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Curiosity & Discovery
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Curiosity & Discovery
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Curiosity & Discovery
Voyages and Travels in the Spirit of Enlightenment

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Curiosity and Discovery, our new catalogue, takes as its theme the spirit of the Enlightenment in terms of exploration and voyages. In doing so, this collection of printed and manuscript material explores the story of what might be considered the practical effects of the new spirit which animated the eighteenth century and its heirs. In terms of voyage history the Enlightenment era is typified by curiosity and enquiry in exploration, discovery, and travel writing, and needs to be allowed a particularly "long eighteenth century". The earlier so-called Age of Discovery, often seen as lasting from the late fifteenth well into the eighteenth century, overlaps with the Age of Enlightenment; the two ages, both defined after the fact, resist precise timescales. Conveniently enough, however, the Age of Discovery encompasses much of the European exploration and discovery of new worlds to the north and west, while the history of exploration in the Enlightenment period is more that of voyages to and discovery in the east and south. The Age of Discovery revealed the Americas, from Columbus onwards, while the Enlightenment voyages would build on the preceding scattered discoveries (including those of Quiros, Mendaña, the Dutch explorers, Drake and Dampier described in our catalogue The Great South Land) to take on the wider exploration and opening up of the Pacific and its neighbouring regions.

The successors to these pioneers were drawn to the new worlds opening up in south-east Asia, the Pacific, and the vague outlines of New Holland. The "double deed that consists of sailing round the world then writing an account of it" (Mary Louise Pratt) is a hallmark of the period and Enlightenment voyage literature, and this catalogue sets out to describe a representative selection. Alphabetical order conveniently starts with Anson's famous mid-eighteenth century voyage into the Pacific. Just a few books in this catalogue predate the Anson voyage; these relate almost entirely to early descriptions of China and Japan, descriptions seized upon by the thinkers of the Enlightenment for
their revelations of distant cultures, evolved without European influence, with strong underlying philosophies and largely secular social systems.

The great explosion of late eighteenth century voyages is represented by important works by many of the key figures, naturally enough focussing on Cook and La Pérouse, but with all manner of works which reveal the ambition which underwrote them, whether it be the travels of Banks or Bougainville, Bligh or Baudin. It is sometimes easy to overlook the scale and the magnificence of these accounts, both in terms of the arduous voyages, but also the effort required to publish the beautiful official publications.

Chronologically, the catalogue ends with two near contemporaries: Charles Darwin, a willing – if often very seasick – guest on the Beagle, and Jules Sébastien César Dumont d’Urville, commander of the Astrolabe. Darwin sailed on the second of the three voyages of the Beagle, and his first ever published book formed part of a four-volume work published in 1839. Ian Duncan (On Charles Darwin and the Voyage of the Beagle, online) has described the voyage as one of the last episodes in an Enlightenment tradition of circumnavigation: ‘Its openness to an encyclopedic variety of topics and discourses had made travel writing one of the major literary genres of the long eighteenth century; the journal of a voyage could accommodate philosophical observations of different lands and peoples (comprising “the world”) as well as the subjective account of its author's experiences, sensations, and reflections.’

By the time that Darwin’s book was published the Beagle had already been dispatched on its last great survey voyage to Australia, and Dumont d’Urville was on his second great voyage, one in which territorial ambitions were once more overtaking scientific endeavours. By the early 1840s the true era of Enlightenment voyages was coming to a close, and a new era was beginning.

If there is to be a fixed date for the end of the Enlightenment voyage period it may as well be 8 May 1842, the date of the infamous Versailles rail accident, one of the earliest and certainly the worst early train crash of the Age of Steam. The train was full of day-trippers returning from Versailles when it crashed and burst into flames, killing most of the passengers on board, including the Pacific veteran Dumont d’Urville. Sail could hardly have given way to steam more dramatically. When the last commander of the Beagle, John Lort Stokes, returned to the Pacific in 1846, his account Discoveries in Australia just off the press, he was in command of a new steam-powered sloop, HMS Acheron.

Curiosity and Discovery, the principles which guided the great wave of exploration in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, are therefore here taken to refer to two of the guiding principles of Enlightenment voyages, not least because the hunt for “artificial curiosities” was a huge motivation for the budding scientists of the age (quite apart from the fact that Cook’s last command was HMS Discovery). The two terms continue to imbue what might be considered the “new” frontier that obsesses more recent scientific work: whether in the naming of the Mars Rover or a Space Shuttle.

Hordern House
2015
First edition, one of 350 large or 'royal paper' copies, much superior to the relatively ill-proportioned ordinary paper issue. Cox calls the present imprint “the genuine first” and notes two issues, one for the author and the genuine first, with p. 319 misnumbered, as here. This may also be a subscriber's copy as it has the armorial bookplate of an E. Lloyd: four Lloyds appear in the List of Subscribers, one of them “Ellis Lloyd Esq”.

Anson's Voyage, ‘a masterpiece of descriptive travel’ (Hill) and one of the great publishing successes of the eighteenth century, was widely read and it is unusual to find copies in as excellent condition as this. The narrative, based on Anson's own journal, had an enormous popular success: for the mid-eighteenth-century reader, it was the epitome of adventure, and it was translated into several European languages and stayed in print through numerous editions for many years.

‘Walter’s volume has formed the basis of all accounts of Anson's voyage from the mid-eighteenth century to the present. The book, more fully illustrated than any similar work up to that time, was both a stirring story of adventure at sea and an exhortation to further Pacific enterprise’ (Glyn Williams, The prize of all the oceans. The triumph and tragedy of Anson's voyage, 1999).

Borba de Moraes, I, 32; Cox, I, p. 49; Hill, 1817; Kroepelien, 1086. $12,500
2. **ANSON, Lord George.**

Manuscript order addressed to Captain Philip Saumarez.

Hand-written note signed by Anson, laid paper 160 x 205 mm., old folds; very good. At sea, 11 December 1746.

Original order given by George Anson to his close associate from the *Centurion* circumnavigation of 1741-44, Philip Saumarez. Saumarez had been first lieutenant on Anson's flagship, and as acting commander saved the ship during the storm at Tinian when Anson was ashore. After the capture of the Manila galleon Anson paid Saumarez the great compliment of giving him command of the prize, to sail her to China for sale. Saumarez’s original records of the Anson voyage, now in the National Library, were used as the basis of the 1973 publication *Log of the Centurion*.

Anson had returned from his famous circumnavigation in June 1744, and joined the board of the Admiralty in 1745. In July 1746, as vice-admiral of the Blue, he took command of the Channel Fleet, hoisting his flag on board *Yarmouth* on 9 August. Although the fleet was short-handed, Anson was able to set out to sea, cruising off Ushant in the hope of intercepting the French. Anson soon transferred from *Yarmouth* to the *Prince George*, and both vessels would play an important part in the 1747 battle of Cape Finisterre, where the French fleet was decisively beaten.

Saumarez had been appointed to the *Nottingham* in September 1746. In the note Anson gives his fellow captain a command relating to the chase of any French ship: "If at any time in Chasing you discover the Chase to be an Enemy, and I should not take notice of your Signal as in that case directed, you are to make the Signal for seeing a Fleet, provided the Chase is of a superior Force to your self. Given under my hand on board His Maj. Ship Yarmouth at Sea, the 11th of Decem. 1746". The connection between the two naval officers is particularly poignant as Saumarez played an important part at Cape Finisterre but was killed later the same year in action with Admiral Edward Hawke.

$1750

The Narrative of the Honourable John Byron… containing An Account of the Great Distresses suffered by himself and his companions on the Coast of Patagonia, from the year 1740, till their arrival in England, 1746. With a description of St. Jago de Chile… also a relation of the loss of the Wager Man of War, one of Admiral Anson’s Squadron.

Octavo, with a frontispiece; a good copy in contemporary sprinkled calf, front joint cracking but firm.


First edition. “Admiral Byron’s narrative of the loss of the Wager is one of the most thrilling accounts in the language, and supplied his illustrious descendant with many particulars for the shipwreck in Don Juan” (Sabin). Byron, later a noted Pacific explorer and eventually governor of Newfoundland, was known as “foul weather Jack”; he was a midshipman aboard the Wager and his narrative, published a good twenty years after the thrilling and dangerous events he describes, provides a notable supplement to the main account of Anson’s voyage. Its popularity (a second edition was called for in the same year and there would be numerous other editions and translations) says a lot about the continuing public interest in the Anson voyage.

Hill, 232; James Ford Bell, B642.

$2850


Joseph Banks Esq.

Mezzotint engraving, 500 x 360 mm; framed. London, W. Dickinson, 30 January 1774.

The classic portrait of Banks as a young man. Only twenty-eight or twenty-nine years of age, Banks is shown sitting confidently at his desk, surrounded by the accoutrements of his science: books, papers, and a prominently placed world globe. The mezzotint is based on the portrait painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1772-3, when Banks was at the height of his fame after returning triumphant from the South Seas. His ambitions and achievements are neatly captured in the prominently placed Latin tag, “cras ingens iterabimus æquor” (Horace: “tomorrow we will be back on the vast ocean”, and an intriguing choice as the engraving was published at much the same time as Banks withdrew from Cook’s second voyage). The engraving was made by William Dickinson in the latter half of 1773. It was the same year that Dickinson first began to publish his own prints, after a lengthy apprenticeship and association with the painter Robert Edge Pine, at whose house in St Martin’s Lane he lodged between 1768 and 1771. His relationship with Reynolds was evidently good: this was the first of no less than twenty-two mezzotints after Reynolds that he completed and this very rare and fine image of Banks is one of the most celebrated.

Beddie, 4203; Carter, Sir Joseph Banks 1743-1820, Paintings – engraved, no. 3.

$18,500
PRIVATE SCIENCE AND THE REMAINS OF A DOG

5. BANKS, Sir Joseph.

Autograph letter to Lord Bessborough in Banks’ distinctive hand.

Manuscript in ink on laid paper, 230 x 195 mm., old folds; very good. Soho Square, 3 August 1798.

An intriguing example of Banks’ hand in a letter which shows that even the family dog was not beyond the purview of his scientific interests. Frederick Ponsonby, who succeeded to his title as Earl of Bessborough in 1793, had – like Banks – been at Christ Church Oxford. As a Lord of the Admiralty in 1782-3 as well as serving in Parliament he would have remained in close contact with Banks. Ponsonby married Lady Henrietta Frances Spencer in 1780, and they had a tumultuous relationship; their four children included Lady Caroline Lamb, Byron’s lover (she coined the description of the poet as “mad, bad, and dangerous to know”) and author of several novels.

At this time both Banks and Bessborough were becoming heavily involved in the new Royal Institution of Great Britain. This letter, however, speaks to more private concerns, reading: “Sir Jos. Banks presents his Compts. to Lord Bessborough and returns his Lordship many thanks for the permission he has had to open the old Bitch who is sent back with all decent care in order that her remains may be deposited in Lr. Bessborough’s garden with all honor due to a four-legged favourite – such Sir Joseph has been always used to give to his own. Soho Square.” A reminder that the science of the day was unfailingly practical.

$2250

6. HOME, Everard.


Quarto, folding plate, 24 pp., very good; new wrappers. London, (W. Bulmer and Co), circa 1799.

Explaining the mystery of Lord Bessborough’s dog (see previous), Sir Everard Home discusses hermaphroditism in all manner of animals including man, referring to anatomists such as Hunter, Baron Haller, and Cheselden, and making ample use of the famous Hunterian anatomical collections: he had acted for a while as assistant to his brother-in-law the surgeon John Hunter, whose collection of more than thirteen thousand anatomical specimens now forms the basis of the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons in London. With a sang-froid shocking today, Sir Everard even discusses the purchase of a woman from the Dominicans in the West Indies by General Melville. But the key purpose of the essay is to discuss Lord Bessborough’s dog, whose sex organs are displayed on the folding plate: “A favourite dog of Lord Bessborough’s, which had lived in the family for many years, was observed to have no teats, and never to have been in heat, although, to appearance, a perfectly formed bitch in all other respects: those circumstances being made known to Sir Joseph Banks, he requested, that when the animal died, it be sent to him…”

Sir Everard’s article appeared as pp. 157-178 of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society for January 1789, but this is a separately paginated offprint (in other words not simply excised from the journal printing). Offprints like this were usually provided to the author to distribute privately, and like this example can be rare today.

$950
The most enlightened of libraries

7. [BANKS] DRYANDER, Jonas.
Catalogus Bibliothecae Historico-Naturalis Josephi Banks...

Five volumes bound in four, octavo, extra-illustrated with two portraits of Banks, manuscript dedication to Baron Cobres on front endpaper of volume IV; a good set in old half calf with marbled boards, volume II not quite matching but with similarly marbled boards, sympathetically rebacked. London, W. Bulmer, 1796-1800.

The complete private library catalogue of Sir Joseph Banks, with a fascinating provenance. Only 250 copies were printed of this wonderful work: sets are not often seen for sale, and are rarely complete since the fifth volume is more often than not absent.

The few examples that have come onto the market seem almost without exception to have had interesting associations, tending to confirm the supposition that the book was never really published for conventional public sale, being intended rather for presentation among Banks' wide and influential coterie. In this set volume IV is inscribed to "Baron Cobres from Sir Joseph Banks". This is particularly appealing, as Baron Cobres' natural history collection was one of the most significant of its time. The annotated catalogue of his collection (Deliciae Cobresianae, 1782), is acknowledged as one of three great private collection catalogues of the eighteenth century, together with that of the German botanist August Quirinus Rivinus (Bibliotheca Riviniana, 1727), and this catalogue of Banks' library. A further note about this set's interesting provenance explains that four of the volumes (I, III, IV, & V) were purchased from a descendant of James Sowerby, while volume II, added later, bears the ownership inscription of the chemist W.T. Brande and the stamp of the Glasgow Philosophical Society. Sowerby was an influential natural history artist, perhaps best known to an Australian audience for his collaboration with James Edward Smith on A Specimen of the Botany of New Holland of 1793, the first separately published book on Australian botany. Sowerby also became heavily involved with Sir Joseph Banks. Banks' superb library was ultimately bequeathed to the British Museum. Many voyage writers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Dalrymple and Burney among them, acknowledged the debt that they owed to Banks' library and to his generosity in making his books and manuscripts available to them. The catalogue was compiled by Jonas Dryander, the Swedish botanist who succeeded Solander as Banks' librarian in 1782 and later became librarian to the Royal Society and a founder fellow and first librarian of the Linnean Society. Taylor notes that it approaches a 'virtually complete bibliography of eighteenth-century writings on natural history'. The first volume (1798) describes Banks' general books, including voyages and travels, the second (1796) his zoological books, the third (1797) his botanical books, and the fourth (1799) those relating to mineralogy. The fifth volume (1800), which is lacking in three of the nine sets located by Taylor, comprises a supplement and an author index.

Besterman, 4151; Carter, p. 223; Petzholdt, p. 546; Taylor, p. 231. $17,850
Complete with the sequel

8. BARRINGTON, George.

A Voyage to Botany Bay with a description of the Country, manners, Customs, religion, &c. of the Natives… [and] A Sequel to Barrington's Voyage comprising an Interesting Narrative of the Transactions and Behaviour of the Convicts; the Progress of the Colony…[etc.].

Octavo, engraved frontispiece and title vignette to the first work; a fine copy, completely uncut in original boards, spine partly missing, preserved in a folding cloth box. London, C. Lowndes and… H.D. Symonds, n.d. [circa 1795] & 1801.

Answering public curiosity about the far side of the world: an early pairing of the first two Barrington Botany Bay works, in a desirable copy, entirely as issued.

By the time Barrington was transported to Botany Bay on the Third Fleet of 1791, his name was legendary in England due to his daring criminal exploits. Chapbook accounts of his trial were bestsellers, and unscrupulous London publishers were quick to exploit his notoriety to market a string of books on transportation and the new colony.

The first work to bear his name was A Voyage to Botany Bay, which first appeared in 1795. A number of editions were published in this form, some dated, some undated as here; all editions are scarce. So popular was this account that A Sequel to Barrington's Voyage was issued in 1800. It was quickly reprinted in 1801, at which time the publisher then released the two works together, of which the present copy is an unusually fine example.

Although these titles were certainly not the work of Barrington, they nonetheless provided considerable detail on eighteenth-century New South Wales not available elsewhere. Their popularity points to an English public whose appetite for news of the new colony was not satisfied by the more prestigious and expensive journals of the First Fleet officers. Publishers such as Lowndes and Symonds were more than ready to give the public what they wanted.

Garvey, 'George Barrington', AB17 & AB18; Wantrap, 26 (second work).

$4800
9. [BAUDIN] PERON, Francois & Louis de FREycINet.

Bound in five volumes; a handsome set of the complete official edition, including the two-volume quarto narrative text with portrait frontispiece and two folding tables, the two-parts of the large quarto atlas bound as a single volume containing 40 plates (23 coloured and two folding) and 14 maps (two double-page); together with the “Partie Navigation”, comprising a quarto text volume and imperial folio hydrographical atlas, the latter with engraved title, contents and 32 engraved charts, all pages in the imperial atlas expertly mounted on new binder’s stubs; a few very sporadic spots, but the set in fine untrimmed condition, the plates crisp and the colouring bright, bound in matching French quarter red morocco over marbled boards, corners pointed in vellum. Paris, Imprimerie Impériale [Royale], 1807/1816/1807/1811; 1815/1812.

The great French voyage of the Napoleonic period, the ambitious voyage to the “terres Australes” or southern continent under Baudin, chronicled by its participants Louis de Freycinet (later to command his own voyage) and the scientist François Péron, and published in six separate volumes over a period of ten years.

The Baudin voyage has sometimes been characterised as the last great Enlightenment voyage. In the voyage context this is a little misleading, since so much exploration of the early nineteenth century would in fact continue in the spirit of the Enlightenment, but the Baudin voyage may well have been its purest expression, combining as it did scientific curiosity and research, territorial and geo-political ambition, and the spirit of enquiry on the widest scale.

Sent out in 1800, in the first year of Napoleon’s consulate, and only two years after the Napoleonic expedition to Egypt, the ships of the expedition returned to France, laden with specimens and
replete with information, in March of 1804, just two months before the Senate's proclamation of Napoleon as Emperor. Live specimens from the “terres Australes” went directly to Joséphine and Napoleon's château at Malmaison on the outskirts of Paris, where kangaroos, emus and black swans would make their unlikely home in the imperial parkland under young gum and wattle trees brought back by the explorers. Although no trace of the introduced vegetation survives in the present-day, much reduced, gardens of Malmaison, the vignette on the title-page of this voyage account memorialises this extraordinary European acclimatisation of the southern exotic. Although the iconography of the southern land may not otherwise have translated into art, design and couture as completely as did the iconographic results of the Egyptian campaign, nonetheless the two can bear comparison in the collection of artefacts and natural curiosities, as well as topographical and other details, and their absorption into their host culture. Although Péron and Freycinet's lengthy account of the Baudin voyage was by no means on the scale of the astonishing Description de l'Égypte, which took twice as long to publish (the twenty years from 1809 to 1829) and consisted of 23 volumes, nonetheless the two works whose publication overlapped have a certain similarity of approach and are equal testaments to the ambitions of the Emperor.

The images, mostly after drawings made on the spot by the expedition’s two most important artists Charles-Alexandre Lesueur and Nicolas-Martin Petit, are among the most beautiful ever conceived in their depiction of Australian Aborigines, particularly those of Tasmania, and of the natural history of the southern lands.

