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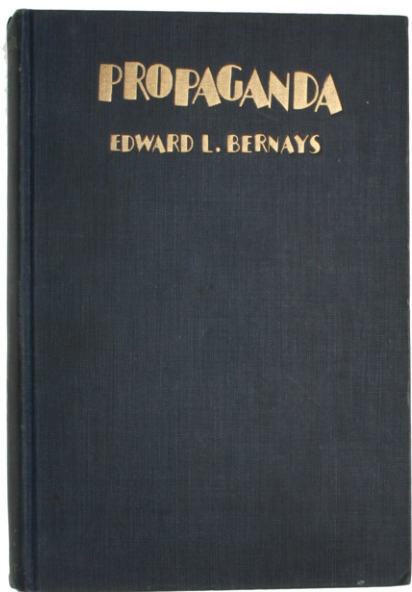
Founded in 1821 by Christian Tønder Sæbye, Herman H.J. Lyng & Søn is the oldest antiquarian book shop in Scandinavia. We are specialized in rare and important works within History of Ideas, with a main focus on Science, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, of all periods.



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"When my information changes, I alter my conclusions. What do you do, Sir?" (Keynes)



A Change of Minds

100 Books that Transformed the Collective Human Mind

With an Appendix, containing 2 items representing
how a personal change of mind changed
the history of thought

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*N.B. This is a short-title catalogue.
Full descriptions of all items are available upon request.*

15th century



ONE OF THE EARLIEST INTERPRETATIONS OF THE MEANING OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

PICO DELLA MIRANDOLA, GIOVANNI FRANCESCO.

De morte Christi & propria cogitanda libri tres.

1497. Exceedingly scarce first edition of the two highly important works "On Remembering the Death of Christ and Oneself", which is dedicated to Savonarola in the year before he was condemned and hanged, and "On the Study Divine and Human Philosophy", being Gianfrancesco Pico's seminal first philosophical work, in which the foundation for his philosophical theories are laid and which foreshadows the scepticism of his "Examen", for which he became famous as the first modern Sceptic. The present publication is furthermore the first in which Gianfr. Pico refers to the discovery of America; the work was written merely a couple of years after Columbus' discovery became known; Pico's references in the present work constitute one of the first testimonies to the awareness of the meaning and importance of the discovery of the New World and it is considered a highly important piece of 15th century Americana.

USD 30,000

16th century



THE FIRST PRINCIPLES OF THOUGHT

ALEXANDER OF APHRODISIAS.

In topica Aristotelis commentarii [Graece].

[Aldus, 1513]. The scarce editio princeps of Alexander of Aphrodisias' extremely influential commentary of Aristotle's "Topics", which is responsible for our understanding and utilization of this most fundamental text for the thought of mankind. Aristotle's "Topics" occupies an absolutely central place in the development of science and philosophy since Antiquity. It is this work that sets the boundaries for what we can meaningfully talk about, and even how to talk about it. Through the "topics" mankind will be able to state the true premises that form the foundation upon which we build science and philosophy. Alexander's commentary on this fundamental work is the most important and influential that we have. It was of the utmost importance to Renaissance philosophy, science, scholarship and learning, and it greatly influenced the path of Aristotelian scholarship as well as almost all original thought and philosophy within this period. Alexander came to influence all reading of Aristotle in the Renaissance and with his commentary on the "Topics", he came to profoundly influence our understanding of the first principles of thought as well as the dialectical and philosophical training that is necessary for our understanding of them.

USD 18,000

THE UNDERSTANDING OF LOGIC

ARISTOTELES [ARISTOTLE] – GIOVIO PACE [JULIUS PACIUS].

Organon [Greek].

1584. The very rare first edition of Julius Pace's seminal "Organon"-edition, which was the standard-edition of the logical texts of Aristotle throughout more than a century, running through at least 11 editions before 1624. Pace's version of the text, in Greek-Latin parallels, and with Pace's inspired commentaries and interpretations, profoundly influenced Renaissance thought, determining the course of the Organon-interpretation throughout this period and inspiring much original philosophical thought. Pace's interpretation of Aristotle's logical works – arguably the most influential collection of works in the history of Western thought – not only changed the face of Renaissance thought, it has remained the authoritative reading of Aristotle's "Organon" to this day and is still considered the most important and authoritative reading of the texts.

USD 7,000

THE PROPHET OF A NEW WORLD

MARSILIUS OF PADUA.

Ain Kurtzer Auszug ... [Defensor Pacis].

1545. Scarce first edition of the highly influential first German translation – of seminal importance to the Protestant Reformation – of Marsilius of Padua's groundbreaking "Defensor Pacis", "one of the most remarkable books in the history of politics" (Figgis), "the most thorough and original treatise on the relation of powers written by a medieval analyst" (Watt), which "was so exceptional because it had foreshadowed later developments on political thought" (Garnett). The first German edition of the work is of particular importance, considering the immense influence the work had in Germany in the middle of the 16th century, significantly influencing the course of the Protestant Reformation.

USD 8.300

HELLENISTIC LITERATURE

PARTHENIUS NICAENSIS.

De Amatoriis Affectionibus...

1531. The extremely scarce first printing, of both the original Greek text and the translation into Latin, of Parthenius's only surviving work, the historiographically, mythographically, and literarily hugely important "Erotica Pathemeta" (or "Sorrows of Love"), the survival of which is pivotal to our knowledge and comprehension of Hellenistic literature. It constitutes the only prose work by a Hellenistic poet to survive in its entirety and one of the few extant works of its genre, i.e. the mythological or paradoxographical handbook, preserved from any period. The famous Greek poet Parthenius of Nicea, now often referred to as "the last of the Alexandrians", was the Greek teacher of Virgil, and the favourite author of Hadrian and Tiberius.

USD 10,000

THE INTRODUCTION OF GREEK SCEPTICISM TO THE MODERN WORLD

PICO DELLA MIRANDOLA, GIOVANNI FRANCESCO.

Examen vanitatis doctrinae gentium...

1520. The seminal first edition of Gianfrancesco Pico's main work, the work which publicly introduces Greek scepticism to the modern world for the first time and thus comes to play a seminal role in the development of modern thought. With this work, Pico becomes the first modern thinker to specifically use the theories of Sextus Empiricus, foreshadowing the great "Sceptical Revolution" of the later Renaissance as well as the ideas of later modern thinkers such as Montesquieu. "But his "Examen..." is not only a criticism of human knowledge which can, as has been done, be compared with Montaigne. It is also a wholesale destruction of the whole world of human values, of that "regnum hominis" so dear to the Renaissance. And as such, it inclines one to think that it anticipated Pascal." (Garin). The work also "deserves special attention here as the earliest example of an "anti-pagan" reaction in the Renaissance historiography of thought, and as the first in a line of publications preparing the way for the anti-apologists of the seventeenth century."

USD 11,200

ESTABLISHING THE ENLIGHTENMENT

POMPONAZZI, PIETRO.

De naturalium effectuum causis...

1556. Exceedingly scarce first edition of Pomponazzi's seminal "De Incantationibus", perhaps the most original work of natural philosophy of the Renaissance and arguably the first work of what comes to be the Enlightenment. The work, which is one of Pomponazzi's most important productions (along with his treatise on the immortality of the soul), constitutes a forerunner of Naturalism and Empiricism and could be considered the first true Enlightenment work ever, causing Pomponazzi, our greatest Renaissance philosopher, to be generally considered "The last Scholastic and the first man of the Enlightenment" (Sandy, Randall, Kristeller). The appeal to experience is the main concern of the work, and its strict and completely novel way of treating the subject matter resulted in a hitherto unattained elevated position of philosophy in the Latin West, providing to philosophy a new method that remains dominant to this day and without which we would scarcely be able to imagine modern philosophy. Proclaiming the victory of philosophy over religion, the "de Incantationibus" changed the entire history of philosophy - philosophy being to Pomponazzi the supreme truth and the final judge of all phenomena.

USD 42,000

WARNING THE WEST AGAINST THE EXPANSION OF ISLAM

[PSEUDO-] METHODIUS. [ED. SEBASTIAN BRANDT].

De Revelatione Facta ab Angelo. [Revelationes].

1504. The very rare second illustrated edition of Pseudo-Methodius' extremely influential apocalyptic world-history, written in an attempt to warn the Western world against the expansion of Islam. The work won the author an enduring place of honour in Christian historiography. It is greatly sought-after, not least due to the magnificent woodcut illustrations, 61 in all, taking up the greatest part of the book. Attributed to Methodius (died 4th cent.), the work was actually composed around 660-680 and the author remains unknown. The original was written in Syriac in the wake of the Islamic conquests and represented a Byzantine apocalyptic tradition that continued to exercise an important influence on Western Christian thought. "Of course, by typologizing the peoples of central Asia in this way, Pseudo-Methodius also contributed to the sort of Western "citadel mentality" that would come to launch the crusades and many other invasions against the standardized barbarian races of central Asia for centuries to come."

USD 8,600

"THE BIBLE OF ASTROLOGY"

PTOLEMAEUS, CLAUDIUS.

[Tetrabiblos].

1535. The very rare first Greek/Latin edition, i.e. the editio princeps of the Greek text and the first edition of Camerarius' seminal translation into Latin, of Ptolemy's famous textbook of astrology. The work "ranks as the Bible of Astrology", and Ptolemy himself regarded it as the natural complement to his "Almagest": "as the latter enables one to predict the positions of the heavenly bodies, so the former expounds the theory of their influences on terrestrial things." The "Tetrabiblos" is one of the most important surviving ancient texts on astrology, and its impact and influence on this field has been immense. It was by far the most popular astrological work of Antiquity and it also greatly influenced the Islamic world, the Medieval Latin West, and the Renaissance. It was reprinted continuously for centuries; its great popularity is attributed to the fact that it is a textbook on the art of astrology

itself and a "scientific" defense of it rather than a mere manual instructing lay people on how to practice the art. The present edition also contains the editio princeps of the Greek text of the "Karpos", or "Centiloquium", erroneously attributed to Ptolemy, as well as Pontano's famous Latin version of it.

USD 26,000

A MAIN WORK OF MEDIEVAL MYSTICISM

SAINT BRIDGIT.

Revelationes Celestes...

1517. Rare third edition, being the second Koberger-edition, of this important religious work of the Middle Ages, the seminal revelations of the "Holy Birgitta", "the Bride of Christ". After her husband's death in 1344, Birgitta had numerous revelations, of which about 600 are preserved. Her powers and the effects of them can be traced in history for many centuries, and the early editions of her revelations are thus of great importance to religion and mysticism. The belief in her revelations was even so powerful that they directly influenced politics and society. Her revelations not told her to found a new sort of convent, they also had to do with political and social issues. As she was not afraid to criticize the most powerful people such as the King and the Pope, she became immensely influential in a number of ways and even made the Pope move back to Rome from Avignon. Birgitta is still of great importance to Catholicism today. In 1999 she was elected one of the guardian saints of Europe. The woodcut border on the title-page consists of four fairly large woodcuts, of which the bottom one is ascribed to Albrecht Dürer.

