The Search for the Picturesque

[Part Two]

~ The English Lake District ~

A view of the English Lake District tracing the journeys and the reactions of Lake District tourists, from the earliest travellers in search of the picturesque, to Wordsworth & the romantic appreciation, and the Victorian holiday-makers brought there by the railway.

Over 60 early guide-books, contemporary travel accounts, and engravings.

Catalogue Eighty-Four

March 2015
The Search for the Picturesque

Part II - The English Lake District

Part I. Published December 2014
Part III. To be published later in 2015

www.kenspelman.com

tel: +44 (0)1904 624414
email: catalogues@kenspelman.com
one of the earliest artists to visit the Lakes


Landscape with figures boating on the lake in the left foreground, anglers on the right bank in the middle distance with a wooded mountainside behind, mountains beyond. “Painted after nature by Willm. Bellers... Etch’d & Engrav’d by Messrs. Chatelin & Müller..”, and numbered in lower right corner, 5. In very good condition, with just some slight browning to the thick paper, and very slight tear to the lower edge. The BM copy is smaller and has been trimmed. Ref: Bicknell 1.

410mm x 540mm. September the 29th, 1753. £395.00 + vat

~ William Bellers (fl. 1734-73) was a drawing master, print-dealer and landscape painter. He first visited the Lake District around 1751, and the engraving of one of his paintings, A View of Derwent-Water, Towards Borrodale was completed by the autumn of 1752. This was followed by five further Lakes views, and the engravings were advertised in the London Evening Post in December 1753; prospective subscribers were invited to view the prints at his house in Poppins Court, off Fleet Street. They were among the very earliest works of art to celebrate the scenery of the Lake District.

We have twice sold examples of the 1774 re-issue (in 1997 and 2000), but this is the first time we have offered a much rarer example of the first 1753 printing.
2. BELLERS, William. A View of Armathwaite Bay, in Cumberland, from the Road. To William Milbourne of Armathwaite Castle, this plate is inscribed by his most obliged humble servt. Willm. Bellers.

It depicts a river landscape with figures on a track beside buildings in the foreground, a boat on the water behind approaching falls at left, a rock face at left and wooded hills surrounding at right. “W. Bellers Pintx.”, “Engrav’d by Messrs. Peak & Bickham”, and numbered in lower right corner, 3. Ref: Bicknell I.

199mm x 320mm. 17th Jan. 1774 by John Boydell... and R. Sayer. £160.00 + vat

~ An example of this print is in the BM, but it is cropped and the imprint has been trimmed away.

3. BELLERS, William. A View of the Improvements at Grenstock Castle, in Cumberland, made by the Direction & under the eye of Mrs Howard.

It depicts a landscape with river winding through centre, two figures beneath a tree in the left foreground, a basket beside them, men in a rowing boat before an ornamental bridge in the middle distance, woods at left and buildings in the distance at right. “Painted after Nature by Wm. Bellers”, “Engrav’d by Messrs. Couse & Mason”, and numbered ‘1’ in the lower right hand corner.

199mm x 320mm. 17th Jan. 1774 by John Boydell... and R. Sayer. £160.00 + vat

~ An example of this print is in the BM, but it is cropped and the imprint and plate number have been trimmed away.
In 1774 John Boydell re-issued William Bellers’s *Six Views of the Lakes*, a series of highly decorative engravings which were among the earliest to adopt the picturesque conventions of the landscape painters working in Italy in their depiction of the Lake District. (Bicknell 1). These two engravings do not form part of that original series and appear to be from a separately published series of eight views of northern England, unrecorded by Bicknell. One of the original series was dedicated to Mr Charles Howard of Grenstock Castle.


This edition is greatly enlarged from the one volume first edition of 1780, with over 300 additional pages. Richard Joseph Sullivan (1752-1806), was the third son of the attorney Benjamin Sullivan of Dromeragh, County Cork. With the help of Laurence Sullivan, chairman of the East India Company, he was sent early in life to India with his brother John. On his return to England he set out on this extensive tour, before settling down to political life as a member of parliament. His account, written in a series of letters, delights in gloomy thickets, mournful cypresses, and rugged mountains, and he seems well attuned to late 18th century romantic sensibility.

8vo. for T. Becket. 1785. £395.00

"Which way to Watendlath?" said one of our company to a peasant, as we left the vale of Borrowdale. "That way," said he, pointing up a lofty mountain, steeper than the tiling of a house.

6. GILPIN, William. Observations relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, made in the Year 1772, on several parts of England; particularly the Mountains, and Lakes of Cumberland, and Westmoreland. First edition. Two volumes. [2], xxxi, [1], xvi, 230pp; [2], 268, xvi pp., 30 aquatint plates. A very good copy bound in fairly recent half morocco, gilt ruled spines with red and black labels. Retaining the original marbled paste-downs and end-papers. Some slight marks to odd pages in the text, and the lower blank corner of the final leaf torn without loss of text.

8vo. T. Cadell and W. Davies. 1786. £295.00
Gilpin spent less than a week in the Lake District in 1772, his account was written neither as a guide nor a travel journal, his illustrations were indistinct and often unidentified, and his maps “not geographically accurate”. Yet the publication in 1786 of his ‘Observations...’ which were “at first thrown together, warm from the subject, each evening” was to define how people described, viewed and even satirised the Lake District for the next generation. It was the combination of spontaneous description with impressionistic aquatints, in fact their first use to illustrate the Lake District, that gave the work its immediate appeal, and its influence was far wider than that of any traditional guide-book.