The cartography of the voyage was of crucial interest: Baudin's instructions had included specific orders to complete the cartographic survey of the Australian coast; their examination of the western and southern coasts and Tasmania, as well as parts of the northern and eastern coasts, coincided with Flinders’ circumnavigation, the two expeditions famously meeting up at the consequently named Encounter Bay in South Australia. With Flinders’ subsequent imprisonment by the French, his captors were first into print with their mapping of Australia. The great Hydrographical Atlas appeared in 1812, two years before the publication of Flinders’ narrative and charts, and was thus the first full Australian atlas.

Publication

The official account of the Baudin voyage appeared over ten years, in two quite distinct sections. This is the full set with both sections together in matching bindings: four volumes represent the official narrative of the voyage (usually seen on its own and neatly christened the “general reader's edition”), published between 1807 and 1816 as two volumes of text and a small folio atlas in two parts (including some charting, chiefly of specific ports, and the famous views and portraits of native peoples). The second part, in two volumes, which was quite separately published and actually distributed by a different bookseller, published between 1812 and 1815, is the much rarer Hydrography of the voyage with its large-scale coastal mapping of Australia appearing as an imperial folio atlas accompanied by the volume of partly narrative text.

Ferguson, 449, 536, 603; Hill, 1329 (Historique only); Wantrup, 78a, 79a, 80a, 81. $110,000
The general reader's set of the Baudin voyage

10. [BAUDIN] PERON, François & Louis FREYCINET.
Voyage de Découvertes aux Terres Australes…

Three volumes, small and large quarto; the two-volume text with portrait frontispiece and two folding tables; the two-part large quarto atlas (bound in one volume) containing 40 plates (23 coloured and two folding) and 14 maps (two double-page and folding); slight worming affecting margins of five leaves, a few odd spots or stains, but generally an excellent set in French half maroon roan (neatly rebacked to period style) and contemporary glazed boards. Paris, 1807-1816.

The official account of the important Baudin voyage to Australia and the Pacific. As Baudin died in the course of the voyage, the narrative was begun by Péron, the expedition's naturalist, and completed by Freycinet after Péron's death. Volumes on hydrography were separately published (see previous item) and actually distributed by a different bookseller. This is the format in which the voyage publication is normally seen with two volumes of text and two parts of the atlas, often referred to as the "general reader's set".

Ferguson, 449; Hill, 1329; Wantrup, 78a & 79a.

$44,500
11.  [BAUDIN] PERON, François & Louis FREYCINET.
Folio atlas, with altogether 68 engravings, many coloured (details below); title-page spotted, a few spots elsewhere but in largely excellent condition in later quarter calf. Paris, Arthus Bertrand, 1824.

Second edition: the substantially increased atlas volume for this edition, providing the complete graphic suite of engravings and maps without the accompanying text volumes.

This important new edition of the official account of the Baudin voyage is scarce on the market, rarer than the first edition by a factor of perhaps ten or more. The new edition silently acknowledges the substantial geopolitical changes following the fall of Napoleon, as well as the priority of naming by Flinders following publication of his atlas in 1814: where the first edition of the book had included maps of the Australian coastline with French place names throughout, these were mostly quietly dropped from this second edition and replaced with Flinders’ names, with the exception of actual French discoveries along the southern coast, mainly in the south-east and on the coast of Kangaroo Island.

The second edition is of special interest and significance for the Australian collector not only for this reason, but also for the remarkable engravings added to this edition. The twenty-three new images include four new portraits of Aborigines to extend the beautiful series familiar to us from the first edition. There is also a most important engraved sheet of music, the first notation of any indigenous Australian music and including a rendering of the Aboriginal cooee call (Cou-hé, described as the “Cri de Ralliement”). The engravings together represent an exceptionally important resource for our understanding of the period: where the English artists typically depicted the native population in something of a caricatured manner, the French artists had a more sympathetic and credible approach, as can be seen, for example, in the portrait new to this second edition of the Port Jackson man “Bedgi-Bedgi”. That and many of the portraits were the work of Nicolas-Martin Petit, who had learned his art in the studio of the neoclassical painter Louis David.

Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, p. 109; Ferguson, 978 & 979; this edition not in the catalogue of the Hill collection; Wantrup, 82.  

$16,000
The Beagle voyage: first issue of the first edition

12. [BEAGLE] KING, Phillip Parker, Robert FITZROY and Charles DARWIN. Narrative of the Surveying Voyages of His Majesty's Ships Adventure and Beagle, between the years 1826 and 1836…

Four volumes, octavo, with four charts bound in and eight loose folding maps (two accompanying each volume in original endpaper sleeve), and a total of 44 engraved plates after Augustus Earle and Conrad Martens; from the library of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, with blind stamps; a couple of pages in the second volume carelessly opened, slight foxing of some plates; a most attractive set in the original uniform publisher’s cloth. London, Henry Colburn, 1839.

First edition, comprising first issues in the original cloth bindings, of the full narrative of one of the greatest marine and scientific surveys of all time. The first published account of the voyages of the Beagle, this famous publication includes the full account written by Charles Darwin, the first major work published by him. As the greatest voyage of the intellect, as the voyage has been described, the Beagle voyage of 1831-36 perfectly encapsulates the spirit of the historical period of Enlightenment voyages as well as being one of its highest achievements, a voyage of discovery that would change scientific thinking and ultimately the understanding of man’s place in the universe.

The voyage is renowned above all else because of Fitzroy’s choice of Charles Darwin as naturalist, but the narrative also includes a large section written by Phillip Parker King describing his experience aboard the Beagle, work which confirmed his status as the pre-eminent Australian cartographer.

‘Fitzroy, who was more concerned with science than were many naval officers of his day, made it possible for Darwin to visit tropical lands and study their flora, fauna, and geology. The two men shared the same cabin and Fitzroy was attentive to the scientific needs and interests of the young Darwin. Fitzroy’s violent temper and his conservative opinions on religion and slavery were responsible for some disagreements between them, but Fitzroy and Darwin remained on friendly terms’ (DSB). Many years later Darwin reflected in his autobiography that Fitzroy’s character ‘was in several respects one of the most noble which I have ever known’ and expressed his immense debt to his time in the Beagle: ‘The voyage of the Beagle has been by far the most important event in my life, and has determined my whole career…’.

Publication of Darwin’s journal had been urged by Fitzroy during the voyage, and it forms the third volume of this official Narrative. Immediately popular, the Darwin volume was reprinted several times with different titles, but is widely known today as The Voyage of the Beagle, Darwin’s first book. Freeman notes ‘His first published book is undoubtedly the most often read and stands second only On the Origin of Species as the most often printed’. It was also one of Darwin’s personal favourites, as he writes in his autobiography: ‘The success of this my first literary child tickles my vanity more than that of any of my other books’.

Volume I of the Narrative concerns the initial surveying expedition of the coasts of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego, 1826-30, under Phillip Parker King in the Adventure, during which Fitzroy succeeded Pringle Stokes as commander of the accompanying Beagle. Volume II describes Fitzroy’s continuation and completion of the survey with the Beagle alone in South America, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, and many other groups in the course of the circumnavigation. ‘The surveys he carried out in South American waters established Fitzroy as a first-rate hydrographer and won for him the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society (1837). Because his marine surveys were accurate to such a high degree they are still used as the foundation for a number of charts of that area’ (DSB). Volume II includes a separately bound appendix of bearings and observations by Fitzroy that is likewise accompanied by two folding maps.

This set comprises first issues of all three volumes. Demand for the third volume – Darwin’s work – so exceeded that for the first two volumes that it had to be rapidly reissued in 1839 as a publication in its own right with the substantially different title Journal of researches into the
This set contains the Darwin volume in its first state (using the *Journal and Remarks* version of the title). Furthermore, Freeman notes two binding variants for the set of three volumes. This set is an example of the earlier binding, in blue cloth with the names of the respective authors lettered on the spines (the author’s names were omitted from later copies). Sets in the original cloth, all first editions, with the third volume in its first state, represent the preferred form of this scarce book and are very desirable.

*Ferguson, 2708; Freeman, 10; Hill, 607; Norman, 584.*

$95,000

Discoveries in Australia; with an account of the Coasts and Rivers explored and surveyed during the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle, in the years 1837-38-39-40-41-42-43... Also a Narrative of Captain Owen Stanley's visits to the islands in the Arafura Sea.

Two volumes, octavo, with 26 engraved plates and eight folding charts, some occasional light spotting in the margins of plates but generally a good crisp set in a fine contemporary binding of half dark brown hard-grained morocco, top edges gilt. London, T. and W. Boone, 1846.

First edition: the final voyage of Australian discovery, the second and last major account of the Beagle's voyaging. This is an excellent set in a handsome contemporary binding of Stokes' book, published just a year after the second edition of his former shipmate Darwin's account of the Beagle voyage.

John Lort Stokes (1812-1885) was the longest-serving officer on the Beagle, best known as the ship which took Darwin around the world. Stokes joined the vessel in 1824 as a young midshipman, and sailed on all three of the great circumnavigations, serving with P.P. King, Fitzroy, and of course Darwin. In 1841, while in Sydney, Stokes was chosen to replace Wickham as commander of the ship, which meant that he personally oversaw most of the very difficult survey work the Beagle undertook in Australian waters, completing the survey of the north-west coast, and charting rivers and exploring inland where appropriate. Stokes was personally responsible for an enormous amount of patient navigation on remote and difficult stretches of Australia coast, experiences retold here and also honoured in the magnificent official charts published under his auspicies.

Davidson, 'A Book Collector's Notes', p.129; Ferguson, 4406; Wantrup, 89a. $16,500
**Views taken of the Great Barrier Reef on board HMS Beagle**

14. **[BEAGLE] [STOKES, John Lort]**

*Australian Views. North-East Coast.*

*Oblong quarto, title, letterpress contents page, & 13 original lithographic plates of coastal views, some foxing; very good in the original stiff blue wrappers, neatly respined, quarter morocco box. No imprint but London, circa 1846.*

Extremely rare: only the second copy known to be in any private collection of this important work on the Great Barrier Reef based on the surveys undertaken on the final voyage of HMS Beagle. Forming an important supplement to the published account of the expedition by Lort Stokes, as the contents page makes clear, the work shows “Coast-Views between Sandy Cape and Endeavour Strait for the Navigation of the Inner Passage to Torres Strait.” The thirteen engraved plates comprise some eighty-eight finely executed and numbered coastal views (the Strait, the ultimate ambition of every mariner, is marked with an asterisk on the final plate).

Although unsigned, the project was no doubt overseen by John Lort Stokes (1812-1885), the longest-serving officer on the Beagle. Stokes sailed on all three of her great voyages, ultimately becoming captain of the ship, an appointment made in 1841 while he was in Sydney. Although the Beagle will forever be associated with Darwin, the last major expedition of the ship was largely devoted to mapping the remote coasts of Australia, as recounted in Stokes’s wonderful *Discoveries in Australia* (see previous).

Ferguson recorded copies in the Mitchell and National Libraries only, with none added in the 1986 Addenda nor since. The only other copy known to us was sold in the second Davidson sale of 2006.

*Ferguson, 4407; Ingleton, pp. 58-61; Wantrup, 90.*

$68,000
The cause of it all

15. [BLIGH] MILLER, John Frederick (engraver, by or after?), perhaps deriving from a drawing by Sydney PARKINSON.

Specimen of the Bread Fruit Tree.


The breadfruit itself: a wealth of horror and romance lies behind this simple image of the tropical tree, both the direct reason for the voyage of the *Bounty* and one of the proximate causes of the mutiny. This fine drawing is either by or based on the work of John Frederick Miller (fl.1759-1794), the artist employed by Joseph Banks to make drawings to become engravings in the official account of Cook’s first voyage, based on either an actual specimen or a drawing by Sydney Parkinson, artist on Cook’s first voyage to the Pacific in the *Endeavour*.

The engraved version of this image appeared as plate 11 in the official account of Cook’s first voyage, without any mention of Parkinson as original artist, implying that Miller may have based the image on a specimen rather than a drawing. William Bligh, who sailed with Cook as a young man of twenty-two, returned to Tahiti in 1787 as commander of the *Bounty* specifically to gather the breadfruit tree for cultivation to feed the slave population in the West Indies. The attempted social engineering went sour twice: firstly the mutiny on the *Bounty* and secondly, after Bligh’s more successful second breadfruit voyage, no-one in the West Indies could stomach the stuff.

This drawing is inscribed *Specimen of the Bread Fruit Tree*, whilst the published engraving is not similarly identified. Whether this has some connection with the preparation of the engraving or is an eighteenth-century version of the same subject, it is a charming image and an early drawing skilfully rendered by an accomplished artist.

$7850
FAMOUS VOYAGE AND INFAMOUS MUTINY

16. BLIGH, William.

A Voyage to the South Sea, undertaken by Command of His Majesty, for the purpose of conveying the Bread-fruit Tree to the West Indies…

Quarto, with frontispiece portrait, and seven plans and charts, a very fine copy, clean and large, with almost none of the offsetting usually seen; modern half crimson morocco, by the Parisian binder Devauchuelle, slipcase. London, Printed for George Nicol, 1792.

First edition: a particularly good copy, in a most attractive binding, of one of the most famous of all voyage books, the full official narrative of Bligh's voyage in the Bounty and the mutiny. At the time of publication Bligh was on his second breadfruit voyage, and the work was edited for the press by James Burney, with the assistance of Joseph Banks, both of whom had also sailed with Cook. This full account of the voyage includes Bligh's own account of the mutiny, which had first been published separately two years earlier. This extended and revised text makes this the fundamental published account of the Bounty saga, and an important eighteenth-century document of Pacific voyaging, most especially for the second phase of European relations with Tahiti.

The Bounty mutiny and its ramifications would haunt Bligh always, although his reputation was redeemed by the epic open-boat journey across 4,000 miles of the Pacific. The open-boat voyage, one of the most famous feats of seamanship of all time, was also notable for the coastal discoveries made almost accidentally in the course of the desperate voyage. Bligh's description here is accompanied by his important engraved chart of discoveries made on the coast of present-day Queensland. His achievement in charting large sections of the coast under conditions of terrible hardship partly completed the work of Cook on the Australian east coast. Bligh was justifiably proud of his achievements in mapping and charting during the terrible voyage to safety, and each of the printed charts features his name prominently: the sketch of Matavai Bay in Tahiti even features his signature in facsimile (particularly notable given Bligh's fury that his work on the charts of Cook's third voyage was not recognised).

Ferguson, 125; Hill, 135; Kroepelien, 93; O'Reilly-Reitman, 550; Sabin, 5910; Wantrup, 62a. $22,000
RARE SWEDISH EDITION

17. BLIGH, William.
Capitainens vid Engelske Ammiralitetet, Wiliam Bligh's Resa i Söderhafvet Åren 1788, 1789, 1790…

Small octavo, woodcut headpiece; foxed, early inoffensive library stamps; a good copy in contemporary half calf, a little bumped, paper manuscript label to spine chipped. Nyköping, Hammarin, 1795.

The first Swedish edition of Bligh's *Voyage to the South Seas*.

Rolf du Rietz explains in the Kroepelien catalogue that this rare version was anonymously translated by Carl Fr. Landell from Georg Forster's German edition of the Bligh account, and includes Forster's introduction. As with the German edition on which it is based, this book only includes the new material from the 1792 *Voyage*: that is, none of the earlier publication on the mutiny is included here, and a footnote explains that Ödmann's Swedish translation of that part should be thought of as the "second volume", so-called. This explains, in passing, the otherwise rather cryptic "Förrste Delen" ("first part") noted on the title-page here. Such a publishing arrangement had been Bligh's original intention for the English edition, but he changed his mind when he decided that some sections of the *Narrative* needed revising for republication.

Ferguson noted only the Mitchell Library copy and the copy in the Kroepelien collection.

*Ferguson, 216; Kroepelien, 96; not in Spence; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection; O’Reilly-Reitman, 556a.*

$3800
Loss of the Bounty and the "Ring-Leader" of the Mutineers

18. [BLIGH] BOUNTY, H.M.S.

Statements of the Loss of His Majesty’s new ship the Bounty… also, the Adventures of the Mutineers, communicated by Lieutenant Christian, the Ring-leader…

Duodecimo, 28 pp., folding aquatint frontispiece showing Bligh being cast adrift by the mutineers; a few spots but a neat copy in old calf, edges worn, rebacked. London, Thomas Tegg, circa 1795-1808.

Scarce chapbook account of the loss of the Bounty and the adventures of the mutineers, happily mixing fact with conjecture and giving the location of the mutineers as Juan Fernandez Island; perhaps partly based on some of the dottier publications that speculated about the mutineers, such as the 1796 *Letters from Mr Fletcher Christian* which had him holidaying in South America.

The only evidence for Ferguson’s conjectural date of 1808 is the publication that year of Tegg’s *Mariner's Marvellous Magazine*, a collection of a number of the publisher’s chapbooks. Having said that, we have also handled copies of the book with an “1808” watermark on the title-page (although no copy we have seen has any watermark on the text proper). Neither fact necessarily means that none of the actual text had been published earlier; indeed, it seems likely that the Magazine, in particular, was a device for selling chapbooks that remained in stock. Tegg very likely continually printed off copies of this and his other chapbooks as they were needed and, as the latest date mentioned in the text is 1795, it was possibly available for over a decade.

Ferguson, 460.

$2850
To Captain Bligh, on his Return to England in 1793, after having in so successful a manner executed the Commission intrusted to his Care, of transporting the Bread Fruit Trees from Otaheite to the Islands of Jamaica and St. Vincent.

Quarto, 4 pp., printed in large type on thick wove paper, measuring 290 x 210 mm; unbound as issued, original fold, a fine copy; quarter morocco box. London, 1793.

One of the rarest of all Bligh pieces, commemorating the success of the second breadfruit voyage. Bligh had finally succeeded in fulfilling the original purpose of the Bounty voyage by carrying living breadfruit trees to the slave colonies in the West Indies where, ironically, the low-cost fruit grew plentifully but was found completely distasteful by its intended audience.

Keate's poem honouring Bligh has always been famously rare: no copy is recorded in either the Hill or the Kroepelien catalogues, nor does it appear in the Walters sale catalogue (the benchmark Bligh collection). Ferguson knew the book only from the two (!) copies in the Mitchell Library and from a copy offered by Francis Edwards in their catalogue 645 of 1940. No further copies were located in Australian libraries for the Ferguson Addenda.

This copy once belonged to the Swedish Pacific bibliographer and Bounty scholar Rolf du Rietz, who noted in private correspondence with us that "George Keate (who has an entry in DNB) was a family friend of the Blighs, and in Bligh's letters to his wife there are occasional references to him. The poem was written by Keate to celebrate Bligh's return from his second (and successful) breadfruit voyage in 1793… The poem was reprinted in the Naval Chronicle, vol. 4 (1800:II), pp. 494-6, and in Rutter's Turbulent Journey (1936), pp. 169-70, where Rutter refers to the only copy seen by him, bound up with Mrs Bligh's copy of Bligh's Voyage 1792, then in the possession of Mr Walter Bligh Nutting. Another copy is in the Banks MS collection in the Sutro Library in California…". The whereabouts of the Nutting copy referred to above is not known; WorldCat adds another copy, that in the Harry Ransom HRC at University of Texas at Austin, while the online English Short-Title Catalogue adds the John Carter Brown Library copy.

