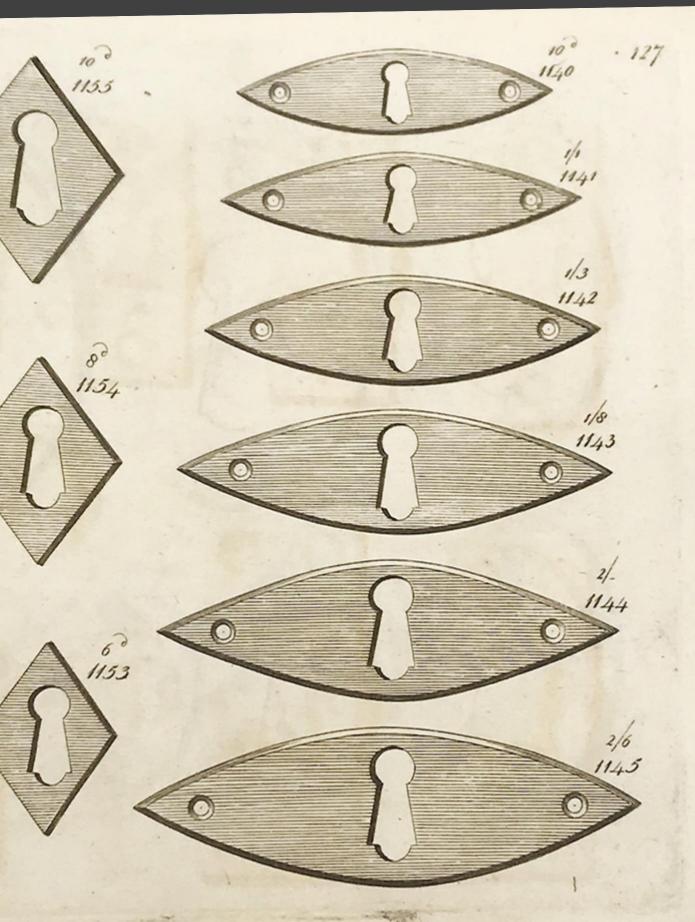
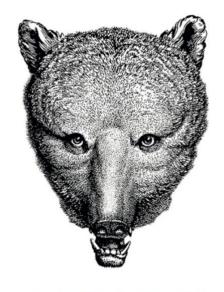
ORSI LIBRI



A Summer Miscellany 2021







ORSI LIBRI Rare Books

Federico Orsi
Antiquarian Bookseller
ALAI & ILAB Member
Corso Venezia, 29, 20121 Milan, Italy

Website <u>www.orsilibri.com</u> – Instagram <u>@orsilibri</u>

For any queries, write to info@orsilibri.com

or contact us at this telephone number: +39 351 5242260

Front cover: detail of a rare early English brassfounder's catalogue, item no. 5.

P. IVA (VAT No.) IT11119040969
C. F. RSOFRC87M19G752V
PEC orsifederico@pec.it

SUMPTUOUS ROMAN BINDING, ELABORATELY GILT



1. [CATHOLIC CHURCH] MAZZINELLI, Alessandro (Comm.) Officio della B. V. Maria per tutti i tempi dell'anno ... [legato con] Officio de' Morti, dello Spirito Santo, e della Santa Croce, con i sette Salmi Penitenziali. Ed altre divote Orazioni.

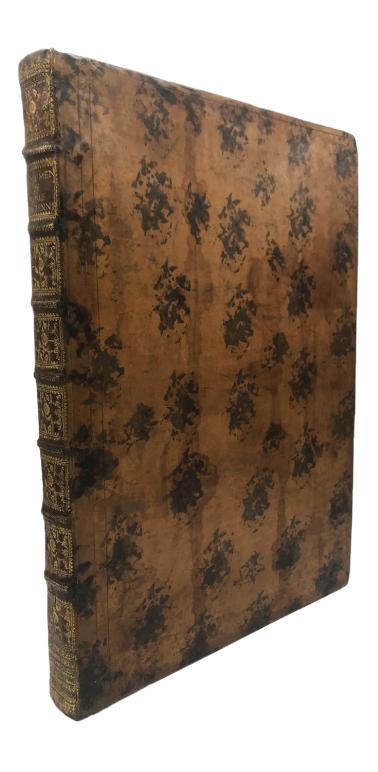
Rome, appresso Gioacchino, e Gio. Giuseppe Salvioni, 1756.