USD 11,800

A FORERUNNER OF MODERN EMPIRICISM – COINING “SPACE”

TELESIO, BERNARDINO.

De Rerum Natura...

1570. The rare and important first edition thus, being the much enlarged and revised second edition and the first edition under the canonical title “*De Rerum Natura*”, of Telesio’s revolutionizing main work, which established a new kind of natural philosophy and earned him the reputation as “the first of the moderns” (Francis Bacon). The work is a manifesto for natural philosophy emancipated from peripatetic rationalism. The work constitutes one of the first serious attempts at replacing Aristotle’s natural philosophy. Telesio’s seminal, novel theory of space and time anticipates Newton’s absolute time and absolute space. It even seems that it is in the present work that the word “space” (“*spatium*”) is used for the first time to determine what we now mean by space – thus Telesio here creates an entirely new terminology for one of the single most important phenomena within physics, astronomy, philosophy, etc., giving to it a terminological precision that is unprecedented and which has influenced the entire history of science and philosophy. “[i]n some of his characteristic theories, Telesio appears as a direct or indirect forerunner of Newton and Locke.”

USD 23,500

FOUNDING SYSTEMATIC CHARACTER WRITING

THEOPHRASTUS.

Libellus continens notas atque descriptiones morum quorundam vitiosorum... (Characteres)

1561. 1561. Extremely scarce first edition thus, containing all of Theophrastus' 23 characters in Greek and Latin, being the greatly influential first edition with of Auberius' excellent Latin translation and first edition with Lycio's interesting commentaries. Theophrastus' Characters constitutes the first recorded attempt at systematic character writing. It introduced the "character sketch", which became the core of the Character as a genre. As such it has influenced the entire literary tradition of the Western world. Theophrastus' fabulous, extremely witty, astute, harsh, and insightful characteristics of type characters of the human race have been formative for our understanding of moral virtues and vices and how they come to be expressed in man, for our understanding of human nature in general.

USD 3,400

17th century



A PUBLICATION "FOR THE GOOD OF OTHER NATIONS"

BACON, FRANCIS.

Operum moralium et civilium...

1638. Scarce first edition, first issue, on large paper – the great book collector Vollbehr's copy, given to the important Baconian G.J. Pfeiffer – of the monumental first collected edition of the works of Francis Bacon, containing the seminal first printing in Latin of both his groundbreaking "Essays" and his greatly influential "Nova Atlantis" ("The New Atlantis" – often referred to as "the blueprint for the founding of America"), a work which came to inspire a totally new philosophical and political genre and which fundamentally changed the way that we think. The appearance of his moral works in the "universal language" was, in the words of Bacon himself, to be carried out "for the benefit of other nations", to spread and preserve his groundbreaking thoughts.

USD 11,800

THE REFORMATION OF KNOWLEDGE

BACON, FRANCIS.

[De Augmentis Scientiarum].

1623. The extremely rare first edition of what is arguably Bacon's main work "De Augmentis Scientiarum" (a greatly expanded and completely re-written version of the "Advancement of Learning", 1605), in which he sets out to lay the foundations of science entirely anew and reform the process of knowledge for the advancement of learning. Bacon believes that the advancement of learning will ultimately relieve mankind from its miseries and needs, and as such he not only reformed the foundations of science, he also laid the philosophical foundations for the dawning of the Industrial age. His proposed change of the collective thought of mankind completely reshaped the entire course of science in history. The aim of the present work – to investigate and re-classify philosophy and the sciences – marks a turning

point in the rhetorical and theoretical framework for science, which is still essential for our conceptions of proper methodology today.

USD 43,000

FOUNDING INTERNATIONAL LAW – RICHARD CROMWELL'S COPY

GROTIUS, HUGO.

Three Books Treating of the Rights of War and Peace.

1682. First edition – RICHARD CROMWELL'S COPY – of the first complete translation into English of Grotius' groundbreaking magnum opus, "De Jure Belli ac Pacis", the founding work of international law. Grotius' profoundly influential masterpiece – written during the Thirty Years' War, in the hope that rational human beings might be able to agree to legal limits on war's destruction – "made him famous throughout Europe... [t]he questions which he put forward have come to be the basis of the ultimate view of land and society. This was the first attempt to lay down a principle of right, and a basis for society and government, outside Church or Scripture... Grotius's 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 international law." (PMM). As Grotius's "The Rights of War and Peace" so Richard Cromwell – the second Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland – played a tremendous role in British law and politics of the 17th century. The fact that Richard Cromwell is unable to contain the power struggle between the army and the Parliament leads directly to the collapse of the Protectorate and the reestablishment of the Commonwealth in 1659.

USD 10,400

THE PRINCIPLES OF PURE KNOWING

HEGEL, GE. WILH. FRIEDR.

Wissenschaft der Logik.

1812-1813-1816. The very scarce first editions – in uniform, contemporary bindings – of all three volumes, which together constitute Hegel's second main work, his "Science of Logic", also called his "Greater Logic", in which logic is seen as the science of pure thought. It concerns the principles by which concepts are formed, and thus that which reveals to us the principles of pure knowing. It is Hegel's dialectic theory later condensed as "thesis-antithesis-synthesis" that is developed in this main work of 19th century philosophy and with it Hegel created a revolution in the understanding of Logic. This is the rarest of any of Hegel's major works to find complete – it is a true scarcity to find a set in uniform, contemporary bindings.

USD 15,200

HOBBS' FINAL STROKE

HOBBS, THOMAS.

Decameron Physiologicum: Or, Ten Dialogues of Natural Philosophy. To which is added The Proportion of a Straight Line to half the Arc of a Quadrant. By the same Author.

1678. The very rare first edition of Hobbes' last work, which constitutes the final definition of his great mechanistic system of natural philosophy as well as the final blow in the famous Wallis-Hobbes feud. In this amazing work by the 90 year old brilliant thinker, we find an interesting mixture of the old and the new. His account of matter and motion is clearly in the spirit of Descartes and the contemporary mechanical philosophers, but he never loses sight of Aristotelian doctrines and keeps true to Greek thought and physics. With his treatment of gravitation, he here fires off his final shot against Wallis, and with his demonstration of the equality of a straight line to the arc of a circle at the end of the work, one of the strangest and most interesting intellectual debates was laid to rest.

USD 7.800

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

HOBBS, THOMAS.

Leviathan...

1651. First edition, first issue. Quite simply the most important work of philosophy produced in the English language, Hobbes' *magnus opus* is one of the finest achievements of the modern mind. It has shaped political modernity in a way that only a few other texts have. Even if it had not been so spectacularly successful, the *Leviathan* would have deserved a place among the most important works of political thought. It is in this treatise that the concept of representation is introduced which has since then been a pivotal element in constitutional order, being the conduit through which the sphere of political life is reflected in the constitution. Some leaves of this copy have marginal repairs, not affecting text.

USD 21,500

LEIBNIZ CLAIMING PRIORITY OVER NEWTON

LEIBNIZ, G.F.

De Lineis Opticis... + Schediasma de Resistentia Medii... + Tentamen de Motuum Coelestium causis... + De Linea Isochrone...

1689. First printing of these extremely important papers, in which Leibniz tried to change our minds as to who actually came up with the principal propositions presented in Newton's *Principia*. The present papers – contained in "Acta Eruditorum" – present us with Leibniz's fundamental physico-mathematical theory, his dynamics, his concepts of force, space and time. The "Tentamen..." constitutes Leibniz's response to Newton's theories about the motion of the celestial bodies.

USD 6,000

CHANGING OUR VIEW OF HEART AND BLOOD

LOWER, RICHARD.

Tractatus de Corde...

1669. The rare second edition, printed merely a few months after the first (London, 1669), of Lower's groundbreaking main work, which immediately changed that the way we perceive of the role of the heart and the lungs in the human body. The work is considered a milestone of medical history, as it provides one of the earliest accounts of blood transfusion, it established air as a necessity for life, and it was the first to demonstrate the scroll-like structure of the heart.

USD 8,600

COINING – AND FOUNDING – “POLITICAL ECONOMY”

MAYERNE, LOUIS TURQUET DE.

La monarchie aristodémocratique...

1611. The very rare first edition of this milestone work of political science, which contains the first noted occurrence in any modern language of the phrase “political economy”, otherwise thought to have been coined by Montchrétien in 1615, four years after the present work. “La Monarchie” marks the beginning of one of the most important political-economical enterprises, which continues to this day, namely the attempt at generalizing Aristotle's “economics” to the level of “state”. The work constitutes a precursor to Montchrétien in almost all ways. Not only is it the first attempt at re-creating civil order by activating governmental authority, the first work to re-define the worth of the Old Nobility and establish the Reason State, it also founds the entire “culture of merit” and is furthermore one of the first utopia-programmes for a police-state. “The author of this treatise was a prophet without honor in his own time – indeed, Marie de Médicis's regency banned the essay immediately after its publication in 1611 – but he nonetheless set the essential sociopolitical agenda for the entire ancien régime.”

USD 26,800

INTRODUCING MODERN COSMOGRAPHY

MERCATOR, GERARD.

Atlas...

1613. The seminal Mercator-atlas with all 150 maps. Few other inventions have done as much for our understanding of the world and our place in it as that of the atlas, which marks a turning point in the history of mankind. Mercator is one of the two greatest figures in the history of cartography; together with Ortelius, he introduces to mankind modern cosmography and our way of looking at the world geographically. It is Mercator who turns map making into an exact science and frees us from Ptolemy's cosmogony, which, though very unscientific and full of errors, was dominating up to the point of Mercator. It is in the present work that the term "atlas" is used for the first time, and as well as inventing "Mercator's projection, which is still of the utmost importance to map-making, Mercator is the first to name North America and South America.

USD 173,000

"THE GREATEST WORK IN THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE"

NEWTON, J S.

Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica.

1687. First edition, in the extremely scarce "Export issue" (meant for distribution on the Continent, only printed in ab. 50-60 copies) of "the greatest work on exact science that human mind has ever conceived" (Babson). Perhaps no other scientific book has changed the thought of man as profoundly as Newton's magnum opus, the "Principia", which is generally considered the most important book within the field of science. The work stands unparalleled in the history of scientific thought.

USD 372,000

DEFENDING THOUGHT IN RELIGIOUS FAITH

[PASCAL, BLAISE].

Les Provinciales...