---

7. WILKINSON, Joseph. Northern Scenery in a Series of Drawings by J.W. Two large original sepia watercolour designs for a proposed title-page for this unpublished work. One depicts a man, laden with firewood, and accompanied by his dog, struggling across a snowy hillside. The other, an eagle about to devour a lamb on a rocky river bank. They have at some stage been laid down on paper, with slight tear without loss to the upper edge of the ‘winter’ scene. A pencil note on the reverse mis-attributes them to J.W. Turner.
510mm x 407mm/485mm 295mm. [c1794]. £500.00 + vat

~ The Wordsworth Trust at Dove Cottage have an album of 49 watercolour views of the Lake District, titled ‘Northern Scenery in a series of drawings by Rev Joseph Wilkinson’, which they acquired in 1985... They are dated 1795, and have a frontispiece by William Marshall Craig which is dated 1796.
The first appearance to subscribers of what was to develop into ‘Sixteen Views of the Lakes’.

8. SMITH, John ‘Warwick’, and Emes, John. Five Views of the Lakes in Cumberland and Westmorland; engraved by S. Alken, &c., from drawings by J. Smith, and J. Emes. Five fine sepia aquatint plates. With the original sugar paper front wrapper, with paper label. This is creased and has several tears, and the rear blank wrapper not present. Very scarce. See Bicknell 31.

4to. Printed for William Clarke... and sold by W. Pennington, Kendal. [1794].

£295.00

A tipped in slip reads: “The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed, that the remaining Eleven Views of the Lakes, intended to accompany West’s Guide, will be published in the course of the present Year. * First Subscription Seven Shillings and Sixpence. May 1, 1794.”

~ John Smith was for a time gardener to Captain Bernard Gilpin’s sister, and was taught drawing by Sawrey Gilpin. He worked for William Gilpin on plates for his books. John Emes (died 1809), visited the Lake District in the 1790’s.
a ‘gothic’ tour of the Lakes

9. RADCLIFFE, Ann. A Journey made in the Summer of 1794, through Holland and the Western Frontier of Germany... to which are added, Observations During a Tour to the Lakes of Lancashire, Westmoreland, and Cumberland. First edition. x, 500pp., half-title. Contemporary olive green half calf, marbled boards, gilt decorated spine, marbled end-papers and paste-downs. Joints cracked but firm, and some wear to the corners and the head of the spine, which is also rubbed. Internally a clean copy. Early book-label of John Robinson, Civil Engineer. Bicknell 34.1. 4to. G.G. and J. Robinson. 1795. £450.00

~ The tour of the lakes occupies nearly 150 pages and includes an extensive itinerary, written, as would be expected from a leading gothic novelist, in true picturesque style. She travelled from Lancaster to Kendal and then made her way to Bampton and Haweswater over the Shap Fells. The journey was funded with the proceeds of her most famous novel, The Mysteries of Udolpho (1794), and written immediately before the publication of The Italian. Perhaps uniquely it combines both the ‘Grand’ and the ‘home’ tour, and poignantly juxtaposes her descriptions of lakeland scenery, with picturesque landscapes of the Rhine, and accounts of cities and towns ravaged during the French revolutionary wars.
a fine copy of the first edition, with a very good local provenance

10. HOUSMAN, John. A Descriptive Tour, and Guide to the Lakes, Caves, Mountains, and other natural curiosities, in Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, and a part of the West Riding of Yorkshire. First edition. [8], 226pp., engraved frontispiece ‘North View of Furness Abbey’, folding hand-coloured map, 2 folding plates of the Lakes in Cumberland (9 lakes depicted on two sheets). A fine copy in early 19th century half calf, marbled boards and edges, smooth gilt banded spine with black morocco label. Armorial book-plate of Sir Joseph Radcliffe, Bart. Scarce, the last copy we sold was in 2001, and this is the finest copy we have encountered. Bicknell 14.1.

8vo. F. Jollie. Carlisle. 1800. £420.00

~ John Housman (1764-1802), was the son of the gardener of Corby Castle, near Carlisle. He combines geological information with a celebration of his local scenery, and boasts of the “romantic scenes” of Keswick, including “lofty Skiddaw” which “lifts his brows in sullen and majestic splendour.” He writes in an intimate and rather blunt style, and is not afraid to voice his opinion on the landscape or the appeal, or otherwise, of country houses encountered en-route.

Provenance: The Radcliffes were an ancient Lancashire family and took their name from the village of Radcliffe in that county. William Radcliffe married the heiress of the Milnbridge House estate, Milnbridge, near Huddersfield and in 1724 bought the Marsden Moor estate. His son died issueless in 1795 and the estates fell to his nephew, son of his sister Mary, Joseph Pickford (1744-1819) who thereupon assumed the surname of Radcliffe and who was in 1813 created a baronet.
11. HOUSMAN, John. A Descriptive Tour, and Guide to the Lakes, Caves, Mountains, and other natural curiosities, in Cumberland, Westmoreland, Lancashire, and a part of the West Riding of Yorkshire. The second edition, embellished with several additional plates. [8], 226, [2]pp., folding engraved frontispiece map, 2 folding sheet maps, 2 plans, and 6 copper engraved plates. Bound without the half-title. Some even browning to the paper, occasional foxing, and book-plate removed from the inner board. Contemporary calf, expertly rebacked retaining most of the original gilt banded backstrip, and with the original red morocco label. Corners a little worn. 8vo. Carlisle: F. Jollie. 1802. £195.00

