Ohsson in 1791 and engraved by the brothers Charles-Nicolas and Joseph Varin. Today no copies of the Varin view can be traced in libraries, museums, or private collections. The last person to report having owned a specimen was the Austrian orientalist Andreas Hunglinger, who had it copied in 1803. A specimen of the Hunglinger print is owned by the British Museum, while that sold by Sotheby’s on 9 May 2012 (lot 155 – the only copy ever known to have been auctioned) commanded no less than £87 650!
Very faint waterstaining to margins; minor wear along creases with a few reinforcements on verso, but a splendid, richly detailed print with crisp contrast. A unique survival.
Cf. Andreas Magnus Hunglinger: Mekka, die Mutter der Städte der Muhammedanischen Religion (Vienna, 1804). Hunglinger’s copy was displayed at the British Museum in the recent exhibition “Hajj: journey to the heart of Islam” (26 January to 15 April 2012) and was featured in the accompanying publication (p. 28f., fig. 5).

Illustrated biography of the Prophet

265. [MUHAMMAD]. Historie van den oorsprongh, geslacht, geboorte, opvoedinge, en leere des grooten valschen propheets Mahomets.
Amsterdam, Broer Jansz, 1640. 4º. With separate engraved title and 9 engravings in the text.
With: (2) Prophetien, of voorseggingen der beyde Keyseren Severi en Leonis, die beyde in Orienten geregeert hebben. Ibid., 1640. 19th century vellum with calligraphed title to spine; covers ruled in red. Marbled endpapers. All edges gilt.
€ 7500

Very rare, prettily illustrated biography of the Prophet Muhammad. Second edition, previously published in 1627 and based on de Bry’s “Acta Mehmeti” from 1597. The engraved title page shows ten different scenes which enframe the worlds of the title. Nine of these are taken directly from de Bry and are repeated throughout the book.
enlarged and with much greater detail; only the Ottoman army train at the top is likely based on a different source. The book also comprises the divinations of the Byzantine Emperors Leo and Severus about the fall of Constantinople. An appealing and well-preserved copy from the library of the adventurer, linguist, diplomat, and collector Charles Schefer (1820–98) with his bookplate on the front pastedown. Schefer, who held a chair at the Ecole des Langues Orientales, was perhaps best known in his day as the most prominent Orientalist of his generation.


The earliest serial bibliography of Oriental studies

266. MÜLLER, August, Ernst KUHN and Lucian SCHERMAN (eds.). Orientalische Bibliographie. 1887–1911.

Berlin, Reucher & Reichard, 1887–1922. 8º. 25 in 14 volumes. Contemporary brown half library cloth with stamped spine titles and shelfmark labels, but volume 2 bound in full black library cloth with giltstamped spine title. € 4500

The essentially complete, consecutive 25 volume series of the “Orientalische Bibliographie”, “the earliest serial bibliography of Oriental studies” (Marcuse), covering publications from 1887 onwards. “An important annual bibliography, including books, pamphlets, periodical articles, and reviews in the whole field of Oriental studies: language, literature, geography, ethnology, folklore, history, etc.” (Winchell).

All volumes good condition, only slight chipping to spine ends of vol. 2, with loose and chipped flyleaves. Removed from the Oriental Institute of Leipzig University with their de-accessioning stamp on title page, but volume 2 with bookplate of the Columbia classicist and Sanskrit scholar Edward Delavan Perry (1854–1938).


A collection of early photographic portraits, sumptuously bound for Ismail the Magnificent

267. MULNIER, Jules and Félix NADAR. Galerie Contemporaine, Littéraire, Artistique.

Paris, Ludovic Baschet, 1876–ca. 1878. 2º. Profusely illustrated with 48 full-page Woodburytype plates mounted within printed borders on sturdy cardboard, 24 mounted Woodburytype plates in the text, and 2 plates printed in red. Bound in sumptuous red morocco for Ismail Pasha, Khedive of Egypt, elaborately giltstamped on spine and both covers. Leading edges gilt, inner dentelle gilt, marbled endpapers. All edges gilt. € 18 000

A striking collection of 72 woodburytype portraits of great artists and reproductions of their art, with accompanying biographical sketches, issued in undated instalments, then bound for and dedicated to Ismail Pasha, Khedive of Egypt and Sudan from 1863 to 1879. Occasional slight foxing, but very well preserved altogether. The upper cover of the luxuriant red morocco binding bears the dedication: “A Son Altesse Ismail Pacha Khédive d’Égypte”. Sharing the ambitious outlook of his grandfather, Muhammad Ali Pasha, Ismail greatly modernized Egypt and Sudan during his reign, investing heavily in industrial and economic development, urbanisation, and the expansion of the country’s boundaries in Africa.

One of the earliest editions of the Cosmographia

268. MÜNSTER, Sebastian.
Cosmographiae universalis lib. vi.
(Basel, Heinrich Petri, September 1554). 2º.
With woodcut printer’s device on the final leaf by Urs Graf, 14 double-page maps as well as
37 double-page views and approximately 900
woodcuts in the text. Modern vellum. € 50 000
A very early edition of Münster’s monumental work.
The Cosmographia by Sebastian Münster (1488–1552),
a German cartographer and cosmographer, was one
of the most successful and popular books of the 16th
century. It passed through 24 editions in 100 years,
and was most important in reviving geography in
16th-century Europe, being the most valued of all
cosmographies.
In very good condition, with some very slight overall
discoloration; map of the Americas shows unobtrusive
rust mark.

VD 16, M 6717. Burmeister 89. Hantsch 77.32. BM-STC

Sixteenth century handwritten Arabic-Turkish dictionary

269. MUSTAFA IBN SHAMS AL-DIN AL-QARAHISARI
AL-AKHTARI.
Lughat-i Akhtari-yi Kabir.
No place, 976 AH [1568 AD]. Small 2º. Arabic, Turkish and European paper, several
hands, mostly naskh script. Black ink with rubric. Full-leather Oriental binding with
flap, rebacked. € 4500
The “al-Akhtari” or “Lughat-i Akhtari-yi Kabir” is an Arabic-Turkish dictionary written in the 16th
century by Mustafa b. Shams al-Din Qarahisari al-Akhtari (d. 968/1560). It is dated Wednesday,
oon, 7 Ragab 976 (1568) and was copied in the city of Gallipoli (colophon on f. 405v with copyist
prayer in Persian). Written at a time when the Ottoman Empire was at the zenith of its power, it
contains more than 40 000 words and was in use in the Topkapi Palace. It was copied throughout
the centuries and first saw print in Istanbul in 1826.
Some waterstaining to margins.

GAL S II, 650.

Middle Eastern Napoleonic propaganda

270. NAPOLEON—BULLETINS DE LA GRANDE ARMEE.
Tarih-i ievinin bin sekiz yüz bes senesi yahud tarih-i hicrinin bin iki yüz yigîrîn
senedinde Fransa devleti ile Avusturya […]
[Paris, Imprimerie impériale, ca 1806–1808]. 4º. 3 volumes bound in two. With 3
woodcut title borders. Original wrappers. € 8500
Very rare translation of the “Bulletins de la Grande Armée”, very few copies listed in library
records. The account of the history of the First Napoleonic War against Austria was also
distributed throughout the Middle East for propaganda purposes. The translators were Jean
Daniel Kieffer and B. Belletête.
The original wrappers show stars and the crescent on the covers. A clean, nearly spotless copy showing slight traces of handling; spine brittle with some insignificant browning and staining.

OCLC 311942200, 311942203.

**For official use only: Royal Navy wartime handbook on Iraq and the Persian Gulf**

271. **NAVAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION. [MASON, Kenneth, a.o.]. Iraq and the Persian Gulf. September 1944. B.R. 524 (restricted) geographical handbook series for official use only.**

[Oxford,] Naval Intelligence division, 1944. 8º. With numerous diagrams, reproductions of photographs and (folding) maps, including a loose map in the pocket at the back. Publisher's green cloth. € 3500

First and only edition of a geographical handbook on Iraq and the Persian Gulf, published on behalf of the Naval Intelligence Division (NID) of the British Admiralty. Written as part of the Geographical Handbook Series of which 58 volumes were written between 1941 and 1946 by two teams of British academics, this volume aims to educate Naval Officers on all matters related to Iraq, under military occupation by Britain since 1941, and the Persian Gulf. The book is divided into twelve chapters, dealing with a wide array of subjects: geology, geography, history, vegetation, agriculture, administration, ethnography, economy etc. As the book was written by English academics, the section devoted to the climate and weather is particularly extensive.

The majority of the text was produced by Professor Kenneth Mason of the School of Geography at Oxford. Mason had trained at the Royal Military Academy in Woolwich and seen service in France and the Middle East during World War I. He was part of the Survey of India in the 1920s, appointed to the chair of Geography at Oxford in 1932 and subsequently led the Oxford team producing the handbooks. “The purpose of the handbooks was to supply, by scientific research and skilled arrangement, material for the discussion of naval, military, and political problems ...” (p. III). The handbooks were for the use of naval officers only, but were made public after the NID was dissolved in 1964.

With a few markings in pencil. Spine worn with a large tear at the back hinge and thumbed throughout; nevertheless a good, structurally sound copy.


**Navigating the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden**

272. **[NAVIGATION—RED SEA]. Red Sea and Gulf of Aden pilot comprising the Suez canal, the gulf of Suez and ‘Aqaba, the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, ...**

*Including:* Supplement no. 1–1957 relating to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden pilot, tenth edition ...

London, published by the Hydrographic Department, Admiralty, 1955–1957. 8º. With a folding map (printed on both sides), 2 coloured plates with diagrams (printed on both sides), 28 plates showing coastlines and occasionally a map (many printed on both sides), and many some illustrations in text. Original blue cloth; supplement with original printed paper wrappers. € 1750

Tenth edition of a work “comprising sailing directions for the Suez canal, the Gulf of Suez, and the central track for power vessels through the Red sea, Straits of Bab-al-Mandab, and Gulf of Aden ...” (p. 111) and more areas. Besides navigation it deals with the climate, weather and ocean streams of the area. The first chapter also gives and “general description of countries bordering the Red sea and Gulf of Aden” (p. V).

Including two copies of the supplement. Spine slightly discoloured, otherwise in very good condition.
1728 treaty between the Dutch Republic and the semi-autonomous state of Tripoli


First edition, published in Dutch translation, of a treaty signed between the Dutch States General and Pasha Ahmed Karamanli (1686–1745), Turkish Muslim leader of the semi-autonomous state of Tripoli since 1711, when he killed the Ottoman governor and took the throne. The treaty, in 13 articles, guarantees the safety of Dutch ships trading at Tripoli and their crews (even when shipwrecked), sets restrictions on taxes (military supplies such as gunpowder, lead, iron, cannonballs and ships’ masts are exempted). The governor of Tripoli is to see to it that the whole city is warned when one of the Dutch States General’s ships drops anchor, so that all who own slaves can keep an eye on them to ensure they do not flee to the ship. Merchants under Dutch authority, whether Christians or Jews, are to be allowed to reside in the city unhindered, except for taxation.

In very good condition and untrimmed.


The opening of the Suez Canal, with 37 large lithographs, mostly in colour


With: (2) FONTANE, Marius. Voyage pittoresque à travers l’Isthme de Suez, vingt-cinq grandes aquarelles d’après nature par Riou.

Paris, Paul Dupont & E. Lachaud, [1870]. With coloured map and 20 chromolithographic plates. This issue always lacks pp. 77–100 and plates 21–25. 2 works in 1 volume. Imperial 2º (55.5 × 40 cm). Contemporary red half morocco, gold-tooled spine, richly gold-tooled cloth sides with the arms of Ismail Pasha. € 15 000

First edition of the chronicle of the elaborate festivities given for the inauguration of the Suez Canal (Qanat al-Suwaïs), opened in November 1869 after ten years of construction work—an event attended by the most prestigious occidental figures, finely illustrated by Riou, the Khedive’s official painter.

The painter Riou also signed the plates of the second work: a detailed account of the canal construction by Marius Fontane, secretary to Lesseps. 500 copies of Fontane’s work were printed, with 200 reserved for the Khedive Ismail, of which this is one. As the Khedive objected to the preface of Fontane’s work, which gave credit for the canal to Lesseps, he had the relevant parts removed: the frontispiece portrait of Lesseps, the preface and the final six quires (included the accompanying plates 21–25).

Plates slightly foxed, otherwise in very good condition.

**A superb set, uniformly bound, of the travels and the description by Niebuhr**

275. **NIEBUHR, Carsten.** Beschryving van Arabie. Amsterdam, Steven Jacobus Baalde; Utrecht, Johannes van Schoonhoven & comp. (colophon: printed by Johan Joseph Besseling, Utrecht), 1774. With engraved title-page and 25 engraved plates, including 7 folding showing 1 view of military exercises, 2 Kufic inscriptions (coloured by hand) and 4 maps. The unnumbered map of Yemen (plate size 58.5 x 39 cm) is coloured by hand in outline.

With: (2) **NIEBUHR, Carsten.** Reize naar Arabië en andere omliggende landen. Amsterdam, Steven Jacobus Baalde; Utrecht, Johannes van Schoonhoven & comp. (colophons: printed by Johan Joseph Besseling, Utrecht), 1776–1780. With 2 engraved title-pages and 125 engraved plates (38 folding). 2 works in 3 volumes. Large 4º (28.5 x 22.5 cm). Contemporary sprinkled and polished half calf. Untrimmed. € 10 000

First and only editions of the Dutch translation of a description of Arabia, Egypt and the Middle East (ad 1) and an account of a voyage to Arabia and surrounding countries (ad 2). Both works were originally written by the Danish traveller and surveyor Carsten Niebuhr (1733–1815) and published in German, in Copenhagen in 1772. Both works are lavishly illustrated, having together 2 large maps of Yemen and 148 beautifully engraved maps, plans and views of all the regions Niebuhr visited.

Fine untrimmed set (giving very large margins) and bound as a matching set, with only the fore-edge of 1 folding plate slightly tattered, a small marginal tear and an occasional leaf with very minor foxing. The bindings show minor wear in the spines and a few small smudges on the sides, but are still very good. Lovely copy of two important and complementary works on Arabia and the Middle East, lavishly illustrated.

Hamilton, Europe and the Arab world 48; Howgego, to 1800, N24; Tiele, Bibl. 795–796.

**Important contribution to the study of the Middle East**


First French edition of this account on Arabia, translated from the German Reisebeschreibung nach Arabien und anderen umliegenden Ländern, (1774) by F.L. Mourier. Title pages are dated 1776–80; colophons dated 1775–79. The famous account of the Royal Danish Expedition (1761–67) to the Middle East, Egypt, Persia and India, the first scientific expedition to this area. Niebuhr’s “work on Arabia was the first European attempt at a complete account of Arabia, its people and their way of life. He amassed a vast quantity of factual information which he relates in a simple un rhetorical fashion, distinguishing clearly between things observed personally and things learned from others. The expedition, which lasted 6 years, was sponsored by the Danish king, and included the brilliant Swedish scientist, Peter Forsskal, who died while in Yemen” (Cat. Sotheby’s, 13 Oct 1998, lot 1010). Of the 3 scientists, Carsten Niebuhr (1733–1815) was the sole survivor, and his work represents an important contribution to the study of the Middle East.

Old stamps erased from title pages (leaving insignificant waterstain), otherwise a perfect set in immaculate original French bindings, of this account on Arabia with the first exact map of Yemen ever, remaining the standard for the next 200 years.

Account of the first scientific expedition to the Middle East, Egypt, Persia and India

277. NIEBUHR, Carsten. Reize naar Arabië en andere omliggende landen. Amsterdam, S.J. Baalde; Utrecht, J. van Schoonhoven and company (colophons: Utrecht, printed by J.J. Besseling), 1776–1780. 2 volumes. 4º. With engraved vignette by N. van der Meer on each title-page, 94 plates (30 folding) and 31 maps and plans (7 folding, the folding map of Yemen hand-coloured in outline). 19th-century half calf. Untrimmed. € 6000

Dutch translation of an important account of the Royal Danish Expedition (1761–67) to the Middle East, Egypt, Persia and India, the first scientific expedition to this area. The original German edition was published at Copenhagen in 1744–1778 under the title Reisebeschreibung nach Arabien und anderen umliegenden Ländern.

“In volume II, p. 317 he [Niebuhr] begins his description of the journey from Beit el Fakih in the coffee mountains. This is accompanied by three engravings” (Hünersdorff). There are some 40 other references to coffee in this work, including the journey from Sana’a to Mocha. The plates, the same as used for the first German-language edition, include many views of cities, antiquities and statues, natives in traditional dress, hieroglyphs, Arabic script, musical instruments, a reception with the Iman of Sana’a (Yemen) and views of the mosque in Meshed Ali. The 31 maps and plans cover Constantinople, the Nile, Dschidda (Jeddah) in the province of Mecca, Bombay, the palace of Persepolis, Muscat, the Persian Gulf, Baghdad, Mosul, etc. Niebuhr’s map of Yemen, the first exact map of the area ever, remained the standard for the next 200 years.

Carsten Niebuhr (1733–1815) was the sole survivor, and his work represents an important contribution to the study of the Middle East.

Bindings worn. Large-margined copy of a famous account of a voyage to the Middle East, Egypt, Persia and India in fine condition.


An outstanding Niebuhr rarity: the fourth recorded copy


Extremely rare sole edition of this account of the Niebuhr expedition to Arabia in the 1760s. Produced as a cheaper alternative to the hefty 3-volume sets which appeared in German, Danish, French, and other languages, the present work was printed by the Royal press and gives a summary of the journey intended for a popular audience. Swedish interest in the expedition was elicited by the presence of the Swedish botanist and explorer Peter Forskål in Niebuhr’s caravan.

The plates, modeled after those of the German edition of 1772, depict a Turkish Pilgrim to Mecca; an Arab woman in a hijab, with an inset detail of a burkha; an Arab farm-girl from the ‘Coffee Mountains’ of southern Arabia; and an Arab nobleman of Yemen.

Binding rather rubbed; some chipping to spine; blank margin of first few leaves a little toned, otherwise a very good copy, clean and fresh. o.c.l.c shows just 3 copies worldwide: the University of Texas, the Swedish National Library, and the Danish National Library. No copy seen at Anglo-American auction since 1999.

From India to Egypt, with 19 hand-coloured plates and 2 maps


Paris, Imprimerie Royale (back of half-title: [Auguste] Nepveu), 1826. 8º. With 2 folding lithographed maps, partly coloured by hand, and 19 hand-coloured lithographed plates. Contemporary red half morocco, gold-tooled spine. € 2750

First edition of an illustrated account of a British campaign to Egypt, with all the plates coloured by hand, posthumously published from the memoirs of the French count Louis-Pantaléon de Noé (1728–1816). He begins to describe his journey to India on the Cuffnells. He gives a detailed description of the Indian/British army, naming the various regiments and showing its soldiers and their uniforms on the coloured plates. In 1798 Napoleon Bonaparte led a campaign to Egypt and Syria with his Armée d’Orient, hoping to conquer the area and weaken British power. After some defeats, a British force from India was dispatched to Egypt in 1800, which De Noé joined. From Mumbai they sailed to the Red Sea, got ashore at Mecca, and ended up in “Kosseir”, El Quseir, where they had to prepare themselves for a journey across the desert. He describes the city and the Gizeh pyramids, before continuing to Alexandria. He gives a description of the Ottomans, Bedouins, and Mamluks, all shown on the plates. The last two chapters mostly deal with the negotiations between the English and the Ottomans to impede the French. Slightly foxed and a few plates slightly browned. Binding somewhat rubbed. Overall in very good condition.

Beaucour, La découverte de l’Égypte (1997), p. 263; Collas 2208; Lipperheide 1584.

“Muhammad, or The Reform of the Arabs”: a turning point in European views of Muhammad

280. NOMSZ, Johannes. Muhammad, of de Hervorming der Arabieren.

Amsterdam, heirs of David Klippink, 1780. 8º. With engr. frontispiece and including both half-titles. Contemp. half calf with gilt title and emblems on spine. Portrait frontispiece of “Muhammad, son of Abdullah, of the tribe of Koreis, the descendant of Ishmael”. € 3500

Very rare sole edition of this biography of Muhammad and history of the Arab people, painting a picture of him as a strong leader who brought the Arab tribes out of barbarity and into modern civilization. A distinct product of the European Enlightenment – in which ingrained attitudes towards religious were suddenly thrown into question – the present work marks a fascinating turning point in European views of the Prophet, adopting the rather admiring tone which would be echoed throughout 19th century biographies. Half-title of Part 1 with closed repaired tear, otherwise an excellent copy, clean and fresh. Very rare. OCLC shows just a handful of copies outside the Netherlands – and just one in American institutional libraries, at Yale.

OCLC 8987982.

Comprehensive study of the dominant aspects of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates


First edition, first printing, of a detailed work on the (military) history of the Gulf States, covering Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. It opens with a preface and a "general overview of the societies", followed by chapters on their history, religion and social structure. Another chapter is devoted solely to the oil industry of the area. Included are several genealogical tables, including one of the ruling family of Kuwait, Al-Sabah. In very good condition.

Pioneering Arabic, Syriac and Latin glossary

282. OBICINI, Tommaso and Elija bar SHINAJA of Nisibis. Thesaurus Arabico-Syro-Latinus. With: Index alphabeticus. … Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1636. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8º. Set in Arabic, Syriac, roman and italic types. Contemp. reversed sheep, blank spine in five compartments. € 4500

First and only edition of Obicini’s Arabic, Syriac and Latin glossary, based on the 11th-century Arabic and Syriac glossary compiled by the East Syriac scholar, monk and priest Elija bar Shinaja from Shenna in what is now northern Iraq, metropolitan of Nisibis from 1008. Shinaja’s version is also known as “The book of the interpreter”. The words are arranged by subject and set in three columns with, from right to left, Arabic, Syriac and Latin. It opens from the right, like an Arabic or Syriac book. The Index alphabeticus has its own title-page, pagination and series of signatures, but forms an appendix to the Thesaurus, providing an alphabetical index to the Latin words and phrases. Binding somewhat worn; minor foxing. Ownership stamp (Germain: Jacobins P.B.S.) and signature of De la Roche (marquis) on title, last page with another owner’s inscription. From the library of Swedish antiquarian bookdealer Björn Löwendahl (1941–2013). A pioneering work in the European study of the Arabic and Syriac languages.

Rare travel account


First edition of this rare travel account by the diplomat, archaeologist and orientalist Max Oppenheim (1860–1946), a work that made his name as an expert on the orient. With numerous, mainly photographic illustrations. Bindings rubbed; wants the large general map. Some slight browning; one map in vol. 2 loose with frayed edges. Henze III, 60ff. OCLC 15266400.
**284. OPPENHEIM, Max von.** Die Beduinen.
Leipzig, Harrassowitz, 1939–1968. 4º. 5 parts in 4 volumes. With frontispiece to vols. 1, 2 and 4, 32 plates with photograph reproductions, several folding tables and maps in texts, and a total of 6 folding maps, some in end-pocket. Uniform green cloth. € 4500

First edition of an elaborate work on Bedouin tribes in the Arabian Peninsula, written by the German orientalist and archeologist Max von Oppenheim (1860–1946) in collaboration with Erich Brăunlich and Werner Caskel. Von Oppenheim made various travels to the Middle East in the early 20th century, where he observed and analyzed the lives and cultures of various Bedouin tribes. The last two volumes were posthumously published and edited by Caskel, comprising the tribes in Iraq, Iran and north and middle Arabia. Most of the tables show family trees, and tribe members are shown on the plates, along with their names and the year the photo was taken. “Perhaps the most comprehensive work on the locations, genealogies, and interconnections of the Arab Bedouin” (Sweet).
In very good condition, only very slightly browned.


**Muslim metal objects**

Vienna, Verlag des k. k. österreichischen Handels-Museums, 1895. 2º. 50 plates. In original half cloth portfolio. € 6500

A fine collection of Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman as well as Indian and Asian decorated metal objects, including bowls, basins, water pitchers, and tea pots. Several separate plates show details of the elaborate ornamentation. Some foxing; slight defects to portfolio flaps. Removed from the Vienna University of International Trade with their cancelled stamps on the portfolio.

*OCLC 3124615.*

**One of the earliest monuments of Islamic cartography**

**286. [OTTOMAN EMPIRE—NORTHERN TERRITORIES].** Memalik-i Osmaniyye’nin Aktâr-i Simaliyesi Haritasi.
Üsküdar (Istanbul), Mühendishane Matbaası, ca 1803. Engraved map in outline colour, 119 x 53.4 cm. Backed with cloth. € 48 000

One of the earliest monuments of Islamic cartography, of outstanding rarity: published at roughly the same time as the famous “Cedid Atlas”, also by the Imperial Engineering.
School in Scutari (Istanbul), this large-scale engraved wall map shows the “Northern Territories of the Ottoman Empire”. This hitherto practically unknown map is clearly to be viewed in connection with the atlas which has long been considered the first and most important achievement of modern Muslim cartography. Like the Cedid Atlas, this outstanding publishing venture was commissioned under the authority of Sultan Sultan Selim III. A pioneering attempt at mapping a substantial part of the far-flung Empire, the map reaches from southern Italy and the Balkans to the Caucasus and the Caspian Sea. The most detailed map of the Empire’s Northern Territories available at the time and one of the first wall maps printed in Constantinople. Occasional unobtrusive professional repairs, well preserved altogether.

**Austrian commerce under Ottoman law**


€ 3500

The full text of 19 trade treaties, in Ottoman Turkish throughout, closed between the Roman/Austrian and the Ottoman Empire between 1110/1699 (Peace of Karlovat) and 1259/1844. An Italian-language edition had appeared in 1844 (“Raccolta dei Trattati e delle principali convenzioni concernanti il commercio e la navigazione dei sudditi Austriaci negli Stati della Porta Ottomana”). Occasional insignificant foxing; altogether very well preserved. A splendidly bound copy.

Zenker, BO II, 805.

**Early reports about pearl fishing and slavery in the Gulf**


€ 6500

First edition. – Ovington sailed as Chaplain of an East India Company ship and remained in Bombay and Surat, giving excellent descriptions of both cities and particularly of Mogul administration of the region. While the book includes detailed accounts of Madeira, Ascension Island, St Helena, Bombay, and the Cape of Good Hope, it also covers the coasts of Arabia: in particular, it has chapters on Mocha in Yemen and Muscat in Oman, with a discussion of the local trade in the abundant “beneficial commodities” such as balsam, myrrh, dates, frankincense and pearls (mentioning the “pearl-fishing of the island Baharem, which lies higher up in the Gulf”). Ovington mentions the strength of the Arabs’ naval forces, which is such “that the Portuguese generally endeavour to avoid them”. Spine bumped and rubbed; hinges starting. Wormhole in first two leaves slightly affecting line border on title; variously browned due to paper; wants front flyleaf. Extremely rare.

Detailed survey of the coasts of Africa, Madagascar and Arabia with an account of the Mazrui’s resistance against the Sultan of Oman

289. OWEN, William Fitzwilliam Wentworth. Narrative of voyages to explore the shores of Africa, Arabia, and Madagascar; performed in H.M. ships Leven and Barracouta.

London, Richard Bentley, 1833. 2 volumes. 8º. With 5 full-page lithographed plates, 4 folding engraved maps, 5 wood-engraved illustrations in the text. First volume rebacked. Untrimmed. € 4250

First edition of Owen’s account of his voyage to survey the coast of East Africa, Madagascar and Oman. Owen set out on 1 January 1824 to survey the coast of Oman. He began at Ras al Hadd, continuing to Masirah Island and along the coast past Ras Markhaz and the Khurya Muriya Islands to Ras Mirbat, from where he sailed back to the African coast by way of Socotra. When in Bombay to take on supplies, Owen had encountered a delegation of Mazrui, an Omani-Arabic clan that lived in the region of Mombasa, seeking British protection against the threat of Said bin Sultan, Sultan of Muscat and Oman. Owen, recognizing an opportunity to establish a British colony in Africa, set sail for Mombasa, where he was welcomed by a letter from Sheikh Sulaiman bin Ali al-Mazrui. However, the British government, honouring its treaty with the Sultan of Oman, did not formally recognize the colony and withdrew the British flag. Said bin Sultan immediately jumped to the occasion, sending several expeditions to the Mazrui until he ruled over the entire coast. The first volume includes references to pearl fishery in Bahrein.

With Bentley’s 24-page publisher’s advertisement tipped in volume 1. Each title-page with embossed owner’s stamp, each volume with contemporary owner’s entry on first page. Some spotting, boards worn, spine-labels slightly tattered.