(1656-57). Scarce first edition, first issue of all the letters that make up Pascal's seminal "Les Provinciales", the hugely influential polemical magnum opus that constitutes "the first example of French prose as we know it today, perfectly finished in form, varied in style, and on a subject of universal importance." (PMM). Pascal's brilliantly written "provincial Letters", which humorously attacked casuistry and accused Jesuits of moral laxity, hugely influenced the prose of later French writers such as Voltaire and Rousseau. The effect of the work was enormous, read by all of educated France, and condemned to burning by both the king and the Pope. Contemporarily bound with further 36 polemical texts of the Jansenist-Jesuit feud.

USD 14,700

REFORMATION OF THE NEW PHILOSOPHY

SPINOZA, BENEDICTUS DE.

Renati des Cartes Principiorum Philosophiae...

1663. The rare first edition of Spinoza's first published work, his critical exposition of Descartes's "Principles of Philosophy", which was the only work that he published under his own name in his life-time. The present work constitutes one of the most important works of early modern philosophy, uniting the two greatest philosophical minds of that period, Descartes and Spinoza, showing Spinoza as the expounder and critic of Descartes and his main work as well as one of the most authoritative and important commentators on Descartes' philosophy, but also as one of the greatest and most radical thinkers in his own right. The work provides us with the earliest testimony to the radical thoughts that have made Spinoza one of the most criticized, admired, discussed, and banned philosophers of modern times. It is perhaps in this work we see the paving of the way towards the overthrow of the "true philosophy" of Descartes as well as all religion and truth. Through the high impact of Cartesianism, Spinozism came to grasp the philosophy of the centuries to follow.

USD 10,500

18th century



FIRST ENGLISH TRANSLATION DIRECTLY FROM THE GREEK

ARISTOTLE

A Treatise on Government. Translated from the Greek by William Ellis.

1776. The rare first translation into English from the original Greek of Aristotle's seminal "Politics", a key document in the history of Western political thought, which also greatly influenced late 18th and 19th century political thought in the English speaking world. "The Politics is one of Aristotle's most important works, having had an inestimable influence on political thought up until the present day". Aristotle's "Politics" is not only a monument of the Greek city state and an invaluable document portraying the world of Antiquity, it also constitutes the first reflection of the conditions under which philosophy is possible within politics and thus the work that founded political thought. The influence that this work has had on later political thought is difficult to exaggerate, and the fact that the work became available in a translation into English directly from the original Greek has been of the utmost importance to the development of political thought in England and America.

USD 4,200

"TO HAVE AN IRON HAND, BUT TO SELDOM EMPLOY IT"

CONSTANT, BENJAMIN.

De la Force du Gouvernement actuel de la France...

1796. First edition of the work that most profoundly changed our minds about the French Revolution and came to deeply influence the entire concept of historical political theory. Here, in his seminal first political work, Constant brilliantly sets out to establish the Republic in public opinion, in order to root it firmly in the law, two years after the Terror and several months after the decrees of the two-thirds. The work represents the earliest political ideas of the great future liberalist, whose later so influential liberal theories are already conspicuous in the present work (e.g. when he states "Great art is to control with force, but to control little, to have an iron hand, but to seldom employ it").

USD 3,200

THE FIRST CONSUMER BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS – PRESENTATION-COPY

DAVIES, DAVID.

The Case of Labourers in Husbandry...

1795. First edition, presentation-copy, of this landmark work in scientific social inquiry, constituting one of the earliest microeconomic- and consumer behavior analyses. Davies profoundly influenced social history and initiated the entire field of consumer behavior analysis, two areas of study which were to dominate 19th century economics, relevant not only to economic and social history, but also to present day economic analysis. Davies's work anticipates Eden's "The State of The Poor" (PMM 249) by two years.

USD 5,200

THE TWO-BODY PROBLEM

EULER, LEONARD.

Theoria motuum planetarum et cometarum.

1744. First edition of this important work, in which Euler presents the first fully complete mathematical treatment of the Two-Body Problem, developing the first completely analytical method for determining a parabolic orbit through successive approximations. "Today, the method of successive approximation known to every student of calculus is known by this man's name, Euler's Method." The Two-Body Problem, the full exposition of which is essential to our understanding of the universe and our place in it, summarizes the classical problem of celestial mechanics, involving the motion of one body about another under the influence of their mutual gravitation.

USD 5.900

DEMANDING FREEDOM FOR THE PEOPLE

[FICHTE, J.G.].

Zurückforderung der Denkfreiheit von den Fürsten Europens, die sie bisher unterdrückten.

(1793). Extremely scarce first edition of the first of Fichte's important pro-revolutionary political tracts, the polemic oration to the European rulers with the provocative title "Reclamation of the Freedom of Thought from the Princes of Europe, who have hitherto Suppressed it", in which he not only defended the principles of the French revolutionaries, but also attempted to outline his own democratic view of legitimate state authority and insisted on the right of revolution. Fichte here denounced government secrecy and censorship and appealed for unconditional freedom of public expression. Despite the fact that the work was published anonymously, the author's identity was widely known, and Fichte thereby acquired a reputation, as a radical "Jacobin."

USD 4.900

"MAN IS OF ALL BEINGS THE MOST NECESSARY TO MAN"

[HOLBACH, PAUL HENRY THIRY, BARON D'].

Système de la Nature... + Système social...

1770 + 1773. The rare first editions, first issues, of d'Holbach's main works, comprising "The System of Nature" – one of the most important works of natural philosophy ever written and the work that is considered the main work of materialism – and "The Social System", being d'Holbach's seminal "social" and political continuation of that groundbreaking work. Both works had a sensational impact on the development of the mind of mankind. For the first time, philosophical materialism is presented in an actual system, and with the second of the works, this system also comprised politics, morality and sociology, a fact which became essential to the influence and spreading of this atheistic scientific-philosophical materialism. In "The Social System", d'Holbach extends his ethical views to the state and continues the description of human interest from "The System of Nature" by developing a notion of the just state ("ethocracy") that is to secure general welfare.

USD 11,000

FOUNDING COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY

JONES, WILLIAM.

On the Hindu's.

(1788). The seminal first edition of this groundbreaking paper which determined the connection between the Indo-European languages and thereby founded comparative philology and Indo-European studies. The work profoundly changed our understanding of languages and the connections between them. "This slim paper read to the Bengal Asiatic Society and published in its "Transaction" marks a turning-point in the history of linguistics and signaled the birth of comparative philology." (PMM).

USD 5,500

THE CRITICAL MIND IN THE MAKING

KANT, IMMANUEL.

Gedanken von der wahren Schätzung der lebendigen Kräfte...

1746. The exceedingly scarce first edition of Kant's debut, the first work that he ever published, at the mere age of 22. The work constitutes a milestone in the modern discussion of dimensionality. The nature of space and space dimensionality that Kant attempts to uncover and explain in this his first work comes to found a basis for all his later thought. The role that physics, especially the concepts of space and time, plays for his view of the world and for the development of his philosophical thought is immense, and his earliest thoughts on the subject understream all of his later thought.

USD 32,000

FORESHADOWING THE UTOPIAN POLITICAL AGENDA OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

[MERCIER, LOUIS SEBASTIEN].

L'An deux mille quatre cent quarante. Réve s'il fut jamais.

1771. The exceedingly scarce first edition (issue unknown, one of the five 1771-issues, presidency between which has not been established) of this 18th century best-seller, in which Mercier predicts the course of the French Revolution as well as numerous scientific inventions – one of the most important utopias ever written, in fact the first utopia to take place in the future (a so-called "uchronia" – in this case also a "euchronia"), and a main work of European political thought leading up to the French revolution. The work was quickly translated into numerous languages and was very influential throughout all of Europe. It was immediately banned by the French authorities, condemned by the Inquisition in Rome, officially condemned by the Spanish Inquisition and supposedly burned by the king himself.

USD 8,800

A NEW APPROACH TO EDUCATION

ROUSSEAU, J.J.

Émile ou de l'éducation.

1762. The scarce first edition (the 8vo-edition as opposed to the much more common and less beautiful 12mo-edition) of the work that completely changed our views on education. This magnificent work constitutes the climax of Rousseau's genius as well as the most important work on education since Plato. In *Émile*, Rousseau poses an entirely new approach to education and the upbringing of children. His thoughts were exceedingly controversial, the work was burnt by the executioner immediately after its first appearance and Rousseau had to flee the country due to a warrant for his arrest.

USD 13,000

THE SOURCE OF OUR STORIES ABOUT GALILEI

SALVINI, SALVINO (EDT.). – VIVIANI, VINCENZO.

Fasti consolari dell'accademia Fiorentina.

1717. First edition of this extensive work of biographies of the people of the Florentine Academy. Among the dozens of biographies in the present work, we have the first printing of Viviani's seminal biography of Galilei, the first, and by far the most important biography of the great astronomer ever written. This biography is responsible for almost all of the canonical stories and anecdotes about Galilei that have continually been repeated and quoted since this first publication – e.g. the legend of Galilei demonstrating to his students that Aristotle was wrong about speed of fall being related to the weight of an object by dropping balls of different mass off the leaning tower in Pisa; the stories of how he came up with the idea of the pendulum after having watched a suspended lamp swing back and forth in the cathedral of Pisa when he was still a student there – and furthermore also how his first experiments with pendulums were carried out (by his son due to his own failing eyesight), etc., etc.

USD 4,300

INTRODUCING CAPITALISM

SMITH, ADAM.

An Enquiry into the Nature and the Causes of the Wealth of Nations.

1776. First edition of Adam Smith's seminal main work, "the first and greatest classic of modern economic thought" (PMM), and the main foundational work of the era of liberal free trade. The work became the foremost manifesto against mercantilism and for free trade and its enormous economic impact on the entire world is apparent to all. Since its appearance in 1776, Smith's publication remains the most important book on political economy.

USD 165,000

HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION

THE FRENCH CONSTITUTION.

La Constitution Francaise...

1791. First pocket-edition of the highly influential French Constitution, probably the first meant for the public. This is a document of enormous historical and symbolic importance, which has not ceased to haunt all the French constitutions that have followed in its wake. The preamble of the Constitution of 1791 – the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen – is without doubt one of the most important documents of the modern world.

USD 4,300

THE REVOLUTION IN ANATOMY

VESALIUS, ANDREAS.

Opera Omnia Anatomica & Chirurgica.