12. [FELTHAM, John]. A Guide to all the Watering and Sea-Bathing Places; with a Description of the Lakes; a sketch of a tour in Wales; and itineraries. Illustrated with maps and views. iv, 434pp., 49 engraved plates and folding maps, (1 folding map and 1 folding plate torn with loss). Contemporary calf, rebacked and with new gilt label, and new endpapers. Preface dated May 31st 1803. 12mo. for Richard Phillips. [1803]. £95.00

~ The Appendix sets out a Tour of the Lakes closely following the itinerary set out by Thomas West. There are 3 engraved plates Winnandermere by F. Chesham, Ullswater, and Derwentwater, but the folding map is defective. Bicknell 50.1 noting copies at Armitt and BL only.


~ In 1804 Turner was commissioned to produce three watercolours for engraving in this work. Mawman’s tour, made in July 1804 in the company of another Londoner William Salte, had taken him from London to Edinburgh via York and Durham. They then proceeded to Glasgow, returning by a more westerly route. Arriving at Penrith from Carlisle, they headed for Keswick whence they made two excursions (the first to Patterdale, the second the Borrowdale and Buttermere) before travelling on to Ambleside, Kendal and Lancaster.
“Mr. Green’s Guide to the Lakes, in two vols., contains a complete Magazine of minute and accurate information...”


14. GREEN, William. The Tourist’s New Guide. containing a description of the lakes, mountains, and scenery, in Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire, with some account of their bordering towns and villages. Being the result of observations made during a residence of eighteen years in Ambleside and Keswick. Two volumes. [2], [v]-xi, [1], [iii]-viii, 1f blank, 461, [1]pp + errata leaf; viii, [2], 507, [1]. lv ‘List of Excursions’ + errata leaf, folding engraved map and 24 tinted aquatint plates. A very good copy in recent dark green calf, marbled boards, gilt labels. Bicknell 69a, the 2 guinea edition, issued with 12 more plates than the ordinary issue. Some foxing to the title-pages and the map, otherwise a clean copy. 8vo. Kendal. R.Lough and Co. 1819. £495.00

~ The work of William Green marks a turning point in the way people looked at the Lakes. Before his time, artists such as William Gilpin came in search of ‘The Picturesque’ - of a view that would look good in a picture. Topographical accuracy was of little importance... Green, too, catered for the visitors. His Tourist’s New Guide, published in 1819, was the first of the Highways and Byways type of book in the Lakes, leading the traveller up every dale and over every pass. He offered a more intimate representation, rather than just listing sights and local viewpoints. He was a friend of Wordsworth, who much admired his Lakeland sketches.
15. DERWENT WATER. The Lady’s Chair. An unpublished twenty-eight line hand-written poem, initialled W.B.C., and on paper watermarked 1821. It begins, “There is a cliff which hears the roar / of tempests on the Derwent’s shore...” Two footnotes relating to the ‘Chair’, which was the traditional name given to Walla Crag, a projecting mass of rock on Derwent Water. It was named after Lady Derwentwater who climbed the rock to conceal herself after the arrest of her Lord in the Rebellion of 1715.

135mm x 208mm. 1821. £125.00 + vat

a superb large-paper copy

16. FIELDING, Thedore Henry. A Picturesque Tour of the English Lakes, containing a description of the most romantic scenery of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancashire. Illustrated with forty-eight coloured views, drawn by Messrs; T.H. Fielding, and J. Walton, during a two years residence among the lakes. [First edition]. vi, [2], 288pp., half-title., 49 hand coloured aquatint plates including the title-page vignette. Large-paper copy. A superb copy bound in contemporary dark red half crushed morocco, with blind stamped foliate and gilt ruled borders, and gilt decorated spine with red gilt label.

4to. for R. Ackermann. 1821. £2,800.00

~ This is one of the three outstanding hand coloured plate books illustrating Lake District scenery. The others are William Westall’s Views of the Lake and the Vale of Keswick (1820), and Fielding’s Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancashire Illustrated. The preface is by Ackermann but the author of the text is unknown, although it is most likely Fielding himself. Fielding and Walton spent two years in the Lake District making drawings and collecting information and ‘extracts from admired poets’ to produce their magnificent work, and Wordsworth is quoted extensively throughout the book.
17. WILKINSON, Thomas. Tours to the British Mountains, with the Descriptive Poems of Lowther, and Emont Vale. First edition. vii, [1], 320pp. A very good clean copy bound in recent dark green cloth backed boards, with a paper spine label. Scarce. Bicknell 103. 8vo. For Taylor and Hessey. 1824. £295.00

~ Thomas Wilkinson (1751-1836) was a close friend of the Wordsworths, and gave a manuscript copy of his ‘Tours...’ to William. Wordsworth found immediate inspiration for his poem The Solitary Reaper, one of the most haunting lyrics in the English language, and even used some of Wilkinson’s exact words in the final stanza. The original passage reads: “Passed by a female who was reaping alone, she sung in Erse (the Gaelic language of Scotland) as she bended over her sickle, the sweetest human voice I ever heard. Her strains were tenderly melancholy, and felt delicious long after they were heard no more.”; which was re-interpreted by Wordsworth thus:

Whate’er the theme, the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending;
I saw her singing at her work,
And o’er the sickle bending;
I listened, motionless and still;
And, as I mounted up the hill,
The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.