The original captain’s log of the first major French Expedition to the Gulf, rediscovered in 2001


In the Gulf and elsewhere at sea, 1841–1844. Autograph ship’s journal in French. 2º. 2 vols. with a total of 192 pages, with more than 40 small pen or pencil drawings in the text, ranging from simple coastal profiles to detailed and skilfully executed views of cities and fortifications. With 11 inserted items, including a letter from Admiral Guy-Victor Duperré (Ministère de la Marine et des Colonies) to Page, and a slip with Chinese characters. Contemporary plain-paper wrappers, with manuscript title on both front wrappers. Stored in custom-made half morocco case with gilt title to spine. € 350 000

Primary source for the very first French diplomatic mission to the Gulf, the trucial Sheikhdoms, Oman and Bahrein, which was published only in extracts (Billecocq 2001, cf. below) and of which to this day no critical edition exists. This is the Captain’s meticulous, illustrated account of the voyage of the French corvette La Favorit, departing under his command from Brest on 3 June 1841, sailing around Africa and along Madagascar to India and the Gulf (extensively exploring both the Arabian and the Persian coasts as far as present-day Kuwait), around the Arabian Peninsula into the Red Sea, then around the southern tip of India to the East Indies, the South China Sea and up the Chinese coast. “Its journey across the eastern seas, especially to the Gulf, was a landmark event. For the first time, a French government was dispatching a ship on a mission to the Gulf, specifically to the Sovereign of the States of the Bahrain Islands” (Billecocq).

Page’s visit to Bahrein was “a truly singular historic event, being the first time that diplomatic relations were established between France and the renowned Gulf islands, so influential in the history of the Middle East and of world civilizations” (Billecocq).

Page went ashore at Muharraq, where he was welcomed by the ruler, Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmad al Khalifa. It has recently been suggested that Abdullah was a much greater and more important figure in Bahrain’s history than has been previously recognised (cf. Abdulaziz Mohamed Hasan Ali al Khalifa, Relentless warrior and shrewd tactician: Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmad of Bahrain 1795–1849, PhD thesis, University
According to Page, the Sheikh was very interested in France and its "sultan", asking many questions and saying: "You are the first of the French sultan's captains I have seen here. Your ship is the first to come here, welcome!". Later that day Page visited the Sheikh’s son Hassan and Ali, where he dined. The next day Page was given some “splendid” Arab horses to explore the island with.

Page’s decision to keep within this journal the letter by Admiral Duperre, Ministère de la Marine et des Colonies, addressed to him from Paris, 27 July 1842, makes perfect sense, as the Admiral congratulates Page extensively on his very interesting report on the Gulf. Obviously Page was well aware of the importance and unique value of his observations made during a journey still characterized in the 21st century as a “landmark event” (Billecocq), all of which finally comes to light through the present journal.

Provenance: Château de Vincennes, Paris, deaccessioned and sold to the Swedish Bookseller and collector Björn Löwendahl, bought from his heirs.


Kashmir manuscript: “five pearls” of Hindu literature, including the Bhagavad gita, with 5 full-page miniatures

291. [PANCARATNAGITA]. Pancha ratnani.

[Kashmir, early 19th-century]. Oblong (9 × 15.5 cm). Manuscript in Sanskrit, written in Devanagari script with a reed (?) pen in red and black ink on both sides of the Asian paper leaves, with 5 full-page miniatures in many colours plus gold and silver with decorative borders, and each page of text in a border of multiple lines with orange predominating. 20th-century boards covered with decorated cloth.

€ 6000

A 19th-century Kashmir manuscript of the Pancha ratnani (five pearls), five of the eighteen books of the Indian epic in Sanskrit verse Mahabharata, including its most famous text, the Bhagavad gita (divine song). The Mahabharata evolved from various sources ca. 400 BCE to ca. 350 CE and relates semi-legendary events from ca. 1400–1000 BCE, but is especially important for its philosophical and devotional aspects. Its central character is Prince Arjuna, the greatest archer of India, and it relates his exploits and his relations with Vishnu, Krishna and other manifestations of god. The Pancha ratnani is a collection of five largely independent books (parvas), the first in four parts, and serves as a Hindu spiritual guide to life. Each of the five books is here preceded by a full-page miniature generally illustrating the story in the book. Although a classic of Hindu spirituality, the text also shows Buddhist influences and the miniatures owe something to Islamic traditions.

In very good condition, book 1 with some leaf numbers shaved or lost in part 2, and none surviving in parts 3 and 4, about 5 leaves with a corner of the margin nibbled and about 6 leaves with minor water stains in the fore-edge margin.


The Venetian Merchant’s Pocketbook

292. PASI, Bartolommeo di. Tariffa de i pesi, e misure corrispondenti dal Levante al Ponente: e da una terra, e luogo all’altro, quasi p tutte le parti del mondo: con la dichiaratione, e notificazione di tutte le robe: che si tragono di uno paese per l’altro con la sua tavola copiosissima, e facillissima a trovare ogni cosa per ordine.
Venice, (Pietro di Nicolini da Sabbio), 1540. 8º. Title with architectural woodcut border. 17th century vellum with manuscript title on spine.

€ 12 000

An early merchants’ guide to the measurements of the Mediterranean and Near East, this pocketbook for sixteenth-century Italian traders is one of the foremost sources for the study of the metrologies of Venice and her trading partners in the early sixteenth century. It
enabled conversion between Venetian currency, weights and measures and units of other Italian city-states, European neighbours and more exotic locations in the Levant, North Africa, the Near and Middle East, including Constantinople, Aleppo, Tripoli, Damascus, Cyprus, Corfu, Rhodes, and Crete. Pasi’s manual is invaluable as a record of the panoply of commodities traded in the Mediterranean at the beginning of the sixteenth century, including pearls, silks, wool, saffron, chestnuts, figs, galangal, vegetable oils, gold and silver. On fols. 3, 11, and 12, Pasi recorded the tariffs on pearls in Damascus, Aleppo, Cairo, Alexandria, Constantinople and Venice.

Some brownstaining to preliminary matter; a few contemporary ink marginalia slightly trimmed in the course of the 17th-century rebinding. On the whole an excellent clean copy. Very rare: the only copy of any edition to surface at auction within the last thirty years appears to be the Honeyman copy of the 1503 edition.


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**On agriculture in the Middle East and the Levant**

293. **PAULSEN, Hermann Christian.** Echte berichten van den akkerbouw der oostersche volkeren, ter opheldering van veele schriftuurplaatsen, ... uit de oostersche reisbeschryvingen vezamelt.

Leiden, Johannes le Mair, 1762. 8º. With 4 engraved plates. Contemporary vellum. €1250

First edition of the Dutch translation of a work on agriculture in the Middle East, written by the German preacher Hermann Christian Paulsen (1718–1780). It covers the fertility of the soil, harvest season, plowing, sowing, etc. The plates show a plow and harvest and threshing methods. The author often refers to biblical passages and other writers (Chardin, Maundrell, Nieuhof and others) concerning agriculture and farming.

Title-page restored at the gutter, a faint water stain in the lower margins, otherwise in very good condition.

STCN 2386588t (5 copies).

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**The first two Arabic books ever printed: an Arabic dictionary containing 30 000 entries, accompanied by a grammar**

294. **PEDRO DE ALCALA.** Arte para ligeramente saber la lengua araviga.

With: (2) Vocabulista aravigo en letra castellana.

(Granada, Juan Varela de Salamanca, 1505). 4º. Two parts in one vol., each with separate woodcut title page, full-page woodcut on verso, and full-page woodcut on final page as well as a table of Arabic letters and numerous initials throughout. Final quire of first part printed in red and black. 19th-century dark brown morocco with giltstamped spine title; leading edges gilt; ornate gilt dentelles. Marbled endpapers. All edges gilt. €250,000

A fine copy, with notable provenance, of what is undoubtedly one of the rarest and most important books related to the Arab world: the first published grammar and the first vocabulary of Arabic (2nd edition of the former, 1st edition of the latter), issued as two separate works but usually encountered together. Geoffrey Roper has characterised this Arabic primer as the first “serious attempt to spread knowledge of the language”.

Occasional slight browning; first t. p. duststained; a few edge defects inconspicuously repaired. The name of the author has been added in ink on the t. p. by a 17th century owner. A fine, clean copy with wide margins. OCLC lists only six complete copies in institutional collections, no copy traceable on the market for nearly two decades.


108 engraved prints centred around the Great Turkish War, with 14 views of Arabia, including Mecca

295. PEETERS, Jacob and Johannes. [Drop-title of letterpress text:] Korte beschryvinghe, ende aewysinghe der plaetsen in desen boeck, naar hunnen tegenwoordighen standt, pertinentlyck uyt-ghbeeldt, in Oostenryck. [Antwerp], Jacob Peeters, [ca. 1683]. Small oblong 2º (17.5 × 29 cm). Collection of 108 engraved prints published by Jacob Peeters, starting with 9 engraved scenes of the siege of Vienna after Romeyn de Hooghe (numbered 1–10, but lacking plate 1), and followed by 99 engraved city views after drawings by Jacob Peeters, engraved by Lucas Vorsterman and Gaspar Bouttats. The city views are preceded by a 12 page letterpress text giving descriptions of the towns. Contemporary red paper-covered boards.

Interesting collection of engraved prints centred around the Great Turkish War (1667–1683), a series of conflicts between the Ottoman Empire and Europe. The collection can be divided into 2 general parts: the first with engraved scenes of the siege of Vienna after Romeyn de Hooghe, and the second with nearly a hundred views of the involved cities. This second part contains 5 separate series, with views of Lower Hungary, Crete and the Maltese Archipelago, the Dardanelles and the Aegean archipelago, the Strait of Gibraltar and North Africa, and the Arabian Peninsula. The series of 14 views of Arabia, includes Mecca, Jerusalem (2), Bethlehem, Kidron Valley, Mount Sinai, Antiochia, the Valley of Terebinthu, Hurcasin near Aleppo, the springs of Mahæ, Rammæ Valley, a valley near Jerusalem with the Mar Elias Monastery, and a view of Suez with the mountains of Arabia in the background.

The collection was published by Jacob Peeters (1637–1693), and most of the engravings are made after drawings by his brother Johannes, or Jan, Peeters (1625–1677), best known for his drawings of city views engraved by Merian. Johannes Peeters was a pupil of their eldest brother Bonaventura Peeters, a well-known painter and draughtsman, and specialized in maritime scenes as well-shown in the present views, often depicting harbours with several ships. The number of plates vary from copy to copy, but the present collection seems to lack at least 1 plate: the first of the scenes of the siege of Vienna. Some occasional foxing and minor stains. Binding rubbed and spine worn and cracked. Good copy.


Two very rare peace treaties between Russia and the Safavid Empire

296. PETER II, Tsar and Shah ASHRAF. Title in Russian followed on the same page by:] Tractat, zwischen dem russischen Reich und dem Sultan Eschref, jetzigem Besitzer des persischen Thrones zu Ispahan. Von russischer Seite ertheilet. St. Petersburg, Imperial Academy of Sciences, 1729.
St. Petersburg, Imperial Academy of Sciences, 1732. Two treaties between Russia and the Safavid Empire in Russian and German in 2 parallel columns. Small 2º (275 × 19.5 cm). Disbound.

Ad 1: Very rare first and only edition of the Treaty of Rasht, a peace treaty between the Russian Empire and the Persian Safavid Empire, concluded between the very young Tsar Peter II and Shah Ashraf, who would both die a year later. After the Russian Tsar Peter the Great died in 1725, Russia faced difficulties in retaining the newly conquered lands around the Caspian Sea. The Safavids wished to push the Russians back from all Persian territory, and after some minor battles, they agreed to a truce in 1727, which was signed at Rasht in 1729. “The treaty incorporated a number of provisions that seemed to resolve all the outstanding issues between Russia and Persia but, as a practical matter, it was never put into effect. By the time the pact was signed, Ashraf’s regime was already on the verge of being overthrown by Nadir Quli Khan. ... Having successfully disposed the Afghans (i.e. Ashraf), Nadir then turned his attention to the restoration of the Persian lands seized earlier by the Ottomans and the Russians” (Sicker).

Ad 2: Second copy located of the first and only edition of a new peace treaty between the new rulers of the Russian and the Safavid Empire, concluded between Tsarina Anna and Shah Tahmasp II, just a few months before the latter was deposed by Nadir Quli Khan, the future Nader Shah.
Upon restoring both treaties, the title-pages were switched; both have their spines strengthened, some restorations to the fore-edge margins and some waterstains, but all text is present and clearly legible; fair copies of two very rare treaties.


The first photographic book to appear on the Nejd


Intriguing photo publication of both Iraq and Central Arabia during the Great War, brought out by St John Philby at the end of the year 1918, after he had served with the British administration in Baghdad from 1915 to 1917 and then travelled through the interior of the Arabian peninsula as head of a mission to Ibn Saud. Philby completed a great tour of the Nejd in nine months, covering some 4000 kilometres. “The first photographic book to appear on Najd” (Badr El-Hage, p. 95f.). The tour of the Nejd shows fascinating images of Jeddah, Nafudh, Sakha, Madhiq, Riyadh, Al-Hafar, Saqah Gorge, the Shamsiyah Garden, etc., as well as Arab chiefs and a group portrait with the anonymous tourist Philby himself, surrounded by his Bedouin escort. “Although Philby was an amateur photographer, and the quality of his photographs fails at times to be up to standard, his achievements were remarkable, and his photographs documented many towns and villages for the first time” (ibid., p. 114).
Near-indecipherable ownership inscription, possibly that of the Sheikh of Muhammerah, Kha’al bin Jabir bin Merdaw al-Ka’bi (1863–1936), to the verso of the rear free endpaper. A photograph of the Sheikh appears in Part II. A few small scuffs and stains, corners bumped. A good copy of this rare and important work usually encountered only in poor condition.

**The book that changed Europe**

**298. PICART, Bernard.** The ceremonies and religious customs of the various nations of the known world.

A perfectly preserved tall paper copy of this beautifully illustrated ethnographic work on the world’s religions. Despite condemnation by the Catholic church, the publication was a resounding success. “Ceremonies and customs” prepared the ground for religious toleration amid seemingly unending religious conflict, and demonstrated the impact of the global on Western consciousness [...] as it shaped the development of a modern, secular understanding of religion” (Hunt). Based on the author’s «Cérémonies et coutumes religieuses de tous les peuples du monde» (Amsterdam, 1723–1743).

Bindings a little rubbed, otherwise an excellent and unusually wide-margined complete copy in uniform bindings with elaborately gilt spines.


**French edition**

**299. PICART, Bernard.** Histoire générale des cérémonies, moeurs, et coutumes religieuses de tous les peuples du monde.
Paris, Rollin fils, 1741. 2º. 7 vols. All title pages printed in red and black. With engr. frontispiece, 7 engr. title-vignettes, numerous engr. head- and tailpieces and initials, and 243 plates. Contemp. half calf; spine elaborated gilt with double giltstamped red labels.

Based on the author’s “Cérémonies et coutumes religieuses de tous les peuples du monde” (Amsterdam, 1723–1743), the text is corrected (and sometimes entirely revised) from the original edition. The plates are mostly repeated from the Dutch publication, but the vignettes are engraved in Paris (by Duflos and others). Also contains descriptions of irreligious customs, such as the Adamites, Flagellants, etc.

Bindings a little rubbed, a bit browned in places, otherwise an excellent and unusually wide-margined complete copy in uniform bindings with elaborately gilt spines.


**The first printed book on food and drink**

**300. PLATINA, Bartolomeus.** De honesta voluptate.
Cividale, Gerardus de Lisa de Flandria, 1480. 4º. Bound in contemporary ornate blind-tooled calf over wooden boards, spine with two raised bands; remains of two metallic clasps with engraved devices. Initials calligraphed in red and blue throughout. Housed in a custom clamshell box.

Scarce early edition of this landmark work of Western civilization: the first printed book on food and drink. “De Honesta Voluptate” is also an invaluable source for cultural historians tracing early trade routes with the East: Platina’s use and discussion of ginger, rice, cinnamon, saffron, cloves, oranges, and so on indicates the already substantial commercial relationship between East and West by the mid-15th century, primarily via Arab traders. A classic text of the Renaissance, no other complete copy in an early binding has been seen in auction records of the last 50 years.
One or two faint marginal annotations in a contemporary hand. Some finger-soiling and toning to title and scattered leaves – commensurate with use – but generally a fresh and very charming example, in what may be its original binding. Front board a little scuffed; some chipping to head and foot of spine; lower clasp with remains of early leather substitute; front endpaper renewed. Small burn hole, affecting a few letters on f 44; small wormhole also affecting a few letters through four leaves of index. Engraved bookplate on pastedown, ca. 1750, with Latin motto. 


The second edition in English, by the greatest translator of the Elizabethan age

301. PLINIUS SECUNDUS, Gaius. The Historie of the World, commonly called the Naturall Historie. London, Adam Islip, 1634. 2 parts in one volume. 2º (23.5 × 32 cm). Elaborate woodcut device on title-page; woodcut initials, head- and tailpieces. Contemporary calf, spine in six compartments, tooled and lettered in gilt. € 15 000

Pliny’s renowned Natural History in its second publication in English (repeating, with corrections, the 1601 first publication), translated by Philemon Holland, the greatest translator of the Elizabethan age. The “Naturalis Historia” is one of the largest single works to have survived from the Roman empire to the modern day and purports to cover the entire field of ancient knowledge, based on the best authorities available to the author. Pliny claims to be the only Roman ever to have undertaken such a work. It comprised 37 books in 10 volumes and covered over 20,000 facts on topics including the fields of botany, zoology, astronomy, geology and mineralogy as well as the exploitation of those resources. It remains a standard work for the Roman period and the advances in technology and understanding of natural phenomena at the time. Some technical advances he discusses are the only sources for those inventions, such as hushing in mining technology or the use of water mills for crushing or grinding corn. Much of what he wrote about has been confirmed by archaeology. “We know from Pliny that there were important pearl fisheries in the Gulf […] Pliny identifies Tylos (Bahrain) as a place famous for its pearls […] He attests that pearls were the most highly rated valuable in Roman society, and that those from the Gulf were specially praised […] The pearl related finds at the site of El-Dur indicate the site was integrated into the maritime trade routes linking the Roman Empire, the Persian Empire, India and South Arabia” (Carter). Book 6 holds a chapter that gives the first detailed account of the regions around the Gulf, including what are now Qatar, the Emirates and Oman.

Binding rubbed; front hinge splitting. Includes the final printed leaf in vol. 2, containing the publisher’s advertisement to the reader that all errors have been corrected in the present edition and the errata leaf (included in the same position in 1601) has become unnecessary rather than having been mistakenly omitted. Some slight browning and brownstaining, but an excellent copy removed in 1973 from the Royal Meteorological Society (Symons Bequest, 1900) with their bookplate on the front pastedown.

STC 20030. Cf. Pforzheimer 496 (1601 ed.).

Pliny’s Natural History, annotated by the Italian scholar Hermolaus Barberus

302. PLINIUS SECUNDUS, Gaius. Opus divinum, cui titulus historiae naturalis, multoqua[m] antehac unqua[m] prodiit in luce[m] castigatius, una cu[m] annotationibus Hermanolai Barbari …

Paris, Jean Petit (colophon: Nicolaus Sauetier), 1526. 2 parts in 1 volume (bound in reverse order). 2º. With title-page to the main work (bound second) printed in red and black and title-page to the index (bound first), each in woodcut border in four pieces. Contemporary or near contemporary calf, with the boards richly blind-tooled in a panel design; rebacked with part of the original backstrip laid down. € 18 000

Very rare Paris edition of Pliny’s Historiae naturalis, in the original Latin, the first edition with annotations by Hermolaus Barbarus (1454–1494). Pliny’s Natural history is one of the largest single works to have survived from the Roman Empire and purports to cover the entire field of ancient knowledge, based on the best authorities available at the time. It encompasses the fields of botany, zoology, astronomy, geology and mineralogy as well as the exploitation of those resources. It
remains a standard work for the Roman period and the advances in technology and understanding of natural phenomena at the time. Pliny’s accounts of some technical advances are the only sources for those inventions. Hermolaus Barbarus was an Italian Renaissance scholar. His discussions of Pliny’s *Natural history* were first published as *Castigationes Plinianae* in 1492, in which he made over 5000 corrections to the original text. Due to this work and other classical works he translated or edited he was considered a leading authority on Latin and Greek antiquity. 

With manuscript inscriptions on title-page. The two parts bound in reverse order. Binding rebacked and restored, but with most of the central tooling on the boards still clear. Text in very good condition, with only a couple marginal water stains and some minor thumbing.

*Bird 1910; USTC 145768 (2 copies); not in Adams; BMC French; Darling; Hunt; Wellcome.*

**Pococke’s celebrated edition of Abu’l-Faraj’s Islamic history:**

*It is his greatest work, and of permanent scholarly value* (Toomer)


Second edition of Pococke’s elaborate *Specimen historiae Arabum*, an excerpt from Abu’l-Faraj’s Islamic history, in Arabic and Latin. The excerpt is “accompanied by a lengthy commentary (printed first in 1648) illuminating Islamic history, geography, mythology, religion, and literature from a wealth of sources, mostly unpublished and previously unknown in Europe. It represents a revolution in Arabic studies, being Pococke’s attempt to show that far from being a mere ancillary to biblical exegesis, Arabic literature (in the widest sense) was worthy of study in its own right in the same way that classical cultures were. It is his greatest work, and of permanent scholarly value” (Toomer). Abu’l-Faraj’s account is followed by unpublished fragments, in Arabic, of Abu’l-Fida’s account of pre-Islamic Arabia, edited by Sylvestre de Sacy.

From the library of the Ducs de Luynes, with their bookplate on pastedown. Foxed, leaf Y4 with tear, otherwise in very good condition and wholly untrimmed. 

*Schnurrer 169; for Pococke: Toomer, “Pococke, Edward (1604–1691)”, in: ODNB (online ed).*

**Augmented Dutch edition of Pococke’s celebrated description of the Near and Middle East, with 205 engraved plates**

304. **POCOCKE, Richard.** Beschryving van het Oosten, en van eneijde andere landen, … Utrecht, Gijsbert Tieme and Abraham van Paddenburg; Rotterdam, Jacobus Bosch and Reinier Arrenberg; Amsterdam, Martinus de Bruyn, 1776–1786. 3 volumes (in 6 parts) bound as 6. 4º. With 205 engraved folding plates (irregularly numbered I–CIII), including maps, plans, views and other illustrations, depicting temples, antiquities, plants, animals, etc. Contemporary half calf. € 15 000

First edition of the Dutch translation of Pococke’s celebrated monograph on the Near and Middle East, praised by Gibbon as a work of “superior learning and dignity” (*Decline and Fall*, ch. 11, n. 69). This Dutch edition was augmented with 27 plates.

“Pococke travelled extensively in Europe from 1733–36 and continued on to the Levant, reaching Alexandria in September 1737.”
He remained three years in the Eastern Mediterranean, visiting Egypt, Palestine, Asia Minor and Greece. His book describes these journeys but not necessarily in chronological order. ... Pococke achieved a great reputation with this publication; the work was very popular during his lifetime and was praised by Gibbon” (Blackmer).

A couple plates in the last volume slightly browned and a few spots on the first few leaves of the first volume, otherwise a very good copy, with the leaves nearly untrimmed. The bindings somewhat rubbed along the extremities (primarily the spines), but otherwise good.

Cox I, p. 224; Tiele, Bibl. 869; cf. Blackmer 1323 (English ed.).

Marco Polo’s famed voyage to China, by way of the Gulf

305. POLO, Marco. Libro del famoso Marco Polo Veneciano delas cosas maravillosas q[ue] vido enlas partes orientales: conviene saber enlas Indias, Armenia, Arabia, Persia, & Tartaria.

(Colophon: Logroño, Miguel de Eguía, 13 June 1529). Small 2º (29 × 21 cm). With the title-page in a 4-piece woodcut architectural border. Blind-tooled calf (ca. 1600?), each board in a panel design of three nested borders made with rolls, the front board with in the central field a helmed profile, 4 impressions of a sun with a face arranged in a square around it, a crowned lion passant (sinister) stamped above and below; the back board with in the central field a lozenge arabesque ornament with a 25 mm coat of arms above and below, a lion statant (sinister) on a shield topped by a Maltese cross and an ecclesiastical (bishop’s?) hat. Rebacked, restored and with later endpapers. €195,000

Extremely rare Spanish translation of Marco Polo’s account of his travels from Venice through the Middle East, Persia and Afghanistan to China and Mongolia and back via the East Indies, India, Persia, Armenia and Istanbul to Venice in the years 1271 to 1295. No book has had such a lasting effect on the Western image of these formerly unknown lands and it also preserved much information that would otherwise have been lost forever. It includes a brief account of the travels made in the 1260s by Marco’s father Niccolò and uncle Maffeo Polo, the first Europeans known to have visited Bukhara (now in Uzbekistan, then part of the Mongol Empire of Kublai Khan), and their further voyage to China. Marco himself set off in 1271 with his father and uncle, stopping in Jerusalem before travelling on via Baghdad to the Caspian Sea and across Persia to Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf. They then turned inland again, crossing Persia, Afghanistan and Kashmir to China and Mongolia. At Shangdu, north of Beijing, they famously met Kublai Khan, who had conquered China to establish the Yuan dynasty since the earlier voyage and was now extending his realm throughout China. They reached the Pacific coast near what is now Beijing, and remained in China for fifteen years, in service of the Khan. They then travelled down the coast to Quanzhou, where they returned by sea via the East Indies, the Strait of Malakka between Sumatra and Malasia, Calcutta and Kalhat (Oman) to Hormuz again. Marco gives vivid descriptions of these lands and their peoples, While the book includes a few additions from other sources (including a description of Samarkand) most of it appears to be Marco Polo’s own eye-witness account.

The present Spanish translation contains an account of the voyage of another Venetian merchant, Nicolò di Conti, in the years 1419 to 1444. He studied Arabic at Damascus then travelled to Basra, Baghdad, through the Arabian Gulf to Hormuz, and then went on to India and the East Indies, returning to Venice via Egypt: “the best account of the East by a fifteenth-century traveller” (Howgego). Marco Polo (1254–1294) came from a wealthy Venetian merchant family. His father Niccolò and uncle Maffeo travelled to China when Marco was a young boy, but it was Marco’s account of his even more extensive travels that brought knowledge of the Islamic, Mongol and Chinese worlds to Europeans, in most cases their first glimpse of these exotic lands. After returning to Venice in 1295 Marco was arrested in Genoa ca. 1298 and while imprisoned with the writer Rustichello da Pisa he related the tales of his travels, which Rustichello wrote up.

With minor unobtrusive restorations to title-page, a small tear running 1 cm into the border at the head and brown stains affecting small parts of a few scattered leaves, but still in good condition. The rare third Spanish edition of Marco Polo’s travels, with important additions not included in editions in many other languages.

Alden & Landis 529124; Cordier, Bibl. Sinica, col. 1976; Howgego C271 & P224–P237; Maggs cat. 493 (1927), no. 6 (this copy); Medina, Bibl. Hispano-Americana 79; Palau 151208.
Pamphlet relating Portuguese notables with the wars of Persia

306. [PORTUGAL]. Noticia breve das novidades da Azia mandadas de Ali-Xarife da cidade de Babilonia; para Soliman morador na Corte de Constantinopla, e desta para a cidade de Sevilha a hum contratador de vidros. (Colophon: Madrid, heirs of Juan Garcia Infanzon, 1742). 4º (20 × 14.5 cm). Disbound. € 3500

Rare pamphlet, satirising several Portuguese notables. According to this pamphlet, presented as a fictional letter from “Ali-Charif of the city of Babylon” to “Suliman the Moor at the court of Constantinople”, these notables are part of a Turkish regiment which might be sent off to fight “Thomas Kaulikan” (Tahmasp Qoli Khan), better known as Nader Shah. A follow-up to the pamphlet was published a week later and once again describes the regiment, now in a letter “from Mecca to Holland, to the city of The Hague”, and from there to Cambrai in France” (cf. Rossi 2392).

Nader Shah was one of the most powerful rulers in Persian history, and waged several military campaigns in Afghanistan and India. Although not at war with Portugal, his war against the Islamic Mughal Empire in India, culminating in the capture of Delhi in 1739, led indirectly to Portugal’s loss of its colonial territory in India in the war with the Hindu Marathas (1737–1741).

Browned throughout, with the spine damaged; a fair copy.

Braga da Cruz, Catalogo da collecção de miscelânes V, 7066; Porbase (2 copies); Rossi, “La Spagna nella ‘Livreria do Convento de Nossa Senhora de Jesus’ in Lisbona” in: Annali-Sezione Romanza XXIII, 2 (1981), 2391; WorldCat (1 other copy).

The book that introduced Islam to Japan: “The Life of Muhammad”


First Japanese edition: the first Japanese book on the life of the prophet Muhammad, drawn from Prideaux’s “The True Nature of Imposture Fully Display’d in the Life of Mahomet” (1697) and translated into Japanese by Hayashi Tadasu, later to become Japan’s Minister for Foreign Affairs. Rare as a complete two-volume set.