1725. First and only collected edition, edited by Boerhaave, of the printed works by "the father of human anatomy". This magnificent edition was published in an attempt to reconcile recent medical discoveries with those of previous centuries. Apart from the "De humani corporis fabrica" and the "Epitome", the edition includes the "China-root Letter", Vesalius's response to the "Anatomical Observations" of Gabriele Fallopio, and the "Chirurgia magna" attributed to the great anatomist. The illustrations are magnificent and have been produced with great care and are illustrated with engraved plates copied from the printed woodcuts by Jan Wandelaar. The "De Fabrica" marks the beginnings of the period of rationalism in medicine and showed that man's structure is of one and the same materials as the bodies of lower animals.

USD 11,200

19th century



UTILITARIAN PHILOSOPHY OF LAW

BENTHAM, JÉRÉMIE (JEREMY).

Traité de législation civile et pénale.

1802. Rare first edition of this classic in the sociology of law, in which the word "utilitarian" is coined. It is this work that is chiefly responsible for bringing utilitarian philosophy of law to America, apart from spreading the tradition in Europe. "To re-read Bentham now is to realize how much practical good he has done, as well as how much he advanced social and political thinking. Typically, his range is too great to be easily classified.. but much of what he taught has become part of the common thought not only of his own but of subsequent time: truths which had not found expression before they were pointed out by Bentham are now so universally accepted as to be thought common-place. Take "Utilitarianism" for example; although the concept was not wholly original, only Bentham could have summed it up in the succinct aphorism "the greatest happiness of the greatest number", and only he could have coined the word "utilitarianism" to label it. (Bentham was a lively neologist: "utilitarian", "international", "codification", all were invented by him; the first he had already used in 1802 [in the present work!], long before 1823 when J.S. Mill thought he had coined it)." (Printing and the Mind of Man, p. 142).

USD 2,500

CHAMPIONING THE ABSOLUTE INFINITE

BOLZANO, BERNARD.

Paradoxien des Unendlichen.

1851. The exceedingly scarce first edition of this landmark work of logical and mathematical thought, in which Bolzano anticipates, by decades, Cantor's work in *Infinite Numbers*, lays the foundation for set theory, and becomes a precursor to Cauchy, Cantor, and Weierstrass in the arithmetization of mathematical analysis. Needless to say, the work, which calls for a total arithmetization of mathematical analysis, was highly praised and admired by the most important logicians in the field, such as Peirce, Dedekind, and Cantor. Bolzano recognized the necessity in analyzing the paradoxes of infinity, of defining various "obvious" mathematical concepts, including that of continuity, and became the first mathematician to note that an infinite set could be considered equivalent to certain of its subsets.

USD 32,000

UNFOLDING THE UNCONSCIOUS MIND

BREUER, JOS. U. SIGM. FREUD.

Studien über Hysterie.

1895. First edition of the work that marks the starting point of psychoanalysis, a cornerstone in the history of mankind's exploration of the mind. The work contains the first elaboration of the principle of Freud's "free association" as the revelation of the "unconscious mind" as well as Breuer's famous account of his Anna O. (Bertha Pappenheim)-case, which introduced the technique of psychoanalysis as a form of cure. It is arguably the single most important work in the foundation and development of psychoanalysis as therapy and cure. "It will be seen that not only had some of the essentials of what was to become psychoanalysis already emerged by 1895 but that a revolution in mental therapy had been adumbrated." (PMM p. 234).

USD 3,800

DOMINATING US ECONOMY UP UNTIL 1973

CAREY, H.C.

Principles of Political Economy.

1837-1840. The rare first edition of Carey's extremely influential main work, which was to become the standard representation of the American School of Economic Thought and the dominant theoretical work within political economy – in fact, it dominated the US economic system from the time of its appearance up until 1973. It made the fundamental departure – from the British economic theorists – of declaring that land derives its value from the capital expended on it and that the wages of the workers increase faster than the returns of capital, thereby lending towards "a progressive diffusion of wealth among the poorest classes of society." Carey, the chief economic advisor to Abraham Lincoln during his presidency, is considered the most internationally influential political economist and social scientist of nineteenth-century America.

USD 7,800

THE LINK TO THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS

CHAMPOLLION, M. LE JEUNE.

Précis du système hiéroglyphique des anciens Égyptiens...

1824. Very rare first edition of the work that finally links the modern mind of mankind to that of the ancient Egyptians, enabling us to read their script for the first time. It is namely in this work that the deciphering of the hieroglyphs was fully presented for the first time. In 1822 Champollion had read his "Lettre a M. Dacier" before the Academie des Inscriptions, and for the first time presented the key to reading hieroglyphs. His monumental work "Précis du système hiéroglyphique" appeared two years later, and in this richly illustrated work he presents his definitive, expanded analysis, and finally corrects the misleading mistakes of the other Egyptologists, counting also Thomas Young.

USD 9,500

THE PRIME NUMBER THEOREM

CHEBYSHEV, P.

Teoria sravneny.

1849. Scarce first edition of the doctoral thesis by the father of Russian mathematics, constituting the very first Russian monograph of number theory and the author's first publication on the problem of distribution of prime numbers. Here "Chebyshev not only established Bertrand's conjecture, but also made significant steps toward proving the famous prime-number theorem" and "for the first time since Euclid, a serious advance was made in our knowledge of the properties of prime numbers". The mysteries of the prime numbers as the "outsiders" among integers is something that has long occupied the mind of man, accepting that, as Nicolaus de Cusa put it, "The essence of number is therefore the prime exemplar of the mind" or in more modern terms: "God may not play dice with the universe, but something strange is going on with the prime numbers".

USD 6,000

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION IN THE MAKING

CHERNYSHEVSKY.

Chto Delat? [Russian. i.e. What is to be Done?]. [In the original printing of issues 3-5 of "Sovremennik", March-May, 1863].

[1863]. The extremely scarce first edition of the most influential Russian novel ever written, Chernyshevsky's magnum opus, which is considered the single most important work of modern revolutionary thought. "If one were to ask for the title of the nineteenth-century Russian novel that has had the greatest influence on Russian society, it is likely that a non-Russian would choose among the books of the mighty triumvirate: Turgenev, Tolstoy, or Dostoyevsky. Fathers and Sons? War and Peace? Crime and Punishment? These would certainly be among the suggested answers; but ... the novel that can claim this honor with most justice is N. G. Chernyshevsky's What Is to Be Done?... no work in modern literature, with the possible exception of Uncle Tom's Cabin, can compete with What Is to Be Done? in its effect on human lives and its power to make history. For Chernyshevsky's novel far more than

Marx's Capital, supplied the emotional dynamic that eventually went to make the Russian Revolution."

USD 28,500

A PRECURSOR TO THE PERSONAL COMPUTER

COLMAR, CHARLES XAVIER THOMAS DE.

Calculating Machine. Specification.

1857. Scarce original printed patent for the first commercially successful mechanical calculator, the first version of Colmar's seminal Arithmometer to be suitable for industrial production, marking the starting point of the mechanical calculator industry, which, in turn, led to the invention of the commercially successful personal computer. "Because it was the first mass marketed and the first widely copied calculator, its design marks the starting point of the mechanical calculator industry, which eventually morphed into the electronic calculator industry and which, through the accidental design of the first microprocessor to be commercialized... led to the first commercially available personal computer."

USD 8.300

FORESEEING MODERN DICTATORSHIP

CONSTANT, BENJAMIN.

De l'esprit de conquête et de l'ursupation...

1814. The very rare first edition of Constant's sensational anti-Napoleon work, in which he foresees modern dictatorship, the Germany of Hitler and a world closely resembling that of Orwell's 1948. In the present work – in which "Ursurpation" comes to mean the new, modern, manipulative Napoleonic dictatorship with its personalized and centralized power – Constant warns man against conformity, outwardly as well as inwardly, and speaks warmly in favor of liberal variety and diversity as opposed to totalitarian conformity.

USD 2,900

THE SPREADING OF DARWINISM

DARWIN, CHARLES.

O Proischozhdenii Vidov... [Russian: On the Origin of Species].

1864. Extremely rare first edition of the first Russian translation of Darwin's "Origin of Species", a main reason for the widespread effect of Darwinism in Russia, where the theory met less resistance in the 1860'ies than it did in Western Europe. In Russia Darwinism had a profound influence not only upon the different sciences, but also on philosophy, economic and political thought, and the great literature of the period. For instance, both Tolstoy and Dostoevsky referenced Darwin in their most important works, as did numerous other thinkers of the period.

USD 13,800

A MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF IDEAS

FARADAY, MICHAEL.

Experimental Researches in Electricity. (Twenty-second Series).

1849. First edition, rare offprint issue, of "one of the great classics of chemistry and physics" with a fabulous presentation-inscription, from Faraday to William Thomson (i.e. Lord Kelvin). The present offprint magnificently unites two of the great scientific minds of the 20th century. It is due to the mutual exchange of ideas and thoughts that both these great scientists were able to contribute so significantly to our knowledge of the world that surrounds us. Without the mutual motivation and inspiration between the two, our knowledge of electricity would have been greatly postponed. Lord Kelvin delivered the first mathematical exposition of Faraday's researches in electricity and provided an important theoretical direction for Faraday's interpretation of his own experiments. The paper itself is of the utmost importance in the history of scientific thought, as much of Faraday's groundbreaking research, published between 1831 and 1839, contained many shortcomings and errors, which have been corrected in this publication.

USD 12,500

FOUNDING UTOPIAN SOCIALISM

FOURIER, CH.

Traité de l'association domestique-agricole. 2 Vols. (+) Sommaire du traité de l'association domestique-agricole ou attraction industrielle.

1822 & 1823. Scarce first edition – together with the extremely rare supplement (entire issue signed by the author) – of Fourier's milestone work of political theory, which is considered a founding work of Utopian Socialism and a main inspiration for Marx. The work, which contains "the essence of Fourier's doctrine", presents for the first time many of the revolutionary ideas that Marx were to adopt and use in his "Kapital", e.g. the theory of poverty and exploitation and its relation to the means of production. These same ideas are those that made Marx speak of Fourier's "Gargantuan view of man". With the present work Fourier was also one of the first to defend the rights of women and controversial things such as same-sex sexuality.

USD 14,500

PSYCHOANALYSIS IN THE MAKING

FREUD, S.,

Über den Ursprung der hinteren Nervenwurzeln...

[1877]. First edition, in the scarce offprint, of Freud's first publication, which documents the early beginnings of the scientific thought that came to found psychoanalysis. In 1873 Freud began studying medicine, ultimately because he wanted to study the human condition with scientific rigor. His first studies were on the connection of a large nerve cell that had been discovered in the spinal cord of a primitive genus of fish. In the background of this task lay, however, a greater question; a question that arguably became formative for the greatest revolutionizer of the human mind, namely the question about the nervous system of higher animals – including human beings – differing in kind from the lower ones.

USD 8,600

THE ITINERARY OF HUMAN REASON

HEGEL, GE. WILH. FR.

System der Wissenschaft... Phänomenologie des Geistes.