€2500

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, 2 works in 1 vol., IV, [20], 407, [1] pp. Vignettes on both t-ps, frontispiece engraved by Arnold van Westerhout after Giuseppe Passari, 13 full-page copper plates in the text and numerous tailpieces. Text and titles printed in red and black as well as the decorated initials. Sporadic light marginal foxing and occasional mild browning, masterly

restored headcap. An excellent copy. Beautiful and elegant contemporary Roman binding in full mottled calf, richly gilt-tooled with classical floral motifs. Spine in six compartments. Round red morocco inlays to the centre of the boards with embossed initials "M. V." (Maria Vergine), surrounded by stars and within shining suns; stamped putti at the four cardinal directions. Original marbled endpapers, soberly gauffered edges gilt.

A STRIKING "MOUCHETÉ" FRENCH BINDING ON AN EXCELLENT COPY



2. BARBAULT, Jean. Les plus beaux monuments de Rome ancienne, ou Recueil des plus beaux morceaux de l'antiquité romaine qui existent encore.

Rome, Chez Bouchard & Gravier...de l'imprimerie de Komarek, 1761.

€10500

FIRST EDITION. Large folio (ca. 54x40 cm). Initial blank, viii, 90 pp.; with half-title, engraved vignette on t-p, dedicatory leaf to Duke Jean François Joseph de Rochechuart, headed by vignette, 73 engraved plates, 44 of which showing two half-page illustrations, and numerous other copper engraving in the text. A total number of 128 illustrations engraved by the author and Domenico Montagu after drawings by Barbault himself. The plates are fresh and clean. Several decorated initials and tail-pieces. Last leaf with the index of the illustrations. Beautifully gilt-tooled spine, decorated with floral motives. Gilt lettering stamped to red morocco label. Impressive original marbled endpapers in two different designs. All edges marbled. Printed paper bookplate of the first owner of the book glued on centre of upper endpaper: "Ignatius Zanardus / Sac.[ri] Rom.[ani] Imp.[erii] / Comes a Virgiliana" (Ignazio Zanardi, Conte della Virgiliana, fl. 1748). Skillfully restored spine, unobtrusive small repairs to the margins of the half-title. Very sporadic mild browning and foxing, light damp stain to upper blank margin of a few initial leaves. A particularly charming and attractive copy, very fresh and bound in its gorgeous contemporary full mottled calf, or "moucheté", as the French say. A rare example of an excellent copy in its original fine binding.



Jean Barbault was a French painter born in the surroundings of Beauvais in 1705 and died in Rome in 1766. A pupil of J. Restout, he spent a long time in Rome, from 1748 to 1753, at the French Academy. He painted genre subjects (Mascarade des quatre parties du monde, 1751; Besançon Museum) and was also an engraver, as in this case, for the present work and its

subsequent creation: Les plus beaux édifices de Rome moderne, 1763. He was a collaborator of Piranesi, in fact fourteen engravings of the famous "Antichità romane" of the latter are attributed to him, but he was also one of his main rivals.

Cicognara, 3592; Fowler, 37; Brunet I, 646; Cohen-Ricci 112; Berlin Kat. 2712.







MAGNIFICENT PUBLISHER'S CLOTH



3. GUERIN, Léon. Histoire maritime de France. Troisième édition revue, corrigée et augmentée

Paris, Belin-Le Prieur et Morizot, 1846-49.

€900

Large 8vo. 3 vols: pp. viii, 512, with 13 plates; pp. 560, with 15 plates; pp. 731, with 15 plates. Frontispiece plates with tissue guards. A total of 43 engraved plates out of the text. Bound in marine blind-stamped blue cloth with bright gilt-stamped elaborate borders centrepieces. C19th ownership oval stamp of the Duke of San Cesareo. Yellow endpapers. Some occasional marginal foxing, some browning to a few the initial leaves. A.e.g., near-fine text-block, binding signed "Haarhaus" in fine condition.

The volumes bear the following titles: 1) Depuis la fondateur de Marseille jusqu'a la Paix de Nimègue en 1678; 2) De la Paix de Nimègue jusqu'a la Révolution française; 3) De 1781 jusqu'a 1848.