Bindings very slightly stained, otherwise fine.


A perfect copy of the original edition

308. PRISSE D’AVENNES, Achille Constant Théodore Émile. L’Art Arabe. Paris, Morel, [1869—]1877. 1 volume of text (4º) and 3 vols. of plates (large 2º). With 34 lithogr. plates (all with tissue guards) and 73 text illustrations. Half morocco with giltstamped title to gilt spine. Spine rebacked. A total of 200 engraved plates (130 of which are chromolithographs and 48 tinted lithographs). Plate volumes bound uniformly with text volume in giltstamped half morocco with cloth covers. € 65 000
Very scarce first edition of this splendid, unsurpassed standard work on Islamic art. Prisse d’Avennes spent many years in Egypt after 1826, first as an engineer in the service of Mehmet Ali. After 1836 he explored Egypt disguised as an Arab and using the name Edris Effendi; during this period he carried out archaeological excavations in the valley of the Nile. In 1860, Prisse d’Avennes returned to France with a wealth of documentation and drawings, which he subsequently had reproduced by specially trained draughtsmen and published in this monumental set.

Beautiful, complete set (the last copy sold at auction was incomplete). Text and plates uncommonly clean and in an excellent state of preservation throughout, in contrast to the known copies in libraries and in institutional possession.

Ibrahim-Hilmy II, 158–140.

Valuable description of Sasanian internal affairs and Persian-Roman relations, including information on Arabia, the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea

309. PROCOPIUS of Caesarea. De bello Persico (lib. 1–2; De bello vandilico, lib. 3–4).

Rome, E. Silber, alias Franck, 1509. 2º. Decorative woodcut initials of 4 to 8 lines. 18th-century paper boards.

First Latin edition of an important history of the Persian wars and the wars against the Vandals in North Africa, divided into 8 books. Procopius’s “description of Sasanian internal affairs and Persian-Roman relations is highly useful and reliable, and he is a primary source for the way the elite of the Later Roman Empire looked on the Persians” (Encyclopaedia Iranica, online ed.). Propocius writes that “the boundaries of Palestine extend toward the east to the sea which is called the Red Sea. Now this sea, beginning at India, comes to an end at this point in the Roman domain. And there is a city called Aelas [modern Aqaba] on its shore, where the sea comes to an end, as I have said, and becomes a very narrow gulf … [which] has received the name of the Arabian Gulf, inasmuch as the country which extends from here to the limits of the city of Gaza used to be called in olden times Arabia, since the king of the Arabs had his palace in early times in the city of Petrae”.

With very few marginal spots and thumbing. A fine copy.

STC Italian, p. 542; Isaac 12013.

On Muhammad Ali, Pasha of Egypt, from the memoirs of an Austrian diplomat


Vienna, Wilhelm Braumüller (colophon: Adolf Holzhausen), 1877. 8º. Contemporary blind-blocked cloth.

First and only edition of a work on Muhammad Ali (1769–1849), Pasha of Egypt, written by the Austrian diplomat Anton Prokesch (1795–1876). From 1824 onwards Prokesch was active in the Middle East, surveying the region and negotiating in various conflicts. In this work he describes his activities during these years especially those relating to Muhammad Ali, for example the peace treaty between Muhammad Ali and the Ottoman Sultan Mahmud II, where Prokesch was present.

Title-page very slightly foxed. Binding slightly discoloured. Overall in very good condition.

A nearly complete collection of the earliest Propaganda Fide exotic alphabets (1629–1776), including Arabic, Burmese, Ethiopic, Greek and Syriac

311. [PROPAGANDA FIDE]. (1) Alphabetum Armenum iussu S.D.N. Gregorii xv. ... (2) Alphabetum Aethiopicum, sive Abyssinum. (3) Alphabetum Arabicum ... (4) Alphabetum Barmanum seu Bomanum ... (5) Alphabetum Bramhanicum ... (6) Alphabetum Chaldaicum, ... (7) Alphabetum Chaldaicum ... (8) Alphabetum Cophtum sive Aegyptiacum ... (9) Alphabetum Graecum ... (10) Alphabetum veterum Etruscorum ... (11) Alphabetum Ibericum, ... (12) [Alfabeta]. (13) Alphabetum Hebraicum ...

Rome, Propaganda Fide, 1629–1776. 13 works in 1 volume. 8º and small 4º. Sheepskin parchment (ca. 1776). € 12,500

An extraordinary and nearly complete collection of the earliest alphabets of exotic languages, printed and published by the Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide, sometimes together with one or more short liturgical texts. In many cases the Alphabetum is the first publication to use the newly cut type and in some cases the type was the first or virtually the first ever cut for that kind of script. Together they show alphabets printed from types for Greek, Hebrew (meruba & rabbinical), Arabic, Syriac (serto, estrangela and East Syriac), Samaritan, Georgian, Armenian, Ethiopic, Coptic, Devanagari, Burmese and Etruscan.

The Vatican established the Propaganda Fide in 1622 to promote Catholic missionary work, especially in the Middle and Near East, and it set up its own printing office in Rome in 1626. The printing office acquired the largest collection of exotic printing types in the world, most of them exclusive to their press. In 1629 they began printing and publishing these small booklets displaying alphabets for exotic languages.

Ad 1 with 2 blank pieces of the title-page excised and patched from the back and some pages of ad 11 misbound. Some occasional browning and a couple minor abrasions or small tears. Otherwise in good condition.

Amaduzzi, pp. 7–8; Birrell & Garnett 5–15; Philologia orientalis 193–209.

First-hand account of the African slave trade


London, Seeley & Co., [1891]. 8º. With a portrait frontispiece, 8 plates, and 13 text illustrations. Publisher’s original giltstamped auburn cloth. € 1500

An important, first-hand account of the African slave trade in the late 19th century, with a discussion of the historical role played by ethnic Arabs, often based in Zanzibar. Occasional light browning; blindstamp of W. H. Smith & Son, Library. Extremities slightly rubbed, but still a good copy.

The earliest obtainable printed map of the Arabian Peninsula

313. PTOLEMAEUS, Claudius. Sexta Asiae Tabula.

[ Rome, Conrad Sweynheym and Arnold Buckinck for Domitius Calderinus, 1478]. Engraved map of the Arabian Peninsula, hand-coloured and printed (as usual) on two joined 2º leaves (together 563 × 396 mm). Matted and framed. € 65,000

Highly important early map of the Arabian Peninsula and adjoining regions, from the extraordinary 1478 Rome edition of Ptolemy’s “Geography”, created under the direction of Conrad Sweynheim (who apprenticed with Gutenberg). The second map of the Peninsula ever published, in its first state, this is the earliest obtainable printed map of Arabia, preceded only by the less detailed and crudely engraved specimen in the Bologna edition of Ptolemy, which is generally regarded as unobtainable.

The present map is an excellent example of Sweynheim’s finely engraved map of Arabia, based upon Ptolemy. Among the towns shown are Medina (Lathrippa) and the archaeological sites of Zubarah (Catara) and Al-Dur (Domana). The association of Macorauba with Mecca is disputed. Shirley notes that “[t]he new copper plates engraved at Rome for the 1478 edition of Ptolemy’s ‘Geography’ are much superior in clarity and craftsmanship to those of the Bologna edition. There is evidence that work on the Rome edition had
been started in 1473 or 1474, and several of the plates may well have been engraved before those printed [by Taddeo Crivelli] at Bologna in 1477. The printing was carried out by two skilled printers of German origin: Conrad Sweynheym and his successor Arnold Buckinck; the publisher was Domitianus Calderinus. Many consider the Rome plates to be the finest Ptolemaic plates produced until Gerard Mercator engraved his classical world atlas of 1578” (p. 3).

Until the 1477 edition was definitively dated, the 1478 edition was believed to be the first printed atlas. Buckinck completed the work started by Sweynheym, whose method of using a printing press for the copperplate maps, together with the fine engraving, produced excellent results. Christopher Columbus owned a copy of this edition, which he annotated. The plates for the 1478 Rome Ptolemy were later purchased by Petrus de Turre in 1490, who published the second, unchanged edition of the map; it was again reprinted in 1507. The editions are identical, although there are different watermarks in the paper (though there is some debate as to whether the watermarks are in fact completely reliable in determining the editions).

Some faint stains along the edges of the paper and in the gutter. In very good condition.


One of the earliest maps of Arabia, with unique contemporary illumination

314. PTOLEMAEUS, Claudius. Sexta Asie Tabula.

Ulm, Lienhart Holle, 1482. Double-page woodcut map, fine original hand-colour, with near-contemporary manuscript vignette illustrations of an Ababeel bird, Makkah and Kaaba in pen and wash heightened in gold. 414 by 572 mm. Framed.

The first-ever printed woodcut map of the Arabian peninsula, here in original hand colour and adorned with unique, hand-drawn illumination added by a contemporary artist. The map was published in the first atlas printed outside Italy; it was the first atlas to be illustrated with woodcut maps. Remarkably, the hand-drawn vignette illustrations include a depiction of the relief of Makkah, besieged by Abrahah, through the Ababeel birds, who pelted the attacking army of war elephants with burning stones from the pits of the fires of hell. The image shows a gigantic blue-and-gilt Ababeel bird above the city, engulfed in flames—not only one of the earliest depictions of Makkah but also an amazing example of cross-cultural exchange of narratives during the early Renaissance, proving a Western illustrator’s familiarity with a Middle Eastern tradition famously referenced in the Qur’an (sura 105, known as al-Fil, The Elephant): “Wa ‘arsala ‘Aalayhim tayran ‘Ababeel, Tarmeehim bihijaratin min sijjeel” (“And He sent against them birds in flocks, Striking them with stones of burning clay”). No other example with these illustrations of Makkah is known, nor are they contained in any printed edition of Ptolemy.

315. **PTOLEMAEUS, Claudius.** Sexta Asiae tabula.

Second map of the Arabian peninsula ever published. [Rome?, Petrus de Turre?, 1490? (engraved Rome, ca. 1478)]. Engraved map of the Arabian peninsula (topographic image 25.5 × 46 cm) printed, as usual, on two joined 2º leaves (together 39.5 × 56 cm). Mounted on paper board, in a modern gilt frame (50.5 × 67 cm). Framed.

Second map of the Arabian peninsula ever published, in its first state. It was originally engraved as part of the extraordinary 1478 Rome edition of Ptolemy’s *Geographia*, and the map was preceded by only the one published in the less detailed and crudely engraved Bologna edition published in 1477. Among the towns shown are Medina (Lathrippa) and the archaeological sites of Zubarah (Catara), and Al-Dur (Domana). The association of Macoraba with Mecca is disputed. The map was reprinted unchanged in 1490 and 1507. These two Ptolemaeus atlases contain the earliest copperplate maps ever produced and the original printer’s careful experiments clearly paid off. “Many consider the Rome plates to be the finest Ptolemaic plates produced until Gerard Mercator engraved his classical world atlas of 1578” (Shirley).

Some faint stains along the edges of the paper and in the gutter, small restoration in gutter of the lower margin and a very minor tear near the upper left corner. In good condition.

Al Ankary 3; Nordenskiöld 201.21; Tibbetts 4; for the atlas: Shirley, *Mapping of the world* 4.

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316. **PUCCINI, Giacomo, Italian composer (1858–1924).** *La Bohème […] Opera completa per canto e pianoforte. Riduzione di Carlo Carignani.*

Milano, G. Ricordi, 1896. 4º. Original boards with giltstamped spine and cover. Preserved in a modern case of black chagrin with acrylic glass window.

With Puccini’s autograph inscription to the Italian politician Settimio Costantini (1839–99), mayor of Teramo and a representative in the Chamber of Deputies. Puccini inscribed this copy of “La Bohème” – considered his masterpiece by many – a mere week after its first performance on 1 February 1896 at the Teatro Regio in Turin under the direction of the young Arturo Toscanini. Some slight staining throughout, more pronounced in first leaves. Binding rubbed at extremeties. Spine professionally repaired using the original binding. From the collection of Pierre Bergé with his bookplate on the front pastedown.

Inscribed copy

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317. [QURAN]. Separate leaf from a Kufic manuscript on vellum.

Abbasidic (Near East), 9th century. 187 × 276 mm. With a rosette gilt and in gouache colour. Diacritical marks added later in black ink, vocalization marks in red (as well as one in green and one in blue). 5 lines.

Ninth century Quran leaf
Well-preserved leaf in monumental Kufic script (line height ca 30 mm), written in dark brown ink. The text is from the middle part of verse 109 of the second Quran sura. The script style belongs to group D (according to Déroche’s classification, subtype D.III).

Similar examples are usually dated to the 9th century CE. (cf. François Déroche, The Abbasid Tradition, London 1992. The Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art, Vol. I, nos. 25 [p. 76] and 34/35 [p. 84]). The polychromatic rosette shows an inscribed number. The red dots are vocalisation marks; the diacritics (in the form of small slashes) were added later in black ink.

Some browning and staining. Brittle in places due to ink corrosion (minor defects to vellum). Verso rubbed, but still legible.


The first Quran available to Western scholars

318. [QURAN—LATIN]. BIBLIANDER, Theodor, ed. Machumetis Saracenorum principis, eiusque successorum vitae, ac doctrina, ipseque Alcoran, …

[Basel, Johann Oporinus, Nikolaus Brylinger, 1543]. Lacking 1 preliminary leaf in part 1 and 2 preliminary leaves in part 3 (removed by anti-Lutheran censors).


Basel, Adam Petri, 1527. 2 works (1 in 3 parts) in 2 volumes. 20 (28 × 20 cm). Uniform, tanned sheepskin (ca. 1795), gold-tooled spines.

First Latin edition of the Quran and the second edition in any language (after Paganino’s Arabic edition, Venice, 1537/38, which survives in only 1 copy), complete with the extensive commentaries and historical additions in parts 2 and 3. The text is based primarily on an Arabic manuscript acquired by Pierre de Cluny and Bernard de Clairvaux in Toledo in the 12th century. De Cluny had it translated into Latin by the Englishman Robert of Ketton, also in Toledo, who completed his translation in 1143. Martin Luther acquired a copy of Ketton’s 400-year-old translation and had Theodor Bibliander edit and publish it. It was a remarkable pioneering effort to make the text of the Quran available and readable among Western scholars. It long remained nearly the only source for any European who wished to study the Quran. Part 2 contains a compilation of earlier writings about Islam and the Quran, some printed in Greek and Latin parallel texts, including writings by Savonarola and Nicolaus Cusanus. The third part contains writings about the Ottomans, Islam, and Tamerlane’s Mongol invasion.

The present copy has the first edition of five short works by Philo of Alexandria, a Jewish philosopher in classical Greece, bound after the text of the Quran in volume 1. It includes a work about Hebrew names, perhaps considered valuable to scholars studying the Quran. With 3 early owners’ inscriptions on the title-page. With a few worm holes in the gutter margin of the last few leaves of both volumes and occasional minor water stains or other minor blemishes. Otherwise in very good condition. The binding has some worm damage in the spine but is otherwise also very good. The first Latin edition of the Quran and the source for nearly all early Western Quranic studies.

Ad 1: VD 16, K2584; USTC 674633; cf. Göllner 1792–1793; ad 2: VD16, P2490; USTC 683921.

First Dutch translation of the Quran, together with a life of Muhammad and a work on the Ottoman Empire


With:

(2) [MUHAMMAD]. Historie van den oorsprongh, geslacht, geboorte, opvoedinge, en leere des grooten valschen propheets Mahomet.

Amsterdam, Broer Jansz., 1640. With engraved frontispiece and 9 engraved illustrations in the text.
(3) **OTTOMAN EMPIRE**. Prophetien, of voorseggingen der beyde Keyseren Severi en Leonis, die beyde in Orienten geregeert hebben. Amsterdam, Broer Jansz., 1640. With 15 numbered engraved illustrations. 3 works in 1 volume. 4º. 18th-century calf with the coat of arms of Aaron de Joseph de Pinto stamped in gold on both boards, gold-tooled spine. € 12 500

First Dutch translation of the Quran, translated after the first German version by Salomon Schweiger (1616). Schweiger, a protestant minister who sojourned in Istanbul for three years, knew little Arabic and translated from an Italian version of 1547, which on its turn was based on a Latin rendering of the original Arabic.

The work is bound with a rare second edition of a (critical) life of Muhammad with an account of the early spread of Islam (ad 2), and a second Dutch edition of the prophetic visions of the Byzantine Emperors Leo VI and Severus on the end of the Ottoman Empire (ad 3), both works first published in 1627.

The book comes from the library of the wealthy Amsterdam merchant Aaron de Joseph de Pinto (1710–1758), a distinguished book collector who had his books bound by the so-called “Fleur-de-Lis Bindery” at The Hague.

Some owner’s entries on flyleaf; slightly shaved. Very good copies, with an interesting provenance.

Ad 1: STCN (6 copies?); Waller 46; ad 2: STCN (3 copies, including 1 incomplete); ad 3: STCN (3 copies); Waller 1389; on the binding: Storm van Leeuwen, Dutch decorated bookbinding (2006), II A, pp. 111–112.

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**The earliest complete translation of the Qur’an into a European vernacular**

**320. [QURAN]. RYER, André du.** L’Alcoran de Mahomet. Translaté d’Arabe en François.

Paris, Antoine de Sommaville, 1647. 4º. Contemp. half calf with giltstamped spine. € 5500

Rare first edition of “the oldest complete translation of the Qur’an into a European vernacular” (Encyclopedia of the Qur’an). Du Ryer’s work served as the basis for further translations of the Qur’an into English, German, Dutch, and Russian, and was instrumental in introducing Europeans to the tenets of the Muslim faith. A prayer printed in Arabic is included on the verso of leaf e2.

Some waterstaining throughout; occasional worming; more pronounced edge damage near end. Provenance: 1714 ms. ownership (partly stricken out) of the Castelnaudary Capuchins, dissolved in 1789; acquired by the notary J. L. E. Bauzit of Castelnaudary (his ownership on title and flyleaf).


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**The Maracci copy of the famous Hamburg Qur’an**

**321. [QURAN—ARABIC]. HINCKELMANN, Abraham, ed.** Al-Coranus s. lex Islamitica Muhammadis.

Hamburg, “officina Schultzio-Schilleriana” [= the widow of Gottfried Schultz & Benjamin Schiller], 1694. 4º. With woodcut Arabic half-title. Set in roman, italic and Arabic types with incidental fraktur, Greek and Hebrew. Contemporary vellum. € 25 000

First and only edition of Hinckelmann’s Arabic text of the Qur’an, the second edition of the Arabic Qur’an, the first actually available to readers and the only convenient edition before 1834, with a 36-page Latin introduction by the editor making extensive reference to the earlier literature. The first complete Arabic edition of the Qur’an was printed at Venice ca. 1537/38, intended for distribution in the Middle East, but the entire edition was thought to have been destroyed until one copy turned up in the
157.

Hinckelmann’s edition was therefore the first edition available to European scholars, missionaries or Islamic readers. It was followed by Ludovico Marracci’s Arabic and Latin edition published at Padua in 1698, whose two folio volumes and extensive (anti-Islamic) commentary made it both expensive and inconvenient to use. The editions published at St Petersburg (from 1789) and Kazan (from 1803) for the use of Islamic groups in the Russian Empire were almost unknown in Europe, so the present edition remained the primary source for European knowledge of the Qur’an for 140 years, until Flügel’s 1834 Leipzig edition.

With two contemporary or near contemporary owner’s inscriptions, including “H[?]. C. Maraccu’ii” on a free endleaf. Possibly the present copy was owned by the well-known Italian orientalist and professor of Arabic Ludovico Maracci (1612–1700), whose edited the first scholarly published Quran in Arabic along with an accurate Latin translation. In very good condition, with an occasional minor spot, a faint marginal water stain in 10 leaves near the end and the paper very slightly browned, and only slightly trimmed, preserving an occasional deckle. The binding is somewhat rubbed and stained but still good.

Hamilton, Europe and the Arab world 33; Philologia orientalis 360; Schnurrer 376; VD17, 7:70706Q & 3:314172A.

The Hamburg Qur’an, the first Arabic printed Qur’an available

322. [QURAN—ARABIC]. HINCKELMANN, Abraham, ed. Al-Coranus s. lex Islamitica Muhammadis. Hamburg, “officina Schultzio-Schilleriana” [= the widow of Gottfried Schultz & Benjamin Schiller], 1694. 4º.

With woodcut Arabic half-title. Set in roman, italic and Arabic types with incidental fraktur, Greek and Hebrew. Contemporary vellum.

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With bookplate on paste-down, covered behind the first endleaf, which is partially mounted to the paste-down, and an inscription on flyleaf. First quire partly detached, two small tears in the foot margins of pp. 185–186 and 375–376, first leaf slightly soiled and some minor thumbing to the first and last few leaves, otherwise in very good condition.

Hamilton, Europe and the Arab world 33; Philologia orientalis 360; Schnurrer 376.

Uncommon Dutch Quran


Uncommon Dutch edition of du Ryer’s version, in a translation by J. H. Glasemaker (previously published in 1658), with a Life of the Prophet and numerous engravings by Caspar Luyken (1672–1708). Du Ryer’s 1647 French version served as the basis for further translations of the Qur’an (including English, German, and Russian), and was instrumental in introducing Europeans to the tenets of the Muslim faith.

Block somewhat loosened, but still a good copy.

Dutch translation of the Quran and the life of Muhammad, with 6 engraved plates by Caspar Luyken

324. [QURAN—DUTCH]. Mahomets Alkoran, door de hr. Du Ryer uit d'Arabische in de Fransche taal gestelt; benevens een tweevoudige beschrijving van Mahomets leven; en een verhaal van des zelfs reis ten hemel, gelijk ook zijn samenspraak met de Jood Abdias.

Amsterdam, Timotheus ten Hoorn, 1696. 8°. With an integral engraved title-page, engraved by J. Lamsvelt, and 6 engraved plates showing the Prophet Muhammad, engraved by Caspar Luyken. Contemporary vellum. € 3500

Second edition, the first with the engraved plates by Caspar Luyken, of the second Dutch translation of the Quran, translated by Jan Hendrik Glazemaker from André Du Reyer’s French translation. Glazemaker’s translation was first published in 1657 and proved quite popular, going through six editions (the last, in 1734, called the seventh). The text of the Quran is followed by a life of Muhammad, extracted from Ibn al-Amid’s history of the Saracens and several other sources, translated from Erpenius’s Latin rendering of the original Arabic. This edition was intended for Christians, who did not concern themselves with the Islamic restrictions on pictorial illustration. The preface is followed by a 5-page summary of the religion of the Ottomans.

With some dark stains in the second quire and pp. 207–216, and occasionally a marginal stain. Binding stained. Otherwise in good condition.

Klaversma & Hannema 1048; Thijsse-Schouten, Jan Hendrik Glazemaker 30; STCN 10540695

325. [QURAN—DUTCH]. Mahomets Alkoran, door de hr. Du Ryer uit d’Arabische in de Fransche taal gestelt; benevens een tweevoudige beschrijving van Mahomets leven; en een verhaal van des zelfs reis ten hemel, gelijk ook zijn samenspraak met de Jood Abdias.

Amsterdam, Timotheus ten Hoorn, 1698. 8°. With an integral engraved title-page (dated 1696), engraved by J. Lamsvelt, and 6 engraved plates showing the Prophet Muhammad, engraved by Caspar Luyken. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum. € 2300

Third edition (one of two simultaneously published issues) of the second Dutch translation of the Quran, translated by Jan Hendrik Glazemaker from André Du Reyer’s French translation and finely illustrated by Caspar Luyken. Glazemaker’s translation was first published in 1657 and proved quite popular, going through six editions. The text of the Quran is followed by a life of Muhammad, extracted from Ibn al-Amid’s history of the Saracens and several other sources, translated from Erpenius’s Latin rendering of the original Arabic. This edition was intended for Christians, who did not concern themselves with the Islamic restrictions on pictorial illustration. The preface is followed by a 5-page summary of the religion of the Ottomans.

Occasionally a brown stain, mostly in the margins, otherwise in very good condition. Binding somewhat stained.

Klaversma & Hannema 1049; Thijsse-Schouten, Jan Hendrik Glazemaker 30; STCN 108532685.
326. [QURAN]. [A splendid illuminated Quran manuscript].

Iran, AH 1204 [1783 AD], 8° (14.8 × 9 cm) Illuminated Arabic manuscript on paper, 19 lines per page, written in a neat Naskhi script in black ink with diacritics in red, margins ruled in gold and colours. Gold discs or florets between verses, sura headings written in white within gilt cartouches flanked by panels with alternating floral motifs in gold and various colours. Brown morocco with flap and giltstamped borders and central ornaments. € 18 000

Splendid pocket-size Qur’an. Marginal section markers in white naskh on gold ground within polychrome flower blossom, opening double-page frontispiece richly illuminated in lapis lazuli blue, green, red, pink, and gold, the text within cloud bands in gold. Hinge tender between the first two pages, some light marginal fingering, otherwise in perfect condition. From the library of the scientists and collectors Crawford Fairbanks Failey (1900–81) and Gertrude Van Wagenen (1893–1978), who performed research at Yale and Johns Hopkins in the fields of medical chemistry and biology.

Manuscript chronicle of the Islamic World 635–1453

327. [RAMPOLDI, Giovanni Battista]. [Annali Musulmani].

[Tuscany?, ca. 1825]. 4° (20.5 × 14 cm). Manuscript in Italian, written in dark brown ink on (mostly) laid paper. Contemporary or near contemporary half maroon cloth. € 8500

An Italian manuscript chronicle of the Islamic states from 635 to 1453 (from soon after the death of Muhammad to the conquest of Constantinople by the Ottoman Empire), largely excerpted from Rampoldi’s twelve-volume Annali Musulmani. After a brief introduction, the bulk of the text is arranged under headings for the years in chronological order. The watermarks suggest the manuscript was produced around the time Rampoldi’s publication was completed. Giovanni Rampoldi (1761–1836), a customs official in Milan, learned Arabic in North Africa, Turkey and the Middle East in the 1780s. Though he never took an academic post, he became a leading Islamicist and historian of the Islamic world. He compiled his magnum opus in twelve volumes, published from 1822 to 1826, the most comprehensive history of Islamic states to that time and, in the Enlightenment spirit, unusually free of anti-Islamic prejudice.

In very good condition, with only a couple small marginal tears and wholly untrimmed. The binding is slightly loose and has some worm holes in the cloth, bumped corners and slightly rubbed, but still generally good. An Italian manuscript chronicle of the Islamic World.

Cf. Ibrahim-Hilmy II, p. 130.
Lodovico Varthema, Vasco da Gama, and Duarte Barbosa on the Arabian Gulf

328. RAMUSIO, Giovanni Battista. Delle navigationi et viaggi. Venice, heredi di Lucantonio Giunti, 1554–1574. 3 parts in 3 2º volumes. With a total of 51 engravings in the text (7 full-page) and 12 double-page maps and plans (2 full-page). 20th-c. full brown morocco, double-gilt fillet on the covers, spine ribbed and decorated with gilt fleurons, mottled edges. Stored in custom-made calf-edged slipcases. € 85 000

Perfectly complete copy of this superb collection of travels, composed of the first edition of the 3rd part and the second edition of the 1st and 2nd part. The second edition, widely enlarged, of the 1st part, is the first and only one to present the 3 double-page maps representing Africa and India that had not been printed in the first edition of 1550, and which would not be reprinted in the 3rd edition of 1563 since the wood plates of these 3 maps had been destroyed in the fire that ravaged Giunti’s workshop in 1557.

The first volume includes several travel reports of the utmost importance for the exploration of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf region. Lodovico Varthema’s travel report, famous for detailing the first recorded visit of a Westerner to Mecca, indeed the first western encounter with the Arab world, contains accounts of the holy cities of as well as of the port of Jeddah, information on Bedouin life and costume, etc. The account of Vasco da Gama’s voyage to India is comparable in importance only to Columbus’s in the west, as it “opened the way for the maritime invasion of the East by Europe” (PMM 42). Duarte Barbosa’s report includes accounts of Mecca and Medina, the ports of Jeddah and Aden, the Arab kingdom of Hormuz, Jufar and the islands in the Arabian Gulf, etc.

Also, we find the very early and highly influential, albeit imprecise data on the Kuwait region.

The volume also includes a set of three woodcut maps by Gastaldi: the first showing Africa, the second showing the Indian subcontinent, the Strait of Hormuz, the Eastern half of the Gulf, and the Indian Ocean, while the third shows Southeast Asia and the East Indies. These were a great advance on earlier maps, including even Gastaldi’s own, taking into account new information provided by Portuguese explorers. Many of the topographic names in the Gulf region derive from the forms used by these navigators and can be identified, sometimes tentatively, from their place on the first two of these maps and from the early accounts of the voyages: “Cor. Dulfar” (Dhofar), the island “Macira” (Masirah), “C. Resalgate” (Ras al Had?), “Galatia” (the ancient site Qalhat), “Mazcate” (Muscat), the island “Quexumo” (Qeshm), “Ormus” (Hormuz), and there is even an unlabelled city close to the present-day Abu Dhabi.

