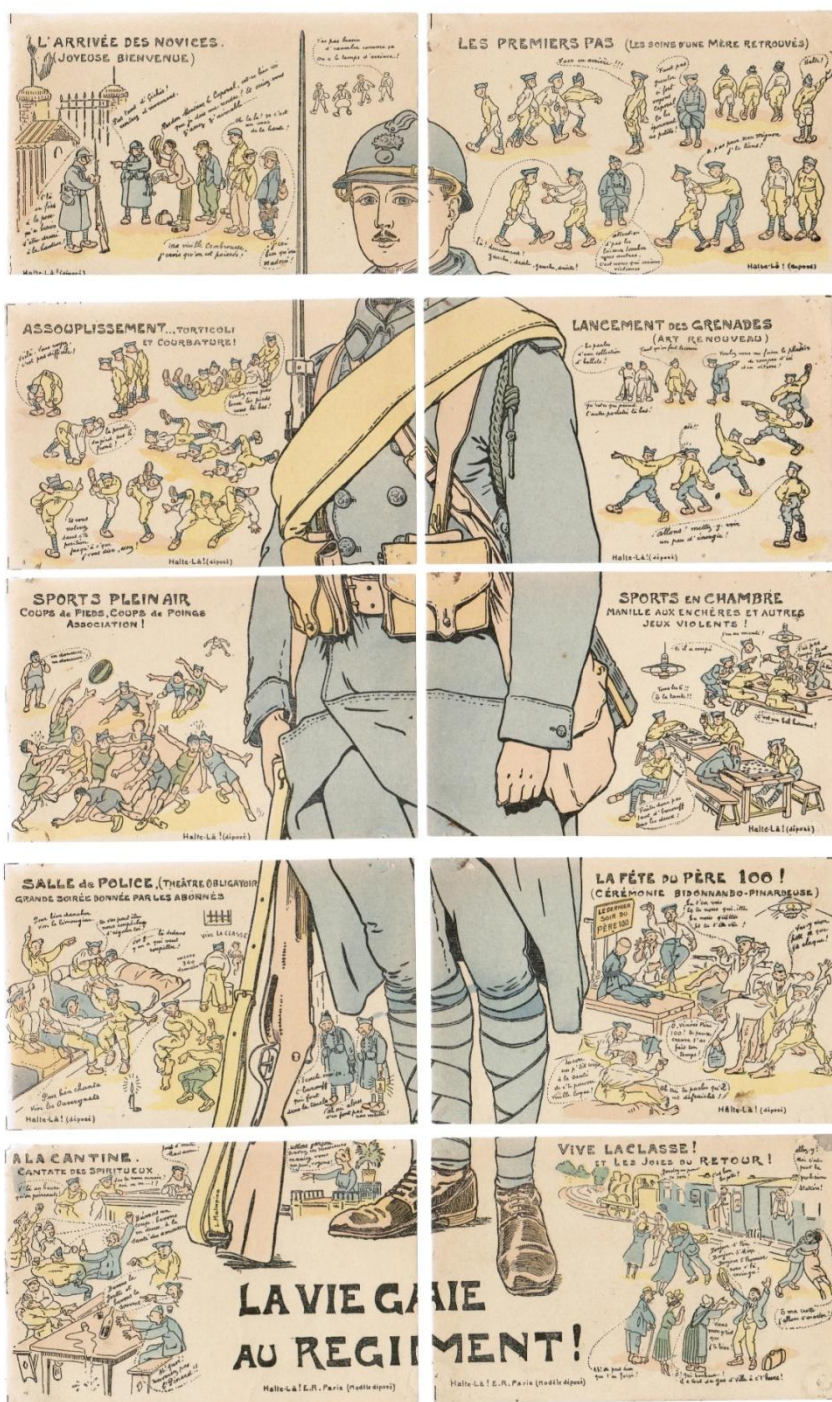

Simon Beattie

The First World War

A handful of recent acquisitions



January 2014



01. [FRANCE.] La vie gaie au Régiment! Halte-Là ! E.R. Paris ... [1922].