EARLY ILLUSTRATED ACCOUNTS OF WHALE AND HERRING FISHERIES



4. WATSON, Frederick. The Animal World Display'd. Or, the Nature and Qualities of Living Creatures Described, under the Denominations of, I. Birds, II. Beasts, III. Fishes, IV. Serpents.

London, Printed for R. Baldwin, 1755.

€1000

12mo, xii, 283, [5] pp., with 18 full-page engravings and two engraved fold-out plates. Bookplate of John Leith Ross of Arnage & Bourtie glued to upper pastedown, a newspaper cutting dated in pen "Septr 1828" reporting on the flight of the rare hoopoe bird over the estate of Callander, Scotland. Leith Ross's autograph, dated 1763, pencilled on recto of flyleaf. Light marginal

browning throughout, short tears at folds of folding plates, one of which has been skilfully repaired. Bound in full English calf, gilt lettering on red morocco label to spine. A very good copy of this rare work, difficulty found complete of all the 20 plates.

Second corrected and enlarged edition, immensely scarce in its complete form. The first edition appeared just the earlier year, in 1754, in small 8vo format and was illustrated with 18 plates. This book has 20 plates, showing four categories of animals: I. Birds, II. Beasts, III. Fishes, IV. Serpents. The two charming additional fold-out engravings represent scenes of herring fishing and whaling, provided with accounts of C18th fisheries dedicated to catching these marine animal species. Furthermore, most copies lack the third plate since it illustrated the section entitled "Animals resembling the human form". Indeed, it was considered inappropriate to compare man with animals like monkeys, oran outangs, and even the mythical satyrs, whose engraved images with human-like faces appear in the controversial illustration. The book was also translated into Dutch by Cornelius Nozeman in 1761.

Broke Freeman. British Natural History Books, 1495-1900: A Handlist, 3911; Jenkins, Bibliography of whaling, in "Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History," November 1948, vo. 2, No. 4: pp. 71-166; ESTC N33312; cf. Nissen 4341 (1st ed.). First Dutch Edition. Translated from the English by Cornelius Nozeman. The 1754 English edition included only 18 plates. Plates depict various mammals, fish, and birds. Scarce.