Occasional handwritten ink notes. Waterstain on the lower part of vol. 2; some browned leaves; otherwise fine, a washed copy.

Provenance: Professor Eva G. R. Taylor (1879–1966), historian of science and the first woman to hold an academic chair of geography in the UK, presented to Birkbeck College, University of London (bookplate) and sold through Sotheby’s in 1990.


The Medicis’ Coca-Cola formulas: Italian Baroque soft drink recipes

329. [RECIPES] Androfilo SANNATELE. Lo scudo ne giorni canicolari, che contiene diverse acq. concie. Probably Tuscany, 1658. Small 4º. Italian manuscript in black ink on paper. Rebound in modern half leather. € 2800

Remarkable mid-17th-century Italian manuscript in the Tuscan dialect, entitled “Shield for the Dog Days” and containing a total of 29 numbered recipes for flavoured and perfumed waters to help the thirsty through the hottest days of summer. The recipes include “acque di Gelsumini” (Jasmine water), “acqua con fiori di melangoli” (water flavoured with blossoms of bitter oranges), “acqua di limoni” (lemonade), “acqua di foglie di cedro” (cedar leaf water), “acqua di fraule” (strawberry water), “acqua di Tubarosa” (tuberose water), but also cocoa drinks (“per far la cicolata”) and coffee (“per far cafe”), etc. Also, a recipe “how to lend any water the colour of wine without changing its taste” (“per dare il colore di vino a qualsi vogl’ acqua senza levarli il sapore”). Some waterstaining and ink corrosion (loss of page numbers, otherwise well legible). A rare survival.
**Four important treatises on Islam**

330. **RELAND, Adrian, et al.** *Four Treatises Concerning the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Mahometans [...].*  
London, J. Darby for B. Lintott, 1712. 8º. Contemp. boards; spine rebacked with calf; giltstamped spine label. All edges red.  

Four important 17th and 18th century Western treatises on Islam, uniting works by Adrian Reland, Albert Bobovius, and Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz. Reland’s two works in especial, first published in 1705, were considered a groundbreaking achievement: the first contains a brief dogmatic treatise (translated from an Arabic ms.), providing a Muslim self-portrait, while the second rectifies prevalent misconceptions about Islam (cf. Fück). The material, including translations of many passages, was drawn from original sources, chiefly from the 11th-century philosopher Ahmad ibn al-Husayn Abu Shuja` al-Isfahani (cf. Quérard, *La France litt.* VII, 512). The third part, originally published in Latin (Oxford 1690) as “Tractus de Turcorum liturgia”, also discusses the pilgrimage to Mecca and includes notes by Thomas Hyde. The fourth part, by Mathurin Veyssière de Lacroze, was first published in his “Dissertations historiques sur divers sujets” (Rotterdam, 1707; cf. Quérard IV, 381). From the library of the British philosopher of religion, David Arthur Pailin (b. 1936), with his bookplate and notes laid in.


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**Only copy located of a hand-coloured print series of Arabian horses, after drawings made in Baghdad**

331. **RICH, Claudius James and Siegmund Ferdinand von PERGER.** *Sammlung und Darstellung verschiedener Pferde interessanter Zuchten, Landeskarten und Rassen ...*  
Vienna, Müllersche Kunsthandlung, 1815. Oblong 2º (31 x 42.5 cm). Engraved print series, including a title-page engraved by Dorneck and 6 numbered engravings of horses engraved by Siegmund Ferdinand von Perger, hand-coloured and loose as issued.

Only copy located of the first of two (?) instalments of a hand-coloured engraved print series depicting five Arabian horses and one Hungarian stallion stud. All prints were engraved by the Austrian painter, draughtsman and engraver Siegmund Ferdinand von Perger (1778–1841), at the request of the Master of the Horse (Oberstallmeister) Johann Nepomuk Joseph Norbert Grafen zu Trauttmansdorff-Weinsberg (1780–1834). The five full-blood Arabian horses are after drawings made in Baghdad by the British merchant and antiquarian scholar Claudius James Rich (1787–1821) of horses in his own possession, with their pedigrees and other details in the captions below. Four of these also include a figure in Arabian garb.  

Paper slightly browned, but otherwise in very good condition, with a few specks and the edges of a few leaves a bit frayed or with tiny marginal tears (not approaching the plate edge).

Nagler XI, pp. 105–106; Thieme & Becker XXVI, p. 412; not in Dejager; Huth; KVK/WorldCat; Podeschi.
332. RICOLDUS de Monte Crucis. Conufato Alcorani seu legis Saracenorum. [Basel, Nikolaus Kessler], ca. 1507. Small 4º. Title is fragmentary, preserving the letterpress only, laid down to old paper. Near-contemporary full leather binding, spine rebacked. All edges red. € 15 000

Rare edition of this famous and scare refutation of the Qur’an. While many of his writings praise the Muslims’ social behaviour, hospitality and sense of honour, Ricoldus’s best-known work is a notorious refutation of the Islamic doctrines, contending that the Qur’an’s self-contradictory passages, confused arrangement and want of miracles prove that Islam cannot be a true revealed religion. Despite the author’s hostility towards Islam his work shows specific knowledge of the Qur’an and overcomes one important prejudicial error common to other medieval criticisms of Islam: the perception that Muhammad introduced a christological heresy. The work was widely received; a Greek translation was prepared as early as 1385 by Demetrius Kydones, which was re-translated into Latin by Bartolomeo Piceno as “Improbatio” or “Conufatatio Alcorani”. A Spanish version appeared at Toledo in 1502, and Luther translated parts into German in 1530.

Binding worn but professionally repaired; spine rebacked. Some fingerstaining and browning with occasional slight worming to gutter. Trimmed rather closely with printed marginalia cropped in places, title fragment torn out and mounted, preserving some old handwritten annotations. Provenance: Mehmed V (1844–1918), Sultan of the Ottoman Empire from 1909, with his his Arabic bookplate on the pastedown. VD 16, R 2528. BNHCat R 296. This edition not in Panzer.

333. RIESENTHAL, Oskar von. Die Raubvögel Deutschlands und des angrenzenden Mitteleuropas. Cassel, Theodor Fischer (back of title-page: L. Döll), 1876[–1878]. 2 volumes (8º text and large portfolio). Text volume with a few wood engraved illustrations in text (1 full-page) and 5 lithographed plates; portfolio with 60 chromolithographed plates printed by Theodor Fischer after paintings and drawings by the author (paper size: ca. 40 × 29 cm). Original publisher’s green blind- and gold-stamped cloth, text volume with the title on spine and front board, portfolio with the title and a bird on the front. € 3500

First edition of a richly illustrated work on birds of prey living in Germany and nearby countries, written by the German forester and ornithologist Oskar von Riesenthal (1830–1898). The text volume describes various birds of prey, including owls, arranged according to their taxonomic classification and describing their appearances, reproduction, habitat, hunt, etc. The chromolithographed plates depict most of these birds, frequently showing both male and female of a young bird as well, with both their Latin and German name at the bottom. Two plates are devoted to falconry equipment like gloves and head caps.

Title-page browned, occasionally some faint foxing; only a few plates very slightly foxed. Binding of text volume rubbed along the extremities, hinges crack; portfolio somewhat worn along the extremities.

Anker 422; Nissen, IVB 782; Zimmer II, p. 525–526.
A rare coloured copy of the standard 2º edition—the date of the colour is difficult to establish exactly but it is reasonable to assume the colour is old even if not contemporary with the date of issue—original coloured copies were mounted on card. Some general foxing—sometimes quite extensive. The binder has altered the positioning of some of the plates to accommodate a 6 volumes in 4 format.

First-hand account of the Ceylonese rebellion against the Portuguese

335. RODRIGUEZ DE SAA Y MENEZES, Juan. Rebelion de Ceylan, y los progressos de su conquista en el gobierno de Constantino de Saa, y Noroña.

Lisbon, Antonio Craesbeeck de Mello, 1681. Small 4º (19.5 × 14 cm). 18th-century limp sheep parchment. €12 500

Very rare first and only edition of a first-hand account of the rebellion of the Sinhalese natives, supported by the Dutch, against the Portuguese government of Ceylon (Sri Lanka), concentrating on the years 1623 to 1630, when the author’s father was governor of the island. The main text in Spanish, comprising a prologue and sixteen chapters, begins with a general description of the island, its emperors before the arrival of the Portuguese in 1505, the customs of the natives, and the Portuguese government. These are followed by an account of the author’s father, Constantino de Saa y Noroña (1586–1630), his taking office as governor and captain general, his principles of government and his reforms, his victories and conquests, and his achievements generally. Finally comes the rebellion itself, led by the King of Kandy, and its immediate aftermath, including the death of De Saa. Although the Dutch came to Ceylon in 1602 and encouraged disgruntled natives to fight against the Portuguese twenty years before De Saa took office, it was largely after his defeat and death in 1630 that the Dutch gained the upper hand in the struggle for control of Ceylon. It was only in 1658, however, that they succeeded in ousting the Portuguese and bringing the island under Dutch control.

With the front board partially detached from the bookblock, otherwise in very good condition. An essential primary source on the native rebellion in Ceylon.

336. **ROORDA, Taco.** Grammatica Arabica, breviter in usum scholarum academicarum conscripta ... Adiuncta est brevis chrestomathia, edita et lexico explanata a P. Cool.

Leiden, Samuel and Johannes Luchtmans, 1835. 8º. With numerous words an passages in Arabic type. Contemporary half cloth. € 750

First edition of an Arabic grammar by the Dutch professor of oriental languages Taco Roorda (1801–1874), followed by a lexicon based on the writer Al-Tha'alibi (961–1038) and an Arabic chrestomathy by P. Cool. A second edition appeared in 1858. Roorda’s grammar was published to replace Erpenius’s. Added at the end is an extensive review of the work by H.E. Weijers, originally published in *De gids I* (1837), but here apparently published as an offprint with new page numbers. Binding almost detached from bookblock, but the text in very good condition.

**Lambrecht 869 & 871; Nat, de studie van Oostersche talen in Nederland, p. 145.**

“The most perfect [pearls] are fished in the Persian Gulf”

337. **[ROSNEL, Pierre de]**. Le mercure indien, ou, Le tresor des Indes.

Paris, Robert Chevillon, 1667. Small 8º. With an engraved coat of arms on the title-pages. Later vellum. € 5000

First edition of a “much esteemed and sought work” on precious metals, mining and gems, by a French goldsmith. Divided in two parts, the first part “is a mining & metallurgical treatise in which gold, silver, and mercury are described in respect to their mines and methods of mining, purification of ores by smelting or otherwise, and refinement of the metals. Special emphasis is laid upon the mines of the New World” (Sinkankas). The second part, divided into four books, describes numerous types of minerals and gems but also devotes several pages to bezooar stones and their supposed medical properties as described by Arab physicians. Of this part, the second book treats pearls and contains several remarks on the fresh-water pearls of Scotland, which were then highly esteemed. Nevertheless, as the author remarks “The most perfect [pearls] are fished in the Persian Gulf, between the island of Hormuz & Basra, near Qatifa, Gombroon & Jufar” (p. 35).

Pierre de Rosnel was goldsmith-in-ordinary to King Louis xiii of France, otherwise little is known of him. In the final part of *Le mercure indien* he “provides a mathematical system for adjusting prices of diamonds upwards at a steepening rate with increasing weight” (Sinkankas), preceding the publication of the standard method of pricing as described by Tavernier.

Thumbed and with a few ink stains on the pages and with water stains in the lower margin of the first half of the second part; nevertheless a very good copy.

*Carter, Sea of pearls, seven thousand years of the industry that shaped the Gulf, pp. 93–94; Sabin 75297; Sinkankas 5569.*

**Complete set of all periodical publications of the Royal Geographical Society**


*With: (2) Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society.*

Contemporary red/purple half morocco over marbled paper-covered boards, spines gilt.

Supplementary Papers of the Royal Geographical Society.
Contemporary red/purple half morocco over marbled paper-covered boards, spines gilt.


Complete set of all periodical publications of the Royal Geographical Society 1831 through 1948, comprising 203 volumes with thousands of plates and maps, many folding.

Founded in 1830, the Royal Geographical Society spearheaded efforts to accurately map and describe every corner of the known world. As lesser-known regions of the globe such as Africa and the Middle East began to emerge as major centres of global trade in the 19th century, the Society funded thousands of European expeditions to these areas in an effort to promote British commercial and scientific interests. Explorers of the Arabian Peninsula such as Henry St. John Philby (aka “Sheikh Abdullah”), Percy Cox, Theodore Bent, Gertrude Bell, Wilfred Thesiger (aka “Mubarak bin London”), and Bertram Thomas all reported directly to the Royal Geographical Society, and their accounts, often with accompanying maps, contributed enormously to the western interest in the economy and geography of these regions. Macro’s “Bibliography of the Arabian Peninsula” – the only major attempt to date to itemize the most important publications on the Arab World – draws heavily on the papers published in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, especially for 19th century descriptions of the Arabian Gulf and its inhabitants.

Complete set of articles from the first ten years of the Royal Asiatic Society

Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
London, 1824–1834. 3 volumes in 8 parts. 4°. With 80 lithographed plates, including several folding plates and 2 chromolithographed plates, and some smaller illustrations in text. Contemporary blue and grey paper wrappers, kept in two modern half morocco boxes.

Complete set of all the articles published by the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland in the years 1824–1834 under the name “Transactions”. In 1835 the journal would continue under the name Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society. The society was founded in 1823 and received its Royal Charter in 1824 for “the investigation of subjects connected with and for the encouragement of science, literature and the arts in relation to Asia” (website Royal Asiatic Society). The set consists of three volumes, published in two or three parts, each containing several articles on a wide variety of subjects: archaeology, religion, philosophy, languages, scripts, coins, inscriptions, and occasionally natural history and medicine. The areas covered are China, India, Southeast Asia and Indonesia. The lithographed plates illustrate temples, statues of gods, inscriptions, scripts, coins, maps, etc. Some half-titles slightly browned, but overall in very good condition, wholly untrimmed and mostly unopened. Paper wrappers slightly frayed along the extremities.
Vienna, Imprimerie Imperiale et Royale de la Cour et de l’État, 1885. 2º. With 37 etched plates. Contemporary full calf with richly gilt front cover, label to spine, and gilt edges. € 9 500
First (and only) edition in French. Archduke Rudolf set out on his tour of the Middle East in 1881, travelling first from Vienna to Miramar, Corfu, Alexandria, and Cairo. From there the group sailed up the Nile to Aswan and Memphis, then journeyed on to Port Said, the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, and the Holy Land, returning to Vienna from Haifa via Cattaro (Kotor), Ragusa (Dubrovnik), and Trieste. This is an outstanding and unique copy in a sumptuous Viennese binding, in immaculate condition, was created for Anton Ritter von Beck (1812–95), then director of the government’s Imperial printing office in Vienna.
With a long inscription by the translator, the Baron de Montandin, to “Monsieur le Hof Rath Anton Chevalier Von Beck” on the flyleaf, dated Vienna, 28 February 1885. Some slight staining to the guards of the etchings, otherwise a very clean copy.

At sea, 1963–1964. Oblong sketchbook (12.5 × 17.5 cm). With many coloured drawings (watercolour and coloured pencil) of ships, coastal views, people. Ring binder. € 1 500
Sketchbook with, mostly coloured, drawings made during voyages of the freighter S.S. Bengalen. Though the wrappers mention just one voyage, to Persia, the album seems to include drawings from several journeys. It opens with some drawings made around Singapore, Malaysia and India. The ship then turns towards the Middle East, including a view of the Gulf of Oman, a coastal view of Bahrain, a drawing of the Relume, a large ship spotted near Bahrain, and three sheets with sketches of people, almost cartoonish, that the draughtsman encountered in the streets, at the embassy, at markets etc. in Iraq, including drawing of a praying Muslim, captioned “praise be to Allah”. Following are some drawings made around India and the Philippines. In very good condition.

342. **SA’DI SHIRAZI and André du RYER (ed. & trans.)**. Gulistan ou l’empire des roses... Traduit en Français par André du Ryer.
Rare first European edition of Sa’di’s famous “Gulistan”, a work in a similar tradition as the Mirrors for Magistrates. The translator, André du Ryer, was a French orientalist and consul in the Levant, notably in Alexandria and Constantinople. He returned to France in 1630 and became royal interpreter in oriental languages. He also published a Turkish grammar in 1630 and a translation of the Qur’an in 1647. Sa’di is the most widely known Persian author in the West, and his "Gulistan" (Rose Garden), completed in 1258, was the first Persian literary work to be translated into any European language. This and later translations established Sa’di’s reputation among Western writers and inspired La Fontaine, Diderot, Voltaire, Renan, Herder,
and Goethe. The present translation remained incomplete; the first complete version in a western language was the edition of the text
with a Latin translation published in Amsterdam in 1651.
Spine professionally repaired in places. Provenance: Gigault de la Favière, 1768 (signature on title); Colegio de Neustra Señora de
Guadalupe, Lima (blindstamp to title); Jules Becker (ink stamp on first free endpaper). Last in the library of Swedish antiquarian
bookdealer Björn Löwendahl (1941–2013).


First complete edition

343. SA’DI SHIRAZI. Rosarium politicum, sive amoenum sortis
humanae theatrum.
Amsterdam, Jan Blaeu, 1651. 2°. Later full calf with triple gilt cover fillets
(wanting parts of spine label). € 2500

First complete edition of the famous "Giulistan", a work in the tradition of the
Mirrors for Magistrates, printed by Blaeu in splendid Naskhi types (cf. Brill,
Philologia orientalis 3/1999, no. 355). Accompanied by the Latin translation in parallel
text, this constitutes the first complete translation into any western language,
preceded only by the severely incomplete French version by du Ryer (Paris, 1614).
Wants the final leaf. Contemporary ownership to title page; occasional slight water-
staining and worming (sometimes touching letters); a few marginalia. Rare, only
two copies recorded at auction during the last decades. Formerly in the Ottoman
collection of the Swiss industrialist Herry W. Schaefer.

First translation into English of stories from Sa’di’s famous Gulistan

344. SA’DI SHIRAZI and Stephen SULIVAN (translator). Select fables from
Gulistan, or the bed of roses. Translated from the original Persian of Sadi.
London, J. Ridley, 1774. 8°. Modern half calf (period style), gold-tooled spine. € 3950

First edition of the first English translation of the Gulistan (or Golestan), written by the Persian poet
Sa’di (1210–1291/1292), "probably the single most influential work of prose in the Persian tradition“
(Encyclopædia Iranica). It opens with a brief preface, followed by a selection of 62 fables, varying in
length. Completed in 1258, Sa’di’s Gulistan, “the rose garden”, is a collection of stories and poems
dealing with the major issues in human existence. Together with his Bustan (“the orchard”) it’s
Sa’di’s most popular work. Both were standard texts at Persian schools for many years. The
Gulistan is originally divided into eight chapters, each consisting of several stories and poems addressing
a specific theme. The present translation, however, does not maintain this structure, since it only
includes a selection of the stories.
Lacking the half-title. With a minor restoration to the upper outer corner of the title-page, an ink
stain on the title-page, an owner’s inscription on the back of the title-page, some ink in the margins
of page 67 and 77, and some faint water stains. Otherwise in good condition.
The bibliographer’s manual of English literature IV, p. 2168; ESTC T147765; Katouzian, Sa’di, the poet of life, love and
compassion, p. 152.

Carrier pigeons in the Arabic world

345. SABBÂGH, Michel. Kitab Musabaqat al-barq wa-al-ghamam fi su’at al-hamam. La colombe, messagère plus
rapide que l’éclair, plus prompte que la nue.
Paris, Imprimerie Impériale (J. J. Marcel), an xiv = 1805. 8°. Contemp. wrappers. € 3500
First French edition, with the translation (by Silvestre de Sacy) and the Arabic text printed in parallel, entitled “The race with the lightning and the clouds above: on the success of the messenger dove”. The Syrian linguist Michel Sabbagh (1784–1816) served as interpreter to the Imperial Army during Napoléon’s Egyptian Campaign. He emigrated to France when the army left Egypt and attached himself to Silvestre de Sacy and the Imperial Library and print shop. His original work on carrier pigeons remains a classic. A well-preserved, untrimmed and wide-margined copy.

**Former translator for Napoleon’s army in Egypt congratulates Louis XVIII**


Rare congratulatory canticle to Louis XVIII of France, composed by Michel Sabbagh in Arabic and translated into French by Grangeret Lagrange, student of the Special School of Oriental Languages. One of the few works confirming the continuation of the production of texts in Arabic at the Imprimerie Royale, composed on the occasion of the First Restoration and the accession of Louis XVIII to the French throne. Mihail ibn Niqula ibn Ibrahim al-Sabbag (1784–1816), whose name was francicized into Michel Sabbâgh, was of Palestinian origin. After completing his studies in Damascus, he moved to Cairo from amidst the Syrian Melkite community; during the Campaign of the Armée de l’Orient he was an interpreter for the French, and he followed them during the embarkation that followed the capitulation of Desaix. In Paris, Silvestre de Sacy involved Sabbâgh with his work, in 1807 he officially became copyist for the Imperial Library, and also created a translation service of Arabic texts into the French language. Binding rubbed; slight rustmark to half-title; very clean altogether.

**Extensively annotated and illustrated edition of a classic treatise on astronomy**

347. SACROBOSCO, Johannes de. Opus sphericum magistri Joa[n]nis de Sacro Busco natione Angli figuris verissime excultps et i[n]terpretatione familiari ad commoditatem desiderantium iucundissima Artis Astronomice callere principia pulcherrime et iterata recognitione illustratum.

(Colophon: Cologne, sons of Heinrich Quentell, “Anno supra Jubileu[m] Magnu[m] Quinto ad finem Januarii” [= January 1505]). Small 4º (21 × 14.5 cm). With a full-page woodcut armillary sphere held by angels above and below, 27 half-page astronomical and cosmological woodcuts in text, 3 large (23–35 mm) woodcut decorated initials, and 1 smaller initial. The main text and commentary are set in a single size of Schwabacher type, the widely spaced lines of the main text distinguishing it from the commentary. The title-page and headings use 2 larger textura types. Modern grey boards.

€ 5000

€ 7500
Extensively illustrated edition of Sacrobosco’s classic 13th-century treatise on astronomy *De sphaera mundi* ("On the sphere of the world"), with extensive commentary by the Czech astronomer Wenceslaus Fabri de Budweis (1455–1518). Two of the diagrams clearly explain a solar and a lunar eclipse. The present copy is extensively annotated by a (near) contemporary hand, adding even some further illustrations, including an astronomical diagram. The book is divided into four chapters treating the definition of a sphere; the various circles and their names; the cosmic, chronic, and heliacal risings and settings of the constellations; and the movements of the sun, moon, and planets.

"Sacrobosco’s fame rests firmly on his *De sphaeria*, a small work based on Ptolemy and his Arabic commentators, published about 1220 […] It was quite generally adopted as the fundamental astronomy text, for often it was so clear that it needed little or no explanation.” (1958). Sacrobosco was the first European scholar to use Arabic sources for his astronomical studies, helping to spread Arabic knowledge to the Western world. He describes the earth as a sphere, opening the way for the Renaissance astronomical revolution of Copernicus and Galileo. The work had a great impact on the science of astronomy in the following centuries.

Alden & Landis cites the present edition as, “The earliest edn to refer to America, on verso of lf 33.” This page contains the "Tabula Climatum", an addition between chapters 3 and 4. It is described as "rectificata 1491" and does appear in a few editions before the present. The reference remains somewhat ambiguous.

With several small wormholes throughout, sometimes slightly affecting the text. Good copy, including the final blank leaf.

*Alden & Landis 505/8; BMC STC German, p. 772; JCB I, pp. 40–41; Proctor, German Books 1501–1520, 10586; VD16, J-712 (4 copies); cf. Adams H-744 (1501 Quentell edition); DSB XII, pp. 60–65.*

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**Persian illuminated manuscript:**

*an eye-witness account of the reign of Ghazi, first King of Awadh*

**348. SADIQ KHAN, Qazi Muhammad.** Mahamid-i-Haidariah.

[Lucknow, India], 1238 AH [= 1822/23 CE]. Small 20 (30 × 21 cm). Manuscript in Persian, written in red and black ink on laid paper in the nastaliq Arabic script (11 lines/page; text block 16 × 9.5 cm), with a richly decorated panel of stylized flowers above the opening of the main text, that page and the facing page with wide floral borders in gold, 18 pages with extensive illuminations in the margins (most of them richly coloured with extensive use of gold), the text and margins sprinkled with silver. Contemporary Indian gold-tooled tree sheepskin, rebacked and restored, with most of the original backstrip mounted on the spine. € 58 000

A beautifully illuminated and luxuriously decorated Persian manuscript in prose and verse, praising and dedicated to Ghazi-ud-Din Haidar (ca. 1769–1827) who succeeded his father to become the last Nawab Wazir (Vizier) of Awadh (Oudh) in 1814 and declared Awadh’s independence from the Mughal Empire in 1818, calling himself first Padishah (King) of Awadh, a title he held to his death. The stunning illuminations are very detailed and finely executed, often in subtle colours, with some filling the margins on all four sides of a page. They show Ghazi on his throne surrounded by his subjects, other court scenes, hunting scenes, and other animals. In addition to flattering Ghazi and giving some account of his reign, the text of the present complete manuscript, in 19 chapters, gives valuable geographical information about Lucknow, anecdotes about Persia and its rulers from ancient times to the date of writing, including the caliphs in the Islamic period, Persian (and a few Arabic) poems, and information about both Persian and Greek philosophers. The late 18th- and early 19th-century was Lucknow’s cultural golden age, and Ghazi’s court patronized writers and artists. Qazi Muhammad Sadiq Khan (1768/69–1858), also known as Akhtar, was the son of a poet and writer and apparently served already in the court of Ghazi’s father, so that he witnessed Ghazi’s reign as both nawab and padishah. The present manuscript dates from 1822/23, four or five years after Ghazi became padishah.

Warren Hastings, English governor-general of British India, who competed with the Mughal Emperor for influence in the region, encouraged Ghazi to declare Awadh’s independence from the Empire.

With several contemporary and later annotations in red and in black (in Persian) and a few notes in Hindi, plus a couple pencil sketches. With the margins slightly browned, not affecting the text block, and an occasional small marginal tear repaired, but otherwise in very good condition. The binding is slightly scuffed and the board edges restored, but most of the tooling is well preserved and the binding is structurally sound. A beautiful Persian illuminated manuscript from the Lucknow court of Ghazi, King of Awadh in India.

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Voyage to the Holy Land in 1522, with sections on Arabia


Lyon, Gilbertus de Villiers, 1525. 8º. With woodcut coat of arms of Cardinal Jean de Guise of Lorraine on the title-page, a full-page woodcut of the crucifixion, 10 small woodcuts of Christ’s passion in the text, and small woodcut initials throughout. 18th-century red morocco, gold-tooled spine, boards and board edges, and richly gold-tooled turn-ins, gilt edges. € 12 500

First edition of an account of the Holy Land, written by Bartholomeus de Saligniaco. In 1522 Saligniaco travelled to Jerusalem, starting his voyage in Venice and travelling to Corsica, Cyprus and Joppa (Jaffa), also mentioning Rhodes. He describes Arabia, the cities Mecca and Petra, the Red Sea, and the customs of the Arabs, without actually visiting the area. Saligniaco gives a very extensive description of Jerusalem, visiting religious sites, churches, sanctuaries, crypts, relics, etc., mentioning the different peoples, religions and religious orders. He briefly mentions America when discussing newly explored lands. From the library of Fairfax Murray. With a water stain in the lower margin of the first three leaves, occasionally a marginal stain, leaf 33 slightly damaged at the gutter causing minor text loss, otherwise in very good condition.

Baudrier XII, 414; Davies, French 499 (this copy!); USTC 145699; Yerasimos 151.

The 1603 account of King Sebastião’s disastrous 1578 invasion of Morocco

350. SAN ROMÁN DE RIBADENEYRA, Antonio de. Jornada y muerte del Rey Don Sebastian de Portugal, sacada de las obras del Franchi, ciudadano de Genoua, y de otros muchos papeles autenticos, ...