Keate was of course best known for his Account of the Pelew Islands, published five years earlier, which was probably the best seller of eighteenth century voyage books.
TO
CAPTAIN BLIGH,

On his Return to England in 1793, after having in so successful a manner executed the Commission intrusted to his Care, of transporting the Bread Fruit Trees from Otaheite to the Islands of Jamaica and St. Vincent.

BY GEORGE KEATE, ESQ.

O, WELCOME home with thy triumphant sail!
Achiev’d the noble task to thee assign’d;
With ardour such as thine it scarce could fail;
And to thy purpose friendly ev’ry wind:
All mark’d thy distant tract with eager eye,
For ’twas the glorious cause of sweet humanity.

To such a cause the Heav’ns protection lend!
Thou felt their influence in a trying hour;
When all around menac’d a fatal end,
From the black stratagems of lawless power:
For it was then they rais’d Hope’s soothing form,
To cheer thy drooping heart, and calm th’impending storm.
AN HISTORICAL NARRATIVE OF THE DISCOVERY OF NEW HOLLAND AND NEW SOUTH WALES.

CONTAINING
An Account of the Inhabitants, Soil, Animals, and other Productions of those Countries, and including a particular Description of BOTANY BAY.

ILLUSTRATED
With a Chart of NEW HOLLAND, NEW SOUTH WALES, BOTANY BAY, and the New Discovered Islands in the North and South PACIFIC OCEAN, from 30 deg. N. to 10 deg. South Latitude, and from 90 to 125 deg. Longitude, East, from the Meridian of Greenwich.

LONDON
Printed for JOHN FIELDING, in Pater-noster Row.
Price ONE SHILLING and SIX-PENCE.
[Entered at STATIONERS HALL.]
20. **[BOTANY BAY] FIELDING, John, publisher.**

An Historical Narrative of the Discovery of New Holland and New South Wales… illustrated With a Chart of New Holland…

Quarto, with a folding hand-coloured chart of New Holland in its first issue, some toning to the title-page but an excellent tall untrimmed copy in handsome recent green half morocco by Sangorski. London, John Fielding, no date but 1786.

The very rare first edition of this earliest separate account of New South Wales, with the correct first issue map; the first published work to anticipate “Botany Bay”, the great social experiment that can be understood as a purely Enlightenment endeavour, the making of a new ordered society with mastery over the natural world (see for example John Gascoigne and Patricia Curthoys *The Enlightenment and the Origins of European Australia*, Cambridge, 2002).

The *Historical Narrative* was published to satisfy intense public curiosity following Lord Sydney’s 1786 announcement of plans for the new convict settlement at Botany Bay. So little was generally known about this remote destination on the recently-discovered east coast of Australia that Fielding put together this collection of information from the official accounts of Captain Cook’s voyages, all three of them in print by this date, as well as from the first-voyage narratives of Parkinson and Magra in particular, discussing the major landfalls not only in Australia but also the wider Pacific. The text also includes a discussion of Cook’s main precursors Tasman and Dampier. This concise description of the conditions that the new arrivals might expect in New South Wales was the first work in print to anticipate the settlement at Botany Bay, and its publication marks the point at which the history of *Terra Australis* ends and a narrative of settlement begins.

The call for it from all those interested in the colony, including of course the families of the convicts soon to be transported, made the book a commercial success, though its rarity today in any edition does not reflect the quantity that must have been published: within months a second quarto edition and a cheaper octavo reprint were called for.

*Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 77-8; Ferguson, 11; Holmes, 60.*

$87,500

Autograph note to the London publisher Thomas Cadell.

*Manuscript in ink on a single piece of paper, originally folded, 140 x 233 mm.; top corner restored. London, 10 February 1791.*

A fascinating early expression of interest in Botany Bay by “Bloody Ban”, the British soldier who led the British Legion in fierce fighting in America in the 1770s. Banastre was Tench’s second cousin, and here writes to London to acquire books on New South Wales, at a time when Tench himself was still in Port Jackson. Tarleton’s interest was shared by his family: by the time of Tench’s second book published in 1793 nine copies were subscribed by different branches of the family.

The Tarletons were a prominent merchant and shipping family in the Liverpool region of England, active in the West Indies, Africa and America. As a soldier, Banastre Tarleton was one of the most-hated British officers to fight in the American war. At the capture of Charleston in 1780 he infamously employed unusually ruthless tactics, gaining the epithet “Bloody Ban”. Tarleton returned to England in 1782, becoming a member of the Prince of Wales’ inner circle, an MP, and was knighted in 1790.

At the time he wrote this note to Thomas Cadell, the great travel and exploration publisher of the late eighteenth century, Tarleton would have been aware that Tench had sailed for Port Jackson in 1787. Perhaps it was in relation to Tarleton’s parliamentary duties that he required information on the fledgling colony of Botany Bay. Dated only three years after settlement, Tarleton’s note reads: ‘Colonel Tarleton’s compliments to Mr Cadell & wishes him to find as soon as possible, all the pamphlets that have been published relative to South Wales [sic] or Botany Bay…’

$5500

22. [BOTANY BAY] PIGOTT, Charles.

The Female Jockey Club, or A Sketch of the Manners of the Age.

*Octavo, preliminary leaves a little thumbed; contemporary half calf, binding worn. London, Eaton, 1794.*

Biting polemic aimed at London’s elite written in the spirit of the French Revolution, proclaiming even Botany Bay too generous a punishment for many members of the British aristocracy. This anonymous book is the work of Charles Pigott, radical satirist and pamphleteer. Pigott wrote the Jockey Club in 1792 followed by this “female” sequel two years later written partly while he was in Newgate. Both denounce the opulence of the aristocracy, and although the full names of the ladies here scrutinized are suppressed, there is little doubt of their true identity.

The Female Jockey Club includes specific references to Botany Bay, even though Pigott deemed transportation there insufficient punishment for his worst enemies (preferring, in fact, that justice be more swift and that ultimately “Botany Bay will not be the seat of punishment”.

The book was popular and went into several editions, four of them in its first year; this is an example of the fourth. Only a very small handful of copies is held between the various Australian libraries including some later editions.

$800
I exports Natives and imports Exotics from Botany Bay

   The Lancaster Caleb Quotem, i.e. Jack of all Trades.
   Hand coloured etching, sheet 245 x 340mm; trimmed to plate and with light stain to last panel of six, but otherwise very good. London, Tho. Tegg 111 Cheapside, July 1812.

A marvellous early nineteenth-century broadside depicting conditions in Lancaster jails: in the second panel, the portly “Higgins”, Governor of the jail, announces that he ‘exports Natives and imports Exotics from Botany Bay.’

While many early cartoons made reference to the thief colony at Botany Bay, this is a uncommon example of political satire on the subject, composed in light of a contemporary commission of inquiry into Governor John Higgin by the reforming MP Sir Francis Burdett. The Commission charged that Higgin had created fictitious posts for his sons, besides having established a garden and hot-house in which he employed one of the turnkeys. The commission decided that the extra remuneration was due to innovation rather than corruption, while Higgin certainly needed a “gardener” because the jail did have a small garden, and a “manufacturer” because he employed the prisoners condemned to hard labour for the benefit of the county. Higgin remained at the helm until 1833.

Nonetheless, his enthusiasms provided great sport for the caricaturist Charles Williams (fl. 1797-1830), who has the Governor dressed for his six different occupations as “Jailor”, “Gardiner”, “Manufacturer”, “Farmer”, “Alderman”, and “Captain”. It is in the role of “Gardiner” that he is moved to reflect on the transportation of convicts. A copy of this cartoon is held in the British Museum.

Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires in the Department of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum, 11892.

$3850
The explorer as prodigy

24. BOUGAINVILLE, Louis Antoine de.

Traité du calcul intégral, pour servir de suite à l'analyse des infiniments-petits de M. le Marquis de l'Hôpital.

Two volumes, quarto, with three folding plates; in fine crisp condition in contemporary French mottled calf, spines gilt in compartments with floral motifs, double labels, marbled endpapers and edges. Paris, H.L. Guerin and L.F. Delatour, 1754-56.

The explorer Louis de Bougainville's first published work, and a milestone in his life. Few explorers could claim such a heady start to their careers.

This quite precocious publication – Bougainville was in his early twenties when he completed the first volume – would kick-start his career and bring him wide recognition. By the time he completed the work with its second volume in 1756 he was already serving as secretary to the French ambassador in London, and was soon elected a member of the Royal Society, an unusual distinction for such a young foreigner. A great change of direction then occurred with his distinguished military and then naval careers, and his first voyage to the Falkland Islands; this was followed in 1766 by his most famous achievement, his circumnavigation, the first such French voyage, in the course of which only the Great Barrier Reef prevented his landing on Australian soil. He had specifically set out to reach "New Holland" by running west from Quiros's "Espiritu Santo", but turned away from the barrier presented by the Reef, heading north and coasting New Guinea.

From the early 1750s Bougainville had studied under the mathematician and Enlightenment figure Jean le Rond d'Alembert, one of the editors of the Encyclopédie. The Traité du calcul integral, one of the earliest complete treatises on the integral calculus, reflects the influence of d'Alembert and follows on the work of l'Hôpital half a century earlier who had dealt with the infinitesimal calculus and had brought differential notation into general use in Europe. 'La plus grande partie des découvertes en ce genre (le calcul intégral) faites jusqu'au milieu de ce siècle (XVIIIème siècle) a été exposée par le cit. de Bougainville, dans son Traité du calcul intégral pour servir de suite à l'analyse des infiniment petits du marquis de l'Hôpital. La méthode et la clarté qui règnent dans cet ouvrage le rendront toujours précieux...’ (Montucla, III p. 137).

Graesse, I, 509; not in Brunet.

$8400
25. **BOUGAINVILLE, Louis Antoine de.**

Voyage autour du Monde, par la frégate du roi La Boudeuse, et la flûte l’Étoile; en 1766, 1767, 1768 & 1769.

Quarto, with 20 engraved charts, mostly folding, and three plates of boats; a few stains to endpapers and half-title but an excellent copy in handsome contemporary French cat’s paw mottled calf, spine gilt with raised bands; contemporary armorial bookplate. Paris, chez Saillant & Nyon, 1771.

First edition of Bougainville's narrative of his important voyage, the first French circumnavigation. Bougainville's description of his travels in the Pacific created enormous interest in Europe and was largely responsible for building up the romantic vision of a South Sea paradise where Rousseau’s noble savage lived in a state of blissful innocence.

Bougainville’s expedition passed through the Strait of Magellan in January 1768. After some time looking for the mythical “Davis Land”, said to be off the Chilean coast, they started on a direct route across the Pacific. They discovered the Tuamotus, sighted Tahiti in April, then visited Samoa, sailed through Melanesia, sighted the Great Barrier Reef, and passed through the Solomons and New Britain, to Batavia.

Bougainville, not knowing of Wallis’s stop there a year earlier, thought that he had discovered Tahiti, and his lengthy account of the island group is an interesting counterpart to Wallis's account. The vocabulary of three hundred words that he prints is the first such vocabulary of any Polynesian language to appear. ‘It was only the Great Barrier Reef that prevented Bougainville landing on Australian soil. He had specifically set out to reach “New Holland” by running west from Quiros’s “Espiritu Santo”, but turned away from the obvious barrier presented by the reef. Had he made it, ‘he would have come to the Australian coast near Cooktown, and would, likely enough, have been wrecked where Cook was wrecked two years later...’ (Wood).

The book was not a huge commercial success in its first edition, though its influence was immense: it has been estimated that only 1000 copies or less were published at the time, quite a small run for a voyage book at the time, but through its many subsequent editions and versions, translations and abridgements, it stayed permanently in print for at least a century. It was also the catalyst for intense discussion and philosophical argument – see for example the famous "supplement" by Diderot rejecting the notions of the “noble savage” (catalogue number 30) and Taitbout's speculations on the fundamental differences between the “homme sauvage” and the “homme civilisé” (numbers 172 & 173).

*Hill, 163; Kroepelien, 109; O'Reilly-Reitman, 283.*

$9500
26. **BOUGAINVILLE, Louis Antoine de and James MAGRA.**

*Voyage autour du Monde, par la frégate du roi la Boudeuse, et la flûte l’Étoile; en 1766, 1767, 1768 & 1769. [with] Supplément au voyage de M. Bougainville; ou journal d’un voyage autour du monde fait par MM. Banks & Solander… Traduit de l’anglois, par M. de Fréville.*

Together three volumes, octavo, the 'Voyage' in two volumes, with 24 maps and plates; half-titles in all three volumes; in fine contemporary French bindings of mottled calf, spines gilt, gilt arms on covers. Paris, chez Saillant & Nyon, 1771.

The first French account of the revised edition of Bougainville's narrative with the first French edition of Cook's first voyage: a beautiful set in original French bindings with uniform provenance from a noble European library. The two works in three volumes were published as a coherent set, and the three volumes here have clearly always formed a set, with matching library labels showing continuous numbering, and matching coats-of-arms in gilt on their covers.

The first two volumes of the set contain the revised and augmented version of Bougainville's narrative of his circumnavigation, which had been published in its quarto format in 1771 (see previous entry). Often considered to be the “best” edition of the narrative, this second version adds a 'Discours préliminaire' on discoveries in the Pacific since Magellan which takes Cook's First Voyage (1768-71) into account. This copy corresponds to the first of the two distinct settings identified by Du Rietz in the Kroepelien catalogue.

The third volume or *Supplément* contains the first French edition of the earliest published account of Cook's first voyage, the anonymous work nowadays attributed to the midshipman James Magra; the French edition adds an extensive 'Lettre de M. de Commerson à M. de La Lande. De l’île de Bourbon, le 18 avril 1771'. As Du Rietz points out in the Kroepelien catalogue, while there were two issues of this publication, one (as here) describing itself as the supplement to Bougainville's account, there is no evident priority between the two which should rather be seen as simultaneous issues.

Magra's narrative of the *Endeavour* voyage, published first in London in the same year, was the first of a series of so-called “surreptitious accounts” of Cook's various voyages to appear in print, published anonymously some two months after the return of *Endeavour* and nearly two years before Hawkesworth's official account.

*Beddie, 697; Hill, 164 ('Voyage' only); Kroepelien, 111a, 219; O'Reilly-Reitman, 284, 365.*

$14,500
27. **BOUGAINVILLE, Louis Antoine de.**

A Voyage round the World. Performed by Order of His most Christian Majesty, in the Years 1766, 1767, 1768, and 1769…

Quarto, five folding maps and folding plate of Tahitian canoes, a couple of repaired short tears to the plates; a few spots through the text, owner's ink note at start; contemporary half calf, elaborately gilt flat spine with red morocco label, marbled sides; a very attractive copy. London, Nourse and Davies, 1772.

First English edition of the first French circumnavigation, with an introduction by Johann Forster. Forster calls the voyage ‘a work written by a learned, intelligent, and judicious traveller, which abounds with remarkable events and curious observations…’ and notes that he has edited ‘and partially vindicated the British nation where we thought the author had been unjustly partial’.

Bougainville sailed from Nantes in November 1766, making important stops at the Falklands and Tahiti. He sailed close to the Great Barrier Reef and could well have made Australian landfall around modern Cooktown if he hadn’t prudently decided to turn north and make his way to Batavia via the Solomons and New Britain.

Borba de Moraes, p. 115; Davidson, ‘A Book Collector's Notes’, pp. 96-7; Hill, 165; Kroepelien, 113; O'Reilly-Reitman, 285; Sabin, 6869. $8750

28. **BOUGAINVILLE, Louis Antoine de.**

A Voyage Round the World. Performed by Order of His most Christian Majesty, in the Years 1766, 1767, 1768, and 1769.

Octavo, with a folding map and folding plate of native canoes; bookplate and old ownership inscriptions of the Le Power (later De la Poer, later still Lord Power) families; contemporary calf, covers scuffed and worn at extremities with some defects, internally fine and crisp. Dublin, J. Exshaw, et al, 1772.

The first Dublin edition, very scarce: a smaller format issue of the text of the first London edition of the same year and incorporating the Tahitian word-list. Such Irish printings are effectively piracies; typically the text remains unchanged while the (harder to copy) maps and illustrations are partly or completely dropped; this edition has a map and a plate.

Hill, 166; Kroepelien, 114. $2200
29. [BOUGAINVILLE] JACOBÉ, Jean after Francesco CASANOVA.

Tigre tué en Amerique par S. A. Monseigneur Le Prince de Nassau Siegen dans son voyage autour du monde sur la Boudeuse Fregatte du Roi commandée par Monsieur le Comte de Bougainville [sic].

Mezzotint engraving 700 x 990 mm; a fine impression; some wear or tears at blank margins, in very good condition. Vienna, Jean Jacobe, 1787.

A rare and very surprising pictorial image of the Bougainville expedition: we have never seen the image before and can find no record of it. Published in Vienna, it is based on a very large painting by Francesco Casanova in the collection of Empress Catherine the Great of Russia as the caption explains ("actuellement dans la Gallerie de S.M. l’Imperatrice de la Russie, il a dix pieds de large, sur huit et demi d’hui"). Francesco Casanova (his older brother was much more famous, but not for painting) trained under Francesco Guardi in Venice, worked in Paris from 1751, becoming a member of the Academy in 1763, and exhibiting at the Salon until 1783 when he moved to Vienna. Interestingly for the history of voyage art, Philip James de Loutherbourg, who painted numerous Cook-related scenes and designed a number of the theatrical pieces commemorating Cook, was his pupil for a time.

This very striking mezzotint depicts an exciting South American scene from Louis Antoine Bougainville’s circumnavigation, showing the dashing Prince of Nassau-Siegen firing from horseback at a jaguar. Several dogs circle the large cat as two others join the fight on horseback. Could the
second French horseman be Bougainville? The expedition's ship the Boudeuse is seen to the right of the image. It has been plausibly suggested that the location is the coast of Argentina, where the expedition made landfall before heading for the Pacific.

To some extent the prince of Nassau and his presence on the Bougainville expedition represented the French equivalent to Joseph Banks's involvement with Cook's Endeavour voyage. Like Banks the prince cut a dashing figure, was extremely upper-crust, was young, had a retinue of sorts, and an interest in natural sciences. Only performance anxiety at its public nature prevented him having a lot of sex in Tahiti: whether Banks did or didn't all the humorists played this aspect up no end. When the expedition returned to Paris, Bougainville and the prince headed off to Versailles to make their reports accompanied by Aoutourou the young Tahitian who was to some extent under Nassau's wing much as Omai was under Banks's.

$18,000

DIDEROT TAKES ON THE NOBLE SAVAGE

30. [BOUGAINVILLE] DIDEROT, Denis.

Octavo in fours, an excellent uncut copy with ample margins, contemporary mottled pink paper boards with manuscript paper labels to spine, some wear to joints and spine, from the Talleyrand-Périgord library with armorial bookplate. Paris, Chevet, 1796.

First edition, a fine large paper copy, with the philosophe Diderot's important essay on Bougainville and Tahiti as the highlight of this collection, which includes moral and philosophical essays by authors such as the Marquise du Châtelet, Necker, Dumarsais, and the Abbé Galiani.

Diderot's essay is his response to Bougainville's idyllic account of a South Sea paradise inhabited by such “noble savages” as Ahu-Toru (Aoutourou), the Tahitian who caused a sensation in fashionable Paris when he returned with Bougainville.