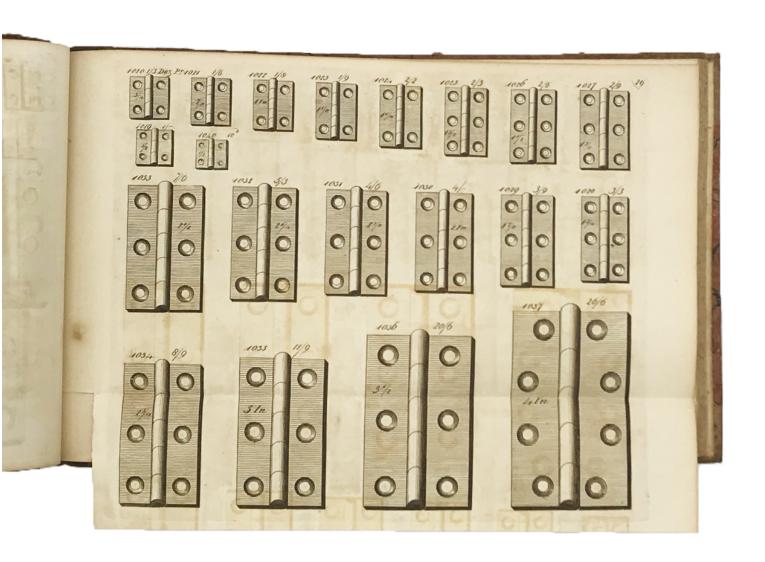
SCARCE EARLY-C19TH ENGLISH BRASSFOUNDER'S CATALOGUE

5. W. & L. *Early English trade catalogue of brass furniture hardware designs* Birmingham, 1817.

€3800

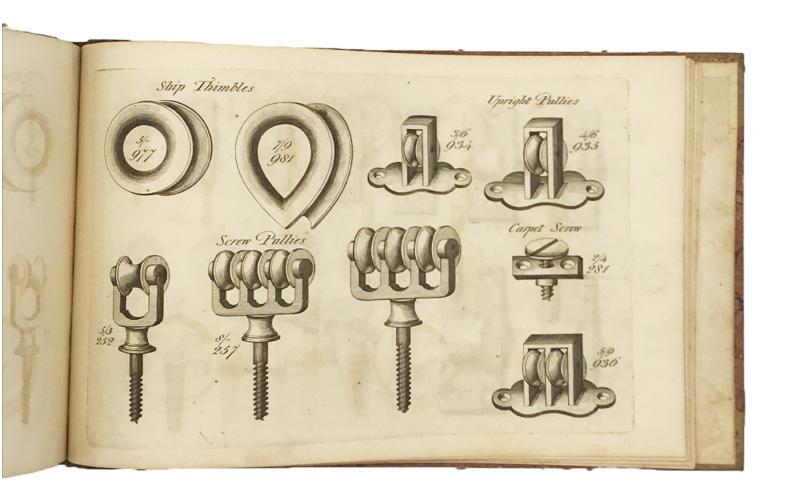
Small oblong folio (ca. 20.5x32.5 cm). No title-page. 92 copperplates, some folding, showing several hundreds of hardware designs with their sizes in inches. Plates numbering: 20 n.n. (not numbered), 42-3, 2 n.n., 44-5, 47, 46, 33, 48-9, 1 n.n., 21-2, 20, 24, 23, 2 n.n., 25-6, 1 n.n., 29, 3 n.n., 30, 27, 32, 1 n.n., 41, 1 n.n., 106, 2 n.n., 108-9, 1 n.n., 110, 116-7, 114, 70-5, 2 n.n., 78-80, 1 n.n., 88, 1 n.n., 85, 2 n.n., 65, 127, 125, 126, 133-4, 2 n.n. Some pen annotations by some items throughout (prices?). Most plates are numbered and bound in mixed order. As usual, the catalogue includes both new items in production at the unidentified brass foundry and older standard hardwares already in production, thus the mixed plates and their not-always sequential numbering. Contemporary quarter leather and marbled paper over pasteboards, corners stiffened with vellum. A mark pencilled on the upper pastedown reports the catalogue number and the initials of the firm: "Livre N° 112155 W&L". The firm behind the initials W&L has not been identified yet. However, a number of similar catalogues produced between 1770

and 1850, mainly in Birmingham, are preserved at the V&A Museum in London and some of them show the same type of marking, "Livre n°..." followed by the firm's initials. The present catalogue is comparable to the V&A's catalogue M. 101. a., which has been studied and described with all the other catalogues by W. Arthur Young, who dated it around 1814 based on the watermark visible through its leaves. This catalogue has the number 1817 as a watermark, which should indicate the year of production. Young stated that "the paper helps a little in some of the volumes to fix a date... A book with a water-mark 1811 must have been issued after that date" and, concerning the issue of the initials, he added that "unfortunately none of the initials in the catalogues can be identified. There were, at the last date mentioned [1777], thirty brassfounders in business in town, using between them every year about 1,000 tons of brass". The plates show: castors of all sorts, fender feet, bolts, hinges, the newly invented patent spring socket bolts, portable desk furniture, butts, joints, turns, knobs, screws, nails, hooks and eyes, rings, handles, pullies, locks, thimbles, rollers, plugs, pulls, pins, escutcheons, capitals and bases, ends, clips, staples, and a final brass umbrella stand with iron bottom. This item is very rare and interesting. It includes also hardwares used on sailing boat.



The first English brass foundries started to operate in Birmingham at the end of the eighteen century, making it the epicentre of furniture hardware design. At the same time, trade catalogues, like the present, began to be issued by both furniture and hardware makers alike. As Young had it, "about the year 1770, manufacturers had begun to send drawings of their goods to their customers. At first these were loose sheets, if one may judge from the creases in the few plates that have been saved and passed down to us. Later these sheets were bound together, and so developed into the catalogue. Other manufacturers followed suit, and by the dawn of XIXth century lists had been prepared to illustrate a considerable range of English made goods." Although no engravers' names are identified, Young suggested that the foundries themselves produced such plates, utilising the talents of their own craftsmen, who by their very occupation would have been highly skilled at etching on metal. According to Young, such pattern books "illustrate the beginning of what was then a new movement in the conditions of the crafts, namely, the growth of the organised factory as a means of production and distribution, as compared with the earlier limitation of these functions to the efforts of individuals".