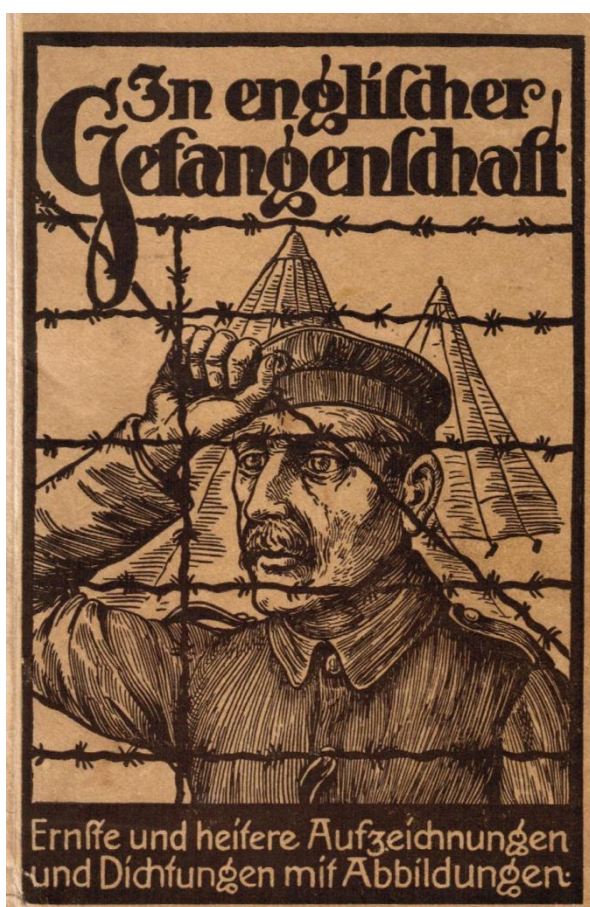
10 postcards (each 91 × 140 mm), printed in colour; a few marks and minute holes from where the cards were previously pinned up; upper corner of the final card torn away and the printed paper coming away

from the card on which it is pasted, but in very good condition overall.

£100

An attractive suite of postcards humorously depicting scenes from military life, presumably issued piecemeal in order to attract collectors. The central figure wears the traditional 'horizon-blue' uniform and Adrian helmet of a French soldier in the First World War.

It appears that other 10-card sets were also published by Halte-Là!, one with a different image of an infantryman, another with a cavalry officer.



02. [GERMANY.] CRAMER, Paul, editor. In englischer Gefangenschaft. Ernst und heitere Aufzeichnungen und Dichtungen mit Abbildungen aus dem Gefangenenlager Abbeville ... Zu beziehen durch: Uhlands technische Bibliothek Leipzig ... [1919].

8vo (185 × 124 mm), pp. 132, [26], plus final blank; illustrations in the text throughout; a very good copy in the original illustrated wrappers, a few marks. £80

First (and only?) edition. Paul Cramer was a bookseller in Leipzig until the First World War sent him to the Western Front, where he was captured by the British and interned at the POW camp at Abbeville. This published compilation of reminiscences, poems, and drawings of camp life taken from the notebooks of his comrades offers a view of the War we don't often see.

USED IN THE TRENCHES

03. [GREAT BRITAIN.] Miniature Qur'an. [Glasgow, David Bryce & Sons, c.1900.]

64mo (28 × 20 mm); text in Arabic; red morocco stamped in gilt, all edges gilt; in a metal locket with magnifying glass set into the lid, a little rusty inside. £800

An 'almost legendary title published by Bryce ... The bindings vary from richly gilt-stamped red or black morocco with gilt edges to plain stiff wrappers and yellow edges ... Lately it has become increasingly difficult to find copies of this book' (Bondy, *Miniature Books*, 1981, pp. 111–2).



'The production of miniature Korans in manuscript has a long tradition, but the printing of them in this form had to await the arrival of photolithographic techniques in the late 19th century. Such Korans were published in Delhi in 1892 and Istanbul c. 1899, but the one which seems to have achieved the widest circulation is this Scottish edition. It was one of a long series of miniature books produced by David Bryce and Sons. All the copies were issued with metal lockets and magnifying glasses. Many were supplied to Indian and other Muslim soldiers fighting for the British in the First World War, and served also as talismans' (*Middle Eastern Languages and the Print Revolution*, Gutenberg Museum exhibition catalogue, Mainz, 2002, no. 79).