First written as early as 1772 or 1773, the essay circulated in manuscript for more than twenty years before being published here. In this fictional appendix to Bougainville, Diderot expressed his pessimism about the likely European influence on the new discoveries in the South Seas, in the process developing a vigorous satire on European civilisation. At stake are French claims to ownership of Tahiti: Bougainville “took possession” of the islands, but in a supposed response to this act, one of the chiefs here asks rhetorically how the Europeans would react if a Tahitian landed in France and claimed it (‘Si un Otaïtien débarqua sur vos côtes, et qu'il gravât sur une de vos pierres ou sur l'écorce d'un de vos arbres: Ce pays appartient aux habitans d'Otaïti, qu'en penserois-tu?’).

Uncut and on fine wove paper, this is undoubtedly the deluxe “Papier-vélin” edition, as noted in the colophon. This fine copy has the bookplate of the house of Talleyrand-Périgord, with the motto of the house “Re que Diou” emblazoned: given the close relationship between the great French diplomat Talleyrand himself and the philosophes, this copy is likely from his private library.

$7850
RARE ACCOUNT OF THIS FRENCH CIRCUMNAVIGATION, WITH SUPERB ILLUSTRATIONS

31. BOUGAINVILLE, Hyacinthe Y.P.P. de

Journal de la navigation autour du globe de la fregate La Thétis et de la corvette l’Espérance, pendant les années 1824, 1825, et 1826.

Two volumes, quarto, text, with folio atlas; 56 engraved or lithograph plates and maps in the atlas, many coloured by hand; an excellent set in contemporary French half blue calf, gilt fillets on spines. Paris, Arthus Bertrand, 1837.

The official narrative of the French voyage under the command of Hyacinthe de Bougainville, son of Louis de Bougainville.

Young Hyacinthe had sailed as an ensign at the age of eighteen on the Baudin voyage: after distinguished service in the Napoleonic Wars, Bougainville was promoted to post-captain and given command of the Thétis, the second French frigate commissioned for a circumnavigation, the first having been his father’s vessel, the Boudeuse.

The voyage took 28 months, visiting amongst other places Pondicherry, Manila, Macao, Surabaya, Sydney (a stay of almost three months), Valparaiso and Rio. Bougainville returned to France with a fine collection of natural history specimens, and the official account of the voyage was handsomely published in this form after a delay of some 11 years.

The major purpose of the expedition was political and strategic, and Bougainville's first report of 1826 gave the French government a survey of colonial possessions in Asia and of the military strength of Manila; as well as accounts of Singapore, the Australian colonies, and Spanish America. Bougainville's advice was taken into account in the development of French strategy and diplomacy in the Pacific during the 19th century.

The fine plates in the atlas include a number of Australian views which are not generally as well known as the images from other French voyages of the 19th century. The topographical views include several of Sydney (Fort Macquarie, Government Stables, La Pérouse monument) and others of the countryside around (two of the Nepean, and a Blue Mountains view, as well as a fine group portrait of Aborigines of Camden shire). There is also a fine plan of Port Jackson, as well as a number of natural history plates, with those of the male and female gang-gang particularly striking. The story of Bougainville's visit to Sydney has recently been told in wonderful detail in The Governor's Noble Guest (Melbourne UP, 1999).

Ferguson, 2236; Hill, 162; Sabin, 6875. $28,500
FROM BREST TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: SENDING THE LATEST TO FREYCIENET

32. BOUGAINVILLE, Hyacinthe Y.P.P. de


63 pp. manuscript, 305 x 200 mm., with a further sheet loosely inserted, stitch-sewn in gathers, closely written in a neat legible hand throughout. Archives de Laage stamp to first page; very good. Prepared at sea, or on the voyage’s return, circa 1826.

A newly discovered unpublished manuscript account by its commander of the first half of the 1824-26 voyage of the Thétis.

The voyage’s commander Hyacinthe de Bougainville may have prepared this manuscript narrative specifically for his friend and mentor Louis de Freycinet; in any case it made its way into the senior man’s possession, then working on his own account of the voyage of the Uranie under his command, the various parts of which were published between 1824 and 1844. Freycinet is well known to have assiduously gathered manuscripts of all kinds to do with voyages and their progress, associated technologies and science (other examples are numbers 106 and 140 in this catalogue). The inclusion of this substantial account among the Freycinet papers once in the family chateau is therefore hardly surprising, given both Freycinet’s ongoing interest in the latest news from major voyagers, and his close friendship with Bougainville himself.

The connection between Bougainville and Freycinet stretched back to the Baudin voyage, when Bougainville, who had joined the expedition as an 18-year-old midshipman, found himself bearing the brunt of Baudin’s considerable ire: Baudin is known to have sent back damning reports on the young man to the Ministry. Freycinet supported Bougainville, however, and acquiesced in the his request for a transfer from Baudin’s command to the smaller Naturaliste while in Port Jackson; at the time Baudin told Bougainville that he was a “poison” which he was “glad to be rid of” (Rivière, The Governor’s Noble Guest, p. 9). The two men continued on the Naturaliste to France, and Freycinet’s continuing regard for the younger officer was one of the reasons why Bougainville was able to rehabilitate his reputation, and go on to have such a stellar career in the French Navy.

Bougainville was given command of the Thétis in 1822, and ordered to make a circumnavigation in 1824 (see the official account of the voyage, above). The voyage was to prove important for both the political connections and the scientific discoveries made during its two-year course.

The present manuscript is written in Bougainville’s rather rushed but still very legible hand, and has the hallmarks of a draft rather than a polished presentation. It begins with an overview of the setting up of the ship for a “long campaign”, and then gives a running journal of the voyage, beginning when they sail from Brest in March 1824, and describing their stays at Reunion, Ceylon, Pondicherry, Singapore, Manila, Macao, and Tourane (Da Nang). The manuscript finishes mid-voyage, half-way down the penultimate page, with a description of the “strong and well-constituted” islanders of the South China Sea near Vietnam: the account may well be complete as it stands, in which case one would assume that it was sent back to France at around that point in the voyage, or it may originally have continued in a second part now no longer extant. The break at the end of the text is neat and suggests that the manuscript is likely complete as it stands.

Needless to say, any manuscript account by its commander of any major Pacific voyage is of enormous interest and significance, and of course of exceptional rarity outside of institutional collections. This is no slight manuscript, running to about 25,000 words in its 63 pages. It is long enough to be considered an alternative account of the first half of Bougainville’s important expedition, and is quite distinct from any of the published versions that appeared in the wake of the voyage.

$57,500
PLEASE SEND THE LATEST VOLUMES RELATING TO FRENCH VOYAGES

33. **[HYACINTHE DE BOUGAINVILLE] TARADEL, Guy de.**

ALS written on board the Thétis.

Single-page letter on single folded sheet, 255 x 195 mm., address panel, slightly torn where originally opened at red wax seal; very good. On board, 21 April 1822.

An intriguing letter sent from on board Hyacinthe de Bougainville's command the Thétis to Monsieur Bajot, who is noted as being the editor of the Annales Maritimes published by the Ministry of the Marine in Paris. Louis-Marie Bajot was associated with the Ministry for most of his life, and was the driving force behind the publication of the Annales Maritimes, an important annual that published the latest news of naval affairs and regulations, together with long articles and notes on voyages and other maritime matters.

The naval officer André-Antoine-Émilien Gay, baron de Taradel, writes that though he is a subscriber, he finds that he is missing the recent volumes; he has just embarked on the Thétis and expects to sail shortly, just at the moment when he might conceivably profit from having the volumes to hand. The Annales Maritimes, first published in 1816, published all manner of notes and articles on all manner of questions relating to navigation, including early notes on the Baudin voyage. Bougainville and the Thétis did sail in July 1822 to Martinique to trial the vessel, but did not sail on the circumnavigation until 1824.

$2700

**VERY RARE SEPARATELY PRINTED WORK ON THE PLATYPUS**

34. **[BOUGAINVILLE] GEOFFROY SAINT-HILAIRE, Étienne.**

Sur l'identité des deux espèces nominales d'Ornithorhyncque…

12 pp., caption-title; in fine condition, tipped into a modern binding of quarter linen and boards. Paris, Annales des Sciences Naturelles, December 1826.

The renowned French zoologist Étienne Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire on the platypus: an important study, read to the Académie des Sciences and set up in print for publication in the appropriate learned journal. This is a very rare separate offprint (paginated 1 to 8 for separate issue rather than simply being clipped from its journal version).

Saint-Hilaire here discusses research into the platypus made possible by the delivery of a brace of the animals by Hyacinthe de Bougainville, commander of the Théris expedition just returned to Paris. He discusses work by Shaw in England, reports by Péron from the Baudin expedition, and work by other eminent naturalists in Europe. The second half of the text is the most controversial, debating the ideas of the German naturalist Meckel in his ground-breaking Ornithorhynchi Paradoxi published just weeks previously. Meckel's first full separate study of the animal concentrated on the animal's reproductive system and especially the mammary glands of the female. Saint-Hilaire objected strenuously, asserting that the relevant glands were in fact designed only to attract a mate. Saint-Hilaire was, of course, plain wrong, but that didn't become clear for decades. Meanwhile in the furious debates about the classification of the platypus of the 1820s and 1830s, Saint-Hilaire occupied centre-stage. (Some years ago we handled the sale of a collection of his manuscripts on the subject, which showed just how controversial the whole subject became).

It was Saint-Hilaire himself who had coined the term "Monotremata" as early as 1803. He had been appointed to the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle in 1793 at the young age of twenty-one, and it was his long study of the museum's mammalian collection that made him famous, and led to comparisons with Cuvier (although the two men fell out in 1829). During his tenure he published a series of articles and monographs on the platypus, stubbornly holding that it must be a vertebrate, and refusing to believe that it could possibly be a mammal.

$3200
This copy of the first edition of William Godwin's second Gothic novel was presented to Joseph Fidèle Eugène du Bouzet, an officer serving on board the Thétis under Hyacinthe de Bougainville while the French expedition was staying in Sydney. It is inscribed as a "Souvenir de Mr. Boyd, Sydney 21 July [i.e. September] 1825": William Boyd was the Paymaster of the Buffs, the famous regiment then stationed at Port Jackson.

Du Bouzet sailed as midshipman second class on the Thétis, and was promoted first class during the course of the voyage. He is mentioned several times in Bougainville's journals, usually scampering about in pursuit of botanical specimens, and on one occasion joining his captain for a stroll in the Botanic Gardens in Sydney. Du Bouzet had a long Pacific career, later taking part in Dumont d'Urville's second expedition to the Antarctic, and serving as the governor of French Polynesia from 1854 to 1858.

Relations between the French and the Buffs were jolly, in no small part due to Boyd himself. Bougainville's diary for 12 July 1825 notes that he 'attended a sumptuous dinner given in our honour by Colonel [W.] Stewart and the Mess (the body of officers of the third regiment known as the Buffs). This is the only regiment which enjoys the privilege of crossing London in full military regalia. The dinner was held at the barracks and lasted from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m.; there were endless toasts, and on each occasion, the colonel called upon the officer seated at the other end of the 40-foot-long table, with the words: "Mr. Boyd, we shall drink one bumper more; all ready if you please". Thereupon, the other replied at once: "I am ready, Sir, etc." At which point, he emptied his glass and invited all present to do the same. Each guest did his best, with the result that the poor attorney-general, who was present, as well as several other government officials, had to be carried from the table' (translation from The Governor's Noble Guest, p. 68).

To have given a book in Sydney in 1825 was quite a gift, given that locals could still be found complaining about the dearth of reading material. The more so as this is an attractive set of the first edition of William Godwin's novel; perhaps Boyd thought the story of the impoverished French Count Reginald de St. Leon and his discovery of the philosopher's stone might appeal to a junior officer of noble blood (later in life du Bouzet was made Marquis). Godwin's tale was an important influence on his son-in-law Percy Shelley's own Gothic novel St. Irvyne; or, the Rosicrucian and his daughter's Frankenstein, for which he was the dedicatee.

$4850
The great French study of the South Seas

36.  BROSSES, Charles de.

Histoire des Navigations aux Terres Australes. Contenant ce que l'on scait des mœurs & des productions des Contrées découvertes jusqu'à ce jour…

Two volumes, quarto, with seven folding maps, complete with errata leaves, and with the additional series of asterisked leaves (volume I, pp. 437*-450*); contemporary French mottled calf, spines gilt in compartments between raised bands, double red & green labels, red edges, marbled endpapers; bookplates; in very good condition. Paris, chez Durand, 1756.

A superb copy of this important work, on large paper and in a contemporary handsome French binding. This copy is complete with the additional “asterisk leaves”, so-called because they are numbered 437*-450*: containing an article “Sur les découvertes des Hollandais dans l’Australasie”, with details of the discoveries of the Dutch in Australasia, and not present in all copies.

This especially large copy measures 285 x 210 mm, with extremely generous margins, and probably represents a deliberate issue on Large Paper: we have not handled a copy of this size before. Interestingly, the four leaves consisting of pages 401-408 have been made up to size from an example of the regular issue by extending their margins to match: they illustrate the substantial difference between the size of a regular copy and this special version. They clearly date from the time of the binding in the mid-eighteenth century and the original colouring to the edges matches precisely.

De Brosses’ book is one of the most important general works dealing with early voyages to the Pacific, which aimed to stimulate French discovery and colonisation of the South Seas. It contains an account of all voyages to the south, beginning with the second Vespucci expedition of 1502 and going up to 1747, including the voyages of Magellan, Drake, Schouten, Tasman and others. Edward Gibbon applauded the care and ‘singular diligence’ of de Brosses as an editor, and the text was later silently used as the basis for Callander’s highly influential Terra Australis Cognita of 1766-8 (in this form it had much to do with British plans for colonial expansion).

‘Extremely important. Here de Brosses suggests that France should colonise Australia, virtually predicting the basis of its final settlement by maintaining that the colonisation should be by France’s “foundlings, beggars and criminals”’ (Davidson). The maps include those of Australia, New Guinea, and northeastern Australia which make the book particularly significant.

Davidson, ‘Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 34-5; Hill, 190; Kroepelien, 132; O’Reilly-Reitman, 93. $22,500
BROWN, Peter.

New Illustrations of Zoology, containing fifty coloured plates of new, curious, and non-descript birds, with a few quadrapeds, reptiles and insects…

Quarto, 50 handcoloured engraved plates, text in English and French; an excellent copy with ample margins in handsome early nineteenth-century gilt decorated black calf, joints expertly restored; bookplate of James Drummond. London, B. White, 1776.

A work of great interest to the early history of Pacific voyages and zoology. Peter Brown was one of the leading zoological artists of his day, closely associated with Thomas Pennant, Joseph Banks, and other leaders of the scientific/natural history community in Enlightenment London. This closely-knit coterie included Marmaduke Tunstall, owner of a famous private museum that contained a bird which appears, engraved and handcoloured, as Plate VII in this work. The caption reads “November 3 1774 New South Wales, in New Holland; very numerous in Botany Bay. This bird was first brought over by Joseph Banks esq.”

This Rainbow Lorikeet was collected on Cook’s first voyage, and was the first live Australian bird to reach England. Whittell quotes George Allan, the purchaser of the Tunstall collection: “The Blue-headed and bellied Parrot… a native of New Holland [is] very numerous at Botany Bay. The bird was brought to England by Sir Joseph Banks who gave it to Mr Tunstall and informed him that it belonged to the unfortunate Tupia, a native of Otaheite, who died at Batavia, on his way to England. P. Brown in his Illustrations of Zoology has given a beautiful plate of the bird”.

This well-travelled and quite splendid bird, who had belonged in turn to a Tahitian priest, Joseph Banks and then Marmaduke Tunstall, was the continuing source of much curiosity and study. As the first work devoted to the natural history of Australia was not to be published for well over a decade, it is easy now to understand why the beautiful Lorikeet caught the attention of Peter Brown – who made the original drawing of the bird himself.

Brown’s book – intended for a wide audience, with texts in both English and French – illustrates and describes almost exclusively exotic species. The New Zealand Creeper depicted by him must also derive from the Cook voyage (like the Lorikeet, it was drawn from a specimen in Tunstall’s Museum). A number of the plates are of birds or mammals of Ceylon, India and the East Indies, while others come from South Africa, the Americas, even the Falkland Islands. Most of the species included are birds, although a handful of insects and mammals are also included.

This copy is from the library of the Irish surgeon and naturalist James Drummond, professor of Anatomy at Belfast in 1818 and later elected first president of the Belfast Natural History Society.

Anker, p. 72; Mengel, 388; Nissen, IVB 151; Nissen, SVB 73; Whittell, p. 81; Wood, p. 264; Zimmer, p. 101. $14,850
38. [BYRON] CLERKE, Charles.
Viaggio Intorno al Mondo fatto dalla Nave Inglese Il Delfino Comandata dal Capo-Squadra Byron…

*Square octavo, engraved frontispiece, 4. 152 pp., a few ink marks on the title-page but remarkably fresh throughout, untrimmed, in plain modern boards. Firenze, Giuseppe Allegrini, 1768.*

Uncommon Italian edition of the famous account of Byron's circumnavigation by Charles Clerke. The edition includes an excellent new version of the famous frontispiece of an English sailor offering a towering Patagonian couple a biscuit. First published in London in 1767, this Italian edition is very scarce. It would appear to be based on the first London edition (because it does not include a short appendix that was included in the second London edition, also of 1767).

This famous unauthorised account of “Foul-Weather Jack” Byron's command of the *Dolphin* on the 1764-66 circumnavigation of the globe was published anonymously but is usually attributed to midshipman Charles Clerke who later sailed on all three of Cook's voyages. Clerke later served with Captain Cook on all three of his voyages, succeeding him as commander of the third voyage but shortly after dying of tuberculosis at Petropavlovsk in August 1779.

Byron's expedition was an important precursor to the voyages of Wallis, Carteret and Cook, but its immediate contemporary impact was the sensation created by rumours of Patagonian giants encountered by the expedition. These tall stories gained currency from a report sent in jest by Clerke to the Royal Society (and printed in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1767), and from a similar account published in this book. Extraordinarily, the stories seem to have been encouraged by the British government to divert attention from Byron's taking possession of the Falklands (Malvinas), politically the most sensitive and controversial aspect of his voyage.

*Hill, 311-2 (English and French editions only); O'Reilly-Reitman, 243.* 

$2850
The first European printing of the works of Confucius and an early Enlightenment milestone, precursor to the great eighteenth-century enthusiasm for China, a development that had a dramatic influence on European culture, most obviously in the decorative arts and architecture, but also in the currents of scholarly and intellectual writing. Leibniz and Voltaire were among the more important writers to adapt Chinese ideas, quite apart from ambitious projects such as Du Halde’s great “Description” (see below).

In many ways the modern era of European contact with China had begun in 1601, when the Italian Jesuit Matteo Ricci arrived in the Chinese capital to establish a Catholic mission. The reports of Ricci and his colleagues were widely published, with many, like this, produced in Paris, a centre for the Jesuits. As Lowendahl points out, ‘by one of the stranger ironies of history, Europe first learned of Confucius from Jesuits who had been sent out to convert the “heathen” Chinese.’