Symonds, R. W. "An Eighteenth-Century English Brassfounders Catalogue." Magazine Antiques (Feb. 1931), pp. 102-105; Young, W. A. Old English pattern books of the metal trades: a descriptive catalogue of the collection in the V&A Museum. London: HMSO, 1913.



CURIOUS BOOK ON THE ABNORMAL GROWTH OF THE HUMAN BODY



6. GREVE, Wilhelmus. Natuur-en geschiedkundige verhandling over de reuzen en dwergen; voorgelezen in het natuurlievend gezelschap, onder de zinspreuk: aan wetenschap gewijd, volmaakter door den tijd. Te Delft. Door Wilhelmus Greve Med. Stads- en Gasthuis Doctor. Sedert met eenige bijvoegselen vermeerderd; waar achter eenige aanmerkingen, wegens sommige verscheidenheden in den mensch, gevolgd door een beschrijving van een buitengewoon zwaar meisje. Met gekleurde platen.

Amsterdam, J. C. Sepp & Zoon, 1818.



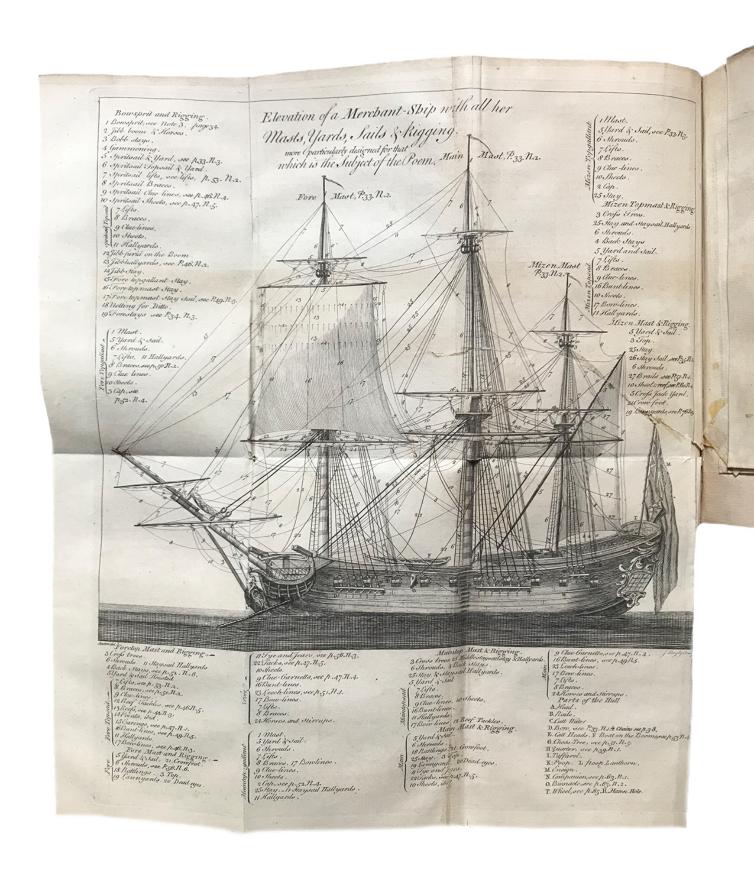
FIRST EDITION, COMPLETE WITH 7 PLATES including frontispiece and a large fold-out. 8vo, [2], ii, 64 pp., with frontispiece, 5 full-page hand-coloured engraved plates showing 16 figures and a large fold-out showing the footprint of a giant man. Publisher's printed wrappers over pasteboard. Some light scuffing and scratches to the binding. Internally very good. An excellent copy.

Interesting account illustrated by delightful plates in contemporary hand colouring showing various historical giants and dwarves in descending order of height. Compiled by the Dutch physician Wilhelmus Greve (1762-1819), this book is one of the first printed contributions entirely dedicated to auxological studies, that is, to the physical growth of the person in the developmental age. frontispiece portrays a seated young and elegant lady, who is "slightly" overweight and has a nice hairstyle adorned with feathers, while she takes a short break from her interesting reading to meet the observer's gaze.

The large fold-out plate shows the real and impressive size of the sole of Gerrit Bastiaansz's shoe, both as a child and as an adult: the foot of this enormous man measured 27 centimetres in length at the age of 10 and, at the age of 21, even about 35 centimetres. It is interesting to note that all the characters wear the costumes of their historical period, thus transforming this book into a relevant item also for the history of popular culture and costume.