T. E. Lawrence writes: '[Auda] told me later, in strict confidence, that thirteen years before he had bought an amulet Koran for one hundred and twenty pounds and had not since been wounded ... The book was a Glasgow reproduction, costing eighteen pence; but Auda's deadliness did not let people laugh at his superstition' (*Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, Book 4, Ch. 53).

Welsh, *Miniature Books* 4174.



04. [GREAT BRITAIN.] "It's a long, long way to Tipperary." ...
By kind permission of B. Feldman & C^o. ... London. [Before 1917.]

Printed handkerchief (470 × 490 mm); the words and music to the song with marching soldiers beneath, with the flags of Japan, Britain, Russia, France, and Belgium to the sides, a Victoria Cross in each corner, the whole surrounded by a border of shamrocks and the flags of Ireland, Wales, England, Scotland, New Zealand, Canada, India, South Africa, and Australia; creased where previously folded, but in very good condition.

£100

The design is probably before 1917, as the flags include Russia, but not the USA. Typical of souvenirs sold both to troops abroad and those left at home, this handkerchief features John Judge's famous music hall song which, during the War, became hugely popular in the British Army.



05. [RUSSIA.] KOZYREV, N. G., compiler. Soldatskii pesni
[*Soldiers' Songs*] ... Izdanie „Sel'skago vestnika“, Petrograd ...
[1915].

Small square 8vo (162 × 120 mm), pp. 64; leaves lightly browned due to paper stock, some light foxing to title; uncut in the original illustrated wrappers, faded in places; early ms. ink to front cover. £600

The words to over 50 'simple songs to warm the Russian heart', many from the nineteenth century, published 'to remember our present-day troops'.

Not found in OCLC.



06. [USA.] ELEONSKAIA, Elena Nikolaevna. [Cover title:] Soedinennye Shtaty [*The United States*]. Izdanie i pechat' T-va I. N. Kushnerev i K^o. Moskva – 1915.

8vo (202 × 133 mm), pp. 35, [1]; some mild foxing; uncut in the original printed wrappers. £400

First edition, published in the series 'Voina i kul'tura' ('War and Culture'). The author discusses the influence of the War on America, in particular on its trade and industry. America eventually entered the War in April 1917.

Eleonskaya (1873–1951) was an anthropologist. She also wrote a volume in the 'War and Culture' series (same year) on Turkey.

Not found in OCLC.

Also in stock:

‘THE BEST, MOST DARING, TRUTHFUL, AND HUMANE BOOK WRITTEN IN EUROPE DURING THE COURSE OF THIS ACCURSED WAR’ (GORKY)

07. WELLS, H[erbert]. G[eorge]. **Mister Britling i voina.**

Roman. Avtorizovannyi perevod s angliiskago M. Likiardopulo [*Mr Britling and the War. A Novel. Authorized translation from the English by Mikhail Likiardopulo*]. Izd. “Parus”, P[e]t[ro]g[rad]. 1918.

8vo (213 × 148 mm), pp. 387, [1]; inkstain to p. 189; uncut in the original printed wrappers, spine defective in places, old paper repair to tear on front cover. £1200

First edition in Russian in book form (it was serialized in *Letopis'* in the second half of 1916) of *Mr Britling sees it through* (1916), in Gorky's words ‘the best, most daring, truthful, and humane book written in Europe during the course of this accursed war’ (*Selected Letters*, 1997, p. 195).



Mikhail Likiardopulo (1883–1925), Oscar Wilde's major Russian translator, was secretary of the Symbolist journal *Vesy* (*The Scales*). He acted as a foreign correspondent for various Russian newspapers during the First World War, and was subsequently on the staff of *The Morning Post* in London. It is thought that he also worked for the British secret service. He died in England and is buried at Brighton.

Levidova & Parchevskaya, *Gerbert Dzhordzh Uells: bibliografiia russkikh perevodov ... 1898–1965* (1966), 239, listing no further editions. Not in COPAC or OCLC.

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