This first systematic presentation of Confucianism includes the earliest translation into Latin of The Analects, the fundamental Confucian text and the very basis of Chinese scholarship. Translations of Confucius into Latin were central to the growth of western interest in Chinese thought. The project had begun with two individual titles, both of which were published in the East: Father da Costa’s Sapientia Sinica (in English known as The Great Learning) of 1662 and Father Prospero In-torcetta’s Sinarum Scientia Politico-Moralis (The Doctrine of the Mean) of 1667. This larger work, produced under the editorship of Philippe Couplet, reprised these two earlier translations, and was improved through the addition of the first translation of The Analects as well as a fourth part, Couplet’s own chronological table of the Chinese dynasties, with separate title. As a result, it was both the first great compendium of the thought of Confucius, and the first of his works to be produced in Europe. It was well received, with a French edition in 1688 and an English version in 1691. Numerous further editions appeared over the following decades.

The work is also known for its significant map representing the provinces of China, and indicating the centres of missionary activity. There is besides an attractive image of Confucius in a stylised library, the walls lined with books bearing the titles of some of his classic works. The large characters at the top read ‘National Academy of Learning’ and those bracketing the arch ‘Confucius, the First Teacher under Heaven.’ This excellent copy has the bookplate of the renowned nineteenth-century Orientalist, bibliophile and Czech intellectual Voita Naprstek.

Brunet, II, 221; Cordier, 2, 1392-3; de Backer/Sommervogel, II, 1564.12; Graesse, II, 249; Lowendahl, ‘China Illustrata Nova’, 182; Lust, 724; Streit, V, p.802. $21,000
40. [CHINA] DU HALDE, P. Jean-Baptiste.

A Description of the Empire of China and Chinese-Tartary, Together with the Kingdoms of Korea, and Tibet…

Two volumes, large folio, with 51 maps and plans (most folding) and 13 plates; some scattered foxing but a very good copy in original blind stamped calf; spines expertly restored in contemporary style, panelled in gilt between raised bands. London, printed by T. Gardner for Edward Cave, 1738-1741.

Du Halde's magnum opus, the fullest expression of Enlightenment views on China. This first English folio edition was carefully re-translated from the original French edition with the addition of a new suite of finely engraved maps designed to improve upon the French originals. This splendid large folio version took the place of the small octavo translation which had been hurried to the press following the magnificent French edition of 1735. In his lengthy preface, the publisher Cave claims to have improved upon du Halde's work in a number of respects, boasting better organisation and structure, clear and literal translation from the French, improved maps and a new standardised orthography of Chinese for European use. Löwendahl attributes the translation to William Guthrie and an Irish assistant who worked under Cave's scrutiny 'to give a faithful version of the Author's Sense in the fewest words, and to avoid a disagreeable style.' This edition did improve the standardisation of place names and proper nouns that marked du Halde's original (a result of its compilation from diverse missionary authors). By doing so it 'established the orthographic conventions by which Chinese has been represented in English until very recently' (DNB). Furthermore, Cave lavished great expense on having the maps reproduced in their entirety, checking and cross referencing place names and adding engraved notes from the relevant texts to illuminate the understanding of his readers. This task was accomplished by the prolific London engraver Emanuel Bowen who later in his career printed several North American surveys by James Cook.

Cave was the proprietor of the London published Gentleman's Magazine and employed Samuel Johnson as editor from 1738 onwards in a bid to raise the tone of his publication and attract a more erudite readership. During this time Johnson checked and edited the text of du Halde as it was translated: 'One of the works that he advertised and condensed was a translation by other members of Cave's staff of Jean Baptiste du Halde's Description de la Chine (1735). First promised to the English public in 1735, the work finally appeared in two volumes in 1740. Johnson must have read, on and off, in du Halde for years, thereby increasing a stock of knowledge about Eastern, non-European culture that had begun to build up while researching Irene' (DeMaria The Life of Samuel Johnson 1993, p.67). Significantly, in his other writings Johnson used knowledge of Confucius derived from his close reading of du Halde, thereby disseminating awareness of the great Chinese philosopher to British readers of the eighteenth century.

This is an attractive copy of this handsome book, with the contemporary ownership inscription of Archibald Kennedy, a customs agent.

British Map Engravers, p.96; de Backer/Sommervogel, IV 37; Lada-Mocarski, 2; Löwendahl, 'China Illustrata Nova', 409; Lust, 'Western Books on China', 15; Streit, 'Bibliotheca Missionum', VII, 3239. $36,000
Memoires concernant l'histoire, les sciences, les arts; les moeurs, les usages, &c. des Chinois: Par les Missionaires de Pekin.

15 volumes, quarto; with two frontispiece portraits and altogether 193 engraved plates (some folding), maps, and tables; contemporary French marbled calf, spines gilt in compartments, double labels; occasional spotting in a couple of volumes, an attractive set in beautiful condition. Paris, Nyon, 1776-1791.

A particularly handsome set: this monumental survey of China as seen through the eyes of Jesuit missionaries, provides the most comprehensive survey of all aspects of Chinese life in the 18th century. Its influence was profound, not least for its depiction of a society based on secular Confucianism, free of strict religious dogma to the delight of Enlightenment thinkers in Europe. Amiot went to China as a Jesuit missionary in 1750, and was quickly accepted by the Qianlong Emperor. From then until his death over forty years later – just two days after the departure of the Macartney embassy – he gathered material from his own resources and from other missionaries in the country. Fluent in both Chinese and Tartar, he was among the first visitors to China able fully to comprehend the philosophy and life of the East and interpret it for the Western world. He sent material back to the Académie des Sciences where Henri Bertin, Louis XVI’s controller of finances, took on the project of publishing the gathered information in this comprehensive form.

The collection includes very many firsts, covering as it does all aspects of Chinese life, public and private, ranging from history, culture, language, customs and religion to music, law, science and politics. It contains translations of classic Chinese works of all kinds, along with essays and reports on Chinese sciences, language, politics and current affairs. There are biographies of celebrated Chinese figures, from rulers to poets, and scholars; whole translations of Confucian classics; and pioneering studies of the language. It notably includes the most complete life of Confucius then available, as well as Cibot’s translation of the Ta Hsüeh (the Great Learning, the classic Confucian text), along with Taoist classics including the earliest western translation of Sun Tzu’s Art of war.

The fifteen volumes comprising the set were issued over sixteen years. A further two-part volume technically forming part of the series was issued so much later (23 years after the last volume) that it is widely seen as an afterthought and hardly ever forms part of a set.

For a full analysis of the work see the separate entries for each of the 15 volumes in Lowendahl’s China Illustrata Nova (589, 596, 601, 605, 607, 608, 628, 629, 633, 643, 648, 649, 658, 667, 675).

Cordier, Sinica, 54-56; de Backer/Sommervogel, I, 300/302; Lowendahl, ‘China Illustrata Nova’, serial h and separate entries for each volume; Lust, 96; Mungello, pp.113-4.

$42,000

42. [CHINA] STAUNTON, Sir George.
An Historical Account of the Embassy to the Emperor of China...

Octavo, folding map; a good copy in contemporary sprinkled calf. London, J. Stockdale, 1797.

An attractive copy of the reduced octavo version of the official narrative of the important Macartney embassy to China, by which the British sought to establish formal diplomatic and commercial relations. Staunton served as a secretary to the embassy and compiled his account from the journal of Lord Macartney and other dignitaries. The Historical Account was so popular that it was published several times during the 1790s.

For many English readers Staunton’s work offered the first opportunity to understand Chinese government, technologies and customs from firsthand description, and played an important role in disseminating information to a wider public. Curiosity was especially aroused by China as a source for desirable and lucrative commodities including silk, tea, textiles and ceramics.


$2750
Cleveley's wonderful Pacific visions

43. CLEVELEY, James.
The series of four separately issued coloured aquatint views of the Pacific: View of Owhyhee, one of the Sandwich Islands; View of Morea, or Eimo, one of the Society Islands; View of Huaheine, one of the Society Islands, showing the Resolution and Discovery at anchor in the magnificent harbour of O Wharre; View of Charlotte Sound in New Zealand [sic; actually Matavai Bay, Tahiti].
The complete set of four aquatints, each 440 x 600 mm., handcoloured; a fine set; some very light foxing but complete with full captions (often lacking), mounted and framed. London, 1787-8.

A full set of the four beautiful handcoloured aquatints, prepared from watercolours by John Cleveley after original drawings made by his brother James in the South Seas. Perhaps the most magnificent Pacific marine prints ever issued, they have been described as 'the kind of prints that anyone who travelled with Cook, whether officer, midshipman or able seaman, might want to possess to remind him and his family of the days when he travelled with Cook' (Joppien & Smith, The Art of Captain Cook's Voyages, III, p.221).

Each of the four images shows Resolution and Discovery at anchor in the Society and Sandwich islands. The settings are ideals of Pacific beauty, and particularly of the moments of contact between the European crews and the islanders; whether it is a peaceful transaction being carried out alongside a beached cutter, or the colour and violence of Cleveley's version of Cook's death in Kealakekua Bay.

They are based on designs by James Cleveley, who was ship's carpenter on the expedition; although not formally trained, he appears to have been a proficient artist. After the voyage returned to England in October 1780 his brother John, a professional draughtsman, took the sketches made on the voyage ("drawn on the spot", according to the original prospectus issued for the prints), and worked them up into finished watercolours. John Cleveley was a maritime painter who followed in the tradition established by his father. He was known for his watercolours and his skill as a draughtsman, and it was this renown that led to his being appointed draughtsman to Sir Joseph Banks' voyage to Iceland in 1772 (after Banks' famous withdrawal from Cook's second voyage).

These aquatints were prepared in 1787-8. In the process of preparing them for European eyes, the landscape has been tamed and the islanders portrayed in a manner both dignified and classical. The finished works portray the Pacific islands and their inhabitants in a picturesque and idealised manner, which perhaps has more to do with conforming to European notions of a Pacific Arcadia than specific representations of the islands as they were.

Rare in any state, this excellent set retains the original captions, which are often lacking.

Beaglehole, III, pp. cxxiv; Beddie, 1752-1783; Nan Kivell and Spence, p. 68. $42,500
44. COLLINS, David.  
An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales…

Quarto, two charts (one folding), 22 engraved plates; a handsome copy in full speckled calf, gilt, double spine labels, by Aquarius. London, Cadell & Davies, 1798.

First edition of this substantial account of the first Australian settlement, with its important suite of images of life in early Sydney.

Collins had arrived with the First Fleet as Judge-Advocate and was Secretary to Governor Phillip. His book is a valuable account of the early settlement by an educated and observant resident of ten years, and was the last of the Australian foundation books to be published. It is written with a tremendous attention to detail which marks it out as the most rigorous of any of the early narratives, and is often described as the earliest history of Australia as an English colony.

The book is illustrated with full-page engravings prepared in London by the well-known artist Edward Dayes from sketches done in the colony by the convict artist Thomas Watling. The illustrations include an important group depicting the fledgling settlements at Sydney and Parramatta, as well as a remarkable series of some of the ceremonies of the local Aboriginal tribes: Collins is known to have had a compassionate interest in the Aborigines of NSW.

A second publication appeared in 1802, continuing Collins’ chronicle of events; in our experience the two works are equally scarce.

Ferguson, 263; Hill, 335; Wantrap, 19.  

$12,500
A proof impression (before title, date and some letters) of the first issue of the first separately published engraving of Captain Cook.

This famous portrait of the great navigator was published in the year of his death, though news of the events at Kealakekua Bay did not reach Europe until the following year. Now the trademark image of Cook as a result of its very many subsequent versions (Beddie lists an astonishing 284 entries for the Dance group), it was considered the best likeness at the time and is known, for example, to have been distributed to friends by his widow Elizabeth. It is a conspicuously rare portrait in this first version. The engraving is based on Nathaniel Dance’s original portrait, commissioned by Joseph Banks, for which Cook sat for Dance in 1776, before sailing on his third voyage. The painting is today in the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Dance, one of the greatest of British history painters and a founding member of the Royal Academy, shows Cook wearing captain’s full-dress uniform and holding his own chart of the Southern Ocean: the caption “New Holland” can clearly be discerned in the engraving.

This extremely rare proof was pulled before the image had been titled and dated, and before the usual pinxit and sculpsit notes had been added to the artists’ names; this state corresponds with an example in the Mitchell Library (it is item 3 in an 18th-century connoisseur’s album entitled “Three voyages round the world”), while a subsequent state with the addition of the title is held in the Dixon Library (Beddie 3379). An earlier less developed form where the shape of Cook’s body has been simply blocked out is held by the National Library (Rex Nan Kivell Collection NK10914/A and /B).

Beddie, 3378.

$15,000
THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF COOK’S GREAT FIRST VOYAGE


An Account of the Voyages undertaken by the Order of His present Majesty for making Discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere, and successively performed by Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook…

Three volumes, quarto, with 51 engraved charts and plates (most of them folding); contemporary full marbled calf, expertly rejointed preserving original flat spines ornately panelled in gilt, red and green labels. London, W. Strahan and T. Cadell, 1773.

A very handsome set of the first edition: this is the official account of Cook’s great first voyage into the Pacific, during the course of which he discovered and charted the entire east coast of Australia, naming it New South Wales. Cook’s voyage occupies the second and third volumes, while the first contains the accounts of the voyages of Byron, Wallis and Carteret; Hawkesworth’s compendium thus contains the cream of eighteenth-century English exploration in the Pacific Ocean. It was edited from Cook’s journals by the professional writer John Hawkesworth.

As the official narrative of the Endeavour voyage this publication has always enjoyed considerable status, though it had its critics, chiefly because of Hawkesworth’s rather clumsy editing: Cook himself hated the use of the first person singular in the narrative. This set is bound with the “Directions for Placing the Cuts and Charts”, but without the “Chart of the Streight of Magellan”. According to Holmes, this particular combination signifies a slightly later issue of the first edition (the work was first printed in June 1773, and again in August of the same year). The earliest issue did not contain either “Directions” or “Chart”.

Beddie, 650; Borba de Moraes, p. 395; Hill, 783; Holmes, 5 (n); Kroepelien, 535 (n).

$21,000
Early news from the Endeavour

47. [COOK: FIRST VOYAGE] SOLANDER, Daniel.

Copy of a letter to J. Ellis, Esq… from Dr. Solander… [in] The Annual Register.

Two volumes in one, octavo, contemporary ms. ownership and shelf marks on front pastedown; an excellent copy in contemporary calf. London, Printed for J. Dodsley, 1770.

One of the first accounts of the voyage to be printed: a letter from Solander to John Ellis written from Rio, dated 1 December 1768, and here published in the 1769 volume of the Annual Register. Solander writes of his and Joseph Banks's frustration at being refused permission by the Viceroy to go ashore to study the abundant plant life but how, by 'fair means and foul', they had managed to acquire some 300 specimens, and identify a number of new species. The letter bristles with scientific comment on the flora and fauna they had managed to examine, and simultaneously shows Solander's eagerness for the voyage, commenting on how he has enlisted some of the brighter sailors to help identify and catalogue new species.

Solander, who trained with Linnaeus, moved to England in 1759 for what was meant to be a brief visit, but it became his permanent home. He became firm friends with John Ellis, and made substantial contributions to many of his most important works, including the Natural History of Zoophytes. On his return, Solander became Banks' secretary and librarian, a portmanteau position that also meant that he was, in effect, the curator of the natural history collection.

Like Banks, Solander was shy of taking credit for his work, and although he worked on some of the most important natural history projects of his generation, very few pieces were actually signed, and have only been attributed to him by later scholarship.

Not recorded by Beddie. $3850

Captain Cook's astronomy printed for the Royal Society

48. [COOK: FIRST VOYAGE] COOK, James and Charles GREEN.

Three printed excerpts relating to the transit of Venus, and magnetic variation in the Pacific.


Three important articles relating to some of the chief scientific concerns of Cook's Endeavour voyage, particularly the Transit of Venus as observed from Tahiti, excerpted from the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society for 1771. Cook wrote very little for publication: the first piece here, "Observations… at King George's Island in the South Sea" (24 pp. with folding table and engraved plate) was co-written with the Endeavour's astronomer Charles Green. The article features extracts from the Log and an interesting plate which shows diagrammatically the differing readings of Cook and Green. The second article is a more technical piece, "Variations of the compass, as observed on board the Endeavour bark, in a voyage round the world. Communicated by Lieut. James Cook" (11 pp.). The last piece, again "communicated by Capt. James Cook", is a 4-pp. printed letter entitled “Transitus Veneris & Mercurii… 1769, observatus” concerning the 1769 transit of Venus. It was written in Batavia where Cook visited the private observatory of Reverend Johan Mohr and noted in his Journal that the longitude of Batavia was accurately determined by Mohr through measurement of the 1761 transit (see Beaglehole, volume 1, p.442).

The Cook bibliographer Holmes noted the first two articles, but not the third.

Beddie, 647; Holmes, 94 & 95. $4200
A JOURNAL OF A
VOYAGE TO THE SOUTH SEAS,
In His Majesty's Ship
The ENDEAVOUR:
Autobiographical Travels
From the Paintings by SYDNEY PARKINSON,
Daughter of the Journal Author. They, of the navigator and
his wonderful voyage round the World.

This page contains an illustration of a house and plantation of a chief of the island of Otaheite.
rare hand-coloured Parkinson, with the “Gomeldon” leaves

A Journal of a voyage to the South Seas, in his Majesty’s ship the Endeavour.
Quarto, frontispiece portrait, double-hemisphere map and 27 engraved plates, all with contemporary handcolouring, with the uncommon errata slip; fine in full contemporary tree calf, joints split but quite firm. London, C. Dilly and J. Phillips, 1784.
A superb tall copy in a fine contemporary binding of the wonderful handcoloured Parkinson, one of the most beautiful of any of the accounts of sailing with Cook, complete with the famous “Gomeldon” pages.
This is the most desirable form in which this great book can appear: it is one of the extremely rare examples of the second and best edition of the work with all the engravings enhanced by very bold original handcolouring. This surprisingly bright and vivid colouring must have constituted a publisher’s de luxe issue.
Parkinson accompanied Cook on the first voyage as a draughtsman in the employ of Joseph Banks, and was one of many to die when the Endeavour called at Batavia on the way home. His effects were forwarded to his brother, who used them to publish the first edition of this work in 1773, much to the dismay of Banks. Despite the legal wrangling between Banks and the Parkinson family, the account is now recognised as the principal alternative account of Cook’s first voyage and the most handsome of all the unofficial accounts of any of Cook’s voyages.
In 1784, the same year that the official account of Cook’s third voyage account was published, this new and rather complicated edition was published with all manner of extra material: an additional appendix, a large double-hemisphere map showing the tracks of Cook’s three voyages, a long résumé of the voyages of Byron, Wallis, Carteret and Bougainville, a summary of Cook’s second and third voyages, and an explanatory note and postscript.
This copy has a further claim because it includes the fullest possible suite of text, including the extremely rare and puzzling four pages printing a letter from Parkinson written in Batavia to his cousin Jane Gomeldon, her reply, and a poem addressed by her to Parkinson on his impending return from the voyage (these four pages, usually simply called the “Gomeldon leaves” or “Gomeldon pages”, have long intrigued collectors and bibliographers: for a discussion of their rarity and significance see the Kroepelien catalogue, the New Zealand National Bibliography, as well as work by Sir Maurice Holmes and Rodney Davidson among others, the last of whom described it as “an extremely rare variant which is probably one of the rarest items of Australiana…”). As discussed by Holmes in some detail, the Gomeldon pages seem to have been printed for inclusion in the first edition of 1773 but were not ready until after the book was sold and distributed. This is only the second time Hordern House have handled such a copy.