[false imprint:] "Valladolid" [= unidentified place in Iberia], heirs of Juan Íñiguez de Lequerica [= unknown printer & publisher], 1603 [= ca. 1670?]. Small 4º (19 × 14 cm). With the woodcut coat of arms of the dedicatee Juan Fernández de Velasco, Duke of Frías, on the title-page. Mottled tanned sheepskin (ca. 1800?), gold-tooled spine. € 18 000

Important Spanish account of King Sebastião I of Portugal’s ill-fated 1578 invasion of Morocco and his death in battle. King Sebastião I of Portugal (1554–1578) inherited the crown at age three after the death of his grandfather João III. Educated by Jesuits, he combined religious fanaticism with an unbounded admiration for the military, presenting himself as a Christian knight who would fight the “misguided” Muslims in Africa and rescue them from their faith. He got his chance when the deposed Moroccan Sultan Abu Abdallah Muhammad I asked for his help. In 1578 Sebastião invaded Morocco with a large and expensive force, joined by Abu Abdallah’s army of Moors and other Muslim opponents of the Sultan Ahmad al-Mansur. Although Ahmad died during the invasion, Sebastião’s inexperience and rash attack in the bloody and disastrous Battle of the Three Kings at Alcazarquivir in the north of Morocco led to his own death, that of 8000 Portuguese troops, including much of the Portuguese nobility, and the capture of 15,000 more. Sebastião’s body was never found and many supporters refused to believe he had died and awaited his return for decades. San Román indicates on the title-page that he made use of Girolami Franchi Conestaggio’s 1585 history of the union of Spain and Portugal, but also many other authentic documents. Sebastião’s death without issue set off a struggle for the succession to the Portuguese crown and after the brief reign of his great uncle as Henrique I, King Phillip II of Spain managed to unite the Spanish and Portuguese crowns in 1580.

With an old library shelf-mark on an endleaf. With tears into the text of the last 2 leaves, one crudely repaired with tape, somewhat browned throughout, water stains in the foot margin of several leaves, and an occasional small hole, spot or stain, but with generous margins and most leaves in good condition. The binding with minor damage to the head of the spine and some corners, but otherwise very good. A close copy of an important record of the disastrous Portuguese invasion of Morocco in 1578.

Goldsmith, BMC Spanish & Portuguese S225; USTC 508554 (mixed with 2 other eds.); cf. Palau 295612.
One of the earliest Turkish medical works to draw on Paracelsian science

351. SANI-ZADE MEHMED ATAULLAH. [HAMSE-I SANI-ZADE].

Kostantiniye (Istanbul), Tabhane-yi Sahane / Dar üt-Tibaat ül-Amire (Imperial School of Medicine), 1235 AH [= 1820 AD]. 2º. 3 parts in 1 vol., with 56 etched plates. Contemp. half calf with gilstamped spine and marbled covers.

First edition of the pioneering Ottoman physician Sanizade’s (1771–1826) medical compendium: the first three books (on anatomy, physiology, and internal medicine) of what would later be known as “Sani-zade’s Canon of Five”. This was one of the earliest Turkish medical works to draw thoroughly on western, Paracelsian science: indeed, it is modelled on and partly translated from Italian and German sources, such as Anton Störck, Bartolomeo Eustachi, Gabriele Fallopio, and Costanzo Varolio, reproducing anatomical illustrations from a variety of sources including Vesalius.

Collation agrees with the BSB copy. Some dampstaining throughout, more prominently so in several plates. In all, a good copy of this rare work, the only edition published during the author’s lifetime.

OCLC 608102180.

The photo album of an Aramco pioneer

352. [SAUDI ARABIA]. ARAMCO. Original photographs from the estate of Lester M. Snyder (1905–2000), vice president and member of the board of Aramco.


Unique photo album from the estate of Aramco pioneer Les Synder, memorializing his more than three decades with Aramco and Socal upon his retirement in 1963. The photographs focus on his final decade in Dharan, including images of HRH King Abdulaziz and HRH King Saud, desert scenes, Badawin life, falconry, but also life at the Aramco compound at Dhahran, impressive aerial shots as well as details of the oil wells and the city, the Ras Tanura oil terminal, and even a few images of Mekka and the Kaaba. Four pages of signatures by Aramco team members bear witness to the high regard in which Snyder was held by his colleagues and employees, as do the included letters, telegrams and miscellaneous items regarding his farewell.

During his nearly three decades in Saudi Arabia, Snyder played a key role in the development of the kingdom’s vast oil reserves. He was present on May 1st when the tanker “D. G. Scofield” took on the first shipment of Saudi Arab oil ever to be loaded at Ras Tanura, an event also attended by HRH King Abdulaziz. He was in Dharan in 1952 when the site was made Aramco's executive headquarters, soon rising to the position of vice president and general manager for Operations.

A fine collection of photographs in excellent tonal quality throughout, wonderfully preserved in a somewhat worn album.

New housing for Aramco employees


Rome, 1952–1954. 2 albums: “Jeddah Housing” (38 photostats) and “Aramco Housing” (7 photos and 75 photostats), each bound in blue half-cloth.

€ 9500
Two highly detailed studies for new housing (single residences, family housing, duplex and fourplex units) to be provided to Aramco personnel at Jeddah, Dhahran, and Ras Tanura. Both albums include site plans, floor plans, elevations, perspectives, and views, along with extremely detailed construction plans for staircases, drainage, air conditioning, gates, driveways, etc. The plans were commissioned in 1952 when Dhahran became Aramco's executive headquarters. Both albums captioned and dated on the flyleaf in the architect's own hand. In excellent state of preservation.

**Summary of ideas from the Qu’ran in French: bibliophile production on wove paper, published in Paris and Constantinople**

354. **SAVARY, Claude-Etienne.** Morale de Mahomet; ou recueil des plus pures maximes du Coran.
Constantinople; Paris, Lamy, 1784. 18º. Brown morocco (ca. 1865?), gold-tooled spine. € 2500

First edition of Savary's French summary of the ideas of Islamic religion, based on his 1883 French translation of the Qu’ran. In a certain sense it may be considered an epitome of the Qu’ran. While Savary’s Qu’ran was published in Paris (by Knappen & fils and Onfroy), this summary was also published in Constantinople. While only a few scholars would read the entire Qu’ran, even once it was available in their own language, this summary gave a much larger European audience (as well as French speakers in the Ottoman Empire) a notion of Islamic religion. Savary (1750–1788) began his career as physician to the Court of Provence, but became a leading orientalist and spent much of the years 1776 to 1780 in Egypt before returning to France, where he produced his French translation of the Qu’ran.

With booksellers ticket. In very good condition, and virtually untrimmed. First edition, in a bibliophile production, of a French summary of key concepts in Islamic religion, published not only in Paris, but also in Constantinople.

*Brunet V, col. 154; cf. Gay 3357 note (1883 Savary ed. of the Qu’ran).*

**“the foundation stone for a revolution in Arabic scholarship”**

355. **SCALIGER, Joseph Justus.** Opus de emendatione temporum.

*Including:* Computus Arabicus ecclesiae Antiochenae.
Leiden, Franciscus Raphelengius (Officina Plantiniana), 1598. 2º (36 × 2.4 cm). With woodcut printer’s device on title-page. Set in roman and italic types with long passages in Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, Samaritan and Ethiopic, shorter passages in Syriac, and zodiac signs, the Arabic, Samaritan and Ethiopic specially cut for use in the present book. Vellum (ca. 1630?). € 19 500

Third and definitive edition, greatly revised and expanded by the author and printed by Plantin’s son-in-law using a wide variety of non-Latin types, of a thorough scholarly study of classical, biblical and “oriental” chronology, by the leading linguist and linguistic scholar of his generation (“the greatest scholar of his age” PMM). Three of the non-Latin types (naskh Arabic, majuscule Samaritan and Ethiopic) were cut especially for this work.

Scaliger and Raphelengius were far ahead of their time in viewing Arabic as an important field of study in its own right, and they showed sympathy for Arabic culture. Like their predecessors, they used Arabic for biblical exegesis, but they also studied the Quran, medical, mathematical and astronomical texts and other works originally written in Arabic. In the present work, Scaliger studied and compared the calendars and historical chronology of the Greeks, Romans, Persians, Babylonians, Egyptians, Jews and others, attempting to link them so that their dates could be related to those of the European calendar. Scaliger's work in this
area "towers above that of his contemporaries" (PMM) and served as an essential key to modern historical scholarship. This was the first work ever set in Raphelengius’s pioneering Arabic type, which set the stage for the Arabic types of Thomas Erpenius and others in the Netherlands and abroad: "it served as the foundation stone for a revolution in Arabic scholarship" (Lane).

With a piece cut out of the title-page. It has been patched with a paper slip, and with further slips in the endpapers. With water stains in about a dozen leaves and occasional slightly browned patches, but otherwise in very good condition and with generous margins. The binding is slightly dirty, the spine-title faded and the headbands have lost much of their green thread.

Adams S568; Fuks, Hebrew typography 15; Lane, Arabic type specimen of Franciscus Raphelengius, item 26 & p. xxv; Tip. Bat. 4476; cf. PMM 98 (1583 ed.); for the Arabic, Samaritan and Ethiopic types: Versluij EXO 1, 2 & 3.

Abridged version of Golius’s Lexicon


Leiden, Samuel and Johannes Luchtmans, 1787. 4º (26 × 21 cm). Text set in two columns, with Arabic characters throughout. Contemporary half calf, marbled sides.

€ 2500

Second edition of an abridged version of Golius’s ground-breaking Arabic lexicon Lexicon Arabico-Latinum (1653). It is prepared by Jacob Scheidius (1754–1801) with the assistance of his better-known brother, Everard Scheidius (1742–1794), professor of oriental languages at Harderwijk.

About 20 leaves with a minor waterstain in the foot margin, otherwise in very good condition.

Lambrecht 470; Schnurrer 126; Smitskamp, Philologia Orientalis 316.

The first Turkish grammar published in England, using Oxford University’s Arabic type

357. SEAMAN, William. Grammatica linguæ Turcicæ, in quinque partes distributa.

Oxford, Henry Hall, printer to the University; [London], sold by Edward Millington (colophon: and by the author in London), 1670. 4º. Set in roman, Arabic and italic types and opening from the right, like a Turkish book set in Arabic type. Contemporary tanned sheepskin, rebacked in calf.

€ 7500

First and only edition of William Seaman’s Turkish grammar, with the instructive text in Latin, the first Turkish grammar published in England, printed using Oxford University’s Arabic type. Seaman (1606/07–1680) had worked for Peter Wyche, English ambassador in Constantinople, from ca. 1630. In 1637, more than thirty years before Oxford University began operating its own printing office, Samuel Brown, on behalf of the University, bought matrices for the present Arabic type from the heirs of Arent Corsz. Hogenacker in Leiden. With a 1670 donation inscription and a 19th-century bookplate. In very good condition. The binding somewhat worn, but still good. The first Turkish grammar in England, using Oxford University’s Arabic type with extra Turkish sorts.

Blackmer 1518; ESTC R22626; Madan III, 2865; Wing S2179; www.oxforddnb.com/view/printable/24986; not in Aubrey.

The formation of the United Arab Emirates

358. [SHEIKH ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL NAHYAN]. [Collection of 58 press photos].

[Mostly Arabia and Egypt, 1970s and 1980s]. 58 black-and-white gelatin silver prints, mostly captioned in Arabic on the reverse. Various sizes, ranging from 20 × 29 cm to 10 × 13 cm approximately. All photographs in punched pockets in a file folder.

€ 45 000
Fine collection of contemporary press photos documenting Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi and first President of the United Arab Emirates, in various scenes of Arab diplomacy during the early years of his reign. The extensive collection captures historical events, including a group photograph of the ruler with the members of the first National Advisory Council in 1971 and a photograph depicting the first GCC Summit in the Intercontinental Hotel Abu Dhabi in 1981. Others show the ruler during state visits with political leaders (Anwar as-Sadat, Muammar Gaddafi, Saddam Hussein, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait etc.). Altogether a fascinating and wide-ranging gallery, demonstrating the activities of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the principal driving force behind the formation of the United Arab Emirates, president for over three decades (1971–2004).

With the photographs captioned, numbered and annotated in Arabic on the reverse. Some remains of previsously used tape and adhesive. A few of the photographs with minor discoloration or slightly damaged edges; two photographs with a partial fold. Otherwise in very good quality.

Correspondence of the “lord of the naval and commercial conquest of Arabia, Persia and India”

359. SILVA, Luiz Augusto Rebello da (et al.), Corpo diplomático Portuguez contendo os actos e relações politicas e diplomaticas de Portugal.
Lisbon, Typographia da Academia Real das Sciencias / Imprensa Nacional, 1862–1959. 15 volumes (final volume in 2 parts). Small 2º (22.5 × 28.5 cm). Uniformly bound in half tan sheep over decorated boards, spines gilt with raised bands in five compartments, decorated endleaves. Some original printed wrappers bound within. All edges sprinkled.

€ 18 500

First editions; all that was published of this massive project. The “Corpo diplomático” deals with the relations between Portugal and the Roman Curia, presenting a chronologically arranged sequence of documents of the 16th and 17th centuries. The Portuguese Empire was the first global empire in history, and the sources here edited–frequently citing the significant Portuguese royal title of “King of Portugal and the Algarves, on this side of the sea, and on the other side in Africa, lord of Guinea and of the naval and commercial conquest of Ethiopia, Arabia, Persia, and India”–provide substantial information on the principal world issues and conflicts during that vast Empire’s first era. Much of the diplomatic correspondence concerns conflicts between the worlds of Christianity and Islam: in one letter, King Manuel describes his attacks on and victories over the local Muslim rulers (“the Saracens are thrown into confusion”; “our men attacked and burned maritime towns belonging to the Saracens, situated on the mainland”; cf. vol. 1, p. 116f.), and in a Papal Breve, Pius v praises the strengthening of the Maltese fortifications after the Great Siege of Malta (”erit opportunissimum adversus Turcas, et praedones totius christianii populi propugnaculum”, vol. x, p. 226). Many volumes, but vii through x in particular, contain material on the Arabian Gulf (Basra, Bahrain, Muscat, and Ormuz): “Ormuz, que he cabeça de todo o Reino de Ormuz [...] e na dita Cidade de Ormuz fortaleza minha com muita gente de christãos portuguezes” (vol. 11, p. 374); “o vejo, que se se faz guera ao Turco e Vossa Alteza quer, sem despesa de quasi nada, o Egipto e Suria e Arabia serao vossos” (vol. 371, p. 243); “e sey mandou que se retuessedas todas as naos, que viessen da India a Judá e a Meca” (p. 397); “se entende hum muito boom socedimento pella armada de Vossa Alteza na ilha de Banrehem [= Bahrain] de que se deve ter muito contentamento assi pella reputação” (vol. v111, p. 372); “e depois em Ormuz poderia saber o acontecimento de Baharem” (p. 468); “toda a costa de Melinde ate Mozambique e assi da outra de Adem ate Ormuz quererão por algum d aquellas tentar ardis [...] A Baçora vai tambem muita somma de especiaria” (vol. 1x, p. 110f.); “O negocio he grave e de muita consideração e em ser muita a somma da speciaria que vem pello mar Roxo ao Cayro e pello de Ormuz a Bacora” (p. 153); “Andre Ribeiro que com João de Lisboa foi cativo em Mazcate” (p. 175); “creo tambem que elles lá ou nos quá não sabemos o que passa em Bacora porque se naquella ilha crescerem galees sem hirsem do mar Roxo, como as que ali vierão de caminho tomarão Mascate não sey por onde viessem as outras” (p. 305); “pera o resgate dos portugueses que estarem cativos no Cayro, e forom presos em Mazcate” (p. 382; cf. p. 483); etc.–Furthermore, there are reports on the Portuguese in Suez, Africa (including Angola, Mozambique, Guiné, Sofala, Morocco, Arguin, Cabo Verde, Congo, São Thomé, Ethiopia), Brazil (Bahia, Maranhão, Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco), the Azores, India (in nearly every volume, including Goa, Cochín, Damão, Malabar), and the Far East (Malacca and the Moluccas, with a few sections on Macau, China, and Japan scattered in vols.
The work also provides a wealth of detail about the Inquisition and “cristãos novos” (both discussed in almost every volume), the Jesuits (vols. v–xv), the Council of Trent (vols. vi–x), Protestant activity (particularly in England), the Restauração, the Dutch in Brazil, the wars with the Turks on land and sea, and the activities of D. Sebastião and St. Charles Borromeu, the Order of Malta, and Cardinal Mazarin. Among the most notable texts are Ambassador Martinho’s 1533 letter describing the forces defending Christianity in India and Africa, Bishop Lourenço Pires de Tavora’s account of monasteries in India in 1561, and 25 letters written by P. Antonio Vieira from 1671 to 1675 (vol. xiv).

Marginal spotting in vol. xv, part 1; last 5 leaves remargined. Very discreet library markings on rear paste-down of each volume. Overall a very good set.

Innocêncio IX, 95; OCLC 55783574.

Based on Avicenna

360. SILVATICUS, Matthaeus. Opus pandectarum.

Venice, Simone da Lovere, 12 Jan. 1511. 2º. With one woodcut initial. Late 19th c. boards. Edges sprinkled in red. € 7500

Fine post-incunabular printing of this important medical compendium and pharmacopoeia, replete with Arabic-derived terminology, strongly based on Avicenna, Serapion the Younger (Ibn Wafid), and Dioscorides. Matthaeus Silvaticus, active around 1300, “was one of the most important mediaeval botanists and pharmacologists. His magnificent compilation from works of earlier physicians, with occasional observations and opinions of his own, presents its subjects in alphabetical order, making this effectively a kind of dictionary. The book’s principal value lies in the explanations of various specialist terms from all fields of medicine, in particular several of Arabic origin” (cf. Hirsch/Hübotter iv, 117).

Occasional light browning. Annotated throughout in red ink by a contemporary physician’s hand. A good copy despite the unsophisticated modern binding.


Compilation of texts on the Arabian Peninsula

361. SIONITA, Gabriel, and others. Arabia, seu Arabum vicinarum[ue] gentium orientalium leges, ritus, sacri et profani mores, instituta et historia.

Including:

SIONITA, Gabriele and Johannes HESRONITA. De nonnullis orientalium uribus.

RICHER, Christophe. De moribus atque institutis Turcarum Arabum, aliarumque, quae Mahumedem sequuntur gentium.

COTOVICUS, Johannes. Itinerario Hierosolymitano et Syriaco, de sacris, ritibus, moribus & institutis Mahometaeorum, excerpta.

GOTTFRIED, Johann Ludwig. Archontologia cosmica.

ROOMEN, Adriaan van. Arabiae topographia & alia, ex Theatro urbium excerpta.

DRECHSLER, Wolfgang. Historia Arabum.

Amsterdam, Johannes Janssonius, 1633. 24º. With an engraved title-page. Contemporary calf, gold-tooled spine. € 750

First edition of a work on the Arabian Peninsula and its history, culture, politics, religion, etc. It contains different texts on the area, opening with a text by the Maronite writer and translator Gabriel Sionita (1577–1648), opening with a brief introduction, including a section on rice, and followed by chapters on Baghdad, Bukhara (where Avicenna was born), Damascus, Aleppo, Lebanon, Mecca, Medina, Cairo, etc. Other chapters deal with both male and female costumes, food, the Arabic language, religion, the Quran, etc. It is followed by a brief text on Turkey by Christophe Richer. The third text, by Johannes Cotovicus, describes his pilgrimage to Jerusalem and his travels through Syria. Next is an excerpt on Arabia from Johann Ludwig Gottfried, an excerpt on topography by
Adriaan van Roomen, and the book closes with a text on Arabic history by Wolfgang Drechsler.

With a piece of pp. 145–146 torn out, causing some text loss. Head of the spine slightly damaged. Overall in very good condition.

Hage Chagine 4533; Macro, Bibliography of the Arabian Peninsula, 2084; Smitskamp, Philologia orientalis II, 188a.

Suppressing slave trade in the waters around Muscat, etc.

362. [SLAVE TRADE]. Slave trade. ... Extracts of all correspondence between the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and the Colonial Office, with the naval officers and the Governor of Mauritius, up to the latest period, regarding the state of the slave trade with that island, Bourbon, Madagascar and the coast of Africa: Extracts of all correspondence ... regarding such regulations as have been adopted, or are in the progress of being adopted, ...

London, 25 April 1825. 2º. Modern blue paper wrappers. € 6500

Official document, published on behalf of the House of Commons, regarding the slave trade in the waters surrounding Muscat, Mauritius, Bourbon (Réunion), Madagascar, South Africa and Zanzibar. It contains numerous letters and reports from Robert Townsend Farquhar (1776–1830), Governor first of Réunion and later of Mauritius, addressed to many commissioners in the United Kingdom dealing with the suppression of the slave trade, and some letters to the Imam of Muscat. He is best known for his operations against French slave ships in the waters surrounding these isles and the Arabian Peninsula. Very slightly browned, otherwise in very good condition.

Slavery in the Gulf

363. [SLAVE TRADE]. Correspondence with the British commissioners at Sierra Leone, Havana, Rio de Janeiro, Surinam, the Cape of Good Hope, Jamaica, St. Paul de Loanda, and Boa Vista, relating to the Slave Trade.

London, William Clowes and Sons, for H.M.S.O., 1844. Modern blue wrappers with cover label. With a folding map of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Edges sprinkled green. € 12 500

Rare, early British parliamentary papers and correspondence with British agents and residents regarding the slave trade. Includes communications relevant to slavery in Africa and India, with reports by the Agent at Muscat on the landing of slaves in that city's harbour and the kidnapping of children by Muslim slave dealers and their conveyance to “Arabia and the Persian Gulf”, as well as instructions to the Resident in the Persian Gulf “immediately to communicate with the Arab Chiefs” to pursue the objective of suppressing the slave trade in the Arabian seas. Well preserved, with additional page numbers in a contemporary hand.

OCLC 25471335.

On the suppression of slave trade in Arabia, Africa and America

364. [SLAVE TRADE]. Class A. Correspondence with the British Commissioners at Sierra Leone, Havana, the Cape of Good Hope, Loanda, and New York; and reports from British Vice-Admiralty courts, and from British naval officers, relating to the slave trade.

London, Harrison and sons, 1868. 2º. Modern blue paper wrappers. € 4500

Official document, as presented to the British Houses of Parliament, containing letters and reports from British commissioners and officers, written in 1867, concerning the suppression of slave trade in Arabia (Aden, Makulla), Africa (Sierra Leone, Cape of Good Hope, Luanda, Zanzibar), Asia
(Bombay), and America (Havana, New York). Most of the commissioners briefly state that there hasn’t been any activity in the slave trade in their region: “I have not heard of a single cargo of slaves shipped, nor even a rumour of slaving operations...” (p. 3). Sometimes new laws against slavery and slave trade are included. The reports from the naval officers also deal with commerce, rebellions, politics, etc.

In very good condition.

**Suppressing the Arabic slave trade in Zanzibar**

365. [SLAVE TRADE]. Class B. East coast of Africa. Correspondence respecting the slave trade and other matters. From January 1 to December 31 1872.

London, Harrison and sons, 1873. 2º. Modern blue paper wrappers. € 4500

Official document, presented to the British Houses of Parliament, concerning the slave trade at the east coast of Africa, focusing on Zanzibar, but also on Aden and Muscat in Arabia. For a long time Zanzibar was the centre of Arab slave trade, until in 1822 the British started to put pressure on the sultan to put an end to the slave trade, which slowly happened during the following years. Included are letters and reports from British agents and naval officers, reporting slave trade or captured slave ships, sometimes indicating slave trade in surrounding areas, like Mozambique and Madagascar.

Slightly browned, title-page restored at the upper margin, otherwise in very good condition.

**Newly discovered shells from the Arabian Gulf, Taiwan, China and Japan**

366. SMITH, Edgar. Descriptions of five new shells from the Island of Formosa and the Persian Gulf, and notes upon a few known species. **Including:** BOCK, Carl. Descriptions of two new species of shells from China and Japan.

[London], 18 June 1878. With a chromolithographed plate depicting 14 shells. Modern paper wrappers. € 850

Extract from the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, dealing with newly discovered shells from Formosa (Taiwan) and the Arabian Gulf and some other, already known, shells. The new shells are the *Melania Formosensis*, *Melania Dicksoni*, *Melania oblignigranosa*, *Melania subplicatula* and the *Bulla Persica*. The British zoologist Edgar Albert Smith (1847–1916) describes the appearance, habitat and measurements of these shells. It also includes one page devoted to two new shells from China and Japan, the *Tellina Wroblewsky* and the *Trochus Yokohamensis*. These shells are depicted together with the Arabian shells on the brightly coloured chromolithographed plate.

First leaf stained at the outer margin and each leaf with a tear at the gutter. Otherwise in good condition.


**Extremely rare: 20 original photographs of Mekka by the “earliest Arabian photographer”**


Leiden, E. J. Brill, 1880. 2º. 20 collotype prints mounted on 18 sheets loose in red gilt cloth portfolio as issued, complete with the oft-lacking half-title, list of plates, title and preface. € 135 000

One of the earliest photographic documents of Mecca and the Hajj, preceded only by the photographs of Muhammed Sadiq Bey published in 1881 (Sotheby’s, 4 June 1998: £ 1 250 000). Much rarer than the author’s similarly titled “Bilder-Atlas zu Mekka”, a portfolio of lithographs to accompany the “Mekka” books which Snouck had published after his return from the Arabian Peninsula.
The first four leaves of letterpress material have been reinforced along the left edge. Prints and their mounts in excellent condition, crisp with very slight toning. Cloth portfolio a little faded; spine repaired, with 1914 De Belder bookplate on pastedown. Very rare: only two copies at auctions internationally during the past decades (the last, at Sotheby’s in 2006, was incomplete, lacking all the text leaves).


The earliest photographic documents of the city of Mecca, its dignitaries and its pilgrims

Haag, Nijhoff, 1888–1889. 2 vols. of text (4º) and one volume of plates (2º). With 3 genealogical tables and 2 folding maps, 4 chromolithogr. plates (conjoined as 2), 6 (1 double-sized) toned lithogr. plates, and 65 mounted photographs on a total of 40 plates. Cloth portfolio with gilt cover title.

€ 45 000

Remarkable set, rarely encountered complete with the plates volume. The Dutch orientalist Snouck spent a year in Mecca and Jeddah during 1884/85 and was married to a Mecca woman. He was the first non-Muslim to visit the city outside the annual pilgrimage. The photographs, taken by himself and an Arabic physician, are among the earliest to show Mecca and its pilgrims. Very nicely rebound, in matching period style portfolio and half calf. An unusually crisp and clean copy throughout: text volumes spotless; the plates with the vintage photographs, much sought after as the earliest photographic documents of the city, its dignitaries and its pilgrims, are backed on thin linen and preserved in perfect condition.


The visit of the British Resident to the last Sultan of Socotra

369. [SOCOTRA]. Photographic Section Public Relation Department Aden. [Album of photographs showing the visit of the British Resident to the sultan of Socotra].
[Mukalla, HMS Meon, Socotra, 1962]. Album with 31 photographs (15.5 × 20 cm), each with the corners inserted in triangular pockets, and 25 loosely inserted typed captions numbered 1–32. Oblong photograph album from the 1980s (20.5 × 24 cm).

€ 8500
Album of photographs, showing the visit of the British Resident in Aden to the Sultan of Socotra in 1962. The Island of Socotra, near Yemen, was ruled by the Sultans of Mahra and in the late 19th century became part of the British protectorate of Aden. The island was yearly visited by the British Resident Adviser based in Mukalla. The visit of 1962 coincided with the return of Sultan 'Isa bin Ali bin Afrar (died 1976), who had been consulting with the Qu’aiti Sultan in Mukalla, to the island and both travelled aboard the HMS *Meon* to Socotra. Since the island lacked a port, the photographs show both the Sultan and Resident Arthur Watts being carried ashore on the shoulders of British sailors. According to *Meon’s* captain, Anthony McCrum, the dignity of both notables was paramount, but whereas the Sultan was a small neat man, Watts was rather corpulent, wearing full dress and carrying a sword. Subsequent photographs show the meeting of the two over a cup of tea with the Sultan showing the sword given to him by King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia. The rest of the photographs show the inhabitants of the island, the British naval men and even a street football match between “the Royal Navy and the home team of Hadibu”. In 1967, in the wake of the departure of the British from Aden, the Mahra Sultanate was abolished and Socotra became part of South Yemen.

All photographs stamped on the back with “Photographic Section Public Relation Department Aden”. Lacking captions numbered 2, 7, 9, 10, 28 and 29. Most of the tissue guards are loose. Some of the photographs with small folds or creases and the photograph captioned no. 19 missing a small part of the top left corner; nevertheless all in very good condition.

*Cf. Mackintosh-Smith, Yemen; McCrum, Abandon ship.*

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**The first great ethnographic survey of life in Bengal with beautiful colour plates**


Paris, chez l’auteur & H. Nicolle, 1808–1812. 4 volumes. 1º (ca. 56 × 41 cm). Title-pages of each volume with hand-coloured etched vignette, and 288 etched plates (36 double-page) printed in colour and finished by hand. Contemporary red half morocco, gold-tooled spine, shell-marbled sides.