1807. The very rare first edition of Hegel's first major work, "Phenomenology of Spirit", in which he gave the first systematic account of his own philosophy. The work can be read as the itinerary of human reason. It traces the development of the categories of reason from the basic categories of sense perception to the manifestations of absolute spirit as religion, art, and philosophy. The importance of the work for the development of modern thought can hardly be overestimated. The dialectical structures which keep in place Hegel's thought shall determine the trajectory of Marx and later the course of modern French philosophy.

USD 11,000

EPITOMIZING THE METHODS OF MODERN MEDICINE – ASSOCIATION-COPY

HELMOLTZ, H. (HERMANN).

Beschreibung eines Augen-Spiegels zur Untersuchung der Netzhaut im lebenden Auge.

1851. First edition of this groundbreaking book that revolutionized the way of diagnosing eye diseases and preventing blindness, being the work in which Helmholtz described for the first time his invention of the Ophthalmoscope – to which von Graefe exclaimed: "Helmholtz has unfolded to us a new world!". This invention was not only seminal to ophthalmology, however, but also to all other branches of medicine, as it epitomized the methods of modern medicine. Helmholtz believed that no branch of medicine demonstrated the necessity of experimental method more clearly than ophthalmology, which for him had become for the other branches of medicine "as brilliant an example of the capabilities of the true method as astronomy had long been for the other sciences." From the library of the noted ophthalmologist Albrecht Eduard Nagel (1833-1895), who had studied with Helmholtz in Bonn, with his handwritten notes, seemingly being study notes for his main work.

USD 9,000

THE MATHEMATICAL REVOLUTION

HILBERT, DAVID.

Grundlagen der Geometrie.

1899. Extremely scarce first edition of one of the most influential publications on 20th century mathematics. The "Grundlagen" initiated a paradigm shift that eventually evolved mathematics into a network of axiomatic formal systems. Hilbert here sets out to lay down a simple and complete system of mutually independent axioms. With this foundational work, he established the relative consistency of geometry vis-à-vis arithmetic – i.e. he proved that any contradiction existing in Euclidean geometry must manifest itself in the arithmetic system of real numbers. Hilbert's method changed the way that not only geometry was viewed, but also all other fields of mathematics as well as many other sciences such as physics, chemistry, and biology.

USD 4,300

RE-DEFINING CHRISTIANITY – PRESENTATION-COPY

(KIERKEGAARD, S.).

Indøvelse i Christendom.

1850. First edition, presentation-copy to Rudelbach, of Kierkegaard's highly important "Training in Christianity", which was tremendously influential in Western thought and completely altered the way that we think of Christianity. Distinguishing sharply between the established, triumphant church and the true, struggling one, the work also constitutes a fierce attack on the established Church and it dealt a severe blow to the naive rationalism prevalent in Christian theology in the 19th century. The work, which points to the essence of Kierkegaard's religious-philosophical writings, is considered the most "Kierkegaardian" of all of his works; it is absolutely essential to the development of Christian Existentialism and Postmodern Christianity, as well as Existentialism and Postmodernism in general.

USD 8,300

THE PROPHET OF EXISTENTIALISM

[KIERKEGAARD, SØREN].

Enten-Eller.

1843. A splendid copy of the first edition of the work that founded existentialism, by the greatest Scandinavian philosopher of all times, who "is now generally considered to be, however eccentric, one of the most important Christian philosophers" (PMM). Kierkegaard's monumental magnum opus – which so magnificently presents the struggle between the aesthetic and the ethical mind of man – seminally influenced later as well as contemporary philosophy and ranks as one of the most important works of philosophy of modern times.

USD 5,200

FIRST TRANSLATION INTO ANY LANGUAGE OF "THE BIBLE OF MARXISM"

MARX, KARL.

Kapital.

1872. First edition (first issue) of the first Russian translation – with the extremely scarce original printed wrappers – being the first translation into any language, of Marx' immensely influential main work, probably the greatest revolutionary work of the nineteenth century. The first Russian translation of "Das Kapital" – which had almost magically slipped through the censorship – came to enjoy greater renown in Russia than in any other country; for varying reasons, it won a warm reception in many political quarters in Russia, it enjoyed a totally unexpected rapid and widespread success, and it came to have a profound influence on the economic development of the country.

USD 23,000

CASTING DOUBT ON THE BASIS OF THE UNIVERSE

MICHELSON, ALBERT A. & EDWARD W. MORLEY.

On the Relative Motion of the Earth and the Luminiferous Ether.

1887. First appearance of this classic paper which announced one of the most celebrated experiments in the history of physics and eventually led Einstein to his Theory of Relativity. The results of the experiments completely changed our belief in classical scientific theories of the universe, as it cast doubts on the existence of the universal ether which had been a basic principle of, for example, the Newtonian theories of the universe. The entire "The American Journal of Science"-volume.

USD 7,300

CREATING SOLAR POWERED ENERGY – PRESENTATION-COPY

MOUCHOT, A.

La Chaleur solaire et ses applications industrielles. Deuxième Édition. Revue et considérablement augmentée.

1879. Presentation-copy of the scarce first edition thus, being the much revised and expanded second edition of the first book explicitly devoted to solar energy, "Solar Energy and its Industrial Applications". This second edition, illustrating for the first time the now world-famous "sun Engine" of 1878, which became the greatest and most famous "sun machine" ever built, is of equal importance to the first. The fold-out illustration which appears here for the first time has become the most famous illustration of a solar powered machine and has been reproduced in all histories about solar energy ever since. It is Mouchot's work on solar energy and the development of his sun machine that forms the basis for the later developments on solar energy, a concept that has become foundational for modern views on saving our planet and sparing the environment. The possibilities of solar powered energy has changed the way we think about many of the problems that our planet is facing.

USD 6,000

"WHAT DOES NOT KILL ME ONLY MAKES ME STRONGER"

NIETZSCHE, FRIEDRICH.

Götzen-Dämmerung... + Dionysos-Dithyramben.

1889 + (1890 – released 1892). The scarce first edition of the epitome of Nietzsche's final project – a re-valuation of all values – his greatly influential "declaration of war", which was written during his last productive year, just before his big breakdown in Turin. In "The Twilight of the Idols", Nietzsche on the one hand fights modernity – seeing for instance in the figure of Dionysos the ideal of more vibrant life – and rejects the institutions of social and political modernity, but on the other hand he fights for the modern values of individuality, dynamism, and development. The present work thus contains a unique synthesis of modern and premodern elements that envisage a postmodern break with modernity. Contemporarily bound with the first printing of the "Dionysian Dithyrambs".

USD 4.200

THE BIBLE OF RUSSIAN LIBERAL ECONOMIC THOUGHT

NIKOLAJ – ON [DANIELSON, NIKOLAJ FRANCEVIC].

Otserki nashego poreformennogo obshchestvennago chozjajstva. [Russian, i.e.: Studies of Our Post-Reform Economy].

1893. The exceedingly scarce first edition of Danielson's groundbreaking work on the Russian economic development, which is widely considered the bible of Russian liberal economic thought. In the present work, written at the suggestion of Marx himself, Danielson proposed a way for the Russian economy to consolidate itself without foreign money by – highly controversially – claiming that capitalist industrialization was possible without any change in the political system and emphasizing and defending the peasant class, which so many socialists of the time readily proclaimed doomed. Danielson completely changed the view on capitalist industrialization; his economic philosophy was not only pioneering in contemporary Russian economics, it also anticipated many solutions to problems that still face some of the Third World countries today.

USD 12,500

THE BEGINNING OF BACTERIOLOGY AS A MODERN SCIENCE

PASTEUR, M. L.

Mémoire sur la Fermentation appelée Lactique.

1858. First printing, in the extremely scarce off-print (separately paginated), of this landmark paper which founded scientific bacteriology, immunology and microbiology in general. The work constitutes "[t]he first demonstration of the connection between a specific fermentation and the activity of a specific microorganism ... the beginning of bacteriology as a modern science" (G&M). "In this epochal paper [Pasteur] first published his research on lactic fermentation... A great milestone in biochemistry" (Neville). Few medical discoveries have changed our lives so profoundly as the beginning of bacteriology, improving the general health of our species more profoundly than any other discovery, ridding the world of former plagues.

USD 11.200

CHANGING OUR IDEAS OF CHRIST

RENAN, ERNEST.

Vie de Jésus.

1863. True first edition of this seminal classic on the life of Jesus, which set out to alter our comprehension of Christ. The work caused an immediate scandal when it appeared. Renan's masterpiece, which constitutes the first attempt to write a biography of Jesus the man, strongly puts forth the notion that the Bible too can be subject to historical investigation and critical scrutiny. The work enraged the Roman Catholic Church but was an immediate success in most of Europe. This groundbreaking work analyses the personality of the man Jesus – a figure created by Renan out of his mind, but based upon historical sources. "... In this great work it seems clear that the audience he has found was the one he sought: the general reading public rather than the limited coterie of scholars; and there is no doubt of the fact or the degree of his success." (PMM).

USD 2.600

INITIATING SOCIAL REFORM

RIIS, JACOB A.

How the Other Half Lives. Studies Among the Tenements of New York. With Illustrations chiefly from Photographs taken by the Author.

1890. First edition of this landmark work on the miserable living conditions of the poor immigrants in New York, constituting one of the very earliest attempts at making the middle and upper classes aware of how the poor in New York actually lived. The work is the most popular and influential of its kind and it succeeded in changing the minds of the people who had the power to change things. Due to the great success of the work, it ultimately initiated social reform movements in all major North American cities, having created attention to the status, living conditions and general health of the poor. The work is furthermore regarded as the very first example of "muckraking" journalism and was the first to extensively use half-tone photographic reproductions in a book.

USD 3,000

MODERN MIND IN THE MAKING

SCHOPENHAUER, ARTHUR.

Die Welt als Wille und Vorstellung.

1819. The extremely scarce first edition of Schopenhauer's main work, "The World as Will and Idea", a philosophical magnum opus that deeply influenced many important later thinkers. Schopenhauer's "modern" mind resulted in a philosophy of nothingness and a pessimistic denial of the identity of change and progress, which are the predominant notions in this his main work, and only in modern thinkers would they find their true addressees. These modern thinkers, who were greatly influenced by Schopenhauer, include Nietzsche, Wagner, Maler, Darwin, Einstein, Jung, Freud, Wittgenstein, Popper, Horkheimer, Beckett, Borges, Tolstoy, Thomas Mann, Knut Hamsun etc, etc. Due to the total lack of initial impact and the terribly bad sale-numbers, all unsold copies were destroyed, and only a very small portion of the original 700 or 750 copies still exist, making the first edition of this work one of the most rare important philosophical works of the 19th century.