Beddie, 714; Kroepelien, 945; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 82; Hill, 1309 (uncoloured); Holmes, 49; Sabin, 58788. $115,000
The second voyage: to the Southern oceans

50. [COOK: SECOND VOYAGE] COOK, Captain James.

A Voyage towards the South Pole, and Round the World, Performed in His Majesty’s Ships the Resolution and Adventure, in the years 1772, 1773, 1774, and 1775. Written by James Cook, Commander of the Resolution…

Two volumes, quarto, with frontispiece portrait and 63 engraved charts, portraits and plates; an excellent copy in contemporary Russia, ornately decorated in blind and gilt, spines expertly renewed by Aquarius in period style. London, Strahan and Cadell, 1777.

Second edition: the official account of Cook’s great second voyage, prepared for publication by the navigator himself, dissatisfied with Hawkesworth’s treatment of the first voyage. The superb engravings, here in fine black impressions, are mostly the work of Hodges whose recording of the voyage resulted also in a superb series of oil-paintings.

This was historically the most important of Cook’s three voyages. For the first time the Antarctic circle was crossed when, at the beginning of the voyage, Cook cruised as far south as possible, round the edge of the Antarctic ice. His belief in the existence of a land-mass in the southern ice ring was eventually proved by the nineteenth-century explorers. In the Pacific, he visited New Zealand again, and either discovered or revisited many of the islands, including New Caledonia, Palmerston and Norfolk Islands, Easter Island, the Marquesas, New Hebrides, Tonga, the South Sandwich Islands and South Georgia.

Bagnall, 1398; Beaglehole, II, pp. cxliii-cxlvii; Beddie, 1216; Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 51-2; Hill, p. 61; Holmes, 24; O’Reilly-Reitman, 390; Printing and the Mind of Man, 223. $14,850
“The Officer”: One of the earliest published accounts of the Antarctic

51. [Cook: Second Voyage] Officer, An [pseud].

A Voyage Round the World… By an Officer on Board.

Quarto, with the cancel second-issue title-page slightly shorter than the text-block (as common); a very good copy in old maroon cloth with spine label. London, printed for W. Lane, 1781.

Very rare: one of the most uncommon of any of the surreptitiously published accounts of sailing with Cook. Originally published in 1776, this second issue is the first to refer to the work as being written by "an officer on board" on the title-page and is noted by the great Cook bibliographer Sir Maurice Holmes as being "of extreme rarity".

First published a full year before the official account (see previous entry), this was considered to be the first serious report of Cook's second voyage. However, having consulted on the matter with Cook himself, in October 1776 the Monthly Review published a list of fifteen falsely reported events in the work. In the two centuries since, the critics have fallen over themselves in their rush to dismiss the book out of hand, but Beaglehole – unsurprisingly – is the most even-handed, describing it as a "palpable fake" but with the significant concession that "it recounts a few incidents not otherwise known, which do not seem out of key with the voyage as a whole." A close reading of the work confirms that several passages describe events in a broadly accurate, if slightly overheated way, making it extremely likely that the original source material derived from someone who had sailed with Cook. That being the case, “authorship” is a hotly-contested question.

The work first appeared in 1776; this second issue differs only in its altered title page and is otherwise unchanged, using the original printed sheets of the first issue. It was almost certainly rejigged as an apparently new work dated 1781 in response to news of Cook’s death in Hawaii, which had reached England in 1780.

Beaglehole II, clv-clvi; Beddie, 1246; Davidson, A Book Collector’s Notes, p.63; cf. Hill, 1545; Holmes, 39; Rosove, 1005.

$48,000
52. **[COOK: SECOND VOYAGE] WALES, William.**

*Remarks on Mr. Forster’s Account of Captain Cook’s last Voyage round the World, in the years 1772, 1773, 1774, and 1775.*

Octavo; some staining, marginal defects to a few leaves at the end made good with a dozen words on the last leaf supplied in facsimile; a large and uncut copy, modern quarter calf. London, Nourse, 1778.

One of the scarcest of all the Cook publications and nowadays only very rarely seen on the market, this is a particularly interesting product of the second voyage. The account of the voyage by George Forster published in 1777 had been a controversial affair: as Beaglehole describes the reaction, ‘The Forster temper and the Forster recklessness being so prominently displayed in certain passages, it could hardly escape criticism. This was applied by Wales, “our accurate and indefatigable astronomer”, in an octavo pamphlet of 110 indignant pages…’

‘Wales frankly disbelieved that George had written the book, its prejudices were so much and so transparently those of Reinhold – in which his acumen as a literary critic certainly failed him. But he made some damaging points. Not only did he spring to the defence of the ‘poor seamen’ but he took a series of specific statements that outraged him and rebutted them with a vigour and heat that are still alive, far removed from the genial fun he had poked in the private pages of his journal… Apart from the controversy, he adds to our knowledge a little that is valuable in the annotation of Cook. George could not let this attack go unnoticed, and produced a quarto “Reply”…’ (Beaglehole, *Journals*, II, pp. cli-clii).

This is a particularly large copy with its edges uncut; the ink correction on p. 48 has been noted in all copies seen to date – it removes the words “and his son” from an accusation that Dr Forster lied about the existence of calabashes on Easter Island. It may all seem rather anodyne now but it was a terrific quarrel then.

Beddie, 1292; Holmes, 30; Kroepelien, 1335; O'Reilly-Reitman, 388; Sabin, 101031; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection.

$52,000

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53. **[COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] COOK, James and James KING.**

*A Voyage to the Pacific Ocean. Undertaken by Command of his Majesty, for making Discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere…*

Three volumes, quarto, and an atlas, folio, with altogether 87 engraved plates and maps, of which 63 appear in the atlas; with some foxing; contemporary sprinkled calf, neatly rebacked; atlas in contemporary half calf and marbled boards, sympathetically respined. London, G. Nicol and T. Cadell, 1785.

A complete set of the official account of Cook’s last voyage. The full story of the voyage, and Cook’s eventual murder while revisiting the Hawaiian Islands, was so eagerly awaited by the English public that the entire first edition was sold out, at the then huge price of four pounds fourteen shillings and sixpence, within three days and copies were soon changing hands at up to ten guineas.

The official artist on the voyage was John Webber, and his romantic views of the islands of the Pacific published here remain the most evocative portrayals of the islands – helping to create the notion of an island paradise that so affected the European public eagerly reading the voyages of discovery being published in the eighteenth century.

This is an example of the second edition, which is preferred to the first edition for a number of reasons. The most obvious difference is the use on the title-pages of the text volumes of engraved vignettes of the Royal Society medal (in volumes 1 and 2) and of an oval medallion portrait of
Captain King (in volume 3). The medal was awarded to Cook posthumously by the prestigious Royal Society in 1784, shortly after publication of the first edition of this book.

This second quarto edition was printed by H. Hughes – rather than W. and A. Strahan who had printed the first edition – with the wording of the title-pages slightly modified and the text itself entirely re-set. As Forbes points out, the second edition has always been 'considered typographically superior to the first edition. That this was a contemporary opinion is borne out by a presentation inscription in a set (Dixon Library, State Library of New South Wales) from Isaac Smith (Mrs. Cook's relative, and on her behalf) addressed to Mrs. Cook's physician, Doctor Elliotson:

"Clapham, 5 May 1821. I am desired by Mrs Cook... to request your acceptance of the 4 books sent herewith being her Husbands last Voyage round the World, as a mark of her respect... the letter press of the second edition being much superior to the first both in paper & letter press...".

King George III's copy of the official account, preserved in the British Library, is also an example of this second edition.

Beddie, 1552; Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 85; Hawaii One Hundred, 5; Hill, 361; Holmes, 47n; O'Reilly-Reitman, 434.

$18,500
FIRST OCTAVO EDITION

54. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] COOK, James and James KING.
A Voyage to the Pacific Ocean; Undertaken by Command of His Majesty for Making Discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere…

Four volumes, octavo, with two folding maps and 49 plates, a few spots and stains but a very good set in a smart modern binding of polished half-calf with gilt labels, with the often discarded half-titles present. London, Stockdale, Scatcherd and Whitaker, and others, 1784-1785.

First octavo edition of the third voyage account, with a large chart of the world as discovered by Captain Cook, and a finely engraved folding map of the Hawaiian Islands. Intense public interest in the fabulous discoveries of the third voyage and widespread consternation over the death of England’s beloved mariner resulted in copies of the quarto edition selling out quickly; within a year quarto sets were changing hands at enormous prices. This demand prompted two London octavo editions of 1784-1785, including this set printed for John Stockdale and a group of entrepreneurial publishers. The list of subscribers is considerable, indicating the fervent public interest and a modest price considerably reduced from that of the expensive quarto edition.

In addition to the two impressive maps, the set features 49 plates newly engraved after the illustrations from the quarto atlas, including classic studies of the native inhabitants of Kamchatka and the Northwest coast of North America engraved after the original studies by John Webber.

Beddie, 1545; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 69; Sabin, 16251. $6600

RARE DOCUMENT FROM COOK’S THIRD AND LAST VOYAGE

Imprest Document, a receipt for a Bill of Exchange payable to Abraham Chiron at the Cape of Good Hope.

Manuscript in ink on official paper (watermark "GR" with a crown), written in ink on one side of a single sheet, 239 x 201 mm, small folio; the paper browned from age but clear and legible; edges discoloured, professionally removed from a mount. London, Victualling Office, 18 June 1777.

Rare document relating to the provisioning of Cook’s third voyage ships at the Cape of Good Hope. Very few original documents relating to Cook’s voyages survive today outside institutional ownership. This document marks the payment through London of £240 to the Cape Town agent Abraham Chiron; though such calculations can only be very approximate, that sum in 1776 might be equivalent to something in the region of thirty or forty thousand pounds today.

The Resolution, with Cook in command, had sailed from Plymouth on 12 July 1776. Clerke in the Discovery was delayed in London and did not follow until 1 August. The Resolution stopped at Tenerife to add to supplies, reaching Cape Town on 17 October at which time Cook called for the ship to be re-caulked as she had been taking water, especially through the main deck.

Cook noted for 23 October that “the caulkers had been set to work to caulk the ship; and I had concerted measures with Messrs Brandt and Chiron, for supplying both ships with such provisions as I should want. Bakers, likewise, had been ordered, immediately after our arrival, to bake such a quantity of bread as I thought would be requisite. As fast as the several articles destined for the Resolution were got ready, they were carried on board.” When the Discovery arrived on 10
November she was also found to be in need of re-caulking. The two ships remained at the Cape until the end of November.

Abraham Chiron, the agent who provided supplies for Cook’s ships in return for the Bill of Exchange now being collected from the Treasury, was a significant figure in late-18th-century Cape Town. A German immigrant, he became the first Presiding Master of the first South African Freemason lodge (the Lodge de Goede Hoop). We also come across his name in connection with a report that he wrote on the wreck of the East Indiaman *Grosvenor*.

Various rates and currencies are used in the conversion: Rix Dollars and Stivers were both widely used in Europe and were the standard units of exchange in such dealings, as was the “Flemish pound” referred to, though by this date it was a rather antiquated unit, while the “Agio”, noted as “the usual Advance” of 8% was a commission or “cost plus” charge.

It is interesting to note that Cook is described in the document as “Commander and Purser”; he was of course exercising his role as Purser in the acquisition of stores at Cape Town.

The relevant Bill was finally honoured by the Victualling Office who authorised the Treasury to pay out on it with this Imprest Document, signed off by various officers of the Victualling Office, including Joah Bates and Jonas Hanway. Bates was a protégé of Lord Sandwich; musically gifted, he conducted a performance of the Messiah in which the astronomer Herschel played first violin! Hanway was the celebrated merchant and philanthropist who was also a governor of the Foundling Hospital and the prime founder in 1756 of the Marine Society, the well-known charity which took in destitute orphan boys and raised them for sea service. He was also said to have been the first man to use an umbrella in London, and was consequently ridiculed by Dr Johnson. For a recent study of the Board and its functions (albeit at a slightly later period) see Janet MacDonald, *The British Navy’s Victualling Board, 1793-1815*, London, 2010).

The Cook expert Cliff Thornton has kindly shared with us some research into similar documents of the period. The present piece receipts one of altogether eleven Bills of Exchange issued by Cook at the Cape, just one of which is known to survive today (Turnbull Library). Cook lists the Bills in two letters to the Victualling Board of 28 November 1776 (reproduced by Beaglehole, *Journals*, III part 2, p. 1522). Three of the eleven were issued to Abraham Chiron, the present one for 1000 Rix Dollars and the other two for 2000 RD and 690 RD.

$36,500
56. **[COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] FORSTER, Georg.**

_Fragmente über Capitain Cooks letzte Reise und sein Ende [in] Göttingisches Magazin der Wissenschaften und Litteratur…_

6 parts (Stücke) bound in two volumes, small octavo, with 10 plates (including 5 folding plates: one on blue paper and one folding sheet of music); a fine set in blue marbled boards, black labels. Göttingen, bei Johann Christian Dieterich, 1780.

First edition: the entire first series of this very important journal which includes a biographical notice of Captain Cook by his fellow-voyager George Forster, considered “the only man to travel with Cook who embraced the whole critical program of the Enlightenment, and probably the most intelligent and farsighted of them all” (Bernard Smith).

Georg Forster’s “fragment” on the life of Cook is the first serious biography ever attempted and includes “the earliest authentic and substantial information concerning Cook’s Third Voyage, his discovery of Hawaii, and his death at Kealakekua...” (Forbes). Forster co-edited the _Göttingisches Magazin_ with the Anglophilic scholar Lichtenberg, whose own biography of Cook, subsequently published as a separate work, also appears here.

The importance of this volume to Cook’s third voyage is remarkable, including as it does three important biographical studies and an important engraved portrait, as well as the first scientific notice of the natural history of Hawaii, an ornithological treatise by Forster which Forbes notes as “the earliest scientific notice on any aspect of the natural history of Hawaii”). The set also includes both parts of Georg Forster’s extremely early account of Tahiti, in part based on the Spanish voyages to Tahiti in the 1770s.

_Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 13; Goedeke, VI, 246 14; Kroepelien, 736; O’Reilly-Reitman, 413, 450, 512._

$13,500
With an eye-witness account of Cook’s death

57. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] ZIMMERMANN, Heinrich.

Dernier Voyage du Capitaine Cook autour du monde, où se trouvent les circonstances de sa mort… avec un abrégé de la vie de ce navigateur célèbre, & des notes.

Octavo; a fine and very clean copy in an excellent modern French binding in the eighteenth-century style of grained dark blue calf, ornately gilt. Berne, Nouvelle Société Typographique, 1782.

The first and best French edition of this important personal account of Cook’s third voyage, and extremely scarce: a most attractive copy. Beddie records only the Mitchell and National Library copies in Australia. This edition contains, in addition to Zimmermann’s narrative account, a life of Captain Cook adapted from material that had appeared in the Göttingisches Magazin, the work of Georg Forster and Georg Lichtenberg (see previous).

First appearing in German in 1781, Zimmermann’s was the first description of the third voyage to appear on the continent, and as one of two accounts first published a full three years before the official account it may well have been in fact the earliest full description of the voyage to be published. In any early edition, Zimmermann’s first-hand account of Cook’s third voyage is one of the scarcest of all the Cook voyage accounts (there is for example no copy of any of the eighteenth-century editions in the Hill catalogue).

Second French and German editions followed in 1783. “Both French editions are of great rarity and are of interest not only on that account but because of the additional matter which they contain…” (Holmes). Then followed Dutch editions in 1784 and 1791, and Russian versions were published at St. Petersburg in 1786 and 1788. These seem to have been all the appearances of the narrative until 1926, when the first version in English was published. As Rodney Davidson wrote of the early printings, “all these editions are exceedingly rare… It is hard to predict the realisation price for a copy if one were to come into the open market, as competition between collectors would be very keen…”. “His appreciation of Cook’s character deserves to rank with that of Samwell” (Holmes). Pages 7 to 11 of this edition contain Zimmermann’s long description of the Tasmanian Aborigines, with an interesting note in passing suggesting how many copies of the “Resolution and Adventure” medal were actually still available for distribution during the third voyage: on one day alone, Cook gave examples to eight or nine Aborigines, “which had such a good effect that the next day 49 more came to visit… some of whom received the same presents as their earlier compatriots, but none of whom was willing to come aboard the ships…”. Beddie, 1629; Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, p. 66; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 47; Holmes, 44; Kroepelien, 1363; O’Reilly-Reitman, 423. 

$24,000

An Authentic Narrative of a Voyage performed by Captain Cook and Captain Clerke… in search of a North-West Passage… including a faithful Account of all their Discoveries, and the unfortunate Death of Captain Cook…

Two volumes, octavo, folding chart and 21 engraved plates; fine in the original grey boards, spines carefully restored, printed paper labels, uncut. London, G. Robinson, J. Sewell, and J. Debrett, 1783.

This important narrative account of Cook's third voyage was an unauthorised publication which landed its author Ellis in trouble. Surgeon's mate and talented amateur artist, William Ellis sailed first on the Discovery and later on the Resolution. Despite the prohibition by the Admiralty of the publication of any unauthorised account of the voyage, Ellis, in financial straits, sold his narrative to a London publisher for fifty guineas, thus earning the condemnation of Sir Joseph Banks, who wrote to him in January 1782 that 'I fear it will not in future be in my power to do what it might have been, had you asked and followed my advice'.

This is an extremely good copy of the second, revised edition in its original binding of simple grey boards. Ellis' narrative is particularly detailed on Alaska, the Northwest Coast, and Hawaii, and the attractive engraved plates, after Ellis' own drawings, include eight of Hawaii, two of Alaska, and three of the Northwest Coast, among the earliest published of these areas; Choris' famous views did not appear until almost forty years later. Ellis' views of Hawaii provide the first general depictions of the islands, as Rickman's book, published in the previous year, showed only the death of Cook while Zimmermann's account was not illustrated. There is also a chapter devoted to the expedition's visit to Van Diemen's Land in January 1777, in the course of which Ellis painted a famous watercolour view of Adventure Bay, now in the National Library of Australia.

Beaglehole, III, p. ccvii; Beddie, 1600; Davidson, 'A Book Collector's Notes', p. 66; Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 49; Hawaii One Hundred, 3n; Hill, 556; Hocken, pp. 20-21; Holmes, 42 (first edition); Kroepelien, 400; O’Reilly-Reitman, 428.

$11,000
Children’s exercise sheet

59. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] LANGLEY, Edward, Publisher.

Capt. Cook’s Last Voyage to the Pacific Ocean: an unused exercise sheet.

Folio, engraved broadside, printed on one side only, 477 x 388 mm., comprising an oblong oval vignette of the death of Cook, six other upright oval vignettes and a further oblong view, all with captions; the vignettes and captions all in good strong contemporary handcolouring but the sheet itself otherwise unused, though originally folded; a few tears at edges; mounted. London, Printed & Published by Edwd. Langley, High Street, Borough, London, n.d., circa 1785.