Rare first edition of Solvyns’s *Les Hindous*, a rich and compelling ethnographic portrait of India, with accompanying text in French and English. Francois Baltazard Solyns (1760–1824) resided in Calcutta from 1791 to 1804. In 1794 he began work on a series of plates portraying the Hindus of Calcutta. This series was published in 1799 as *A collection of two hundred and fifty coloured etchings*, but, lacking the appeal of the picturesque, it proved a financial failure. In 1804 he left India for France, redrew the plates and published them in the present striking volumes.

In very good condition, with some foxing, tear in lower right corner of the first title-page, bindings show some wear, spines damaged. Extraordinary visual record of life in India at the end of the 18th century.


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**Laudatory poem on falconry and angling**


First edition of a poem, praising falconry and angling, by the English poet William Somerville (1675–1742). It covers different types of falconry, including chasing stags with eagles “after the manner of the Asiatic princes” and hawking partridges and larks. It is said to be Somerville’s last poem, which can be seen as an addition to one of his most popular poems, *The chase* (1735). Only very slightly browned, otherwise in very good condition.

ESTC T139403; Foxon S569; Schwerdt II, p. 168; not in Thiebaud.

Well-informed account of the Ottoman government

372. SORANZO, Lazzaro. L’Ottomanno ...
Naples, Costantino Vitale, 1600. 4º. 17th-century limp sheepskin parchment. € 8500

Detailed account of the Ottoman Empire under the infamous Sultan Mehmed III (reigned 1595–1603), first published by Vittorio Baldini in Ferrara in 1598 (he also published one of two 1599 editions, the other appearing at Milan). It concentrates especially on the Empire’s administrative structure, resources and organization. Little is known about the author, but what are supposed to be two members of his family were Venetian ambassadors to the Ottoman Empire and the book appears to be based on intimate first-hand knowledge of Ottoman affairs.

In very good condition and with ample margins, with a small stain in the first few leaves, occasional, mostly marginal minor foxing, and a small marginal tear. The binding wrinkled and with a few small stains. A contemporary account of the Ottoman government, with much information not found elsewhere.

Göllner, Turcica 2452; ICCU CNCE 15796 (5 copies); WorldCat (3 copies); cf. Adams S1462 (1599 Milan ed.); Atabey 1157 (1598 ed.); Blackmer 1575 (1598 ed.).

Investigation into the sanitary and health measures during the Hajj in the late 19th century, with 19 photographs of Mekka, Medina, Jeddah, and more

373. SOUBHY, Saleh. Pèlerinage a la Mecque et a Médine. Précédé d’un aperçu sur l’islamisme et suivi de considérations générales au point de vue sanitaire et d’un appendice sur la circoncision.
Cairo, Imprimerie Nationale, 1894. 8º. With 19 plates with reproductions of photographs. Modern green cloth. € 5000

First and only edition of a report on the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina written by the Egyptian doctor Saleh Soubhy. Soubhy worked as a health inspector at Cairo, and was appointed by khedive Abbas Hilmi II (1874–1944) to investigate the sanitary conditions of the Egyptian pilgrimage caravan to Mecca and Medina. Soubhy travelled to the Hijaz in 1888 and 1892, and published his experiences in the present work. “The French-educated doctor, Soubhy, wrote for a foreign audience in order to show both the sanctity and orderliness of the Hajj, regulated by quarantines and public health measures through which a great number of pilgrims flowed” (Sheehi). With this work, “a carefully composed defense of Islam” (Marmon), Soubhy also tried to portray Islam as an acceptable religion to his European colleagues. The book also includes some important early photographs of Mecca and Medina,
taken by Muhammad Sadiq Bey (1832–1902), the first to photograph the holy cities, and al-Sayyid ’Abd al-Ghaffar (active 1880’s).
With a bookplate on paste-down. Upper outer corner of half-title restored, tiny piece of the same corner torn off from the title-page, browned throughout, half-title smudged, and a few plates slightly thumbed, otherwise in good condition.


14 photographic portraits of sheiks & tribesmen, by Lawrence of Arabia’s Chief of Staff

374. STIRLING, Walter Francis. Arab Types.
Syria, [ca. 1918–ca. 1921]. Oblong album (18 × 26 cm). An album containing 14 black and white photographic portraits (mostly about 17 × 12 cm) plus a smaller print of one. Mounted in a ca. 1930 album of black paper leaves (boards covered with black cloth). € 35 000

Fascinating collection of 14 photographic portraits showing 13 sheikhs and tribesmen from several tribes in and around Syria, all with captions that usually give the subject’s name and tribe. The photos, often highly expressive profile studies, were taken and assembled by Lt. Col. Walter Francis Stirling (1880–1958), T. E. Lawrence’s Chief of Staff in 1918. The named tribes are the Shammar (nomadic Bedouins in northern Arabia, Syria and Iraq), Ruwalla (semi-nomadic Bedouins led by the Sha’lan family, also in northern Arabia and Syria), Hadidiyin (nomadic Bedouin sheep herders in Syria and northern Iraq), Walda (Kurds in Syria), Yazidis (Kurds in northern Iraq), Agaidat (Bedouins in Syria) and “Abu Klamin”[?] (not identified). The best known subjects are Fawaz al Sha’lam, Emir of Ruwalla (grandson of Nuri Sha’lan (1847–1842!), who commanded a large portion of the troops that entered Damascus with Faisal in 1918) and Daham al-Hadi, Sheikh of the Shammar. The latter is described as “Paramount Sheikh” of the Shammar (in Iraq), a title granted him by the British in 1920 that he lost when Faisal became King of Iraq in 1921.
One photograph slightly damaged, mostly outside the image area, but further in very good condition, with only an occasional small surface scratch or spot. Rare photographic portraits of sheiks and tribesmen in T.E. Lawrence’s Damascus circle of friends and enemies.

The King’s Strabo: the Arabian Gulf, and all the country of the tent-dwellers and the Sheikh-governed tribes

375. STRABO. [Geographia.] Rerum geographicarum libri xvii.
Paris, typis Regiis, 1620. 2º. Title with engraved vignette showing arms of Louis xiii, initials. Double-column text in Greek and Latin. Contemp. citron morocco gilt, boards of gilt fillets enclosing a semé of fleurs-de-lys, alternating with the kings crowned monogram, enclosing arms of Louis xiii (variant of Olivier 2493, fer 1). Spine in 7 compartments, the second with gilt-lettered title, others filled with the same semé. All edges gilt. € 45 000

Enlarged and corrected second edition of Strabo’s “Geography”, one of the earliest and most important scientific treatises of historical geography. Together with the works of Ptolemy and Solinus, Strabo’s “Geography” constitutes the first attempt at a unified treatise of geographical knowledge. Even in the introductory chapters, the author provides important details on the Arabian Peninsula. Furthermore, books 15 and 16 are devoted entirely to the Orient (bk. 16 is on Arabia in particular), while the final book 17 discusses Egypt and Libya.
The personal copy of Louis xiii, King of France (1601–43), magnificently bound for him with his arms and monogram. Later in the Jesuit College, Paris (inscription on title page); in 1624 awarded to the scholar Robert Roussel, College de Clermont, Jesuit College of Paris, as a prize
for eloquence in Greek (inscription on preliminary blank). A faint, unidentified stamp on the title page; stamp of the Bibliothèque Publique of Alençon on J2 and final leaf. Slight edge defect to upper margin of QQq3, affecting a few letters of the headline. A few marginal abrasions to the binding’s edges professionally repaired.


Best edition of Strabo’s “Geographika” including Casaubon’s notes, with descriptions of the Arabian Peninsula

376. STRABO. Rerum geographicarum libri xvii.
Paris, typis Regiis [Fédéric Morel], 1620. 2 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With title-page printed in red and black with the engraved coat of arms of Louis XIII, and several woodcut initials, head- and tailpieces. Contemporary gold-tooled parchment, gilt edges.

Enlarged and corrected second edition of Strabo’s Geographika including the notes by the French scholar Isaac Casaubon (1559–1614): one of the earliest and most important scientific treatises on historical geography. It contains the Greek text together with the Latin translation by Wilhelm Xylander (1532–1576) and is followed by Casaubon’s notes. “Casaubon was but 28 years of age when he published his first celebrated edition of Strabo [in 1587]... The [present] second edition, published by Frederick Morel at Paris, is much more accurate and splendid than the first” (Dibdin). Together with the works of Ptolemy and Solinus, Strabo’s Geographika constitutes the first attempt at a unified treatise of geographical knowledge. It was first printed in 1516 by the Aldine press at Venice. Strabo visited Egypt and sailed up the Nile in 25 BC. Books 15 and 16 are devoted entirely to the Orient in general and Arabia in particular, while the final book discusses Egypt and Libya.

With two bookplates on paste-down. Title-page browned, with the lower outer corner torn off, a single minute wormhole in the gutter margin through the first half of the book, otherwise in very good condition. Binding rubbed and front hinge partly split, but otherwise good. An essential source for Europe’s earliest relations with the Middle East.

Brunet V, col. 554; Dibdin II, p. 433; Graesse VII, p. 604.

First-hand accounts of Russia ca. 1670 and life in the Mughal army; from the library of a famous German explorer

377. STRUYS, Jan Jansz. Drie aanmerkelyke reizen, door Italien, Griekenland, Lyfland, Moscovien, Tartaryen, Meden, Persien, Oostindien, Japan, en verscheiden andere gewesten.
Including: HEIDEN, Frans Jansz. van der. Vervaarlyke schipbreuk van ‘t Oostindiesch jacht Ter Schelling, onder het land van Bengale, …

Amsterdam, Steven van Esveldt, 1746. 4º. 2 parts in 1 volume. Part 1 with an engraved title-page, 19 engraved folding plates and 1 engraved folding map; part 2 with an engraved title-page and 12 engraved plates. 19th-century red half sheepskin.

Account of the three voyages made by Jan Jansz. Struys (1630–1694) through Asia in 1647–1673. Struys’s first journey in 1647 was made as a sailmaker on board an East India merchant ship and brought him to Madagascar, Siam, Formosa (Taiwan) and Japan. On his second journey in 1655 he served aboard the Venetian fleet in a campaign against the Turks, was captured and escaped. His third and most interesting journey brought him to Russia, where in 1668 he set up shop as a master
sailmaker. A large chapter of the book is devoted to descriptions of Moscow and rare descriptions of daily life in Russia. Subsequently, Struys made a long journey from Novgorod in the north to Astrakhan in the south. Later he gets sold to a Persian slave trader in Georgia. He travels with a caravan to Isfahan, giving a description of the city and its prominent architecture. Via Bandar-Abbas he travels to Muscat, where he started to work again as a sailmaker and later travelled further to the Dutch East Indies.

Added to Struys’s journeys (as in many editions) is the horrible account of the shipwreck of the Dutch ship Terschelling on the coast of Bengal in 1661.

With an inscription by “Sieburgh” to the German explorer Robert Schlagintweit (1833–1885), dated 1859, on the second front endpaper and Schlagintweit’s embossed library stamp on the title page. Two numbers written on the front paste-down and some soiling in the margins. Binding rubbed; a good, nearly untrimmed copy.


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### Popular rhyming vocabulary: first printing

**378. SÜNBÜLZADE VEHBİ, Mehmet.** [Tuhfe-i-vehbi]. [Istanbul], Darü’t-Tibaati’l-Mamure, 1213 AH [= 1798/99 AD]. 8º. Modern brown half cloth. € 3500

Edito principecs of a popular rhyming vocabulary by the Turkish poet Sümbülzade Vehbi (1719–1809). The writer here employs mesnevi rhyming couplets in various meters to offer a substantial repertoire of Persian words and phrases along with their Turkish equivalents, while providing at the same time an elementary text on poetics. The most famous example in Turkish literature of a genre which presents information in easily-remembered lines of verse, “Tuhfe-i Vehbi” (“Vehbi’s Offering”) was composed around 1782 and has numerous precedents in earlier Ottoman poetry. A rare first printing of this ephemeral school book, and an outstanding witness to the polyglot philological traditions of the Islamic East.


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### On the recent political events in the Arabian Gulf


San Francisco, CA, November-December 1973. 4º (21.5 x 18 cm). With 2 reproductions of photographs and 1 map. Original printed paper wrappers. € 1800

Second volume, second issue, of the quarterly journal The Gulf Solidarity, published by the so-called support committee for the liberation movement in the Gulf. The committee “has been formed to encourage active support for the revolution in the Gulf by bringing the attention of the anti-imperialist and progressive forces in the US to the issue” (p. 3). The present issue deals with some revolutions in the Middle East, the rule of Oman, the oil industry, and the British influence in the Middle East. Included is a map of Muscat and Oman.

Very slightly creased, otherwise in very good condition.
On the influence of Great Britain and Iran in Oman


San Francisco, CA, spring 1975. 4º (28 × 21.5 cm). With an illustration on the wrappers and some reproductions of photographs and some maps in the text. Original printed paper wrappers.

Third volume, third issue, of the quarterly journal The Gulf Solidarity, published by the so-called support committee for the liberation movement in the Gulf. The majority of the journal is devoted to the “Iranian invasion”, referring to the Iran’s help during the Dhofar Rebellion. Other sections deal with the influence of Great Britain and other nations in the Gulf and military campaigns.

In very good condition.

Sanskrit verses with music for 44 realms of Queen Victoria’s empire, printed and bound in Calcutta

381. TAGORE, Sourindro Mohun. Victoria Sámrájyan, or Sanskrit stanzas [with a translation] on the various dependencies of the British Crown, each composed and set to the respective national music in commemoration of the assumption by ... Queen Victoria of the diadem—“Indiae Imperatrix.” ... Second edition.

Calcutta (Kolkata), published by the author, printed by I.C. Bose & Co. (The Stanhope Press), 1882. Royal 8º (23.5 × 15 cm). With more than 25 woodcut tailpieces (plus a couple repeats) showing Indian musical instruments. Contemporary gold-tooled green sheepskin, made in Calcutta for the author, probably for presentation, each board with a decorative roll outer border, a thick-thin inner border with 4 large waterlily cornerpieces, the front board with the author’s family crest and motto, the back board with an ornamental centrepiece, title in the 2nd of 5 fields on the spine, the others with decorations, gold-tooled board edges and turn-ins, gilt edges.

Second (expanded) edition of a collection of 44 numbered songs, each devoted to a different realm in the British Empire, first published to celebrate Queen Victoria’s assumption of the title Empress of India on 1 January 1877. Tagore wrote the verses in Sanskrit and adapted the music from national songs of the various realms. Each song appears on the versos set in Devanagri type with the music in a pioneering Indian notation (explained in the 6-page ”Elementary rules for the Hindu musical notation”), and on the facing recto transcribed in roman type with the music in the Western notation.

Sourindro Mohun Tagore (1840–1914) came from one of the leading artistic families in Calcutta. Well versed in traditional Indian music from his youth, he became a patron of Bengali and Hindu music but also studied Western music and became an internationally known musicologist. Tagore promoted and further developed new Indian musical notation systems introduced by Kshetra Mohan Goswami.

In fine condition. The binding in very good condition, with only minor wear, mostly at the extremities. A fascinating work, especially interesting for its pioneering Indian musical notation and its images of Indian music instruments, produced in Calcutta.


31 Sanskrit, Hindi and Bengali songs with music, printed and bound in Calcutta

382. TAGORE, Sourindro Mohun. A few specimens of Indian songs.

Calcutta (Kolkata), published by the author, printed by I.C. Bose & Co. (The Stanhope Press), 1879. Royal 8º (23.5 × 15 cm). Set in Devanagari (for Sanskrit and Hindi), Bengali (for Bengali) and roman types with incidental italic and textura gothic. The present copy has the dedication leaf for Lord Robert Bulwer-Lytton, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, printed in blue with an elaborate red border built up from typographic ornaments. Contemporary gold-tooled green sheepskin, made in Calcutta for the author, probably for presentation, each board
with a decorative roll outer border, a thick-thin inner border with 4 large waterlily cornerpieces, the front board with the author's family crest and motto, the back board with an ornamental centrepiece, title in the 2nd of 5 fields on the spine, the others with decorations, gold-tooled board edges and turn-ins, gilt edges.

First and only edition of a collection of 31 numbered Sanskrit, Hindi and Bengali songs popular in India at the time of publication, with the words in the original language and script, with a transliteration in roman type, each song with a brief explanatory text in English. It includes songs in the native classical and modern traditions as well as devotional, operatic and pastoral songs. It preserves a record of both the words and melodies of many songs that might otherwise have been lost and therefore serves as an essential primary source. The present copy includes dedication to Robert Bulwer-Lytton, Viceroy of India, printed in blue with an elaborate border printed in red. This is probably a deluxe version of the dedication leaf, found only in a few copies intended for presentation.

Sourindro Mohun Tagore (1840–1914) came from one of the leading artistic families in Calcutta. Well versed in traditional Indian music from his youth, he became a patron of Bengali and Hindu music but also studied Western music and became an internationally known musicologist.

In very good condition, with only occasional and mostly marginal light foxing or faint water stains. The binding with only minor wear, mostly at the extremities, but otherwise very good. A an essential source for any study of Indian music, produced in Calcutta and bound for the author, probably for presentation.

WorldCat 18700798, 870975830, 903627489, 497594560, 844448509; Public opinion and official communications, about the Bengal Music School ... (Calcutta 1876, with additions to at least 1879), item XXVI and supplement, p. 268.

The first Book about America by a Muslim


Istanbul, Ibrahim Müteferrika, 1142 AH [= 1730 AD]. 4º. All pages ruled, border coloured in gilt. With an illuminated golden headpiece (serlevha), 4 double-page engraved plates in contemporary colour (celestial chart, diagram with table, 2 world maps), and 13 woodcut illustrations in the text, all coloured by a contemporary hand and partially heightened with gum arabic. Slightly later (c. 1840) half calf, with gilt ornament and the name of the previous owner in Arabic lettering gilt to spine. Marbled endpapers.

A unique copy, with notable provenance, of the first book published with Arabic lettering to contain illustrations, the earliest book about the New World published in the Islamic world, and one of the first titles printed by a Muslim in Turkey. Formerly in the possession of Ahmed Cevdet Pasha (1822–95), one of the most pre-eminent scholars of his time and a prominent figure in the Tanzimat reforms of the Ottoman empire, the present copy is ruled in gold throughout, printed on a variety of burnished papers (a total of 30 leaves dyed in yellow, green, and brown in addition to the standard white), and coloured throughout. It is especially the contemporary colouring of the woodcuts, which depict curious oddities, fantastic creatures and the native people of the New World, that lends the present specimen a visual appearance completely different from that of the rather plain copies in which this book is usually known (14 copies recorded by OCLC). The only similarly embellished copy of the Hindi al-Gharbi we could trace is the one held by the Lilly Library.

Complete examples are rare: the book was printed in an edition of only 500 copies, many of which were subsequently defaced or destroyed for contravening the Islamic teachings against the representation of living things. Toderini appears to call for an astronomical chart in addition to the 4 plates, but Watson describes an astronomical chart and 3 plates. Sabin calls for 3 plates only, as does the John Carter Brown library catalogue. The Bibliothèque nationale copry, sent from Constantinople by the press’s patron, Sad Aga, contains 4 plates, as does the present copy, including the Ptolemaic astronomical chart. Old annotations in Arabic script to front flyleaf. Three leaves remargined. Celestial
map with closed tears and 2.5 cm loss to upper right corner (though slightly less near center) and minor loss to the cartouche at lower right corner; the other plates including the two coloured world maps in excellent condition, as most of the printed pages.


With an account of a voyage through the Arabian Gulf

Nuremberg, Knorz für Johann Hofmann, 1681. 2º. With 2 engr. title pages, 2 engr. maps (1 double-page), 63 engravings on 30 plates (1 folding) and numerous engravings in the text. Contemp. calf with giltstamped (oxydized) cover monogram “B.P.B.F.”, dated “1681”.

Independently published in Geneva and Nuremberg, this is one of the four slightly different Nuremberg issues of the same year. The first three parts treat Tavernier’s travels to Turkey, Persia, India, and Japan (with large map of Japan). Book Two, chapter Nine of the Persian Travels is of particular interest, as it contains an account of Tavernier’s voyage through the Arabian Gulf, mentioning Bahrain, Bandar Abbas, Qeshm, and Hormuz and making observations on the people and navigation of the Gulf. Parts 4 and 5 of the present Nuremberg edition contain as a supplement the first German edition of Spon’s and Wheeler’s archaeological description of their journey to the Levant. The plates depict festivals, processions, costumes, views, and images of the Eastern flora and fauna as well as coins and gems. Binding slightly chafed in places; lower corners bumped. Interior somewhat browned and brown-stained; bookplate of Thomas Christian Wöhler to front pastedown. Seldom found complete; the copies last auctioned all lacked plates or the last 2 parts. The copy described by Laures is likewise incomplete, containing a mere 23 plates. Not in the Atabey collection.


With depth soundings throughout the Gulf

385. TAVERNIER, Jean-Baptiste. Collections of travels through Turky into Persia, and the East-Indies.

The first collected edition in English: an account of Tavernier’s travels to Turkey, Persia, India, and Japan. Contains an account of Tavernier’s voyage through the Arabian Gulf, making observations on the pearl-fishing, people and navigation of the Gulf. There is also a bird’s-eye map of the Strait of Hormuz showing the Musandam Peninsula (peppered with palm trees and captioned “A promontorie of Arabia the happey”), Hormuz, Larak, and Qeshm island, as well as Bandar Abbas and Bandar Kong on the Persian side. Intriguingly, this engraved map also includes depth soundings throughout the Gulf, making it useful as an early “Persian Gulf Pilot”. A separate, illustrated chapter discusses extensively the invaluable pearl in the collection of the Imam of Muscat. Another illustrated chapter discusses “The Money of Arabia”. In general, the plates depict festivals, processions, costumes, views, and images of the Eastern flora and fauna as well as coins and gems. Title-page rehinged. Repaired tear to first leaf of contents. Faint marginal dampstain along lower edge of first several leaves; occasional browning, final leaves of text cleaned with some minor marginal restoration, but well-preserved on the whole. Handsome period-style calf-gilt binding fine.

Portuguese break 1546 Muslim siege of Diu in Gujarat

386. TEIVE, Diogo de. Com[m]entarius de rebus in India apud Dium gestis anno salutis nostrae M. D. XLVI.
Coimbra, (colophon: produced by João de Barreira and João Álvares, printers to the King), 1548. Small 4º (18.5 × 13.5 cm). With woodcut arms of King João 111 of Portugal on title-page. Set in Peter Schoeffer the younger’s Parangon (121 mm/20 line or 18 point) italic and with an extremely early use of Claude Garamont’s Canon roman (not previously recorded before 1549). Gold-tooled red sheepskin (18th-century refurbished in the 19th century).

First edition of a report on the Portuguese in India and especially on their defeat of the Muslim Gujarat Sultanate at the second siege of Diu in 1546. The Portuguese reached India in 1498 (and regarded it as their property under the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas concluded with Spain) but in the early years they met stiff resistance from the Gujarats, supported at various times by the Mamluks and the Ottoman Empire. Although they never penetrated far inland, the Portuguese gradually came to dominate the coastal areas, in particular expanding their territory and power in northwest India from 1509 to 1546. In 1546 the Gujarats under Khoja (or Khwaja) Sofar tried to retake Diu, lost in 1509, but after a seven-month siege they were routed by the Portuguese fleet under João de Castro. This established the European colonial power and the European spice trade in India (including what is now Pakistan), where Portugal was to be followed by the Dutch and especially England before most of India finally gained its independence in 1947. Small parts, including Diu, remained in Portuguese hands until 1961.
Trimmed, shaving an accent on the title-page and the running head on a few pages, but otherwise in good condition, with some minor defects. The binding has several worm holes and the spine is damaged and partly restored. A contemporary account of the Portuguese defeat of the Muslim forces in Gujarat in 1546.

Palau 328850; USTC 343307.

€ 45 000

One of the earliest Western books mentioning Qatar

387. TEIXEIRA, Pedro, [Mir KHWAND and Turan SHAH]. Relaciones de Pedro Teixeira d’el origen descendencia y succession de los reyes de Persia, y de Harmuz, y de un viage hecho por el mismo autor dende la India Oriental hasta Italia por tierra.
Antwerp, Hieronymus Verdussen, 1610. 8º. With a woodcut on title-page, a woodcut initial and some woodcut tail-pieces. 17th century marbled calf with gilt label to richly gilt spine, red edges.

First edition of a “history of the kings of Persia compiled from the Persian histories of Mir Khwand and Turan Shah” (Howgego), in the original Spanish, by the Portuguese merchant adventurer Pedro Teixeira (1563–1645?). It is one of the earliest European sources to mention Qatar, with notes on the pearl fishing in the region that may be translated: “The pearl fishery at Bahrain begins some years in June, but generally in July, an lasts all that month and August … They generally go a fishing to Katar, a port on the coast of Arabia, to leagues to the southward of the Island Bahren. As soon an oyster is brought up, they open it, and take out the pearl. The pearls of this sea surpass all others in goodness and weight…” The work is divided into three parts. The first, which is the largest, deals with the kings of Persia. It is a summarized translation of the voluminous Rawzat as-safâ... by the Persian historian Mir Khwand (ca. 1434–1498), and is probably the first translation of the text into a European language. The second part is a translation of the chronicle of the kings of Hormuz by the Ayyubid emir Turan Shah (d. 1180), a text that survives only in translations. Though Teixeira’s adventures started in 1586, he reached Hormuz in 1593, where he resided for several years to study its history. Both parts contain a chronological account of the kings, but also provide a more general history of the region. The third and last part contains an account of Teixeira’s later travels from India to Italy in the 1600–1605 and 1604–1605, visiting China, Mexico and the Middle East. In his preface Teixeira states that he originally wrote the work in Portuguese, but that it was first published in Spanish to appeal to a wider audience. The work appeared in a French translation in 1681, and extracts appeared in an English translation in 1714, followed by a translation of the full text in 1715.
Binding slightly rubbed and with a small defect to upper spine. Slightly browned, otherwise immaculate copy in its first binding.

Authoritative history of the Portuguese missions in Ethiopia and Arabia, with a folding map

388. TELLEZ, Balthasar. The travels of the Jesuits in Ethiopia: containing … travels in Arabia Felix, wherein many things of that country … are treated of, as a particular description of Aden, Moca, and several other places … London, J. Knapton [and 3 others, and sold by 5 more], 1710. 4º. With engraved map of Ethiopia, including part of the Red Sea and the source of the Blue Nile. Modern calf. € 25 000

Rare first English edition of Tellez’s influential historical account of Ethiopia and Arabia. It is a digest of the accounts of all the Jesuit travellers to Ethiopia and Arabia, including Paez, De Montserrat, Almeida, Lobo and Mendes. It includes an account of the travels of the Jesuit missionaries Pedro Paez and Antonio de Montserrate. They were captured off the Kuria Muria islands on a mission from Goa to Ethiopia in 1590 and subsequently taken to Yemen, where they were held captive until 1596. After being sent to Sana’a by way of Melkis and the Wadi Hadramaut, then after three years taken to Al Mukha (Mocha), where they were forced to serve as galley slaves, they were finally ransomed in 1596 and returned to India. Paez discovered the source of the Blue Nile and is said to have been the first European to have tasted coffee in Al Mukha.
The work further includes a detailed description of Aden (Yemen) as well as of the Ethiopia-Adal War (1529–1543), during which Ahmad ibn Ibrahim al-Ghazi led several expeditions against the Ethiopian emperor until most of Ethiopia came under the power of the Muslim Sultanate of Adal. With early owner’s inscription on title-page. Quire 2D bound after quire 2E, a couple mm. shaved of the outer border of the map, a faint waterstain throughout, some leaves foxed and some occasional spots. A good copy.

ESTC T133244; Paulitschke, Afrika-Literatur 1137; cf. Howgego, to 1800, A65 (Almeida).