USD 35,000

THE "SECOND INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION"

SIEMENS, CHARLES WILLIAM (+) HENRY WILDE.

Producing Electric Lights at Sea, &c. (+) Electric Telegraphs.

1867 & 1863. The scarce original printed patents for the first two patented dynamo-electric machines, Wilde's being the very first such, and Siemens' not only being the second such, but also the very first electrical generator of practical importance. Both patents are of seminal importance to the widespread use of electricity in both private and industrial contexts. Together they paved the way for modern electric power technology. "Siemens's invention of the self-excited generator made possible a "second industrial revolution" characterized by the use of electrical energy in transportation, lightning and especially factory production".

USD 9,500

THE FINAL CONQUEST OF DARKNESS

SWAN, JOSEPH WILSON.

Electric Lamps...

1880. Scarce original printed patent for the seminal invention that is the incandescent light bulb. Though usually erroneously ascribed to Thomas Edison, it was in fact Joseph Swan who invented the light bulb and ended the dark ages. The present patent, for the carbonised paper filaments that finally made the light bulb completely functionable, constitutes a milestone in the history of mankind, marking man's final conquest of darkness. The invention of the light bulb marks a turning point, like the wheel or the invention of the printing press. As McLuhan put it in his groundbreaking main work, "a light bulb creates an environment by its mere presence". It does not have content in itself, as e.g. a newspaper, but it is a medium with a social effect strong enough to change the way we think, act, and behave. Electric light is "pure information" – a medium without a message.

USD 16,500

20th century



THE ART REVOLUTION – COINING “SURREALISM”

APOLLINAIRE, GUILLAUME [+ PICASSO – LÉON BAKST – SERGE DIAGHILEV – MICHEL GEORGES-MICHEL].

“Parade” et l’Esprit nouveau. In: Les Ballets Russes a Paris...

1917. Scarce original printing of this seminal avantgarde-publication, the May 1917 “Théâtre du Chatelet”- publication that presents Diaghilev’s “Ballets Russes” in Paris, being one of the most important publications in the history of modern art. It is here that Apollinaire coins the term “surrealism” and thus lays the foundation for the seminal cultural movement that Bréton came to lead. The present publication constitutes an outright revolution in the history of art, theatre, and ballet.

USD 6,000

THE FIRST HAND BOOK OF SPIN

BERNAYS, EDWARD L. – “THE MACHIAVELLI OF OUR TIME”

Propaganda.

1928. First edition of this milestone work of modern culture, being the main work by “the father of public relations” and the work that founded the manipulation of public opinion as a necessary part of democracy. The work constitutes the “bible” of mass manipulation and public relations and the work that founded the field. “[h]is influence on the 20th century was nearly as great as his uncle’s [i.e. Sigmund Freud], because Bernays was the first person to take Freud’s ideas about human beings and use them to manipulate the masses. He showed American corporations for the first time how they could make people want things they didn’t need by linking mass produced goods to their unconscious desires. Out of this would come a new political idea of how to control the masses. By satisfying people’s inner selfish desires, one made them happy and thus docile. It was the start of the all-consuming self, which has come to dominate our world today.”

USD 5,200

THE MIND'S MACHINE

BUSH, VANNEVAR.

As we may think. [The entire issue, in wrappers, of "The Atlantic Monthly"].

1945. First printing of this groundbreaking paper, in which Bush describes his "Memex" system for organizing, storing, retrieving and linking information – a collective memory machine mimicking the human mind, but gifted with permanent recollection. This landmark paper is credited with originating the idea of hypertext and the World Wide Web (www), thereby anticipating the fundamental ideas of the internet by more than 40 years.

USD 2,000

THE REBELLIOUS MIND – PRESENTATION-COPY

CAMUS, ALBERT.

L'Homme révolté.

(1951). First edition of "The Rebel", one of Camus' greatest works, with a signed presentation-inscription to front free end-paper "à Myrian et Nicole/ avec fidele affection/ de leur ami/ Albert Camus". Famous for it's opening lines "What is a rebel? A man who says no: but whose refusal does not imply a renunciation. He is also a man who says yes as soon as he begins to think for himself. A slave who has taken orders all his life, suddenly decides that he cannot obey some new command. What does he mean by saying 'no'?", the novel addresses themes that have never lost their relevance, like terrorism, rebellion, art, etc., and counts as one of the great literary productions of the 20th century.

USD 5,200

EINSTEIN'S KEY TO THE UNIVERSE – PROOF-COPY, WITH AUTHORIAL CORRECTIONS, INSCRIBED TO PAULI (WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO READ IT AND PASS IT ON TO PAIS)

[EINSTEIN, ALBERT].

APPENDIX II. GENERALIZED THEORY OF GRAVITATION.

(1950). Magnificent original proof-copy, with the most desirable association and with Einstein's original handwritten corrections and equations, of one of Einstein's most important pieces, the second appendix to his "The Meaning of Relativity", being the appendix "in which he described his most recent work on unification" (Pais), and the work which, more popularly, was hailed by The New York Times under the heading "New Einstein theory gives a master key to the universe". This proof copy of the first edition of the appendix – with its three/ four corrections in Einstein's own hand that do not seem to have been directly incorporated into any of the printed editions, but which have presumably let him to revise the appendix again, for the revised third edition – constitutes an otherwise unknown forerunner of his final formulation, which is presented in full in the Fourth edition of "The Meaning of Relativity", 1953.

USD 91,000

TRANSFORMING THE SCIENTIFIC OUTLOOK OF THE 20TH CENTURY

EINSTEIN, ALBERT.

Die Grundlage der allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie.

1916. First issue of the first edition in book form of Einstein's seminal "General Theory of Relativity", which has had an immense impact on all science, philosophy, and man's view of the world in general. Few other books of the 20th century can be said to have so basically altered the way that we view the world and our place in it. Determining space and time as interwoven into a single continuum known as "space-time" and determining that there is no absolute space-time coordinate system – i.e. that there are no absolute positions in time and space – established the fact that events that occur at the same time for one observer could occur at different times for another, i.e. all positions in space and time are relative. This general theory of relativity, here presented in its full exposition for the first time, in book form, is now a basic foundation for scientific thought.

USD 5.500

FOUNDING PSYCHOPHYSICS – PRESENTATION-COPY

GIBSON, JAMES J.

The Perception of the Visual World.

1950. Excellent presentation-copy of the first edition of the most important work on perception since Helmholtz, Gibson's seminal classic, in which he rejected the theory of behaviorism and pioneered the idea that animals "sampled" information from the "ambient" outside world. "The principal subject of this book is the visual perception of space. The essential question to be asked is this: How do we see the world around us? [...] The writer has elected to study psychophysics rather than psychophysiology because he believes that it offers the more promising approach in the present state of our knowledge. [...] A psychophysics may sound to some readers like a contradiction in terms. This book undertakes, however, to justify and make possible such a science." (Gibson). Inscribed to Gibson's close friend, professor of psychology Leo Postman, one of the most dominant theoreticians of human memory: "To Leo Postman/You know all this already/Jim Gibson". USD 1,700

PROVING THE COMPACTNESS THEOREM

GÖDEL, KURT.

Die Vollständigkeit der Axiome des logischen Funktionskalküls.

(1930). The extremely scarce first printing, stapled extract from Monatshefte für Mathematik und Physik, of this seminal paper, in which Gödel proves for the first time the compactness theorem, a cornerstone in the theory of models. The Compactness Theorem provides a useful method for constructing models of any set of sentences that is finitely consistent – it has thus profoundly influenced our understanding of language and truth. The compactness theorem is used by Gödel to derive a generalization of the completeness theorem. From the library of the highly important Danish logician and philosopher Jørgen Jørgensen (1894-1969), who was an active collaborator with the logical positivists from the Vienna Circle.

USD 8,600

THE BOMB THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

HAHN, OTTO., FRITZ STRASSMANN & HANS GÖTTE.

Über das Zerplatzen des Urankernes durch langsame Neutronen. + Einiges über die experimentelle Entwirrung der bei der Spaltung des Urans auftretenden Elemente und Atomarten. + Die chemische Abscheidung der bei der Spaltung des Urans entstehenden Elemente und Atomarten.

1939-44. First editions, offprint issues, of the three fundamental papers on nuclear fission which eventually lead to the creation of the atom bomb – one of the inventions that most profoundly changed our view on the powers of mankind – to destroy or preserve our world. This seminal invention completely changed the way we view warfare and installed in mankind a general fear of a kind that had hitherto been unknown. The third paper is an author's proof copy.

USD 5,200

THE SEDUCTION OF THE PEOPLES

HITLER, ADOLF.

Mein Kampf.

1926-27 (recte: 1925-26). Scarce first edition of the infamous monument over the most tragic example of a seduction of the peoples, which resulted in the most devastating period in the history of Europe and mankind. Constituting a turning-point in the career of the 40-year old Hitler, who had achieved nothing of significance at the time, it also presents a devastating turning-point of the 20th century. The work presents the shocking ideas that crafted Hitler's historical grievances and ambitions for creating a New Order. The first volume is in the second issue, which Hitler himself used as presentation-copies simultaneously with the luxury-edition, which also appeared after the first issue. Laid-in is a printed card with Hitler's original handwritten signature on it.

USD 7,600

THE DISCOVERY OF VITAMINS

HOPKINS, F. GOWLAND.

Feeding Experiments Illustrating the Importance of Accessory Factors in Normal Dietaries.

1912. The scarce first printing of this groundbreaking paper generally hailed as the "discovery of vitamins", one of the scientific discoveries that has most directly benefitted mankind and influenced the way we view our bodies and how to take care of them. This seminal discovery, for which Hopkins was awarded the Nobel Prize (together with Eijkman) in 1929, is just as influential today as it was in 1912. Hopkins was not the first to realize the dietary factors of the nature of vitamins, but none of his predecessors had given any scientific explanation of their observations, and "[i]t was reserved for Hopkins to produce the scientific explanation of these and other observations, all of which had been purely empirical, and to blaze the trail leading to vitamin therapy." (PMM). (Extract from Hoppe-Seyler Zeitschrift für Physiologische Chemie – as the Friedman copy, the only copy we have been able to find at auctions within the last 40 years).

USD 6.500

**THE ALIENATION OF MAN IN EUROPE
– OFF-PRINT – PRESENTATION-COPY**

HUSSERL, EDMUND.

Die Krisis der Europäischen Wissenschaften und die transzendente Phänomenologie.