This delightful engraved sheet was probably issued for use as a child’s or young adult’s exercise; a similar sheet that we offered for sale in 1994, similarly (but not identically) titled “Captain Cooke’s Last Voyage”, is the only other one of its type that we have handled. That sheet, which was not coloured, had been completed by a schoolgirl with a carefully written-out poem; it was published by R. Carpenter, and we estimated its date at around 1790. The present sheet is by a different publisher, and may be a little earlier. The few records that we have found for Edward Langley show that he was certainly a map-publisher (chiefly of the English counties) but he also evidently specialised in exercise sheets and exercise books, later producing a series known as “Langley’s Copy Slips”.

The chief vignette is a gaudy version of Cook’s death in Hawaii (“‘The Death of Captn. Cook at O-why-hee’) while the other larger image is of Kaye’s Island, present-day Kayak Island, Alaska. Of the six smaller vignettes, two are of Hawaii (“Man of Sandwich Island Dancing” and “Canoe of Sandwich Islands”), two are polar scenes (“Killing of Penguins” and “Shooting of Sea Horses”) with a further “Woman of Otaheite Dancing” and “A Canoe of Oonalashka”.

This is a charming piece, and very rare: as with the similar example mentioned above we have found no copy recorded in any bibliography, nor any record of a similar example in any major collection.

$13,250
Resolution and Discovery in an Arcadian Petropavlosk

60. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] ARTIST UNKNOWN.

[The Harbour of St Peter and St Paul Kamchatka, with the Resolution and Discovery at anchor inside the spit]

Watercolour on paper, 268 x 427 mm; in good original condition; framed. Aboard ship in Kamchatka, or subsequently, after 10 September 1779.

A rare and striking original landscape of Avacha Bay, Kamchatka, as seen during the visit there of Cook's third voyage in 1779. The "ostrog" (fortified settlement) of St. Peter and St. Paul, founded by the Dane, Vitus Bering, in 1740, is seen here as a picturesque Russian landscape in its 18th-century arcadian state, far removed from its modern existence as Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, the major commercial port and home of the Russian nuclear submarine fleet.

This delightful view of what was described by several of Cook's men as a favourite landscape dates from the second visit to the bay in August 1779. The very attractive watercolour is unsigned; it appears to have been done "on the spot" as it varies in several ways from other images painted by three men on the voyage: the official artist John Webber, William Ellis the surgeon with a talent for topographic painting, and Edward Riou, later a great naval hero but at this time a 17-year-old midshipman. The present drawing is perhaps closest in style to the single image attributed to Riou, who seems to have been responsible for the landscape added to a chart that he made of the bay (now in the Hydrographic Office, England: see Joppien & Smith, The Art of Captain Cook's Voyages, 3.356).

Avacha Bay was an important stop-over for Cook's men on the third voyage to the Pacific. Captains Clerke and Gore had first arrived there on 29 April 1779. In the fog and sleet that had marked their approach Clerke noted that 'a more dreary prospect I never yet came in the way of'. It was miserably cold. During the visit however they had experienced the exceptional generosity and hospitality of the local governor Major Magnus von Behm, who provided bountiful provisions for the two ships – "very genteely promisd an abundant supply to all our wants" – and also undertook to take ships' documents and the momentous news of Cook's death in Hawaii back to St. Petersburg for the English ambassador.

In June, re-provisioned, the Resolution and Discovery continued on their search for the Northwest Passage via Bering Strait, but after an unsuccessful attempt, the ships returned to Kamchatka where they stayed for nearly two months. Captain Clerke, who had died of consumption en route, was buried on their return to St. Peter and St. Paul in August 1779.

They were surprised to discover a very different landscape from what they had seen a few months earlier. As Samwell noted in his journal, describing this precise view, 'What struck us most on our Arrival here now was the pleasant Appearance of the Country, which forms a perfect Contrast to what it was on our first arrival here in May, being then entirely covered with Snow; whereas now Hill and Dale is adorned with the most delightful and cherishing Verdure which has sprung up with a Luxuriancy which we never could have expected to see in this Country. The Hills about the Bay rising with a gentle ascent & covered with Trees afford many prospects equal and not unlike to Mount Edgecombe near Plymouth. There is one View here that excells any I ever met with, which is that of the Summit of a very high Mountain far inland that is covered with Snow, which rising behind some Hills of a moderate height covered with Verdure presents through a Vally a most delightful and grand Picture, exhibiting the Image of Summer and Winter at one View' (Journals, ed. Beaglehole, III, p.1273).

This atmospheric watercolour depicts that view with the distant mountain setting the scene. The expedition's two ships are at anchor, while another ship at left is likely the Russian galliot or flat-bottomed ketch from Okhotsk which the Englishmen recorded as coming into the bay on 10 September. The ship also appears in the landscape attributed to Riou. A group of Kamchatkans sits in the foreground.

Detail illustrated on previous pages.

$48,000
Rare proof impression of one of the most atmospheric views made by Webber to illustrate Cook's voyage: the settlement of St Peter and Paul as seen during the expedition's first visit to Avacha Bay. This wonderful panorama of St Peter and St Paul, with Cook's ships at anchor in Avacha Bay, would later appear as plate 74 in the atlas to the official account of the third voyage. Webber's image depicts the small Kamchatkan settlement with its inhabitants fishing in front of their distinctive dwellings, all in an untouched landscape with wooded coastline and distant snow-covered mountains. This is an early state of the print, before letters. The temporary credits here scratched into the plate are differently worded to the final version that would appear in the publication: here there is no caption identifying the view and the image is identified as “Drawn from Nature by J. Webber” and “Engraved by B.T. Pouncy”. In the finished version these would be differently expressed as “J. Webber del.” and “B.T. Pouncy sc.”. The proof engraving is printed on a noticeably different paper and its inking is distinctly finer than the examples of the finished version with which we have compared it. The result is a greater tonal quality.

Joppien and Smith discuss the Kamchatkan visit at some length in both text and catalogue volumes of their study of the art of Cook's third voyage. In their description of the related watercolour view now in the Dixson Library in Sydney they note that the original version has probably been lost and that the Dixson watercolour is probably related to the engraving process. This is a desirable and rare version of one of Webber's most successful images from Cook's third voyage.

Joppien & Smith, 3.328A (the finished engraving).

$4850

[Man of Mangea].

Proof engraving, 315 x 250 mm, laid down on old backing with manuscript notes in ink at bottom right; in good condition, framed. London, circa 1784.

Rare proof impression before letters of one of Webber's more striking portraits from Cook's third voyage, of the Cook Islands native Mou'rooa, who transferred into Cook's ship as the captain reconnoitred off Mangaia in March 1777. As the ships did not land on Mangaia, the little information they gathered was derived from questions put to Mou'rooa by Omai. His ears were already pierced with the long slit in which he stuck a knife he was given as a gift or trade.

Joppien and Smith note that this was one of the earliest from the series of engravings to be printed. They also note another proof impression of this plate in the National Library of Australia.

Joppien & Smith, 3.31A.

$3800

63. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] WEBBER, John & Marie Catherina PRESTEL.

A View in Matavai Bay, Otaheite.

Aquatint in sepia tones on laid paper, 290 x 430 mm, crisp impression with full margins, mounted. London, J. Webber, No. 312 Oxford Street, 1787.

Rare aquatint issue. The image had earlier been trialled as a line etching in November 1786, but Webber decided instead to experiment with the newly-arrived aquatint technique in collaboration with Marie Catherine Prestel, 'an aquatint artist of some note, who had recently come to London from Frankfurt' (Joppien & Smith, p. 192). Webber found that the aquatint method 'allowed greater freedom and a wider range of evocative tones of light and shade' (Joppien & Smith). He prepared four aquatints with Prestel, including this; all are rare. It is a famous image; as Joppien and Smith note, 'There can be no doubt that the drawing represents one of the most romantic and tropical scenes encountered during the voyage'.

Beddie, 1869 (examples of this issue in an album in the Dixson Library); Hill, 1836-7 (Webber's published views); Joppien & Smith, 3.120Ac.

$4400

64. [COOK: THIRD VOYAGE] WEBBER, John.

A Toopopaoo of a Chief, with a Priest making his offering to the Morai, in Huoheine.

Softground etching, in original colouring, 305 x 392 mm, cut close to image; mounted. London, J. Webber, 312 Oxford St., 1789.

FINE early issue of this interesting image, produced as a softground etching, here in striking original colour (the etching was also issued in tint and wash). Webber's earliest versions would later be reworked (in reverse) as an aquatint issued as plate VIII in his Views in the South Seas.

Joppien & Smith, 3.146Aa.

$4850

Views in the South Seas, from drawings by the late James Webber, draftsman on board the Resolution, Captain James Cooke, from the year 1776 to 1780…

Folio, title-page and 16 aquatint plates in fine and bright original handcolouring, with 15 leaves of descriptive text (one describing two plates); some foxing to the first pages of text, the plates showing some wear at the edges with some small closed tears, not affecting images, a few plate slightly offset onto facing blanks; generally a good copy in later crimson half morocco, rubbed. London, Boydell, 1808.

The most beautiful English colour-plate book of the Pacific, the only colour-plate book relating to Cook’s voyages and the last of the great Cook publications. The sixteen coloured aquatints, after Webber’s drawings, and engraved by the artist himself, form one of the finest visual statements of the South Seas as a romantic Eden.

This collection of magnificent coloured views by the official artist on the third voyage is certainly the most striking publication resulting from Cook’s expeditions. Views in the South Seas evolved over a number of years from the original series of twelve soft-ground etchings produced between 1788 and 1792. The first issue of the final result was produced in 1808, although the majority of copies of the plates bear later watermarks (as here) suggesting that they were printed between 1819 and 1820. Webber was the son of a Swiss sculptor who had emigrated to England and anglicised his name. His appointment as draughtsman to the third voyage gives his christian name as John, as does the memorial tablet at the Church of the Ascension in London, although on the title-page here he is named James. The confusion is probably explained by the fact that the collection of views was published fifteen years after his death.

Webber’s album has always been a bibliographical curiosity. The variety in the watermark dates can be explained by publishing practices of the time: while the text leaves were printed in one run, the more expensive plates were progressively printed in batches as required. Boydell may also have had the plates available for sale separately, reprinting them as necessary on current paper stock.

The magnificently coloured views include five of Tahiti, two each of Kamchatka and Macao, one of New Zealand, and one of Tonga. The views of vegetation on Cracatoa and Pulo Condore are some of the most beautiful aquatints of tropical foliage ever issued.


$78,500
The Italian colour-plate version of Cook's voyages

Navigazioni di Cook pel Grande Oceano e Intorno al Globo.

Seven volumes, duodecimo, with a large folding engraved map and 30 plates, all in fine impressions, 27 of them with fine contemporary handcolouring (by Lazaretti, credited as colourist in the captions); uncut, some wear, but sound and firm in the original printed cream wrappers. Milan, Sonzogno, 1816-1817.

A lovely set of this scarce Italian edition of Cook's voyages, especially notable for its marvellous series of coloured plates. The set includes not only all three voyages of Cook, but also those of Byron, Carteret, and Wallis, as well as the two Frenchmen Bougainville and Surville.

The publisher has selected some of the most striking images from Cook's voyages, including a splendid kangaroo, three Maori portraits, three Hawaiian subjects, views and portraits from Tahiti and other Pacific islands, among many others. The illustrations are by the Italian artist, Giuseppe dall'Acqua. The depiction of the death of Cook is derived from the famous painting by John Webber.

This is a rare work, especially complete and in its original fragile buff wrappers. The original list of subscribers that appears in the work shows an almost exclusively northern Italian subscriber base of about four hundred names, most are private collectors.

Beddie, 86; Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 449; not in Holmes; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection.

$4250
A Discourse upon some late improvements of the Means for Preserving the Health of Mariners. Delivered at the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society, November 30, 1776. By Sir John Pringle, Baronet, President. Published by their Order.

Small quarto, [iv], 44 pp. with the half-title, woodcut title device and headpiece, leaf C4 a cancel as usual; a very good clean copy in modern green quarter morocco. London, Royal Society, 1776.

One of the most significant and rarest of all the printed works relating to Cook's voyages. This is the first appearance in print of Cook's epoch-making account of the successful measures taken against scurvy on his first two voyages. There were several later versions and translations, but this original edition has long been acknowledged as a major rarity. The paper on scurvy was read to the Royal Society by its president, Sir John Pringle – in the absence of Cook himself, then just beginning his final voyage – as the year's Copley medal award, and immediately published in this form. Pringle's long presentation address, quoting directly from Cook and other sources, is followed by Cook's paper and an extract from a letter by Cook to Pringle written from Plymouth Sound in July 1776. The paper subsequently appeared in the official account of the second voyage and in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society. In 1783 a series of six of Pringle's discourses at the annual presentations of the Copley medal was published in one volume.

The winning of the battle against scurvy was one of the most important achievements in the general field of exploration. It made possible the major voyages that followed. As Robert Hughes has so aptly put it in The Fatal Shore: 'malt juice and pickled cabbage put Europeans in Australia as microchip circuitry would put Americans on the moon...'

Beddie, 1290; Holmes, 20; Kroepelien, 1065; Norman sale, 378; Streeter (Sr.) sale, 2410. $44,500

Original manuscript report: Décisions. Précaution contre le Scorbut… observation sur les moyens employés par M. Cook pour conserver la santé des gens de mer…

Folio, 3 pp., manuscript in ink on paper, original folds; in fine condition, in a solander case. Toulon, 9 April 1777.

A rare and very significant manuscript survival, showing deliberate adoption by the French navy, following careful trials, of the measures pioneered by Cook's work on eradicating scurvy on long voyages of discovery.

Cook had fully reported his findings on scurvy, with the result that he was awarded the Copley medal of the Royal Society in absentia in 1776, making this an unusually speedy reaction from the continent, pointing to the urgency felt in the need to conquer the curse of scurvy. It is an original manuscript extract of proceedings at a meeting of the Conseil de Marine in Toulon, signed by the conseil's secretary, Molliere, as a true record of the decisions of the meeting, and shows that of five matters considered, by far the most important was the success of Captain Cook in combating scurvy. A letter from the Minister was read to the meeting inviting them to consider the question, as well as a memoir "sur les moyens employés par M. Cook pour conserver la Santé de l'équipage du Vau. Anglois la Résolution pendant un Voyage autour du monde..." [on the methods employed by M Cook to safeguard the health of his crew during a voyage around the world on HMS Resolution]. Medical reports were given, and in view of the high cost associated with appropriately provisioning a ship, the members of the council were asked to consider the matter at length.

The mid-eighteenth century saw a renaissance in French shipwrighting and voyages, not least because a new version of the Conseil was inaugurated in 1776. Noted in the manuscript as important to this review are Verguin and Barberet: the first of these is probably Jean-Joseph Verguin (1701-1777), who was based in Toulon and was an influential figure in the rebuilding of the French navy.

$24,500
Cook admired in Enlightenment France

Éloge du Capitaine Cook. Par M. Blanc Gilli, de Marseille…

Octavo, 118 pp. (last blank), a fine copy in period-style red crushed morocco, spine gilt with raised bands. Paris, chez Morin, 1787.

A very scarce book: this entertaining elegy for Cook, published in Paris, shows the very high regard in which he was held in Enlightenment France, as both navigator and scientist.

Blanc-Gilli explicitly claims that Cook was as widely respected in France as in England, ‘a statement which is borne out by the fact that the centenary of his death was celebrated in Paris but not in London’ (Holmes). The elegy is a glowing narrative of Cook’s life and voyages enriched with a 24 page appendix (including notes on other voyagers to the South Seas, Cook’s importance to the history of astronomy, and references to contemporary philosophers such as Rousseau).

Mathieu Blanc Gilli, a resident of Marseille, was a politically active pamphleteer who served briefly in the Legislative Assembly before falling foul of rivals during the French Revolution and retiring to an obscure provincial post. He published on a wide range of reforms, including an abolitionist pamphlet critical of the plantation system in Santo Domingo.

Forbes could locate only the copies in the Mitchell Library and three American libraries (including Sir Maurice Holmes’ copy at UCLA). The National Library of Australia has since acquired a copy.

Beddie, 1959; Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 124; Kroepelien, 85; O’Reilly-Reitman, 454.

$12,250
Cook as Enlightenment hero, transcending the “fausses lumières” of earlier discoverers


Éloge de Cook. Par P.L. Paris, de l'Oratoire, de plusieurs Académies et Sociétés…

Octavo, 96 pp., uncut; some scattered foxing but an attractive copy in the original marbled pink wrappers, some creases and wear. Riom, 1790.

Very rare eulogy on Cook: published in the immediate aftermath of the French Revolution, the work meditates on the “false enlightenment” of the long history of voyages of discovery, but singles out Cook as the very model of the scientific future.

In the short preface the author speculates as to why we are so fascinated by these “Nouveaux Argonautes”, especially as their arrival in undiscovered lands seemed to presage such unhappiness for the peoples they encounter. However, their bad example is eclipsed, and the whole project of voyages of discovery renewed, by the voyages of Cook, and Paris reminds the philosophe that exploration is of paramount usefulness to mankind.

In the course of his essay Paris gives a good overview of all three of Cook’s voyages, interspersed with surprisingly enthusiastic comments on the Englishman non-pareil, Cook. Thus, at different points in the narrative, Cook is urged on by the shades of Tasman goading the Europeans with their timidity in not returning to the unknown seas in 150 years; New Holland, left barren by the imagination of the Dutch, is now shown to be a treasure-house for botanists; Banks is the protector of the letters and indeed the glory of England; Cook both braves the terrors of the Antarctic seas without murmur and treads the fabled lands of Quiros in the New Hebrides; and the great navigator revealed the wonders of the Pacific until his sad death in the “Sandwick” islands. The work concludes with a review of Cook’s accomplishments and the importance of his example for future voyagers, describing his lasting memorial as the Pacific Ocean itself, the “théâtre de ses exploits”. Some biographical notes show that Paris relied heavily on the French edition of Kippis’s biography of Cook.

The eulogy was published in the provincial city of Riom by the little-known Pierre Louis Paris, a man of letters and scientist. Beddie recorded the State Library of Victoria copy only.

Beddie, 1971; not in Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’. $11,500
The bronze Royal Society medal

71. [COOK: MEDAL] PINGO, Lewis.

The Royal Society Medal, in commemoration of Captain Cook.
Obverse: Uniformed bust of James Cook. Reverse: Fortune leaning upon a column, holding a rudder on a globe.

Bronze medal, 43 mm. diameter, relief bust of Captain Cook on recto, full-length relief portrait of Fortune leaning on a column while resting her hand upon a rudder which is affixed to a globe on verso; in excellent condition ("about extremely fine"). London, Royal Society, 1784.

The Royal Society’s formal memorial to the great navigator: one of 577 bronze specimens. Fellows of the Royal Society were entitled to a free bronze medal, while silver and gold issues were available by subscription only; some were reserved for presentation. An engraving of the medal was printed on the title-page of the second and third editions (and some copies of the first) of the official account.

The commissioning of this medal was due above all else to the efforts of Sir Joseph Banks, who supervised ‘the minting and distribution of the Royal Society Cook medal as a personal task coincident with the publication of the narrative of the tragic third voyage’ (H.B. Carter, Sir Joseph Banks, 1988, p. 168). Cook’s European reputation is borne out by several letters to Banks from the Continent requesting specimens of the medal, including one from Bougainville, who wrote in June 1785 to remind Banks that as a member since 1756 he felt entitled to one (see The Banks Letters, ed. W.R. Dawson, 1958, p. 122).