Wordsworth wrote an affectionate prose tribute to Wilkinson entitled ‘To the Spade of a Friend’.

18. BELLE ISLE. A nineteenth century manuscript journal kept by Edward Bourne, whilst staying at Belle Isle, Windermere, with the Curwen family. It is written on 25 pages and covers the period June 4th - 7th September 1829. Original marbled card wrappers, in very good condition. 160mm x 100mm. 1829. £450.00

~ Belle Isle House, a Grade I listed building, on the island of the same name in Lake Windermere, was named after Isabella, a member of the Curwen family who owned the island. The building was inspired by the Villa Vicenza in Rome, and originally designed by John Plaw, who commenced work for Mr English in 1774. However his plans were interrupted because of mounting criticism, as it was feared that it would spoil the scenic beauty of the area; Wordsworth in ‘The Prelude’ later referring to it as a “pepper-pot”. Mr. English went bankrupt before the house was finished and sold it and the island in 1781 to John Christian Curwen, who had made his fortune in the mines of west Cumberland. Curwen was a close friend of Wordsworth, and is mentioned in The Guide to the Lakes, where he is complimented on his plantations. John Wordsworth married into the family in 1832, marrying Isabella Curwen.
~ The journal is written in a fairly young hand, mentioning Mama and Papa, and the party’s arrival from Coventry, via Manchester and Kendal, where they bought nuts and nutcrackers, to Windermere, where he “went to get lillies on an Island.” Many names are recorded - Mr and Mrs Swinbourne dined - trips are noted, including one on board the Emma, “a vessel belonging to Cap. Stamp.” - others to collect strawberries and cherries - went to church to hear our great great Uncle Howe preach. “Went from Winandermere to Ambleside... to Aunt Plant house a place where she keeps all her plants done around the sides with shells and minerals... saw Aunt’s Cabinet of Minerals and fossels.” John Christian took the name Christian Curwen following his marriage, and many of the names in the journal are noted as ‘Christian’.


20. WESTALL, William. Keswick Lake from Castlet. A folding hand-coloured aquatint panorama, drawn on zinc, from an uncompleted series of panoramic views on which the artist was working whilst at Rydal Mount preparing his illustrations for Wordsworth’s poems. Bound in recent quarter black calf, marbled boards, gilt lettered spine. Some of the engravings were published in paper wrappers without letterpress. Bicknell 93, records a suite of six views in wrappers (Jackson Collection only), dating them to c1830. 191mm x 55xmm. Ackermann & Co. 1833. £125.00
21. WESTALL, William. Keswick Lake from Friar’s Crag - Evening. A fine aquatint panorama, drawn on zinc, and not folded, from an uncompleted series of panoramic views on which the artist was working whilst at Rydal Mount preparing his illustrations for Wordsworth’s poems. Some of the engravings were published in paper wrappers without letterpress. Bicknell 93, records a suite of six views in wrappers (Jackson Collection only), dating them to c1830. An announcement in the Magazine of Natural History, Volume 8, 1835, states that this present view, formed one of four views for 1835, at 3s.6d each. In fine condition, and understandably rare. 191mm x 55xmm. c1835. £220.00 + vat


~ The preface notes that this work is sold “both with, and without the map and frontispiece - of course at different prices.” This edition includes a new excursion on foot, made unaccompanied by Baines, “at a time when few tourists ventured beyond the valleys without local guides.’ Wordsworth’s description of Blea Tarn in The Excursion first appeared in the second edition (1830) of Baines’s Companion. Baines commented that Wordsworth “[had] painted the scene with such perfect fidelity that [he] need only copy the passage.” He did not however share Wordsworth’s aversion to plantations, as he described with evident approval “the solemn forest of larch and fir with which the hills are mantled.”
a poignant family tour to the Lakes in October 1837 -
“and came home to die in November.”


~ Bicknell 95.5, noting this to be the last edition published under the editorship of the author, and with some rearrangement to the text. With the ownership name of M.A. Liddiard, 1837, on the inner front board. A note is tipped onto the front-end-paper which reads: “This book evidently accompanied Mary Ann Liddiard on the tour she took with her father, sister Louisa, and cousin George Sheriff - and came home to die in Nov. The scribbled lines [of original poetry on the inner board, written from Scale Inn, Oct 2 1837] are in the handwriting of George S.” It is dated May 1912, and continues, “my mother seems to have taken the book with us to Grasmere - suppose on account of its authorship!” She has written her name at the head of the title-page, “M. Beechy, 1882, Grasmere both times, second visit ‘84.”


A fine copy in the publisher’s brown cloth lettered in gilt on the upper cover, “Complete Guide. Wordsworth’s Scenery of the Lakes of England with directions for Tourists”.

The nicest copy we have handled, with just some offsetting from the plates onto the tissue-guards, and slight foxing. small 8vo. Kendal. J. Hudson. 1843. £295.00

~ Bicknell 122.2. The first Hudson edition (1842) is in effect the 6th edition of Wordsworth’s Guide. The outline diagrams of the mountains by J. Flintoft of Keswick, were first incorporated into this 1843 edition


~ The Excursion (1814) was instrumental in giving fresh impetus to Lake District tourism, just as the Napoleonic Wars, which had closed the continent, came to an end.