Scheepers, II, 824; Waller 635; Atlas van Stolk 7681; Stott 2711.

INTERESTING FOLDING PLATE SHOWING THE "ELEVATION OF A MERCHANT-SHIP WITH ALL HER MASTS, YARDS, SAILS AND RIGGING"



7. [FALCONER, William]; AKENSIDE, Mark. The shipwreck. By a Sailor. A New Edition [BOUND WITH] The Pleasures of Imagination. A Poem. In Three Books

London, Printed for A. Millar, 1764; London, Printed for R. Dodsley, 1744.

€850

8vo. 2 works in 1 volume. 1) pp. [4], 130, with a folding engraved map of the Aegean by Thomas Kitchin and a folding plate of a merchant ship with marine terminology by J. Bayly, both after the author's design. Both plates with early restored tears. Dedication leaf to His Royal Highness Edward, Duke of York. Occasional light age toning. 2) [Bound first] pp. 142, [2], with half-title bearing edition statement ("The Fourth Edition") and final leaf with interesting early publisher's catalogue. Title in red and black, large vignette engraved by Louis Peter Boitard on t-p. Headand tailpieces. "By Mark Akinside" [sic] on t-p. Contemporary English calf, gilt title to red morocco label. Leather loss at head of spine and light flaws along hinges. Marbled endpapers. Very good condition. Falconer's work is rarely found with the plate of rigging.

1) Rare 2nd edition, "corrected and enlarged", of this important poem by William Falconer, first published in 1762. Falconer was one of three survivors of a shipwreck in the Aegean. His work was greatly influential throughout the late eighteenth century and beyond. It represents the mindset and aspirations of the growing mercantile classes of Great Britain. The poem had a practical application, expounding navigation and the general operation of a merchant sailing ship, but also an allegorical and philosophical dimension. (See Ansbury Powers, British Mercantile Mysticism: The Shipwreck by William Falconer (1762) - Thesis, St. Cloud State University).

ESTC T77422.

2) The fourth edition, printed the same year as the first, of Akenside's immensely popular poem, which was reprinted numerous times throughout the 18th century.

ESTC T125874.

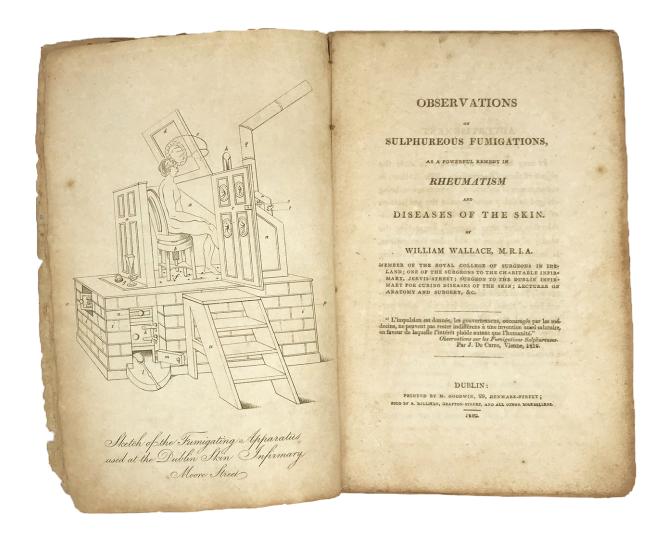
IRISH MEDICINE

8. WALLACE, William. Observations on Sulphureous Fumigations, as a Powerful Remedy in Rheumatism, and Diseases of the Skin.

Dublin, Printed by M. Goodwin, 1820.

€325

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, 92 pp., with engraved frontispiece showing the "Fumigation apparatus". Original printed wrappers. Advertisement of The Theatre of Anatomy's courses and lectures, in Moore Street, which was one of Dublin's several 19th-century private medical schools. Light browning and chipping. Very scarce.