The earliest and rarest of the great collections of treaties

389. THOMAS, R. Hughes (ed.). Treaties, Agreements, and Engagements, Between the Honorable East India Company and the Native Princes, Chiefs, and States, in Western India, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, &c. Bombay, for the Government, 1851 (with Supplements to 1853). Large 8º. With a hand-coloured illustration of the Arab flag on p. 21. Period-style half calf with double giltstamped black spine labels. All edges sprinkled in red but top edge gilt. € 85 000

The earliest and rarest of the great collections of treaties closed between the British Government and local rulers in the western part of the expanding British Empire – most importantly, the accords reached with the sheikdoms of the Arabian Gulf, the Wahhabis, the territory of Bahrain, and the so-called “Maritime Tribes” of the Arabian coast, or the “Trucial Arab Chiefs”. While a number of earlier compilations of the kind were produced for the use of political agents, they were far from complete and furthermore were flawed by editorial inaccuracies such as erroneous dates, the omission of words and even of entire sentences. These errors, repeated and amplified throughout successive editions, Thomas set out to correct in the present collection by for the first time basing his work on bona fide copies in the government records. More than a decade later, the Indian civil servant C. U. Aitchison would compile the perhaps best-known set of its kind, the still highly sought but more commonly available “Collection of Treaties, Engagements, and Sunnuds, Relating to India and Neighbouring Countries” in 7 volumes (subsequently often reissued and expanded), and it is worth noting that the relevant volume in his series was markedly shorter than Thomas’s earlier counterpart: in Aitchison’s original 1865 edition, it comprised merely 726 pages, less than three quarters of the present work’s scope! The treaties paint a vivid picture of the political relations between the increasingly dominant British government and the independent tribes who ruled the Gulf coast. Significantly, the contemporary rulers and their territories (in then-current spelling: “Aboothabee”, “Amulgavine”, “Debaye”, “Ras-oool-Khymah”, and “Ejman”, as well as the “Joasmee” and “Beniyas’” tribes) are noted by name. Of principal importance is the Preliminary Treaty with Sultan bin Saqer Al Qasimi, signed at Ras-al-Kaimah on 6 January 1820 (following General Keir’s controversial 1819 expedition to the Gulf), by which the Sultan agreed to surrender “towers, guns, and vessels which are in Shargah, Iman, Amulgavine, and their dependencies”); similar treaties were made with the other Sheikhs of the coast. Two days later followed the “General Treaty with the Arab Tribes of the Gulf”, issued at Ras-al-Khaimah on January 8, which established “a lasting peace between the British Government and the Arab Tribes”, a “cessation of plunder and piracy by land and sea” and – famously – the design of the “Blood-Red Arab Flag”, as it has been called, “a red flag in a border of white, the breadth of the white in the border equal to the breadth of the red, known in the British Navy by the title of ‘White-pierced-red’” (with a hand-coloured illustration in the text).
Still quoted as an authority on Müteferrika

390. TODERINI, Giambattista, SJ. Letteratura Turchesca.
Venice, Giacomo Storti, 1787. 3 vols. All 3 titles engraved; with 2 folding engraved plates of music at the end of vol. 1. Slightly later half cloth with gilt spine. € 3500

First edition. An excellent source work on the culture of the Ottoman Empire, one of the first publications ever to treat the subject. Part 1, pp. 222 ff., discusses Turkish music (with two plates of music, also showing a tanbur). Part 2 mainly treats of libraries and book collections, while part 3 contains the first-ever catalogue of the famous Müteferrika press – a closely annotated bibliography of the books produced by the first Turkish printshop, installed under Ahmed III in 1727. Toderini is still quoted as an authority on this press by modern bibliographers [...] Giovanni Battista Toderini (1728–99), Venetian philologist and book collector, accompanied the Garzoni embassy to Constantinople in 1781” (Blackmer). There, he spent five years “studying Ottoman civilization and collecting Turkish mathematical instruments as well as a great number of Arabic books and manuscripts. The work contains much information on Turkish letters, and includes a list of the books from the Seraglio library which he took to Venice on his return” (Atabey). An excellent, well-preserved copy with a Jesuit library bookplate identifying this set as a gift of Henri Cailloué.


The first postal history of Dubai


“First published: May, 1950”. Stamp and postal history of the Arabian Gulf states, including Bahrain, Bandar Abbas, Dubai, Muscat, etc. The first study of its kind; a shorter version had appeared in serialized form in 1949. Includes brief historical introductions to explain to the collector, “What were we doing there anyway? How did we come to be there at all?” (preface). A good copy.

OCLC 13224212.

Medical work based on Pliny the Elder, Galen and Dioscorides, from the library of the Russian tsars

392. [TORINUS, Albanus (ed)]. De re medica huic volumini insunt ...
(Colophon: Basel, Andreas Cratander, 1528). 2º. With woodcut printer’s device on title-page, repeated on final page, 2 pages with 4-piece decorative woodcut borders (some blocks initialled I.F.) and numerous woodcut decorated initials. 18th-century half calf, with marbled paper in a tree pattern on sides, gold-tooled spine with the coat of arms of the Russian Tsars. € 25,000
First edition of a collection of four medical works, compiled by the Swiss physician Albanus Torinus (1489–1550). The main part of the work consists of De re medica, also known as Medicina Pliniana, a very popular medical text during the Middle Ages. Compiled in the fourth century by an anonymous author, it is generally ascribed to Plinius Valerianus, also called pseudo-Plinius, since it mainly derived from Pliny the Elder’s Historia naturalis.

Consisting of five books, it gives various medicines and treatments for different diseases, ailments, wounds, tumours etc. Besides Pliny the Elder, the work is heavily based on the works of Galen and Dioscorides, all highly esteemed in the Arabic world.

The work also contains three other medical works from different authors. “The contents are all either spurious works or later compilations from genuine works of the authors to whom they are attributed” (Durling). It starts with an introduction to “the art of healing”, ascribed to Soranus of Ephesus. The second text is by Oribasius, a Greek medical writer from the fourth century BC. According to Durling, the text is an extract from the first chapter of his Euporista ad Eunapium. The work closes with a botanical text, De virtutibus herbarum, ascribed to Lucius Apuleius Madaurensis, but written by an anonymous author from the fourth century, known as Pseudo-Apuleius. In one of the manuscripts Torinus used, the text was ascribed to the famous Italian physician Antonio Musa Brassavola (1500–1555), an expert on the works of Galen and heavily influenced by his work.

The editor of the work, Torinus, was appointed professor of practical medicine at the University of Basel after receiving the degree of doctor in medicine in Montpellier. He translated many Greek texts into Latin, or Latin works into the vernacular, including Vesalius’s De humani corporis fabrica.

From the library of the Russian tsars, with its letterpress library label with shelf number on paste-down and the coat of arms on the spine. With the place and date of printing added in manuscript on the title-page. Paper on boards slightly chafed, binding with traces of use along the extremities, corners bumped and spine restored. First five leaves with a minor water stain, but otherwise a very good copy.

Adams S2462; Durling 4351; Parkinson 2410.

Catalogue of Kufic coins from the Umayyad Caliphate up to the Marwanids

393. TORNBERG, Carl Johan. Numi Cufici regii numophylacii Holmiensis, quos omnes in terra Sueciae repertos.

Uppsala, Leffler and Sebell, 1848. 4º. With 14 lithographed plates. Contemporary blind-blocked cloth. €3500

First edition of a work on Kufic coins, written by the Swedish orientalist and numismatic Carl Johan Tornberg (1807–1877). The work catalogues all the early Arabic coins found on Swedish soil, now residing in the Kungliga Svenska Myntkabinettet (Royal Coin Cabinet), Stockholm. The descriptions mention under whose rule and where the coins were minted. Tornberg also gives a transcription of the coin’s text in Arabic and a short note on its appearance and rarity. Among the earliest coins are those from the Umayyad caliphate around the year 63 (684–685), followed by coins from the Abbasids, the Umayyads in Spain, up to the Hamdanids and Marwanids. Slightly browned, otherwise in very good condition. With some red wax on front board, spine slightly discoloured.


French manuscript travel guide for Egypt

French manuscript guide for travelling from Alexandria to Cairo, written by a Norman nobleman. The guide instructs the traveller to travel overnight from Alexandria to Atfeh (Al ‘Atf) by way of a Cangia (a type of passenger boat) over the Mahmoudiyah Canal. In Atfeh the traveller is advised to buy a marmite (a French cooking vessel), a casserole and several clay jugs for storing Nile water, before boarding a Dahabeah (a large cangia) to Cairo. Among the activities suggested for Cairo is a visit to the cavalry school in Giza, where its director, the French colonel Varin, will receive the traveller like “a good Norman innkeeper”. When visiting the pyramids, the traveller will be assailed by Bedouins in an instance”. If you desire to climb a pyramid, “adress yourself to the Sheikh el-Beled and tell him to give you three men and to send away the others. A Bedouin will take you by each hand, another will push you from behind and in an instant you will be up”. Also of interest is the polytechnic school in Bulaq, headed by the Frenchman Lambert. There the traveller can take a Cangia to Rosetta (and back to France).

It is unknown whether or not the writer based this guide on his own experiences or relied on information from others. However, the specific mention of this Frenchmen in Egyptian service and of the comparison of Varin with a Norman innkeeper suggests that the source of the information was, like the author, a Norman. The dating is likewise unknown, but an interesting piece of information is that the traveller is advised to have his boat thoroughly cleaned. In the 1847-edition of the Hand-book for travellers in Egypt, John Gardner Wilkinson wrote that “the first thing to be done, after taking a boat, is to have it sunk, to rid it of the rats, and other noxious inhabitants it may have”. When the 1858-edition was published, the situation had improved inasmuch as that “the boats are now for the most part very clean, so that it is no longer necessary to have them sunk before going on board”. Henri-Tobie-Marie, comte de Toustant-Richebourg (1818–1912) was a French antiquarian famous for his library on Normandy. He joined the French Navy and graduated from the training ship Orion in 1834. In 1838 he served aboard the Créole under the Prince de Joinville, taking part in in the Battle of Véracruz. After his marriage in 1844, he quit the navy and devoted himself to antiquarian studies, befriending Viollet-le-Duc and Arcisse de Caumont over the years. With a later description and biographical information written on the front page. With a waterstain at the bottom and several stains at the back; in good condition.

For the author: Frère, Manuel du bibliographe normand I, p. 572; Frondeville, Les conseillers du Parlement de Normandie au seizième siècle, p. 44.

The Statistics of Palestine


Berlin, Orient-Verlag, 1926. 30 colour-printed maps and charts, four of which folding (lacking contents leaf, very occasional faint marginal creasing). Paper portfolio.

€ 18 000

Extremely scarce atlas with attractive graphic design, showing Jewish economic activity in Palestine. A fresh and vibrant copy of the second edition (the only one traceable in libraries). Trietsch (1870–1935) was born in Dresden, Germany, before moving to New York, where he studied Jewish migration. In the early 20th century, Trietsch settled in Berlin, where in 1901 he became co-founder of the Jüdischer Verlag (with Martin Buber, Chaim Weizmann, E. M. Lilien and others). He published much material, such as the present atlas, to promote the Zionist cause and emigration to Palestine. Only four copies can be traced in institutions (Stanford, Kiel, Frankfurt and Vienna). The maps and charts cover Jewish workers in Palestine, Jewish land ownership in Palestine, population density of Palestine, overview of Jewish industries in Palestine, Palestine imports and exports, Jewish capital investment in Palestine, etc. Maps and charts in excellent condition.

Jüd. Lexikon IV/2, p. 1053. OCLC 976000885.
16th century Sammelband of two rare pilgrimages to the Holy Land

396. TUCHER, Hans. Gründtlicher und Eigentlicher Bericht der Meerfart [...] gen Venedig, Jerusalem, zu S. Katharinen Berg, Sinay, Alexandria, und wider gen Nürnberg gethan [...].
Frankfurt, Georg Rab & Weygand Han, 1561.
With: (2) FABRI, Felix. Eigentliche beschreibung der hin und wider farth zu dem Heyligen Landt gen Jerusalem [...].
[Frankfurt, David Zöpfel], 1556. With a title woodcut depicting a pilgrim with two camels. Contemporary blind-stamped leather over wooden boards.

€ 18 500

I: A fine Renaissance edition of Tucher’s pilgrimage to the Holy Land, undertaken in 1479–80 and first published by Schönsberger in Augsburg in 1482. Tucher (1428–91) was a wealthy Nuremberg merchant who moved in humanistic circles; “his travel report is remarkable in several respects: geographically, because it provides a different, non-traditional route from Jerusalem to Mt. Sinai. In historical respect, Tucher’s account is remarkable for abstaining largely from the fabulous and revealing a sense of factual reporting, even though much space is given to miraculous episodes, as might be expected from a text of this genre and age. Finally, it is of linguistic interest” (ADB).
II: Editio princeps of Fabri’s pilgrimage account. Felix Fabri, a native of Zurich and a Dominican preacher at Ulm, describes his two pilgrimages made to the Holy Land, the first in 1480, as chaplain to Georg von Stein, and the second in 1483–84 as chaplain to Johannes Truchsess von Waldburg, as part of the same party as Breydenbach.
Title-page of Tucher frayed. Some light staining throughout. Worldcat lists 3 copies of Tucher in the US, and 5 copies of Fabri. Not a single copy of Tucher in auction records; a copy of Fabri in a modern binding commanded £4140 at Sotheby’s in 1998.

Istanbul, 1853–1857. Oblong 2º. 1 leaf (calligraphic ink title), 21 salt paper print photos including two panoramas. Near-contemporary Qajar lacquered papier-mâché binding, likely Persian, with court motifs on both panels, front flyleaf with sticker of “E. Picart, Papétier, 14 Rue du Bac, Paris”. Pink and silver decorative floral endpapers.

€ 50 000

Early, uncommonly extensive album of photographs of Constantinople (including some of Athens and Crimea), most signed by the photographer, James Robertson, created during his stay in Istanbul between 1853 and 1857. Of the 21 photographs present, no fewer than 14 show Constantinople and Scutari: they include a magnificent panorama of the city and across the Golden Horn, seen from Camp Daoud Pasha, sweeping views of the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, the Hagia Sophia and other mosques, the ancient hippodrome with its obelisks, views of the Seraglio, Nusretye Mosque and Tophane Square, the Fountain of Ahmed 111, Suleymaniye Mosque, street scenes, etc. Comparable albums with Constantinople photographs by Robertson are located at the Bibliothèque nationale de France (including the magnificent four-volume album of the Comte de Paris), the Getty Research Institute, Harvard (12 photographs, of which only a few show Constantinople), and other institutions with loose prints such as Princeton (four photographs, one of Constantinople) and State Library of Victoria (31 photos, of
which only four are of Constantinople). In all this is one of the strongest albums known with Constantinople contents.

Far too little is known about the pioneering Scottish photographer Robertson (1813–88), who moved to Constantinople to take the position of Chief Engraver for the Royal Mint, as part of the modernization of the country. He was related to the younger Felice Beato, a pioneer of 19th century photography, with whom he later opened a studio and recorded the Crimean war.

Upper cover shows severe chipping to polychrome lacquer; lower cover in better condition though also with defects. In excellent condition internally, photographs in general in good to very good prints, a few a little faded.


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**The presents given to the King of Spain by Sultan Ahmed I**

398. **[TURKEY—SPAIN]**. Les presens inestimables envoyez par le grand Turc au Roy d’Espagne. Ensemble ce qui s’est passé depuis le 24. Iullet, tant à l’armee Hollandoise qu’Espagnolle au Pays-Bas.

Lyon, Claude Armand dit Alphonse, 1625. 8º. Modern marbled boards. € 2250

Very rare first(?!) edition of a brief work listing the beautiful presents given to the King of Spain by the Ottoman Sultan Ahmed I (1590–1617). Among the presents were 4 lions with golden chains; 4 large unicorn horns, decorated with gold; tapestries with gold wire, depicting the victories of King Philips II; and 10 horses accompanied by six Turkish men to take care of them, who could also manage the lions. Included on pp. 6–15 is “the true story” of what happened to the Spanish and Dutch armies in Holland since July 24, probably of 1625. It narrates the actions of the Genoese general Ambrogio Spinola (1569–1630), serving Spain during the Eighty Years’ War in the Netherlands.

With a faint waterstain in the bottom half of the pages, otherwise in very good condition.

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**Early 16th-century manuscript recension of Euclid’s “Elements”, by one of the greatest Islamic scholars**

399. **TUSI, NASIR AL-DIN, AL.** Kitâb tahrîr ‘uṣûl al-handasa li-‘Uqlîdus [an exposition of Euclid’s Elements of geometry].

Persia, Signed by Izz al-Din Ahmad, 929 AH [=1522/23 AD]. 8º. With numerous geometrical diagrams throughout in red and black. Later brown sheepskin, recased.

€ 75 000

A fine early 16th-century manuscript of al-Tusi’s recension of Euclid’s Elements. This, together with his commentary on Ptolemy’s *Almagest*, is al-Tusi’s most important work. The first printed edition of Euclid (Venice, 1482) was a Latin translation by Campanus of Novara (1220–96) based upon al-Tusi’s version. Probably written in 1248, the earliest extant manuscript of al-Tusi’s version of Euclid is dated 1258 (held by the British Library—see Stocks & Baker, p. 374); the first printed edition did not appear for a further seven decades after the present manuscript (Rome, 1594). Nasir al-Din al-Tusi (1201–1274 AD) was one of the greatest Islamic scholars in the fields of mathematics, astronomy, geometry and theology. “Al-Tusi’s influence, especially in eastern Islam, was immense. Probably, if we take all fields into account, he was more responsible for the revival of the Islamic sciences than any other individual. His bringing together so many competent scholars and scientists at Marâgha resulted not only in the revival of mathematics and astronomy but also in the renewal of Islamic philosophy and even theology. Al-Tusi’s works were for centuries authoritative in many fields of Islamic learning: … and his mathematical studies affected all later Islamic mathematics … In the West al-Tusi is known almost entirely as an astronomer and mathematician whose significance, at least in these fields, is becoming increasingly evident” (DSB). Tusi’s recension exists in two
versions: one in 13 books of which only two manuscripts survive (both in the Laurenziana)—this is the version printed at the Medici Press in 1594; and another in 15 books (as here) which was first printed at Constantinople in 1801 (see Heath, pp. 77–8).

Some Arabic library stamps. In very good condition.


With the first European edition of Abulfeda

400. ULUGH BEG ibn Shahruk and John GREAVES (ed.). Epochae celebriores, astronomis, historicis, chronologis, Chataiorum, Syro-Graecorum Arabum, Persarum Chorasmiorum, usitatae [...].

London, James Flesher for Cornelius Bee, 1650. 4º. Includes letter-press tables (several folding) Contemp. English calf with rebacked spine, preserving original giltstamped red spine label.


London, 1650. Title page printed in red and black. € 15 000

Ed. princesp of both works contained. Ulugh Beg (1394–1449), the “Great Prince”, born as Muhammad Taragay, was raised at the court of his grandfather, Tamerlane. From 1409 onwards he ruled Mawara’annahr from Samarkand, where he had a three-story observatory built. “An important result of the scientific work of Ulugh Beg and his school was the astronomical tables called the ‘Zij’” (DSB). The present work offers the calendrical and chronological section of his tables. It was through the works of the Oxford mathematician and oriental scholar John Greaves (1602–52), formerly professor of astronomy, who edited the volume, that Newton became acquainted with the works of Ulugh Beg. The second part of the volume offers the first European edition and translation of any text by the important Arab historian Abu al-Fida (Abulfeda, 1273–1331), ruler of Hamah among the Mamluks: his geography of present-day Usbekistan.

Some browning and spotting throughout; old library stamp “chiesa libera” to title and dedication. Binding rubbed; extremities rather severely bumped; spine rebacked.

Wing U-24; I-1073. OCLC 7097287; 4383686. DNB XXIII, 38; GAL II, 46; Schnurrer, p. 122, no. 119: Füch 80; Zenber I, 984 (Abulfeda only)—Cf. DSB XIII, 535ff. GAL II, 225ff.; S II, 29f. M. H. Fikri, Treasures from the Arab Scientific Legacy in Europe, nos. 52f. (later eds. of Ulugh Beg only).

Meeting Middle Eastern rulers on board the flagship


No place, [1950]. Small 2º. Illustrated throughout. Original blue cloth with gilt title “GB AVP 41” stamped to upper cover.

Commemorative publication “written, compiled and produced by [the] officers and men” of the U.S.S. Greenwich Bay after the ship’s first tour of duty to the Persian (Arabian) Gulf as flagship for the Commander of the U.S. Navy Middle East Force. The small seaplane tender Greenwich Bay departed Norfolk on 30 April 1949 for a six-month mission, four months of which were spent in the Gulf area based at Bahrein, calling at Kuwait, Ras al Mishah, Ras Tanura, Sharjah, and Muscat before returning to Norfolk on 1 November. Every year thereafter the ship would repeat this duty, sailing through the Mediterranean to operate as flagship in the Red Sea, Gulf, and Indian Ocean for 4 to 6 months. In total, the Greenwich Bay made 15 Mediterranean deployments. This fully illustrated record contains rare images of a fire at Aramco’s Ras Tanura oilfield that scorched the ship’s hull, scenes from Manama, Bahrein, the “distinguished guests” who visited aboard (dignitaries of the Gulf countries visited, including a portrait of HRH Faisal al Saud on board the Greenwich Bay), etc. In addition to operating with foreign naval units in the Mediterranean, Red Sea, Gulf, and Indian Ocean, the Greenwich Bay performed extensive work in the People-to-People program, particularly in carrying drugs and other medical supplies to Arab and African nations, and operated as an important tool of diplomacy in the region.
Light brownstaining to endpapers, otherwise a fine copy of a rare, privately printed work whose press-run likely did not exceed the number of the crew: 20 officers and 206 men. Inserted are a 3-page assessment form “Military requirements for all men in the Navy” and a Bombay port receipt from the ship’s call at Bombay in July 1949.

The most comprehensive and authoritative source on the Dutch colonial empire in the East, with 267 engraved plates

402. VALENTIJN, François. Oud en nieuw Oost-Indië, vervattende een nauwekeurige en uitvoerige verhandelinge van Nederlands mogentheyt in die gewesten, ... Te zamen dus behelzende niet alleen een zeer nette beschhryving van alles, wat Nederlands Oost-Indië betreft, maar ook 't voornaamste dat eenigzins tot eenige andere Europeërs, in die gewesten, betrekking heeft.

Dordrecht, Johannes van Braam; Amsterdam, Gerard onder den Linden, 1724–1726. 5 volumes. 2º. With engraved frontispiece, engraved dedication to Egidius van den Bempden, engraved author’s portrait, 264 (of 265) engraved plates (many folding), 8 letterpress folding tables, and 80 engravings in text. Contemporary calf, gold-tooled spine with a floral/ornithological tool in 5 of 7 compartments, gold-tooled board edges. Bound by the so-called Pentateuch Bindery, located in Amsterdam. € 39 500

Richly illustrated first edition (the only early and only unabridged edition) of Valentijn’s monumental study of the East Indies and the Middle East. Besides being the most comprehensive and authoritative source about the Dutch colonial empire in the East for centuries, its literary qualities were praised even by modern critics. Valentijn is “remarkably complete; the book is therefore a goldmine overflowing with information; he brought together everything accessible in his day ... [and] includes much information that one can find nowhere else; for that reason it remains indispensable” (NNBW). Valentijn (1666–1727) went to the East Indies as a minister of the church in 1685 and settled in Ambon.

With 18th-century(?) owner’s inscription in each volume, partly erased or covered. Lacking the engraved portrait of Mattheus de Haan in volume 4 and an errata leaf in volume 3. Some occasional browning, occasional small spots and stains, and with a tear in a some of the folding plates. Bindings rubbed along the extremities, a few slightly damaged at the foot or head of the spine. Overall in good condition.


Pair of luxurious 39 cm globes from the first half of the 18th-century

403. VALK, Gerard. Cosmotheore, celesti nostro globo, par, et plané novús, hic terrestris út existeret; ... Amsterdam, Gerard Valk, 17[50].

With: Uranographia caelum omne hic complectens, ... magno ab Hevelo correcta est: ... Amsterdam, Gerard & Leonard Valk, 1700 [=ca. 1711].

A pair of 39 cm (15 inch) diameter globes with the original rings, on a brass spindle and a later wooden base; both measuring ca. 57 cm from top to bottom. Both globes have a wooden horizon ring covered with printed paper, brass meridian ring and brass hour circle with pointer attached to the spindle. The spheres are covered with 2 sets of 12 engraved half-clipped gores and 2 polar calottes each. They are both coloured by hand, the terrestrial in outline and the celestial globe with all the celestial signs. € 275 000
A pair of terrestrial and celestial globes engraved by Gerard Valk ca. 1707 and here in their third and second state, respectively. “The engraving work of Gerald Valk’s globes was of the highest type ... still superior to that of foreigners” (V.d. Krogt, p. 321). The globes the Valks introduced in all sizes in the years 1700 to 1728, made them the first undisputed leader among Dutch globe makers since the decline of the Blaeus following the fire of 1672. The cartographic image of their terrestrial globe was hardly revised over the years, so in its present state it still reflects geographic knowledge of ca. 1700. Only the Caspian and Aral Seas were revised (ca. 1749), portrayed more accurately here than in Valk’s earlier globes. Around this time, Delamarche in Paris was just beginning to introduce cheaper materials that would bring globes within reach of a larger public, but Valk was still making a luxury item for a small number of scholars and amateurs.

The varnish has darkened on the terrestrial globe where it led to some lesser visibility and some unevenly darkened areas, it also contains some minor scuff marks and some tiny specks, but is otherwise good with no major defects. The varnish on the celestial globe has only slightly darkened, and is otherwise in very good condition.

V. d. Krogt, Globi Neerlandici, VAL III, state 3 (ter.) and state 2 (cel.); not in Dekker, Globes at Greenwich.

One of the earliest printed sources for the early history of Fujairah and Sharjah

Venice, Paolo Baglioni, 1661–1664. 12º. 4 vols. Contemp. limp vellum with ms. spine titles; all edges of vol. 2 sprinkled in red.

Early duodecimo reprint edition of Della Valle’s complete “Viaggi”, published while the first complete edition was still under the press. Della Valle’s account is highly sought after as one of the earliest printed sources for the early history of Dibba, the coastal region at the northeastern tip of the United Arab Emirates, today ruled by the Emirates of Fujairah and of Sharjah. Pietro della Valle (1586–1652) left Venice in 1614 on a pilgrimage to Palestine, proceeding to Baghdad and then into Persia, where he married and sojourned in the court of Shah Abbas. While staying with the Sultan of Bandar Abbas, he “met the son of the ruler of Dibba who was visiting. From this he learned that Dibba had formerly been subject to the kingdom of Hormuz, but was at that time loyal to the Safavids who in 1623 sent troops to Dibba, Khor Fakkhan and other ports on the southeast coast of Arabia in order to prepare for a Portuguese counter-attack following their expulsion from Hormuz (Jarun). In fact, the Portuguese under Ruy Freire were so successful that the people of Dibba turned on their Safavid overlords, putting them all to death, whereupon a Portuguese garrison of 50 men was installed at Dibba. More Portuguese forces, however, had to be sent to Dibba in 1627 as a result of an Arab revolt. Curiously, two years later the Portuguese proposed moving part of the Mandaean population of southern Iraq, under pressure from neighbouring Arab tribes, to Dibba” (UAE History: 2000 to 200 years ago – uaiinteract, online).

Only the first volume, dealing with Turkey, saw print during the author’s lifetime. The two-part volume II on Persia was released in 1658, four years after his death; in 1662 the Turkey volume saw a second edition, and the set was concluded in 1663 with the volume on India. A single-volume English translation of the Indian travels appeared in 1665. Occasional slight browning, otherwise fine.

Della Valle’s travels in the Near East, Persia and Arabia: “one of the finest works of travel literature” (Howgego)

405. VALLE, Pietro della. Reiss-Beschreibung in unterschiedliche Theile der Welt, nemlich in Türckey, Egypten, Palestina, Persien, Ost-Indien, und andere weit entlegene Landschaften ...

Geneva, Johann Hermann Widerholds, 1674. 4 volumes bound as 1. 2º. With 31 engraved plates (1 folding), including frontispiece and portraits of the author and his wife, by Jean Jacques Thourneyser. Contemporary vellum. € 15 000

First edition in German of Pietro della Valle’s deservedly famous narrative of his travels in the Middle East, with an excellent account of Muscat and the Arabian Gulf and reference to Dibba. Della Valle arrived in Istanbul in August 1614, spending a year to explore the city. He continued to Rhodes, Alexandria, Rosetta, Cairo, crossing the Sinai desert to Jerusalem, Damascus and Aleppo. From there he proceeded to Isfahan (Iran) to meet the Safavid ruler Shah Abbas I. He sojourned in Persia until early 1623, witnessing and commenting on the escalating conflict between Shah Abbas and the Portuguese empire. By way of India he sailed for Muscat in January 1623, from where crossed the Arabian Gulf to Basra, continuing overland to Aleppo, arriving in Europe in 1626. “Della Valle displayed excellent narrative and descriptive skills, powers of acute observation, and a genuinely scholarly breadth of learning.” (Gurney).

Engraved armorial bookplate on paste-down. Evenly browned throughout, some spotting, few quires in volume 3 with wormholes in gutter margin, not affecting the text, otherwise in very good condition.

VD17 39.35381Q; cf. Atabey 1269–1271; Blackmer 1712; Gurney, “Della Valle, Pietro”, in: Encyclopaedia Iranica (online ed.).