1936. First printing, in the extremely scarce off-print with a highly interesting presentation-inscription (to Léon Robin – the important French philosopher), of the first appearance of the first printed part (the only part to appear within his lifetime) of Husserl's seminal work in which he develops his path-breaking project of linking the basic notions of science back to their conceptual roots in the pre-scientific parts of the "life-world". In "Krisis" famously Husserl cuts the umbilical cord to individual consciousness. He is engaged in what he describes as a "teleological-historical reflection upon the origins of our critical scientific and philosophical situation". This reflection revolves around the concept of "life-world", which he introduces as the designation of the pre-theoretical and unreflected element, out of which scientific thought arises. Husserl attributes the alienation of man in Europe to the fact that the sciences have forgotten that they are rooted in the "life-world". The concept has since played a pivotal role in the theory of communicative action of Habermas.

USD 9,500

A DEFINING WORK OF THE 20TH CENTURY

KAFKA, FRANZ.

Die Verwandlung.

(1915). First edition of this masterpiece of modern fiction, Kafka's third published book, "Metamorphosis", which was only preceded by "Betrachtung" and "Der Heizer". "Metamorphosis" is by far the most famous of Kafka's works to appear within his life-time. If one thinks Kafka, one will automatically think "Metamorphosis", the work with which his name is most closely linked. The work is groundbreaking, not only in Kafka-authorship, but also in the turn of consciousness of 20th century man. Never before had a work so forcefully and so directly described the alienation of man – from himself, from society, from family, from the state – an alienation that, with the consciousness of it, becomes defining for the 20th century. It is no wonder that Nabokov rated "Metamorphosis" second (after Joyce's "Ulysses") in his list of the greatest prose works of the 20th century.

USD 5.200

THE KEYNESIAN REVOLUTION

KEYNES, JOHN MAYNARD.

The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money.

1936. First edition of one of the most important books in the history of economics. Of about equal importance to Smith's "Wealth of Nations" and Marx's "Kapital", "The General Theory" forms the foundation for Keynesian economics, the most influential economic system of the twentieth-century. The work, generally credited with creating the terminology and shape of modern macroeconomics, brought about a revolution in the way economists thought – especially in relation to the proposition that a market economy tends naturally to restore itself to full employment after temporary shocks. Its effects on how we now think of economics can hardly be overestimated.

USD 13,500

THE BIG BANG

LEMAITRE, ABBÉ G.

The Beginning of the World from the Point of View of Quantum Theory (+) The Evolution of the Universe.

1931. First printing of Lemaître's seminal paper, in which the concept of "The Big Bang" was introduced for the first time. 1931 became Lemaître's "annus mirabilis", as the present papers catapulted him out of obscurity and into fame. He suggested that the world might have originated from just one quantum of enormous energy and later the same year he developed this scenario into the hypothesis of the primeval atom. According to Lemaître's "fireworks theory of evolution" the world started as a super-radioactive disintegration of the primeval atom. With this theory, Lemaître combined quantum physics and cosmology for the first time and presented the general idea of an evolutionary, finite-age universe, fundamentally changing our concept of the beginnings of our world. The two entire "Nature"-volumes, in publisher's pictorial cloth.

USD 2,500

THE UNTAMED STATE OF MIND – PRESENTATION-COPY

LÉVI-STRAUSS, CLAUDE.

La Pensée Sauvage.

1962. First edition, first impression of this landmark work in modern anthropology, with the author's presentation inscription to Professor Isaac Schapera. "La Pensée sauvage" – one of the earliest works on structural anthropology and a cornerstone of anthropology in general – constitutes one of the clearest ruptures with the Enlightenment. Lévi-Strauss makes clear that "the savage mind" refers, not to the discrete mind of any particular type of human, but rather, to "untamed" human thought: "In this book it is neither the mind of savages nor that of primitive or archaic humanity, but rather mind in its untamed state as distinct from mind cultivated or domesticated for the purpose of yielding a return." (Lévi-Strauss). The book played a crucial role within the larger currents of structuralism and post-structuralism and directly influenced thinkers such as Derrida and Deleuze.

USD 2,000

THE GREATEST SOURCE OF PROPAGANDA DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

MAO ZEDONG.

Mao Zhu Xi Yu Lu. (Quotations of Chairman Mao).

(1964). The rare first edition, in the fragile original printed wrappers, published in a very restricted number, of Mao's Little Red Book (LRB), which together with the bible has become the most printed book ever. Mao's Little Red Book constitutes one of prime examples of the use of propaganda in spreading political ideas. It completely altered the collective mind of the Chinese people, and the goal was for 99 percent of the population of China to read it; it was an unofficial requirement to own, read and carry it at all times during the Cultural Revolution. The propaganda that hinged on the Little Red Book had the most tremendously powerful effect on the Chinese Cultural Revolution, and during the 1960'ies, the book was the single most visible icon in mainland China. It is an example of an entire society hinged on a single work for its spiritual and cultural grounding. With the rare endorsement-leaf, which is usually lacking.

USD 15,500

"THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE"

MCLUHAN, MARSHALL.

Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man.

(1964). First edition, first printing, of this pioneering study in media theory, which completely revolutionized our understanding of the process of communication and the development of the mind of mankind, from the invention of movable type through to the electronic age; this work actually predicts the world wide web and today's information-dependent planet, making it "the most important book ever written on communication". It is in this groundbreaking work that McLuhan first coins the phrases "global village" and "the medium is the message", completely rethinking our society. Due to this marvel of a book, written twenty years before the PC revolution and thirty years before the rise of the Internet!, "Marshall McLuhan has become an "ism". McLuhanism is a new approach to the relations of man and his technologies, and a radically fresh concept of our electronic world"...

USD 2,600

FOUNDING GERONTOLOGY – PRESENTATION-COPY

METCHNIKOFF, ÉLIE.

Études su la Nature Humaine. Essai de philosophie optimiste.

1903. First edition, first issue – presentation-copy for the preeminent Russian Byzantinist Uspensky – of the groundbreaking work, in which Metchikoff coins “gerontology” and establishes the field, which today is considered more important than ever, namely the study of the social, psychological and biological aspects of aging. Metchnikoff’s earlier studies in immunology led him on to consider the problems of biological ageing. His first work on the subject is the present, in which he coins the term “gerontology” and advances the idea that senile changes result from the toxins produced by bacteria in the intestine. Apart from advocating the consumption of yoghurt, Metchnikoff warned of eating uncooked foods, claiming that the bacteria present on them could cause cancer. “In his “Nature of Man” Metchnikoff argued that when diseases have been suppressed and life has been hygienically regulated, death would come only with extreme old age. Death would then be natural, accepted gratefully, and robbed of its terrors.”

USD 7,000

THE FIRST CLASSIC TEXT OF REALISM – WITTGENSTEIN'S COPY

MOORE, G.E.

The Refutation of Idealism.

(1903). First edition, in the extremely scarce off-print – from the library of Wittgenstein (not signed by him, but among the belongings that he passed on to his closest friend, Hänsel) – of the first classic text of Realism, one of Moore's main works and a huge inspirational source for analytic philosophy. The realism that Moore presents completely alters the way that modern analytic philosophy viewed the question sense-perception. Moore famously refuses the logical doctrine that all relations are internal, that "to be is to be perceived", and refutes the Idealist view that reality is spiritual. For Wittgenstein, the question of idealism is absolutely central in most aspects of his philosophy. When Wittgenstein claims that the limits of language are the limits of the world (Tractatus) and considers the possibility of private language (Philosophical Investigations), it is continually idealism that is at stake.

EUR 3,800

UNDERSTANDING THE ELEMENTS

MOSELEY, H.G.J.

The High-Frequency Spectra of the Elements.

1913. First edition of the groundbreaking paper that introduced the concept "Atomic Number" and finally provided the organizing principle for the periodic table. The present paper gave to us the final understanding of the elements and showed that atomic numbers were not arbitrarily assigned, but that they have a strong physical basis. Rutherford considered it a work on par with the very discovery of the periodical table; without it there would be no firm foundation for Mendeleev's table. The entire issue of "Philosophical Magazine and Journal of Science".

USD 3,200

CORRUPTING SOCIETY

ORWELL, GEORGE.

Animal Farm. A Fairy Story.

1945. First edition of one of the most important literary works of the 20th century, the satirical-political masterpiece that so magnificently reflects the events leading up to the Russian Revolution and brilliantly caricatures Stalinism. As Orwell himself put it, with this work, he deliberately tried "to fuse political purpose and artistic purpose into one whole". The work, which became tremendously popular, brilliantly portrays not only the corruption of the revolution, but also how individuals themselves corrupt society. The greatest flaw of revolution is not the corrupt leadership on its own, but also the greed, indifference, ignorance, shortsightedness, and wickedness, that govern the individuals that make up the masses.

USD 4,500

THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND PSYCHIC ILLNESS

– PRESENTATION-COPY

PAVLOV, I.P.

Lektsii o rabote bolshih polusarov golovnogo mozga. [Russian. i.e.: Lectures on Big Cerebral Hemispheres].

1927. First edition, excellent presentation-copy, of one of Pavlov's most important and influential works, his lectures on the function of the cerebral hemispheres, which sums up all of his work on the higher central nervous system of the dog and thus began the branch of physiology that has to do with higher nervous activity. The work is considered a foundational classic in the history of psychology, linking the central nervous system to the nature of human psychic illness.

USD 9,500

MAGNIFICENT PRESENTATION-COPY

QUINE, WILLARD ORMAN VAN.

A System of Logistic.

1934. An excellent presentation copy of this scarce first edition of the great logician's first book, which is the published version of his doctoral thesis, hailed by Whitehead as a landmark in the history of symbolic logic, extending the scope of the field. The work profoundly changed the way we understand language and the elements of which it is composed. Inscribed by Quine "To F. Gomes Cassidy, historian of / languages, from Van Quine, manu- / facturer of one. Mathematical / truth is linguistic convention, / and logic is the [four Chinese characters]".

USD 8,300

MAKING THE WORLD AWARE OF THE HOLOCAUST

[REPUBLIC OF POLAND. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS]. [JAN KARSKI].

THE MASS EXTERMINATION of JEWS in GERMAN OCCUPIED POLAND.

(1943). Magnificent copy, from the Library of Congress (presumably directly from the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs), with their 1943 entry date, of the scarce first printing of this hugely important publication, which constitutes one of the very first official reports on Holocaust and one of the most accurate accounts presented to the West. This pamphlet almost singlehandedly made the rest of the world officially aware of the atrocities that were going on in the German concentration- and extermination-camps and forced the United States Congress to realize the fact that mass extermination of Jews was actually taking place. As far as we are aware, this is the only known copy with an original, contemporary, traceable provenance that has been on the market. A more historically relevant provenance than that of the United States Congress can scarcely be imagined.

USD 7,000

THE DISCOVERY OF THE ATOMIC NUCLEUS

RUTHERFORD, E.