8vo. Edward Moxon. 1844. £50.00

28. [WORDSWORTH, William].
A Complete Guide to the Lakes, comprising Minute Directions for the Tourist, with Mr Wordsworth’s description of the scenery of the country, &c and four letters on the geology of the Lake District, by the Rev. Professor Sedgwick. Third edition.

ix, [1], vi, 245, [1] pp., engraved frontispiece ‘Rydal Water’, five plates of engraved outlines of mountains, and a folding map on linen mounted onto the inner rear board.

A very good copy bound in the publisher’s original ribbed green cloth, blind stamped and attractively gilt lettered on the upper board. Title also in gilt on the spine. Some slight fading and marking to the cloth, and a little browning to the paper. Neat repairs to the joints and the head of the spine. Contemporary ownership name of Emily Barrate at the head of the title-page. Bicknell 122.3, noting that the first Hudson edition (1842) is in effect the 6th edition of Wordsworth’s Guide. The outline diagrams of the mountains by J. Flintoft of Keswick, were first incorporated into the 1843 edition.

small 8vo. Kendal. J. Hudson. 1846. £220.00

~ Tipped-in at the front is a yellow tinted sheet dated 1846 detailing conveyances to and from the Lakes, by light post coach (The Mazeppa), an omnibus, and The Lady of the Lake steam boat. It provides times of departure and prices.
8vo. Windermere: J. Garnett. [1886]. £120.00
~ A scarce edition, Copac records only 2 copies, National Library of Wales, and Cambridge.

8vo. Sherwood and Co., and Hudson and Nicholson, Kendal. [1836]. £220.00
~ The author’s prefatory remarks are certainly honest when he comments that the act of “adding another to the already number-less” guides “is a path which has been so completely beaten by his predecessors, as to leave but little hope of novelty.” He includes Wordsworth’s famous description of Blea Tarn which was first published in the second edition of Baines’s Companion (see item 22).
31. OTLEY, Jonathan. A Descriptive Guide to the English Lakes, and Adjacent Mountains: with notices of the botany, mineralogy, and geology of the district. Seventh edition. To which is added, an Excursion through Lonsdale to the Caves. vii, [1], 220pp., engraved folding hand-coloured map and 13 plates depicting outlines of mountains, and 33 wood engravings printed within the text. A very good clean copy in original cloth, covers a little mottled from uneven fading. Bicknell 102.7. small 8vo. Keswick: published by the author. 1842. £160.00

~ Otley’s work was first published in 1823 and was designed as a factual record with clearly arranged information for tourists, rather than as picturesque description of the scenery. It is an early example of the rapidly developing interest in the minutiae of tabulated information, detailed large scale maps, expedition planners, means of transport and accommodation. In this edition the outlines are now true plates and not paginated and incorporated in the text. They are all re-drawn and re-engraved. “Most of the illustrations are from accurate drawings by Mr T. Binns, Portrait Painter, Halifax, and are all engraven by Mr O. Jewitt, of Headington, Oxford.”
32. OTLEY, Jonathan. A Descriptive Guide to the English Lakes, and Adjacent Mountains: with notices of the botany, mineralogy, and geology of the district. Seventh edition. To which is added, an Excursion through Lonsdale to the Caves. vii, [1], 220pp., engraved folding hand-coloured map and 13 plates depicting outlines of mountains, and 33 wood engravings printed within the text. A very good clean copy in original blindstamped and gilt lettered dark green cloth. Front end-paper removed, and some very slight foxing. Bicknell 102.7.
£160.00

~ Otley’s work was first published in 1823 and was designed as a factual record with clearly arranged information for tourists, rather than as picturesque description of the scenery. It is an early example of the rapidly developing interest in the minutiae of tabulated information, detailed large scale maps, expedition planners, means of transport and accommodation. In this edition the outlines are now true plates and not paginated and incorporated in the text. They are all re-drawn and re-engraved. “Most of the illustrations are from accurate drawings by Mr T. Binns, Portrait Painter, Halifax, and are all engraved by Mr O. Jewitt, of Headington, Oxford.”

33. FORD, William. A Description of Scenery in the Lake District intended as a Guide to Strangers. Fourth edition. Carefully revised, and illustrated with maps and plates. xiii, [i], 190pp., 3 double-page engravings, each a panoramic view over a map, and a folding map on linen with the additional slip showing the Hexham, Newcastle and Carlisle Railway. A very good copy in original blind stamped cloth, with gilt lettered spine. Some dustiness has intruded onto the edges of the front-end-paper. Bicknell 118.4.
8vo. R. Groombridge and Sons. 1845. £125.00

~ The first edition of 1839 is the earliest use of the term ‘Lake-District’ in the title of a book. The double-page panoramic views depict Windermere, Derwent Water and Vale of Keswick, Ulles Water. William Ford was curate of Wythburn, and not unsurprisingly recommends his local Horse Head Inn as a good place to stay and where a guide could be hired “at a moderate charge.” He states his obligation to Mr Wordsworth for his ‘admirably descriptive sketch,’ but claims to amplify ‘the slight poetical touches of the author of The Excursion.’ beyond the sixth mile-stone ...
34. FORD, William. A Description of Scenery in the Lake District intended as a Guide to Strangers. Fourth edition. Carefully revised, and illustrated with maps and plates. xiii, [1], 190pp., 3 double-page engravings, each a panoramic view over a map, and a folding map on linen with the additional slip showing the Hexham, Newcastle and Carlisle Railway. A very good copy in original blind stamped cloth, with gilt lettered spine. Slight foxing to the map, and the edges of the title-page are a little dusty. Bicknell 118.4.
8vo. R. Groombridge and Sons. 1845. £125.00

~ The first edition of 1839 is the earliest use of the term ‘Lake-District’ in the title of a book. The double-page panoramic views depict Windermere, Derwent Water and Vale of Keswick, Ulles Water.