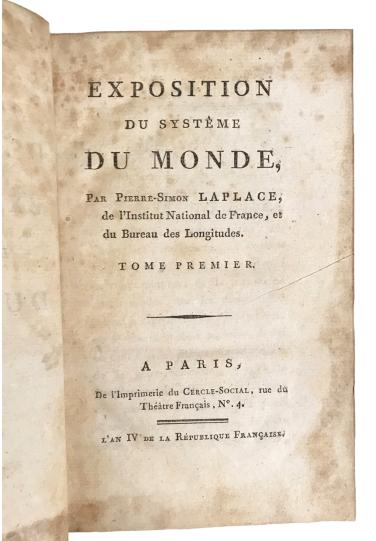
Surgeon Wallace (1791-1837) taught anatomy at the Jervis Street hospital till 1820 when he established his own school behind the infirmary. His hospital, which was named the Dublin Infirmary, at no. 20 Moore Street, was not only the first such establishment solely dedicated to the treatment of skin diseases in Ireland but also in the vast British Empire of the time. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, patients were treated in the "Fumigation Apparatus", one of Wallace's main innovations in the Dublin Infirmary. This machine (in which patients sat for 30 minutes or longer) used a special heating mechanism to saturate the skin with a vapour of sulphur.

VERY GOOD COPY OF THE FIRST EDITION

9. LAPLACE, Pierre Simon. Exposition du système du monde.

Paris, De l'Imprimerie du Cercle-Social, l'an IV... [1796].

€1400



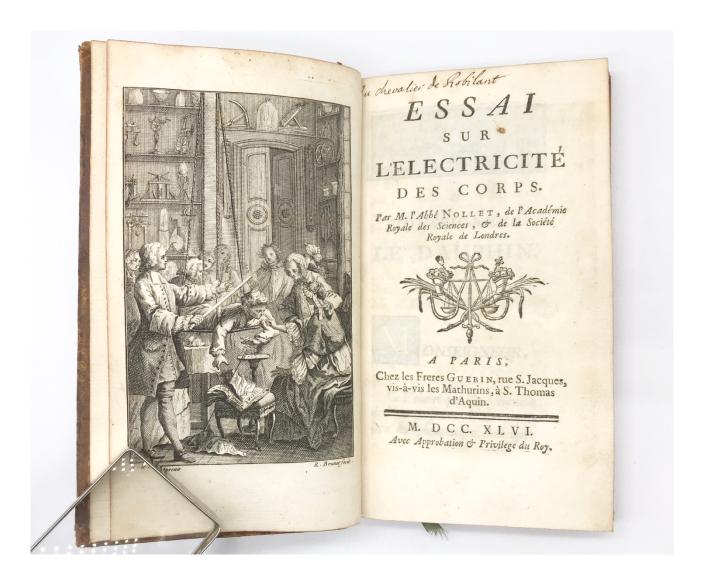


FIRST EDITION. 8vo, 2 vols, pp. 314, [6], 312, [4]. With half-titles. Some browning and spotting to the initial leaves, else in excellent condition. Contemporary tree calf, gilt decorations to spines, marbled endpapers. Small restorations. Green silk bookmarks. A very good copy.

"An elegant, non-mathematical classic on astronomy. It is in this work that Laplace introduced one of his most notable contributions... The so-called nebular hypothesis, which provided a conjectural account of the origin of the solar system". DSB and PMM 252.

Houzeau & Lancaster, 8940.

EARLY EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS



10. NOLLET, Jean-Antoine. Essai sur l'electricité des corps

Paris, Chez les Freres Guerin, 1746.

€600

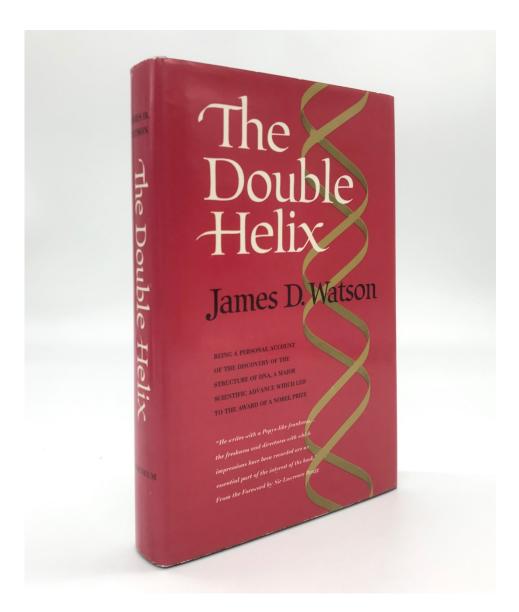
FIRST EDITION. 12mo, pp. 227, [1], with engraved frontispiece and 4 folding plates. Head and tailpieces, small woodcut on t-p. Marbled endpapers, contemporary mottled leather, gilt decorations to spine, green silk bookmark. Ownership note on t-p: "Du chevalier de Robilant", perhaps Italian engineer Spirito Benedetto Nicolis di Robilant (1724-1801). Some small flaws at spine caps and corners of the boards. A very good copy. A.e.r.