The Scattering of (alpha and beta) Particles by Matter and the Structure of the Atom.

1911. First appearance of one of the most influential papers in physics in the 20th Century, describing the discovery of the atomic nucleus and suggesting that the atom consists of a small central nucleus surrounded by electrons. This view of the atom is the one accepted today; it profoundly altered our understanding of the elements and it replaced the concept of the featureless, indivisible spheres of Democritus, which had dominated atomistic thinking for twenty-three centuries. A few years later, Rutherford's 'nuclear atom' was combined by Niels Bohr with the quantum theory of light to form the basis of his famous theory of the hydrogen atom.

USD 5,200

THE MAIN WORK OF EXISTENTIALISM

SARTRE, J.-P.

L'être et le néant...

1943. The rare first edition, first impression of Sartre's magnum opus, which constitutes one of the absolutely most important and influential philosophical works of the 20th century. The book is a major cornerstone of modern existentialism. Having been completely neglected at the time of its appearance, "Being and Nothingness" went on to profoundly influence the modern thought.

USD 4,300

**FIRST EDITION, NUMBERED COPY ON VELLUM-PAPER
– BOUND BY MIGUET**

SARTRE, JEAN-PAUL.

Existentialisme est en humanisme.

(1946). First edition, no. 447 of 500 copies on "vélin supérieur des papeteries Navarre, numérotées de 1 à 500." Magnificently bound by J.P. Miguet. "L'Existentialisme est un Humanisme" is the second of Sartre's two main philosophical works, which have both influenced 20th century philosophy profoundly and contributed immensely to the development of existentialism in general. "Existentialism is a Humanism" became one of Sartre's most widely read and most criticized works, and it caused great controversies and uproar at the time of its appearance; -as opposed to his "L'Être et le Néant", all of Sartre's critics actually read this work, and so did huge parts of the population, causing the book to appear in huge numbers after the publication of the first edition.

USD 4,800

FOUNDING MODERN LOGICAL SEMANTICS

TARSKI, ALFRED.

Pojęcie Prawdy w Językach Nauk Dedukcyjnych.

1933. The exceedingly scarce first printing of Tarski's most important and influential work, "The Concept of Truth in Formalized Languages", which founded modern logical semantics. The work appeared in an extremely small number, in Polish, and many copies of the article have later been destroyed, thus, the work is of the utmost scarcity. With this work the face of logic was changed forever. The "Concept of Truth" constitutes a landmark event in 20th century analytic philosophy, and it ranks as one of the most important contributions to symbolic logic, semantics and philosophy of language.

USD 6,500

THE CLASH OF GIANTS

THE FIFTH SOLVAY CONFERENCE 1927

Électrons et Photons...

1928. The scarce first edition of the papers and discussions presented at the famous Fifth Solvay Conference, where all the founders of quantum theory were present, discussing the foundations of it. It is this seminal conference that began the legendary debate between Bohr and Einstein on the interpretation of quantum mechanics. "Perhaps the most famous, and most romanticized, episode in the history of twentieth-century physics is the debate between Einstein and Bohr concerning the interpretation of quantum mechanics. This series of Socratic discussions between two profound and legendary scientist-philosophers has become part of the physics folklore and, indeed, of the general intellectual folklore. Whatever the details of their discussions, they have a place in Western intellectual history comparable to, say, the controversy between Newton and Leibniz about three hundred years ago."

USD 5,000

REPLICATING THE MATHEMATICAL "STATES OF MIND"

TURING, A. M.

On Computable Numbers... + On Computable Numbers... A Correction.

1937. The exceedingly rare first printing of this seminal paper (and the correction to it), which is "undoubtedly the most famous theoretical paper in the history of computing. It is a mathematical description of what Turing called a universal machine – an imaginary computing device designed to replicate the mathematical "states of mind" and symbol-manipulating abilities of a human computer." The work initiated mechanical and electronic methods of computing and must be considered one of the most important contributions to the invention of the computer. [The entire issues of Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, in original bindings].

USD 19,000

FIRST PUBLICATION ON CYBERNETICS

WIENER, NORBERT.

Cybernetics or Control and Communication in the Animal and the Machine.

1948. First edition of Wiener's revolutionizing publication on telecommunication engineering, in which he coined the term "cybernetics" and changed our perspective on digital "mind". The present work was the first conventionally published book (as opposed to technical reports) with a serious discussion of electronic digital computing on a theoretical and ideological level, and the ideas anticipated a technological evolution which would not be unfolded until 50 years after the publication.

USD 1,700

Appendix



EINSTEIN'S "SOLUTION" TO "THE THIRD STAGE OF RELATIVITY", THE UNIFIED FIELD THEORY.

EINSTEIN, ALBERT.

Autograph letter, signed "A. Einstein", in German, to Herman Müntz, dated 10.XII.28, together with the envelope addressed in Einstein's hand and with a three-line note (and equation) in Einstein's hand to the back of the envelope.

1928. 1 page. An unpublished and unrecorded letter of seminal importance to the understanding of Einstein's path towards his great final theory, perhaps the most ambitious and complex achievement of the 20th century, namely the all-embracing formula that would unite all forces of nature, showing them as merely different manifestations of a single, universal force and as such disclosing the secret laws of nature – the great UNIFIED FIELD THEORY, marrying the electromagnetic and gravitational fields. Predating the submission of Einstein's "Zur einheitlichen feldtheorie" by a month, the letter represents one of the final steps towards the UTF, presenting us with the essential parts of Einstein's solution hereto. In the letter Einstein draws a conclusion that comes to be fundamental for his groundbreaking work and even on the back of the envelope gives to this "solution" a more explicit formulation. The letter ends thus: "In any case, we [i.e. Einstein himself and Müntz] are on the right path with the theory of distant parallelism."

USD 140,000

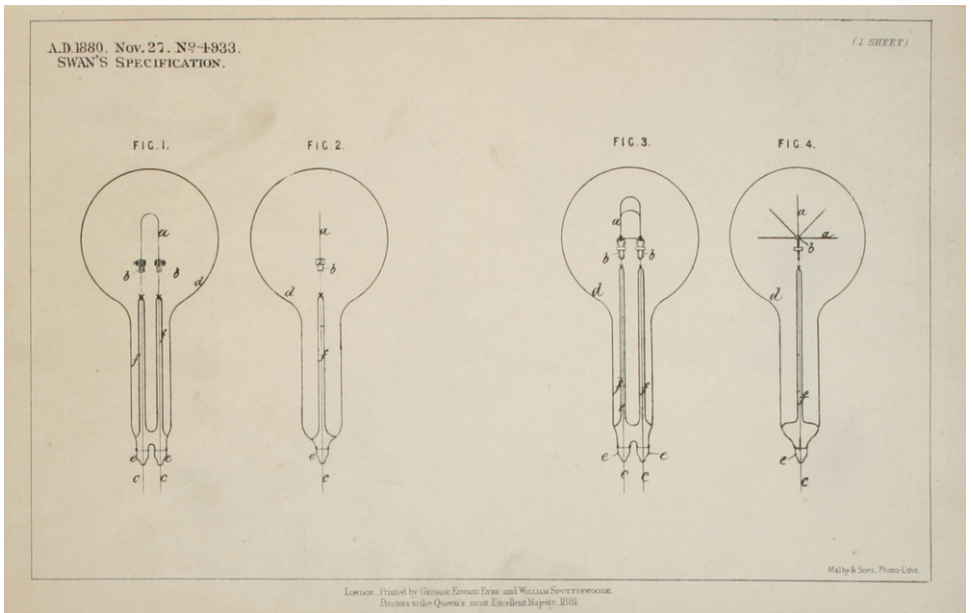
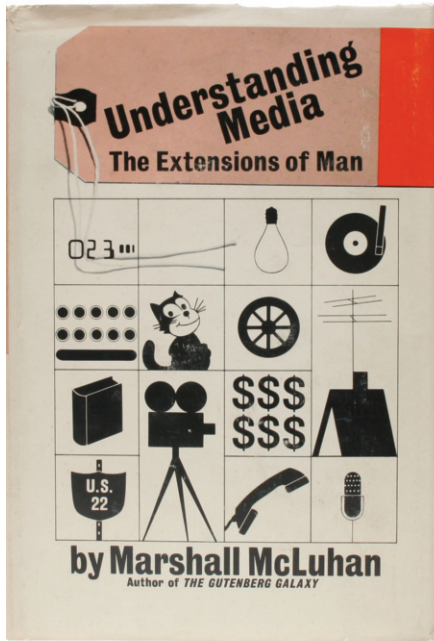
THE LEONARDO DA VINCI OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY

WITTGENSTEIN, LUDWIG.

Improvements in propellers applicable for aerial machines.

(1911). The extremely rare propeller patent that constitutes Wittgenstein's first publication, and without doubt the scarcest. It is his work on the propeller presented here and the mathematical problems associated with the development of it that leads Wittgenstein to consider the foundations of mathematics, considerations that directly lead him to philosophy and logic and to an immediate change of career, without which the entire tradition of modern philosophy and logic would have looked completely different. The present publication, published at the mere age of 21, is arguably responsible for catapulting Wittgenstein into his philosophical career. After taking out the patent, Wittgenstein quit his aeronautical career and stopped working on his jet-engine. Not until recently has the great importance of the invention to early aviation been recognized – Wittgenstein's scheme anticipated by three decades developments in which blade-tip jets were used to drive the rotors of hybrid helicopters. Wittgenstein's patent had within it the seeds of the centrifugal-flow gas turbine engine, later to be developed in the 1930'ies by Frank Whittle, the father of jet-propulsion and the inventor of the turbojet engine. About 30 years after Wittgenstein's invention, the engine was reinvented, by Friedrich Doblhoff, this time leading to a completely new concept for a helicopter, which was successfully tested for the first time in 1943.

USD 38,000





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History

Founded in 1821 by Christian Tønder Sæbye, Herman H.J. Lyng & Søn is the oldest antiquarian book shop in Scandinavia. Herman Henrik Julius Lyng was a co-worker in the “Sæbyeske Boghandling”, and when Sæbye died in 1844, Lyng became the manager. In 1853 he could finally afford to buy the book shop himself, and he changed the name to “H.H.J. Lyng (Sæbyeske Boghandling)”. A couple of years later, he changed the name again, to “Herman H.J. Lynges Boghandel”, and when his son became his official partner in 1892, the book shop was given the name that it still bears today, “Herman H.J. Lyng & Søn”. As the first and greatest international antiquarian book shop in Scandinavia, Herman H.J. Lyng (& Søn) has always played a great role in the antiquarian book trade. The old book shop has always been situated at the heart of Copenhagen, as it still is today. (For more details see the Wikipedia entry for Herman H.J. Lyng).

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