35. FORD, William. A Description of the Scenery in the Lake District intended as a Guide to Strangers. Fourth edition. xiii, [1], 190pp., 3 double-page engravings, each a panoramic view over a map, but bound without the general map as is quite frequently the case. A most attractive copy in contemporary half red morocco, with ornate gilt lattice decorated spine, black gilt label, Some minor wear to the corners, and a little rubbing to the edges. Bicknell 118.4.
8vo. R. Groombridge & Sons. 1845. £225.00

~ An interesting copy well annotated by an early tourist, Samuel R Townshend, during a visit to the Lake District in 1867.
36. HARWOOD, John & Frederick (publishers). Harwood’s Illustrations of the Lakes. Thirty engraved views, dated 1842-1849, and including ‘A glimpse through the trees Rydal Water, near the residence of the late W. Wordsworth, Esq.’ Some slight foxing but a good copy bound in original dark blue gilt cloth, with gilt lettered upper board, the title contained within and ornamental gilt frame. Spine and inner joints neatly repaired. 
small oblong folio. [J & F. Harwood]. c1849. £120.00

~ Harwood’s views were issued in numerous formats, from six views for 1s, to thirty views for 5s. See, Bicknell 127.

~ “The Publisher would merely remark that in this, the Fifth Edition, he has endeavoured to render it still more worthy of the favour of tourists by introducing a new series of wood engravings, illustrating some of the most interesting objects in the district, and also by a careful revision of the letter-press.” [Preface]. It includes an engraving of Rydal Mount, by T.W. Holme.

38. CROSTHWAITE CHURCH, Keswick. A small mid-19th century pencil sketch on card. Anonymous, but titled in the lower margin. 85mm x 142mm. c1850. £45.00 + vat

~ Scarce. Bicknell 148, but not recording the final adverts. The earliest of the railway guides to the Lake District. This route was opened in 1850, and the guide sets out excursions from each station on the line. Places less frequented by earlier tourists began to be featured, and Wordsworth verse hitherto unquoted began to be extracted for inclusion.

~ These were issued in variant forms by the publisher, with differing numbers of plates included. We have sold copies with sixteen, thirty, and as here, 26 plates.

41. MARTINEAU, Harriet. A Complete Guide to the English Lakes. [First octavo edition]. [4], iii, [1], iv, [3], 4-233, [1], ii - xvi pp., half-title., 12 steel engraved plates, 4 plates of hotels at the rear, 6 mountain outlines (2 folding), and large folding coloured map. Some foxing but a very good copy in the publisher’s original red gilt cloth, with the binder’s ticket of Alexr. Banks, 28 North Bridge, Edinburgh. Bicknell 155.2a. Slight repaired crack to the upper joint. Scarce. 8vo. Windermere. John Garnett. [1855]. £220.00

~ “Five years after Wordsworth’s death... Harriet Martineau’s Complete Guide to the English Lakes was published. It is a strange mixture of sound advice and prejudice. Miss Martineau had come to live at Ambleside in 1844, and devoted herself energetically to collecting the information for her book. She accepted that the Lakes had finally become a ‘playground’ where secure middle class visitors, brought by the railway, could enjoy holidays in lodgings and hotels. It was no longer a remote Elysium where travellers in search of the picturesque, moving from inn to inn, could enjoy the adventure of discovery. She acknowledged the status of the resident gentry by including a Directory of their names and addresses, but she was anxious to improve the social and physical conditions of those less fortunate, rather than to romanticise them as figures in a landscape.” Bicknell p.17.

~ “Five years after Wordsworth’s death... Harriet Martineau’s Complete Guide to the English Lakes was published. It is a strange mixture of sound advice and prejudice. Miss Martineau had come to live at Ambleside in 1844, and devoted herself energetically to collecting the information for her book. She accepted that the Lakes had finally become a ‘playground’ where secure middle class visitors, brought by the railway, could enjoy holidays in lodgings and hotels. It was no longer a remote Elysium where travellers in search of the picturesque, moving from inn to inn, could enjoy the adventure of discovery. She acknowledged the status of the resident gentry by including a Directory of their names and addresses, but she was anxious to improve the social and physical conditions of those less fortunate, rather than to romanticise them as figures in a landscape.” Bicknell p.17.

This appears to be a variant issue of the 2nd edition not noted by Bicknell. Ten of the plates are from the 1858 issue, but there are also plates 2 & 5 from the 1855 first edition, as well as 3 of the 4 engraved views of hotels in the adverts. The Waterhead Hotel does not appear as an advertiser in the 1858 edition, and hence its plate has not been included.
43. LAKE DISTRICT. Views of the English Lakes. Decorative engraved title-page and 25 engraved views on 15 engraved plates. A good copy in the original decorative wrappers. Some slight rubbing to the joints and corners. Oblong 8vo. J. Garnet. Windermere. c1855. £95.00

44. BLACK, A. & C. Black’s Economical Guide to the English Lakes. vi, 75, [5], 48pp illustrated adverts., folding frontispiece map, 2 maps, 2 plates and a title-page vignette. A good copy in original limp dark green pebble grain cloth, gilt stamped on the upper cover, the motif in blind on the back cover. Scarce. Bicknell 124.2. 8vo. Edinburgh: A. & C. Black. 1857. £95.00

~ With ownership name of William Jaik (?), and his handwritten itinerary from York to the Lake District, via Leeds, Skipton, Lancaster, Windermere and Ambleside. He also makes several updates to the list of hotels printed in the volume.