Frontispiece engraving by Brunet after Le Sueur, representing an experiment with electricity. Abbé Nollet (1700-1770), who was a pupil of Réaumur and collaborator of du Fay, opened an office in Paris where he performed his experiments "live". The success was unexpected: the

whole court thronged there and experimental physics became an amateur's pleasure and a fashionable entertainment to which Nollet contributed doubly since he manufactured and sold the instruments which allowed the beholders to repeat the experiments in their own places.

Mottelay, pp. 181-183; Wheeler Gift, 329.





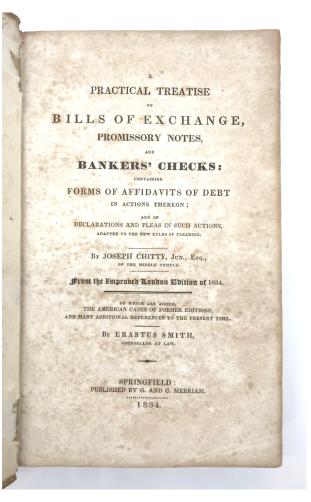
11. WATSON, James D. *The Double Helix: a Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of Dna*

New York, Atheneum, 1968.

FIRST EDITION, first issue (First Edition stated on the copyright page). 8vo, pp. [2], xvi, 226, with several illustrations. Gilt-stamped blue cloth. Fine in bright near fine price-clipped dust jacket.

One of the most topical books of our time. Watson's account of his participation in unraveling the structure of DNA for which he shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1962 with Francis Crick.

RARE AND EARLY AMERICAN LAW BOOK



12. CHITTY, Joseph, jun. (d. 1838), and Erastus SMITH. *A practical treatise on bills of exchange, promissory notes, and bankers' checks; ... To which are added the American cases of former present time.*

Springfield, Published by G. & C. Merriam, 1834.

€285

FIRST AMERICAN EDITION, this variant not in NUC. 8vo, pp. xv, [1], 155 [i.e. 291], [1], lacking front flyleaf. Several repetitions and errors in the pagination. Early ink autograph on upper pastedown, a few pencil annotations. Browned and foxed throughout due to poor-quality paper, some light abrasion to the binding and small flaws at headcap and corners. Full cream leather with blind-tooled borders on covers, gilt lettering over red morocco label to spine. A good copy.

This scarce work is based on the improved London edition of 1834 by the author's father, English lawyer Joseph Chitty. However, as stated in the advertisement, "the English

edition, from which this is printed, having been entirely re-written, and the matter very differently arranged, the Notes to the former American editions, by Judge Story and others, having been transposed, and a few which were deemed unimportant left out. Many additional references have been added". Furthermore, the book includes "the American cases of former editions, and many additional references to the present time" by Erastus Smith. Jenni Parrish records only a variant with this pagination: xv, 155 (i.e., 301). George and Charles Merriam, following in the tradition of their father, a printer in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, established a press at Springfield in 1832.

Jenni Parrish, Law Books and Legal Publishing in America, 1760-1840, 72 Law Libr. J. 355 (1979), p. 388, no. 115; NUC 107:500.







ORSI LIBRI Rare Books

Terms & Conditions

- We guarantee the authenticity of every item that we offer for sale.
- All items are complete and in at least good condition, unless otherwise stated. Any
 defect will be clearly pointed out in our item description.
- Bank transfer is our preferred payment method. We may also accept cheques.
- Items will only be sent after payment has succeeded.
- All items remain our property until paid for in full.
- Postage is charged on all parcels unless otherwise specified.
- Any item may be returned within 14 days for any reason. Please ensure you inspect all items upon receipt and notify us right away if you are not satisfied with your purchase.

Please be aware that, according to the Italian law, <u>all books printed more than 50 years ago</u> require an export licence if leaving Italy. In this event, we will apply for the licence immediately, but it may take several weeks for the licence to be granted; we will keep you informed throughout the process.