The first recorded visit of a Westerner to Mecca: the second original edition, second issue

406. VARTHEMA, Lodovico di. Itinerario ne lo Egypto ne la Suria ne la Arabia Deserta & Felice.

Milan, Giovanni Angelo Scinzenzeler, (30 April 1523). 8º. Large woodcut on title with decorative woodcut border, putti above and below (Sander 7494 and pl. 93). Roman letter, numerous floriated white on black woodcut initials. Modern calf bound to style: covers with concentric frames in blind fillets, gilt fleurons at outer corners, central lozenge in gilt. Spine with five raised bands, lettered in gilt. Marbled endpapers. All edges gilt. € 125 000

Second original Italian edition, second issue of Ludovico di Varthema’s famous travels to Arabia, Persia, and India: the highly important and adventurous narrative containing the first recorded visit of a Westerner to Mecca. His description of the Hijaz is especially valuable as it pre-dates the Ottoman occupation of 1520. All early editions of Varthema’s “Itinerario” are exceedingly rare (even the 2013 Hajj exhibition at the MIA, Doha, only featured the 1654 reprint).

Varthema left Venice at the end of 1502. In 1503 he reached Alexandria and ascended the Nile to Cairo, continuing to Beirut, Tripoli, Aleppo and Damascus, where, adopting Islam and taking the name of Yunas, he joined a Mameluke escort of a Hajj caravan and began the pilgrimage to Mecca. Thanks to his knowledge of Arabic and Islam, Varthema was able to appreciate the local culture of the places he visited. Impressed and fascinated, he describes not only rites and rituals, but also social, geographical, and day-to-day details. The fine title woodcut shows Varthema seated on a bench in front of a building, writing on a globe, behind him a set of dividers; in the background a landscape with a ship at sea and a castle. 18th-century collection shelfmark to title page. A very clean, appealingly bound copy; a few minor traces of worming have been professionally repaired. Rare; only four copies in international auction records. OCLC lists five copies only (Yale, Trinity College Hartford, NYPL, BL, BNF).
First English edition of Ludovico di Varthema’s famous account of travels to Arabia, Syria, Persia, Ethiopia, India and the East Indies: a highly important and adventurous narrative including his 1503 visit to Mecca and Medina, the first recorded visit of a European (probably of any non-Muslim) to the Islamic holy cities. “Varthema’s *Itinerario*, first published in 1510, had an enormous impact at the time, and in some respects determined the course of European expansion towards the Orient” (Howgego). It is here combined with various other travel accounts, including some taken from a collection by d’Anghiera. Varthema’s account became a bestseller as soon as it appeared in 1510 and went through about twenty editions in various languages in the next fifty years. It certainly provided many Europeans with their first glimpse of Islamic culture and of non-European cultures in general.

With a contemporary manuscript table of contents and an occasional marginal manuscript note in the same hand, and the armorial bookplate of Sir Arthur Help (1813–1875). With the first 6 and last 8 leaves in a 19th-century facsimile, but otherwise in good condition, with the head or foot of 4 leaves extended and a few other marginal defects not affecting the text. Binding fine. First English edition of a seminal work on the Middle East.

Cox I, p. 2; ESTC S122069; Howgego, to 1800, V6.

The first European in Mecca: first printing of Megiser’s German translation

408. VARTHEMA, Ludovico di. Hodaeporicon Indiae Orientalis; Das ist: Warhafftige Beschreibung der ansehnlich lobwürdigen Reyß [...]. Leipzig, Henning Groß, 1608. 8º. With 21 folding engr. plates and woodcut device at the end. Contemp. vellum with ms. spine title. Traces of ties. € 28 000

Excessively rare first printing of Hieronymus Megiser’s German translation: Ludovico di Varthema’s famous account of travels to Arabia, Syria, Persia, Ethiopia, India and the East Indies; a highly important and adventurous narrative including his 1503 visit to Mecca and Medina, the first recorded visit of a European (probably of any non-Muslim) to the Islamic holy cities. The 1510 first edition, published in Italian at Rome, had no illustrations. The illustrations in this early 17th century edition include a map of the Arabian Peninsula as well as a separate one of only the Gulf (both identifying “Catura”, i.e., Qatar), a view of Aden, riders on Arabian horses, a view of Damascus and the Arab costume as worn in Syria, an elephant, etc.

Varthema’s account became a bestseller as soon as it appeared in 1510 and went through about twenty editions in various languages in the next fifty years. It certainly provided many Europeans with their first glimpse of Islamic culture and of non-European cultures in general. This first edition of this translation is so rare that Röhricht doubted its existence. Somewhat browned throughout due to paper. Several contemp. underlinings and marginalia in red and black ink. Contemp. ownership “Michael Thomas, Ao. 1635, 1 Octobris” on t.p. and note of acquisition (“const. 8 ggr”) on flyleaf (with later ownership “A. U. D. S. 1715” and further provenance note “Aus des Vice Praesid. Fryers Erbschaft” on pastedown).

A military manual, published within two decades of the invention of letterpress printing

409. **VEGETIUS, Flavius Renatus.** Epitomia rei militaris, libri numero quatuor.

[Cologne], N[ikolaus] G[ötz], [ca. 1475]. 2º. 36 instead of 40 ff., wanting the first and final blanks (as common) and leaves 45–6, missing text supplied in near-contemporary manuscript. 38 lines, 2 columns, 3- and 4-line Lombardic initials supplied in red, red initial strokes and paraphs. 19th century unsophisticated boards. € 18 000

One of the earliest editions of Vegetius’s famous military manual. The book gives an account of the Roman military institutions, organization and science, and includes a discussion of naval warfare. Ebert and Schweiger both date this to “between 1474 and 1478”.

Annotated throughout in a contemporary hand. The two missing leaves of text have been supplied in different handwriting, no later than the early sixteenth century (watermark of inserted leaves: couronne à diadème, 138 mm high, not identified but similar to Briquet 4900ff., 4950ff., Piccard I, VI, 27–29: various locations, but mainly 1490s to 1520s). Blanks lacking (as from the Bodleian copy); the BSB copy wants the final two leaves (including d9, the last leaf of text). Only 19 copies listed in public collections; no sale records for this edition.

Provenance: 1) William O’Brien (1832–99), Irish bibliophile and judge who presided over the 1882 “Phoenix Park Murders” (his handwritten pencil acquisition date “6 March 1868” on pastedown); 2) bequeathed as part of his enormous collection, which included 100 incunabula, to Milltown Park Jesuit Library (Dublin) in 1899 (their bookplates, with bequest plate).


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**Fifty imaginary cities, drawn for the Doge of Venice**

410. **VERICCI, Marco.** Inmaginationi Millitari. Manuscript on paper, in Italian.

Venice, 20 Sept. 1595. Oblong 2º album. 50 full-page pen and ink drawings of imaginary cities and their armies; 50 emblematic cartouches each containing an octave describing the opposite city, some with Latin mottos; dedication in ornamental border; allegorical cartouche with octave praising Venice on the verso. Contemporary red morocco with gilt triple filets enclosing large oval centerpiece composed of double filets in arabesque patterns with armorial shield, edges gilt. Stored in custom-made half morocco case. € 250 000
Unique album with splendid manuscript designs for imaginary fortified cities, created for and dedicated to Marino Grimani in the year of his appointment as Doge of the City and Republic of Venice, which he would reign over until his death. Grimani served as Superintendent of Fortresses before becoming Doge and worked for many years on the design and construction of the Palmanova fortress, the greatest of the Renaissance star forts and constantly embattled by the Ottomans as well as by other forces for centuries to come. Little is known about the author-artist Marco Vericci, some of whose other ingenious military designs survive in the Biblioteca Bertoliana in Vicenza, but he may have worked with Grimani on the designs for Palmanova. Italian art historian Lionello Puppi has cautiously suggested that “Vericcius” may be a pseudonym of Filippo Pigafetta, a Venetian soldier and mathematician who wrote extensively on military fortifications. In this album, Vericci illustrates and whimsically describes fifty imaginary cities whose designs are based on the utopian mathematical ideals of the Renaissance star fort. The cities, with names like “Mirabella”, “Grimanopoli”, and “Durissima”, are situated in elaborate landscapes (almost all are island fortresses, like their model) and are rendered in exquisite detail. The octave opposite each illustration describes the strengths and virtues of each fantastical fortress in the vein of Italo Calvino’s novel “Invisible Cities” – which also featured a litany of imaginary towns all reflective of La Serenissima herself. The last illustration but one depicts the 1571 Battle of Lepanto, a major naval victory by the Holy League over the Ottomans. The Palmanova fortress was dedicated exactly 22 years, to the day, after the battle – thus its inclusion here links the glory of Lepanto explicitly to the achievements of Doge Grimani, in addition to re-situating this imaginative work in its real-life context of simmering conflict not just between Europe and the Turks, but also between Venice and Austria – her enemy to the North. Some light soiling and spotting; some early marginal repairs where ink has corroded the paper; traces of paste on first two leaves with loss to a few letters. Otherwise in excellent state of preservation and still in its richly gilt morocco binding commissioned for the Doge of Venice (his arms in the centre of the back cover rubbed).


The birth of modern anatomy: a coloured copy of the first edition, used by the surgeon of the Duke of Saxony

411. VESALIUS, Andreas. De humani corporis fabrica libri septem.

Basel, (Johannes Oporinus, June 1543). 2º. Woodcut pictorial title, author portrait, and printer’s device; 7 large, 186 mid-sized, and 22 small woodcut initials; more than 200 woodcut illustrations. All woodcuts and initials up to page 165 in full contemporary hand colour. Contemporary blindstamped leather over wooden boards with bevelled edges, on five raised double bands, with two clasps.

€ 950 000

A truly outstanding copy of one of the greatest and most appealing books in the history of science. Preserved in its original binding with the blindstamped initials of its first owner, the German physician Caspar Neefe (1514–79), and with his handwritten annotations throughout, the present copy is partly coloured by a contemporary artist (including the iconic woodcut used as title page and all anatomical illustrations up to page 165). Caspar Neefe, who later served as personal physician to Duke Albert I of Saxony, acquired the precious volume only a year after its publication and obviously consulted it extensively throughout his career as a medical practitioner.

Of the few copies of the first edition to have come to the market in recent decades, only two were in a contemporary binding. Apart from Vesalius’s dedication copy to Emperor Charles v (Christie’s New York, 18 March 1998, lot 213: $ 1 652 500), only a single other partly coloured copy was previously known, a list to which ours must now be added as the third known copy in contemporary colour. Acquired in 2017; previously in a Tyrolean private medical collection, where the book rested for three generations (erased circular library stamp in the blank lower margin of the title page): an outstanding copy hitherto unknown to scholarship (cf. the recent census published by Dániel Margócsy, University of Cambridge, below). Occasional waterstaining to margins, the splendid binding a little rubbed and bumped, but altogether a wonderfully crisp, wide-margined copy of the first edition. Unquestionably the most desirable copy of a milestone in the history of science still in private hands, and likely the most important medical book obtainable for decades to come.

412. VESDIN, Filip. Viaggio alle Indie Orientali umiliato alla Santita di N. S. Papa Pio Sesto pontefice massimo ...ROME, Antonio Fulgoni, 1796. 4º. With 12 engraved illustration plates (6 with 2 illustrations each to make 18 in total), engraved roundel portraits of Pope Pius v1 (on the title-page) and the author (above the opening of the main text) and some small woodcut illustrations of “Indian hieroglyphs”. Set in roman and italic types with occasional words in Greek, Arabic, East Syriac, Devanagari and more extensive texts in Malayalam, plus a Malabar song with a double staff made with built-up round-head music notes. 19th-century maroon half sheepskin, blue textured-paper sides, shell on shell marbled endpapers.

First edition, in Italian, of a pioneering work of Indian linguistics and comparative philology by the Croatian Carmelite monk Filip Vesdin (1748–1806) who took the monastic name Paulinus a Sancto Bartholomaeo, with his 6-page dedication to Pope Pius v1. Although nominally an account of Vesdin's travels as a missionary in southern India, including Pondicherry, Verapoly (Varappuzha) and Kerala, from 1776 to 1789, the book concentrates on religious teachings and practices, society, languages and scripts, taking a comparative approach. He discusses the spread of Muslim influence in northern India and its influence on Sanskrit traditions. He is outspoken in his opinions and clashed with other scholars of his day. Vesdin learned Sanskrit and especially Malayalam, which holds a position of honour in the book. The Malayan type, used most extensively on pages 164–165 and 315, seems to be the first ever made for that script, cut for the press of the Propaganda Fide in Rome, which first showed it in 1772. The East Syriac, Devenagari (used for setting Sanskrit) and Coptic types and perhaps some others were also cut for the Propaganda Fide. With the engraved bookplate of Gianni Boccoli illustrating a 1567 armillary sphere by Gemma Frisius. With a few leaves slightly browned and with occasional minor foxing, but otherwise in fine condition and only slightly trimmed, preserving some deckles. A pioneering work on Indian languages and society by a Croatian monk.

413. VINCENT, William. The commerce and navigation of the ancients in the Indian Ocean ...LONDON, T. Cadell, W. Davies, 1807. 2 volumes. 4º. With 2 aquatint frontispiece portraits, an aquatint plate, and 15 engraved plates with maps and nautical charts (12 folding), some by Alexander Dalrymple, some reproducing Islamic manuscript maps. Further with 2 folding letterpress tables. Modern half calf, marbled sides.

Definitive second edition, revised, expanded and with additional maps, of a detailed scholarly study of ancient navigation in and cartography of the Indian Ocean, the Gulf region the Arabian peninsula and Ceylon, by William Vincent (1739–1815). Volume 1 is devoted to the 325 BCE voyage of Nearchus, a Macedonian General under Alexander the Great, from the mouth of the Indus River along the coasts of what are now Pakistan and Iran, into the Gulf. Vincent calls it “the first event of general importance to mankind in the history of navigation”. The second volume continues with other classical sources for voyages to India and Ceylon, including Homer, Herodotus and Ptolemy, along with many less well known. It also covers Vasco de Gamba and other early Portuguese voyagers. An appendix on ancient maps of the world includes a map by Muhammad al-Idrisi (1099–1165/66) from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library. It also includes several references to pearl fishing in Bahrain and elsewhere. With stamp on both title-pages. With brown offsets from the ink of the plates onto the facing pages and a tear through the text of one leaf, but otherwise in good condition, with a few smaller and mostly marginal tears and tiny holes, a couple tears repaired on the folds of plates and other minor defects. A detailed study of ancient navigation in and around the Indian Ocean and the Gulf, with numerous excellent maps.
First illustrated edition of the only architectural treatise to survive from classical antiquity

414. **VITRUVIUS POLlio, Marcus.** [De architectura libri decem]. (Venice, Giovanni Tacuino, 22 May 1511). 2º. Four-piece woodcut title-border with dolphins and 136 woodcut illustrations and diagrams most within a double frame. Outline initials within a double frame; woodcut orb and cross device on final page. Modern full vellum.

The first illustrated edition of the only architectural treatise to survive from classical antiquity, considered the supreme authority by Italian Renaissance architects: the single most influential work for the later development of European architecture. The previous three editions contain diagrams only, making this the first to include non-schematic illustrations. The woodcuts depict ornaments, plans, elevations, proportions of the human body, heating systems, machinery, a ship with an odometer and siege machines, among other subjects. The title border with dolphins is itself “one of the most influential pieces of ornamentation of the sixteenth century” (Mortimer). Title page remargined along gutter and fore edge (no loss to text, but possibly supplied from another copy); some browning and faint waterstaining. Leaves G8 and K1 torn and repaired, Br–8 bound out of sequence. Still a good copy of a rare and important edition.


**Viviani on Apollonius Pergaeus’s geometry, from a 9th-century Arabic manuscript**

415. **VIVIANI, Vincenzo.** De maximis, et minimis geometrica divinatio in quintum conicorum Apollonii Pergaei adhuc desideratum.

Florence, Joseph Cocchini, 1659. 2 parts in 1 volume. 2º. With 2 title-pages printed in red and black, each with a woodcut printer’s device, 4 folding plates (2 engraved and 2 woodcut), and numerous woodcut geometric and perspective diagrams in text. Contemporary paper boards.

First edition of a famous mathematical work, based on manuscript texts on geometry by Apollonius Pergaeus, written by Galileo’s disciple Vincenzo Viviani (1622–1703). For his research Viviani used the renowned 9th-century Arabic translation of Apollonius’s texts by the well-known astronomer and mathematician Thabit ibn Qurra (836–901). Viviani was a celebrated Italian mathematician and the most notable pupil of Galileo. He also published a Latin translation of Apollonius’s *Geometria*, translated from the above mentioned Arab translation manuscripts. On comparison of both texts, Viviani had done very well filling in the lost passages of the original, but he also developed Apollonius’s thought much further. The French King Louis XIV offered Viviani a position at the Académie Royale and the Grand Duke Ferdinand II, in fear of losing Viviani, appointed him as his court mathematician, which Viviani accepted. He became a member of the Royal Society of London as well as of the Academy of Sciences at Paris. With early owner’s inscriptions on title-page. Very slightly browned with some faint stains. Otherwise in very good condition and wholly untrimmed, leaving generous margins.

DSB XIV, pp. 48–50; Honeyman 3061; Riccardi I, 625; cf. Kemp, The science of art, p. 15.

**History of the Mogul empire, printed in Batavia**

416. **[VOC]**. Beknopte historie, van het Mogolsche keyzerryk, en de zuydelyk aangrensende ryken.

Batavia, C.C. Renhard, 1758. 2º. With a woodcut device on title-page (voc ship on a shield, flanked by Poseidon and Amphitrite, topped by an armillary sphere), folding letterpress genealogical table, and 2 large woodcuts (plus 1 repeat) with letterpress text, representing the seals of 3 Mogul rulers (each with 2 concentric circles with 11 or 13 smaller circles in between, with the ruler’s name in the centre and his predecessors numbered in the surrounding circles). Modern blue paper wrappers.

€ 2500
First edition of a history of the Mogul Empire and its southern possessions. The foreword notes that the anonymous author based his account of northern India partly on François Valentijn’s history of the Dutch East Indies, *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indiën* (1724–1726), vol. iv, no. 2, but that he made many additions and corrections. For the southern regions, however, he turned to natives familiar with their antiquities (“ervarene inlanders in hare oudheden”). The addenda leaf, loosely inserted in this copy, is often lacking. The woodcut circles, on pp. 33, 36 & 39 represent seals of the Mogul rulers Eurangzeeb, Prince Mohamed Azem and finally Mahomed Sjah (1719–1748), with the names of their predecessors numbered. The book includes information on the Moguls’ relations with the Persians, Afghans and others and comments on the silk trade. The Mogul Empire was an imperial power that ruled most of the Indian subcontinent from the early 16th to the mid-19th centuries. At the height of its power, around 1700, it controlled most of the subcontinent and parts of what is now Afghanistan. After 1725 the empire declined rapidly. This was Renhard’s most ambitious work as printer to the VOC at Batavia. It is mostly well printed from freshly cast type and gives an excellent overview of the printing office’s materials, primarily 17th-century Dutch roman and italic types. It shows the considerable expansion of the press’s stock in the preceding years.

With the folding table slightly browned, a small hole in 1 leaf and a small marginal tear in the title-page, but generally in fine condition, with generous margins and including the errata leaf.


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**417.** **WAFA / WELSCH, Georg Hieronymus (ed.).** *Commentarius in Ruzname naurus sive tabulae aequinoctiales novi Persarum & Turcarum anni. Nunc prima editae...* Augsburg, Theophilius Goeblius (Gottlieb Goebel) and Joannis Schönigkius, 1676. 4º. With engraved frontispiece and 22 engraved plates by Melchior Haffner. Contemporary calf. € 25 000

First facsimile edition of any oriental manuscript. 16 of the 22 finely engraved plates show a Persian perpetual calendar with Ottoman Turkish “commentarius” and floral borders. Welsch had acquired the ms. from Christoph Weikmann’s Kunstkammer in Ulm. The remaining six plates are concerned with Arabian astronomy: astrolabe, orrery, zodiac, circular table of Sundays and names of the months in various languages. The calculation of this calendar is today attributed to the 9th-c. Persian mathematician Wařā al Buzjāni (cf. 1858 München; Humboldt-Universität Berlin). The predominant attribution to one Turkish Sheikh Wařā had been disputed by Babinger as early as 1927. Abu’l-Wařā al Buzjāni is regarded as “the last great representative of the mathematics-astronomy school that arose around the beginning of the ninth century, shortly after the founding of Baghdad” (p. 1, 39). His astronomical oeuvre is preserved merely in fragments. The calligraphic commentary, however, is Turkish and (according to Babinger) was prepared by a 17th-c. magistrate, ‘Ajn-i ‘Alî Mueddinzâde.– Welsch (1624–77) was a physician and “a researcher of the very first magnitude [...] while the works of this polymath were mainly dedicated to the Arabian and Persian sciences, he also has provided proof of his close study of Ottoman Turkish. In this connexion, his important ‘Commentarius in Ruzname Naurus’ must be cited” (cf. Babinger 1919). Welsch’s “Dissertatio” (with Arabic typeface) is aimed at the usefulness of the calendar for relative oriental chronology: he also compares the works of Schall von Bell and Andreas Müller on Chinese astronomy and chronology.

Bookplate of South Library on front pastedown. Occasionally browned.

Late copy of unidentified map originating in mediaeval Persia or Muslim India

418. [WORLD MAP]. World map centered on the Arabian Gulf.

Probably Northern India or Kashmir, late 18th century. 50 × 42 cm. Ink and watercolours on heavy Dutch laid paper (watermark: D & C Blauw iv), with site identifications labelled in Persian and embellished with polychromatic watercoloured decorations. Matted and framed.

Apparently a late copy of an as yet unidentified map originating in mediaeval Persia or Muslim India, showing some debt to the maps of the renowned geographers al-Bakri and al-Istakhri, and possibly to the Mughal map of Sadiq Isfahani. As in the early Greek conceptions of the world, the earth is encircled by an Okeanos-like river (the oblong shape possibly being inherited from Posidonius); while the map uses no meridians, it does incorporate the Ptolemaic notion of the earth divided into seven climes. A great number of labels in Nastaliq script identify realms, shrines, cities, mountains, and even curiosities throughout the inhabited world. Remarkably, this map is generally oriented with the West at top, although the illustrations and several inscriptions at the outside of the map show that the sheet was to be rotated. At the very centre is the Arabian (Persian) Gulf, extending towards the lower left following the coastline of Arabia, where the holy sites are clearly illustrated. Both India and Africa (the latter surprisingly diminutive) are indicated by charming drawings of elephants. The earth is shown as an enormous mass of land crossed, mostly north-south, by several large streams (some of them easily recognizable as the Nile, the Euphrates, the Tigris, the Ganges, and the seven rivers of the Punjab). A continuous vertical (east-west) mountain chain, comprehensive of the Caucasus, the Central Asian highlands and the Himalayan mountains, forms a massive wall separating Northern Europe (where humans grow on trees, much as the Tarikh al-Hindi al-Gharbi showed them to do in the New World) and Asia (where snakes and a winged dragon dwell among burning rocks) from the more expansive southern regions. For all its fanciful elements and low degree of geographical accuracy, the map is of remarkable artistic quality, a curious fusion of age-old tradition with modern techniques of illustration and figurative representation, executed in charming, vibrant colour on late 18th century western paper (numbered "No 95" in a contemporary western hand at upper left).

Folded; insignificant traces of wrinkling, but very clean and well preserved.

The Inhumanity of Slavery


With: (2) YEARSLEY, Ann. Poems on various subjects by Ann Yearsley, a Milkwoman of Clifton near Bristol, being her second work.


First editions. – “Only edition; the narrative of Luco, who, stolen from the embrace of his Incilada, is sold into slavery. A noble savage made to endure torture at the hands of Christian men, he ends up burnt on a stake, a warning to other slaves never to pause in the work of the cane-fields” (Quaritch, Americana).

Small owner’s stamp to each title, some minor fraying. Very good and clean copy.

Yemen and Egypt photographs

420. [YEMEN AND EGYPT]. Photograph album.
Yemen, Egypt and other places, ca. 1889. An album of 25 albumen prints (vintage), measurements usually ca. 200 × 270 mm, one a double-page spread, many captioned in English. Bound in contemp. giltstamped auburn full calf (378 × 280 mm; spine rebacked). All edges gilt.

Photographic record of a journey begun in Australia and taken, via Aden, through the Suez canal and to the Mediterranea(n and then on to England). While the first image shows the steamship R.M.S. Ormuz in the port of Sydney, three images (including a double-page spread) show the port of Aden in Yemen, the famous water tanks, and a native of the Southern Arabian region in a studio portrait. The majority of the album is dedicated to Egypt, showing Arabs on their camels, the Khedive’s Ismailia Palace, the Suez Canal, Port Said, and members of the local population, as well as the famous pyramids. The last few photographs show the final leg of the journey: Naples, and ultimately Gibraltar. Among the studios identified in the photographs are those of Hippolyte Arnoux and the Zangaki brothers, based at Port Said. Some foxing and waterstaining, but prints largely clean.

€ 4500

Ephemeralia from the early Marxist years of the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen

421. [YEMEN]. A collection of ephemeralia from the early years of the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen.

(1) People’s republic of Southern Yemen. Culture department. Ministry of Culture and Guidance. Press statement issued by Brother Abdul Fattah Ismail, Secretary-General of the National Front Organisation on General Command discussions and decisions in its ordinary session held during the period between 21–27 July, 1970.

Ministry of Culture and Guidance, 1970. 2 ll. Typescript.

(2) Political statement issued by National Front General Command emanating from the fourth conference together with resolutions adopted by the conference.


(3) HASSAN, Mohamed Salman. Report to the People’s Republic of Southern Yemen on guidelines for industrial planning and policy.

Aden, 13th October 1968. 27 pp. Original green printed wrappers.


(7) Printed music score with text in Arabic.

(8) Flag of the People’s Republic of Southern Yemen.

(9) List of the names of members whom had been appointed to the Executive Committee of the general which had command of the National Front. The Presidential Council, Presidential Council Chairman. As well as the names of Governors of the six Governorates in the Republic, the Ministerial Council (Cabinet) of Revolutionary Government in People’s Republic of Southern Yemen as well as a list of names of members of the National Front Organisation General Command.

In June 1969, a radical Marxist wing of the NLF gained power and on 1 December 1970, reorganized the country into the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen. The present collection includes related ephemeralia.

All in excellent condition.

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**Greek and Arabic physicians on pathology and therapeutics**

422. **YUHANNA IBN SARABIYUN**. Iani Damasceni Decapolitani summae inter Arabes autoritatis medici, therapeutice methodi, hoc est, curandi artis Libri vii. partim Albano Torino Vitodurano paraphraste, partim Gerardo iatro Cremonensi metaphraste.
Basel, Heinrich Petri, (March 1543). 2º (20.5 × 29 cm). 17th century black-tinted vellum binding using an earlier liturgic musical manuscript.

Important Latin edition of this Arabic medical compendium (first printed, also in Latin, in 1479), with additions by Gerard de Cremona. It provides a collection of opinions voiced by Greek and Arabic physicians on pathology and therapeutics. “No Arabic printed edition exists so far” (cf. Choulant). The third-century doctor Yahya bin Sarabiyun, son of a Bagarma physician, wrote his great medical work “Al-Kunnas” in Syriac, but it was soon translated into Arabic by scholars such as Musa Ibrahim al-Haditi and ibn Bahlul. There exist manuscripts in twelve and in seven books.

“The seven-book edition was frequently printed in Latin translations as ‘Breviarium’ and ‘Practica therapeuticae methodos’. Albanus Torinus, the editor of the Basel 1543 edition, called him Janus Damascenus, for which reason he has been confused with the well-known theologian of that name. He is also often mistaken for his younger namesake, Serapio junior” (cf. GAL I, 233). Some catalogues even ascribe this work to the Baghdad physician Abu-Zakariya Yuanna Ibn-Masawaih.

Slight waterstaining; some unobtrusive worming to upper cover and flyleaves. Binding rubbed; extremities bumped with chipping to spine-ends. A wide-margined copy.
Provenance: 1677 ownership of the pharmacist and medical student Joseph Franz König on front pastedown; later in the library of Bonifacius Brix von Wahlberg, court physician to the Princes of Fürstenberg, in the later 18th century (his ownership on the title page).

VD16, Yst; Adams I 14; BM-STC German 912; GAL I, 233 & S 417; Durling 4778; Choulant, Handb. p. 347; not in Waller.
Le 24 de mai, apparaît un navire en mer au nord de la baie de Barfuy, le bateau de mouillage. 

Feux de bateau à 1 h. 30. La Schönh detailed (ou Schönh. des) est maintenant à terre, couvre 2 appareils, est bateau transport de marchandises. 

M. de la Tour, du navire, fait aller au comptoir du navire. 

Le bateau est au largue de la plage, une vue d'embuscade, une passerelle, une tour à terre sur le navire. 

Le bateau est au large de la plage, une vue d'embuscade, une passerelle, une tour à terre sur le navire. 

Le bateau est au large de la plage, une vue d'embuscade, une passerelle, une tour à terre sur le navire. 

Le bateau est au large de la plage, une vue d'embuscade, une passerelle, une tour à terre sur le navire.