~ One of a new generation of guides designed for the ‘railway’ tourists - “... shall we - being but a cheap guide after all - attach ourselves to the vulgar second, or even third class passengers, in whom some people think it a positive impertinence that they should appreciate the beauties of nature at all.?” [Introduction]. Wordsworth was also aware of this potential market and wrote to the publisher Edward Moxon that he should perhaps plan to publish a railway orientated guide.


48. ANON. A Guide to the English Lake District, intended principally for the use of pedestrians. By a Cambridge man. First edition. [2], ii, iv, 96, [2]pp list of hotels., chromolithograph frontispiece, 4 maps and 2 plates, and a folding map in a rear pocket. Original plum cloth, neatly rebacked, some fading to the inner edge of the upper cover, and with some slight browning to the paper. A good copy of a scarce guide, which is “as the title-page indicates, a pedestrian’s guide; and hence many mountains and mountain-walks are described or noticed in it which other books have altogether omitted.” Armorial bookplate with coronet and monogram JH. small 8vo. Windermere. John Garnett. [1863]. £120.00

49. ANON. A Guide to the English Lake District, intended principally for the use of pedestrians. By a Cambridge man. First edition. [2], ii, iv, 96, [2]pp list of hotels., chromolithograph frontispiece, 4 maps and 2 plates, and a folding map in a rear pocket. A very good copy in original wavy grained plum cloth. A scarce guide, which is “as the title-page indicates, a pedestrian’s guide; and hence many mountains and mountain-walks are described or noticed in it which other books have altogether omitted.” Armorial bookplate with coronet and monogram JH. small 8vo. Windermere. John Garnett. [1863]. £140.00
50. PAYN, James. The Lakes in Sunshine: being photographic and other pictures of the Lake District of Westmorland and North Lancashire. First edition. Two volumes. x, 105, [1]p; viii, [2], 94pp., 26 mounted photographs with tissue guards and numerous wood engravings in the text, by Linton and others. There is also a special rear pocket to the inside rear cover of Vol I, which contains the folding coloured map, Garnett’s Map of the Lake District. A most attractive copy in near fine original blue cloth, with ornate gilt decoration to all covers and the spines, all-edges-gilt. Some foxing to the tissue guards as usual, with slight offsetting onto the facing page of text and the border of the image. Loosely inserted is the publisher’s tinted slip announcing that the second volume will be issued shortly. [Gernsheim, Incunabula of British Photographic Literature, 391].

4to. Windermere, J. Garnett. 1867 and 1870. £495.00

~ This is one of the earliest photographically illustrated guidebooks, and introduces various localities associated with Wordsworth’s poetry. He even recommends taking a copy of the Duddon Sonnets as a guide. A contemporary review noted that the photographs are “without exception, exquisite”, and that Payn is a first-rate companion.
51. RYDAL. An early original albumen photograph of Rydal, Sep. 1868. It depicts Rydal Church, Rydal Hall, and out across the wooded hillside beyond, to the mountains in the far distance. It is laid onto a 19th century album leaf. In very good condition.
100mm x 145mm. 1868. £65.00 + vat

~ Possibly by the photographer John Garnett (active Windermere, 1860s). Another view of Rydal known to be by him is in the Getty Collection.

52. RYDAL. An early original albumen oval photograph of Rydal, Sep. 1868. It appears to be Rydal Mount, Wordsworth’s best loved family home for the greater part of his life from 1813 to his death in 1850. The house is viewed across the neighbouring stream. The photograph is laid onto a 19th century album leaf, and hand lettered in the border. In very good condition.
100mm x 145mm. 1868. £95.00 + vat

~ Possibly by the photographer John Garnett (active Windermere, 1860s). Another view of Rydal known to be by him is in the Getty Collection.

~ “There was a time when the English Lakes had need to go a-begging for admirers, and relied upon a small though devoted and powerful band for a good word.... to be ‘a Laker’ was only considered a degree less low than to be a Lake Poet.” [Introduction to James Payn’s *Hand-Book*].

This ‘nonpareil’ edition is unrecorded by Copac.

54. OGLE, Thomas. Our English Lakes, Mountains, and Waterfalls, as seen by William Wordsworth. With photographic illustrations, by Thomas Ogle. Fourth edition. xi, [1], 192pp., 8 mounted photographs. An unusually clean copy bound in contemporary half red morocco, raised and gilt banded spine, all-edges-gilt. Some slight insect damage to the rear board. small 4to. Provost and Co. 1870. £125.00
55. MAYSON, Henry. In the latter part of the 19th Century, Mayson’s of Lake Road Keswick, had a model made of the lake district, this poster was the advertisement for that model.

~ According to the poster ‘The Model has been constructed mathematically from the Ordnance Survey, after great labour and at a heavy cost. It contains 120 square feet, the horizontal and vertical scales being 6 inches to one mile and coloured to nature. All the Mountains, Lakes, Tarns, Waterfalls, Rivers, and their tributaries; Woods, Roads, Villages, Villas, etc are all correctly delineated.’ ‘Parties visiting the Model will see the correct topography of the Lake District, and can thereby readily plan either long or short excursions as time will permit. They will also gain a better idea of the whole of the Lake Country than is to be obtained from any other source. Open at 8am and lighted during the summer months admission one shilling each’

This Poster was a printed advert for the model and is a scarce survivor in fine bright original condition undamaged by exposure to sunlight. It has the original silk tie for hanging.

The lettering is highlighted in gold ink, and the design incorporates an engraving of his house, and decorative ferns.

420mm x 303mm. McFarlane & Erskine Lithogs Edinburgh. c1870.

£65.00

56. ATKINSON, J. Priestman. A Week at the Lakes, and what came of it, or the Adventures of Mr Dobbs and his Friend Mr Potts. First edition. Pictorial title-page and 24 engraved plates, each with multiple caricature drawings. Original cloth backed pictorial boards, corners worn. Some light fingermarks to the lower edges, and several paper tears without loss.

oblong 4to. Macmillan and Co, 1878.

£120.00

~ “Thirty years ago it occurred to the writer of one of the best guide books that exists in the English Lake District, Jenkinson by name, an enthusiastic Yorkshireman who was domiciled at Keswick, that it would be a very pleasant thing to have a social gathering to which all classes might be invited in Christmas week, and to which all who came should feel that they were there, not as it were by charity, but simply met together to chat with one another and enjoy themselves on equal terms as friends. Jenkinson’s idea was warmly taken up by the leading townsmen, and from that day to this, the annual ‘Old Folks’ Do’ has been looked forward to all through the year, and looked back upon with pleasantest memory.” [H.D. Rawnsley. A Rambler’s Note-Book at the English Lakes, 1902.]

58. ANON. Tourist’s Guide to the English Lakes. 61, [1], [2]pp adverts., wood engraved vignettes. A fine copy in original glazed wrappers. It is accompanied by twelve chromolithograph views on card, and contained in original gilt decorative envelope entitled “Twelve Views of the Scenery of the English Lakes, beautifully executed in Chromo-Lithography, with Guide-Book for Tourists.” Some wear to the corners and edges of the envelope. 115mm x 160mm. T. Nelson & Sons. c1880. £75.00
“Very few probably of those who claim a close acquaintance with Derwentwater know of the existence of “the Floating Island.” Nor is this to be wondered at when we remember that numbers regarded it as a myth, and still look upon it as such. But it certainly is astonishing that a natural occurrence of such rarity should have attracted so little notice, and have been dismissed with a few contemptuous remarks. Yet the history of the Wand, as narrated by Mr. Symons, is unique among natural phenomena. The island rose for the first recorded time in July, 1773 (it only rises during the summer months), and since then has appeared at irregular intervals till 1887, its last appearance, when, indeed, it rose twice, in honour, we suppose, of the Jubilee; though it appeared twice in 1815, curiously enough, we notice, in the same months as the later appearance. Such is its history. Mr. Symons begins his book by describing his own experiments on the island, and then gives a record of all the known appearances of the island with the dimensions attributed to it. After this we are introduced to instances related by various writers of floating islands, all of which resemble the Derwentwater one only in floating; they never sink, and generally attach themselves to the banks. The theory held by the earliest investigators of the mystery scarcely deserves mention; but its very absurdity shows they were at a loss to understand its existence. The only sensible theory, that its light density, assisted by the buoyancy of the marsh-gas, enables it to rise, ceases to be altogether satisfactory, as Mr. Symons hints, when we find that no other peat-bed behaves in a like manner. The island, or peat-bed, is entirely organic, and rests, when sunk, on diatomite. How the supply of gas is kept up, is to Mr. Symons a puzzle. The gas, however formed, together with the entirely organic nature of the island, is, doubtless, the chief cause of the phenomenon. Mr. Symons’s sketch is most interesting, and we hope others will manifest a similar enthusiasm, tempered with respect, for one of Nature’s most curious freaks.” [The Spectator, 1889].
61. ORMISTON & GLASS. Souvenir of the English Lakes. Twelve photographic plates, folding out ‘concertina’ style in the original gilt lettered red and black cloth binding. In fine condition. Copac records other titles in this ‘souvenir’ series, but not this example. Small 4to. Edinburgh: Ormiston & Glass. c1890. £65.00

62. LAKE DISTRICT. Beecham’s Photo-Folio. 24 Choice Photographic Views. The Lake District, Volumes I, II, and III. One Penny. A near fine set in original decorative wrappers. 120mm x 154mm. Thomas Beecham: St Helens. [1898]. £45.00

63. ANON. The Album of English Lakes Views. 2. Twelve plates arranged concertina style in the original blue gilt glazed card covers with linen spine. Some slight rubbing to the edges and corners, but in good state. 100mm x 144mm. n.p. c1900. £25.00

65. KESWICK HOTEL, Derwentwater. Lakeland’s Motoring Centre. Souvenir and Tariff. An elaborate 48pp guide book issued by the hotel, with numerous illustrations and a folding map. It sets out suggested tours, activities, and recommends other places to stay en-route. Original colour printed card covers, in fine condition. 8vo. Carlisle: Chas. Thurnam & Sons. c1925. £15.00