Beddie, 2795; Betts, American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals, 553; Klenman, K5; Marquess of Milford Haven, ‘British and Foreign Naval Medals’, 734; Mira, Captain Cook: his coins & medals, pp. 35-7; Nan Kivell and Spence, p. 72. $5300

One of 322 silver specimens

72. [COOK: MEDAL] PINGO, Lewis.

The Royal Society Medal, in commemoration of Captain Cook.

Silver medal, 43 mm. diameter; relief bust of Captain Cook on recto, full-length relief portrait of Fortune leaning on a column while resting her hand upon a rudder and globe on verso; very good. London, Royal Society, 1784.

The handsome silver issue of the Royal Society’s formal memorial to the great navigator. L. Richard Smith (in The Royal Society Cook Medal, Sydney, 1982) has suggested a probable final minting figure of 22 gold, 322 silver and 577 bronze medals.

Beddie, 2790. $8400
Webber's famous depiction

73. [COOK: DEATH] WEBBER, John, engraved by Francesco BARTOLOZZI and William BYRNE.

The Death of Captain Cook.

Engraving, 425 x 575 mm. (image size), with the caption; some very fine repaired tears, a fine, strong impression, mounted and framed. London, J. Webber, 1 January 1784.

The rare first appearance of the Bartolozzi rendering of John Webber's famous depiction of Cook's death. This is the largest version of the image, separately issued in January 1784.

John Webber was one of the most accomplished of all of Cook's artists, and although not an eye-witness to the specifics of Cook's death at Kealakekua Bay, he was aboard ship in the bay at the time, and it is scarcely surprising that on his return he painted his own version of the most famous event in the entire voyage. Indeed, he is known to have completed at least two versions, the first in watercolours and the second in oils. Although several different depictions of the scene in Hawaii were current, Webber's is perhaps the most famous version of this cataclysmic event. Reflecting the general opinion prevailing in published accounts of the voyage, the image, as Joppien and Smith argue, shows Cook as 'an innocent victim, killed in the act of pleading for peace'.

Two leading artists worked on the separately issued engraving; Francesco Bartolozzi was responsible for the figures and William Byrne the accompanying landscape.

Beddie, 2603; Joppien & Smith, 3.305A; Nan Kivell, p. 80.

$18,500
A rare provincial English playbill advertising a performance of “The Death of Capt. Cook” in late 1790, ‘as performed in London and Paris with unbounded applause’, and here stated to be shown ‘for the last time this season.’

This pantomime had been first performed at Covent Garden in 1789 and, as other examples of such playbills we have recently handled attest, provincial performances were pleasing crowds right around the United Kingdom over the following twelve months. Interestingly, by comparison with another Halifax playbill sold by us in 2008 it can be shown that the pantomime was performed in that city for the third time on 19 November, and this 8 December show confirms the long-running success of the show in West Yorkshire.

The nature and tone of the fascination with the South Seas is made clear in the description of the scenes, which include the “modes and manners of the Islanders making Love”, “a View of the Sea and Ship Resolution”, and of the “Funeral Procession of Capt. Cook”. Indeed, as the title makes explicit, it was the death of Cook which particularly captivated the audience, a scene which is known to have been used as a vehicle for a number of spectacular effects on the English stage, only hints of which survive today in ephemera such as this.

In this context, it is particularly interesting to note that this production calls attention to the “painting by Mr. Stanton”: no traces of this particular painting appear to survive, but within the context of the series of playbills that are known, this is an unusual reference to the actual staging of the provincial shows, considering that it was the great scene of Cook’s death which was such an important factor in the pantomime’s ongoing success. Perhaps Stanton was a lion of the Halifax theatre: the playbill notes that no half price admissions will be sold, ‘on account of the great expence attending the representation.’

As commonly, the parts are listed in some detail: the director of the piece is ‘Mr. Bonville’, who himself takes the demanding role of Pareea (‘the favorite Lover’), while ‘Mrs. Bonville’ plays Emai, ‘Daughter of the King’. Attractively, this playbill also advertises the so-called Grand Pantomimic Ballet of the Death of Captain Cook as being for sale at the Printing Office and Box Door for 6d.

Keenly collected, such playbills, particularly from the first year or so of the play’s production, are now of some rarity.

Not in Beddie, (but see 2450 & 2452); not in Forbes. $14,250
Cook raised to the gods

75. [COOK: DEATH] NEAGLE, James after Johann Heinrich RAMBERG.

Neptune raising Capt. Cook up to Immortality…


Rare engraving of a theatrical set-piece in which the great navigator is raised up to immortality from Kealakekua Bay, the scene of his death. This is testimony to the continuing wide public interest in Captain Cook and shows the enormous esteem in which he was held after his death. Images such as this ‘illustrate the florid style and romantic spirit of the time, and the reverence paid to Cook by artists of the era’ (Kaeppler, Artificial Curiosities). The more realistic portrayals were followed by an equally important and revealing series of images which depicted Cook being elevated aloft. The most famous of these is Loutherbourg’s 1785 engraving “Apotheosis”, based on the stage setting to the pantomime Omai, which finished with a painting of Cook being carried aloft by Britannia and Fame.

Neagle’s image, which shows a rather stout Cook being elevated, clearly borrows its structure from Loutherbourg, but is almost certainly newly designed for one of the popular successes of 1789, “The Death of Captain Cook: a grand serious-pantomimic-ballet, in three parts. As now exhibiting in Paris with uncommon applause with the original French music, new scenery, machinery, and other decorations”. This pantomime was based on a slightly earlier production by Arnauld. The engraving was used as frontispiece to the Reverend Thomas Bankes’s New, Royal, Authentic and Complete System of Universal Geography (London, c.1790). This example has been attractively mounted on dusky pink coloured backing paper decorated with a silver frieze. The frame bears the label of “Clyde Bank”, once the private museum of the late Australian collector Caroline Simpson.

Johann Heinrich Ramberg was a well-known history painter and theatre designer who spent his youth in England, and is thought to have studied with Bartolozzi and Sir Joshua Reynolds. James Neagle was one of the foremost engravers of his generation.

Beddie, 2674; Kaeppler, Artificial Curiosities, 85; Nan Kivell and Spence, p. 80. $2650
“...Bought at sea of Captn. Cook...”

76. [COOK RELIC] MANSON, Johann.

See-Buch, oder: Gründlicher ausführlicher Bericht... Die Sechste Auflage...

Small quarto, 99 pp. & 6 unnumbered leaves, title-page with damage (upper corner with loss, laid down, marked, old stamps including deaccession stamp), first leaf with an old repair along fore-edge (not affecting text), last leaf with repair to gutter; some significant wear but withal very good in original marbled paper boards. Lübeck, Peter Böckmann, 1760.

Rare: an intriguing copy of the first navigation manual of the Baltic Sea with a plausible claim to have been owned by Captain Cook. This is the sixth edition of a rare title, but as is always the case with such working books of navigation all editions are extremely scarce.

This work has a tantalising and plausible ownership inscription in a very old hand to the front pastedown which reads: “Henry Murck his book bought at Sea of Captn. Cook”. This intriguing note is clearly meant to refer to the great explorer himself, who had spent many years sailing on colliers in the Baltic Sea before he joined the Royal Navy in 1755, and would have always had an interest in navigational guides and pilots. In the 1760s, right up until he sailed on the Endeavour, Cook was doing his superb work in mapping coastlines in Newfoundland and North America, but it is certainly very likely that he would have kept up with any work being published regarding his old stamping ground. By the same token, while Cook is not known to have had much German, the language in which this book is written, as a good navy-man of the Hanoverian era he was surrounded by German speakers whenever he sailed.

The name of the owner of the book, “Murck”, is certainly one to conjure with, as that name recurs in the world of contemporary shipping: a Henry Murck is, for example, listed as joining the Marine Society of the City of New York in 1795, while an L. Murck, to cite just one meaningful example, is listed as a having a 1798-registered ship out of Gothenburg (Sweden) in the Register of Shipping for 1811. The Murck family, that is, show every sign of having been established sailors in the region in the late eighteenth century, which certainly adds weight to the early provenance. Without doubt there is a firm connection between the book and the naval officer named Henry Murck who, after the end of the Napoleonic Wars, was one of the founding officers of the modern Prussian Navy in Stralsund, not least because this copy has a later stamp for a research library in Stralsund, too neat a coincidence to ignore. This Henry Murck lived into the late 1840s, but it is no stretch of the imagination to suggest that he may have had a family connection to an earlier generation of the Murck family, and given their sea-going roots, a meeting with Captain Cook is certainly perfectly feasible.

NHSM, 68. $7500
COXE, William.

Les Nouvelles Découvertes des Russes, entre L'Asie et L'Amerique…

Quarto, four folding engraved maps & one folding plate; a bright and handsome copy in contemporary French mottled calf, boards and spine gilt, red morocco label, small bookplate of Decrès. Paris, Hôtel de Thou, 1781.

A particularly handsome copy of this rare book on Russian exploration, from the library of a figure of great importance for the French Navy, Admiral Denis Decrès. A small and very select number of voyage books from the Decrès collection have recently been discovered (another volume from his library is number 95 in this catalogue), and the present volume certainly confirms the high standards of his library. Napoleon's Minister for the Navy and the Colonies from 1801 to 1814, Decrès was thus the Minister directly responsible for Baudin’s voyage, which departed shortly before he took office. He was commemorated by Baudin in the naming of Ile Decrès, better known today as Kangaroo Island, while Anse Decrès (present-day Decres Bay) near Ceduna, north-west of modern Adelaide, was also named in his honour. (Although powerful and important in his lifetime he met an inglorious end when his valet blew him up with gunpowder and then defenestrated himself).

The work is written by William Coxe who, on a journey through Russia, collected, compared and translated Russian journals, collected maps at St Petersburg, consulted with authorities and included several journals “never before given to the public”, directing the “curious and inquisitive reader” to compare them to Cook’s then unpublished journals. As a result, the book is a significant source on Russian exploration and expansion into the northern Pacific, and the attempt to open trade with Alaska and the Aleutian Islands. Coxe “also succeeded in securing additional material (for instance the narrative and maps of Krenitzin and Levashev’s ‘secret’ expedition, the first official Russian government expedition since Bering’s second expedition of 1741). He was able to secure this particular information, not widely known at the time even in Russia, from Dr. William Robertson, who in turn obtained it through his friend Dr. Rogerson, first physician to Empress Catherine II…” (Lada-Mocarski).

This edition is not in Sabin, who does record another French edition in a reduced octavo format published in Neuchâtel the same year. This quarto edition is greatly preferred; the same imprint (Hôtel de Thou) appears on a handsome edition of the French translation of Cook’s collected voyages (1774-1785).

$Lada-Mocarski, 29n; not in Sabin. $8500
An excellent copy of this rare book, important for both New Zealand and Tasmania: it gives the first narrative of two significant voyages to the Pacific, including the first and second French visits to New Zealand and the first French visit to Tasmania. ‘An exceedingly rare item… [it is] seldom available…’ (Davidson).

Edited by the Abbé Rochon, the main part of the book gives the only original printed account of the expedition of Marion-Dufresne, commanded by Crozet after his captain’s death. This was the only form in which the voyage was published; it did not appear in English until H. Ling Roth’s translation of 1891 (Crozet’s Voyage to Tasmania, New Zealand… in 1771-1772). The expedition originally set out as a deliberate sequel to Bougainville’s, including the plan of returning Autourou, brought to France by Bougainville, to his Tahitian homeland; however he died on the voyage. Their other instructions were to search for “Terra Australis”: they actually discovered the Crozet Islands, visited Tasmania, exploring and mapping some of its southern coast and making the first French contact with the Tasmanian Aborigines. They then made a lengthy stay in New Zealand, where after the massacre at the Bay of Islands (when the commander and about twenty other members of the voyage were killed by Maoris) Crozet took over the command. Unaware of Cook’s priority, the French laid claim to both Tasmania and New Zealand. ‘Crozet’s narrative, apart from the drama of its story, has much careful observation on Maori life and custom and, with the reports of Cook and his officers, was virtually the only source material available for 40 years…’ (New Zealand National Bibliography).

The book also includes as a postscript the first printed account of the earlier voyage of Jean-François de Surville, in which de Surville’s ship reached the New Zealand coast and in fact just missed meeting Cook in the Endeavour. At that point de Surville and Cook were the first European visitors to New Zealand since Tasman’s charting of part of the coastline in 1642. The only other early account of the de Surville voyage was published some time later (Monneron, Voyage des Indes au Perou, Paris, 1791). Much has been made recently of de Surville’s voyage since the publication by Geoffrey Blainey of his Sea of Dangers: Captain Cook and his rivals which emphasised the part played by chance in Cook rather than de Surville having discovered the east coast of Australia. Cook was told of de Surville’s voyage only on the journey home when he met Crozet at the Cape.

The engravings that illustrate the work include four fine portraits of Maoris as well as a folding map of De Surville’s discoveries and small maps of Marion-Dufresne’s discoveries both in New Zealand and Tasmania.

Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 98-99; Hill, 401; Hocken, pp. 21-22; Kroepelien, 1104; New Zealand National Bibliography, 1502. $15,500
79. CURTIS, William.
The Botanical Magazine; or, Flower-Garden Displayed…

A run of the first forty-six volumes (bound in 25), plus an index volume, octavo, engraved portrait in index volume (lightly foxed) and 2104 hand-coloured engraved plates, some folding, some foxing and the typical offsetting but the plates unusually bright; a most attractive set in contemporary half calf, marbled boards, neatly and professionally rebacked to style. London, for W. Curtis, 1793-1819.

An excellent unbroken run covering the best years of “the oldest scientific periodical of its kind with coloured illustrations in the world…In the beauty of production and high standard of its contribution it can claim a unique place” (Synge, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society 1948). Most of the early plates were from drawings by Sydenham Edwards and the colouring by William Graves. Other distinguished artists included James Sowerby, John Curtis, and William Jackson Hooker.

This set comprises the first and most of the second era of the magazine, relating to the editorships of William Curtis himself (vols. I-XVI) and then his successor Dr. John Sims. The work is unmatched for information on the contemporary gardening scene, because both Curtis and Sims understood the close relationship between gardeners and nurserymen, and wanted to advertise the new plants as they became available. With plants from all over the globe, including hundreds from the Cape (due to the indefatigable Francis Masson), as well as the Americas and south-east Asia, the present set includes over 160 finely illustrated Australian plants, of which the substantial majority date from after the voyage of Matthew Flinders, with all manner of notes derived from Peter Good and Robert Brown.

William Curtis (1746-1799) was an important botanist of his day and a member of the Linnean Society. An initial interest in entomology saw him publish his early collectors’ guide, Instructions for Collecting and Preserving Insects (1771), but he soon turned to botany, cutting his teeth at the Chelsea Physic Garden, and later working at Bermondsey and the London Botanic Garden. John Sims (1749-1831) was a physician and botanist, connected to the large network of Quakers in England. A member of both the Linnean Society and the Royal Society, he was ideally placed to take over the Botanical Magazine after the death of Curtis, until he himself retired in 1826.

It would be impossible to list the fantastic array of Australian plants in any detail here, but the first is the Mimosa verticillata (February 1790), collected by David Nelson on Cook’s third voyage. A notable inclusion is a pair of fine plates relating to the cultivation of the “magnificent” Gymea Lily, noted as having been first cultivated by the Right Hon. Charles Long of Bromley Hill in Kent. Although the beautifully executed plates, most by renowned artist Sydenham Edwards, are the glory of the work, the notes on contemporary gardens and nurseries provide added interest, revealing a complex network of exotic gardens, with famous names such as Lee and Kennedy of Hammersmith and Loddisges of Hackney, as well as lesser lights such as Whitley, Bramle & Milne of Fulham, or Grimwood & Wyke of Kensington. It would be possible to draw a remarkable sketch of this network based on a close reading of the Botanical Magazine alone, a sketch which would help reveal important details of a genteel trade in the process of becoming a serious business.

Henry, 473; Nissen BBI, 2350; Pritzel, 2007.

$47,500
Including the plate depicting a Koala, and Australian insects from the Baudin voyage.

80. CUVIER, Baron Georges & Pierre André LATREILLE.

Le Règne Animal distribué d’après son Organisation, pour servir de base à l’histoire naturelle des animaux et d’introduction à l’anatomie comparé.

Four volumes, octavo, 15 engraved plates by C.-L. Laurillard (some foxing to the plates); a handsome set, with all four half-titles, in contemporary quarter calf over mottled papered boards, gilt, double spine labels in red & green. Paris, Deterville, 1817.

First edition of this germinal work of natural history, with three volumes by Cuvier himself, and the fourth an important study of insects by his friend and colleague Latreille.

Recognised as the father of comparative anatomy, Cuvier published widely throughout his lifetime, but this was his most famous and influential work. In it he applied Linnaeus’ system of nomenclature and classification to the whole animal kingdom, in the process establishing his four great classes: vertebrate, molluscous, articulate, and radiated.

Cuvier’s work is a benchmark for many reasons, not least for the third volume present here, which is actually the work of Pierre André Latreille, Professor of Entomology at the Paris Museum: Latreille’s contribution was not only a significant contribution to his field, but he had earlier been heavily involved in characterising the insects collected on the Baudin voyage to Australia and the Pacific. In the present volume, Latreille sought to update the foundation work of scholars including Fabricius within Cuvier’s framework; as a result, Latreille included here many Australian insects including two, the ‘Rhipcera’ and the ‘Heleus’, described for the first time.

Cuvier was invited by Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire to come to Paris in 1795 and take an appointment at the newly-formed Muséum nationale d’histoire naturelle, where he remained until his death in 1832. Throughout his career, Cuvier held to the premise of Le Règne Animal that the four branches were fundamentally different, and that any similarities between them were due entirely to common functions rather than common ancestry. He did not believe, that is, that there was any evolutionary adaptation, a stance which put him in open conflict with his contemporaries such as Buffon, Lamarck, and Geoffroy. This led to the famous debate between Cuvier and Geoffroy at the Académie Royale des Sciences in Paris in 1830.

B.M. (Nat. Hist.), I, 410; Dibner, 195; Musgrave, p. 187; Nissen, 1013 (Zoology); Nissen, 213 (Ornithology); Norman, 567; Printing and the Mind of Man, 276; Wood, p. 307.

$7200
Dawn of the golden age of Pacific exploration

81. DALRYMPE, Alexander.

An Historical Collection of the several Voyages and Discoveries in the South Pacific Ocean.

Two volumes, quarto, 16 engraved maps and plates (mostly folding), half-titles, with the rare contents leaf; an extremely attractive set in contemporary tree calf, spine ruled in gilt with double red and green morocco labels. London, for the author, 1770-71.

First edition of the great hydrographer’s influential history of the early voyages to the Southern Ocean: this is a foundation work for any collection of Pacific voyages because “Dalrymple was the first critical editor of discoveries in Australasia and Polynesia” (Hill catalogue). More commonly seen with both volumes bound together as one large volume, this superb and unusually complete set is in a very attractive contemporary tree-calf binding.

Alexander Dalrymple, the great East India Company-trained hydrographer, had a lifelong interest in the mapping of the Pacific, and the present work is his magnum opus on the subject. Dalrymple had originally been offered the command of the Endeavour voyage to observe the transit of Venus, but partly because of his insistence on being given an Admiralty commission, the command went to Cook instead. His disappointment is hinted at in the remarkable “undedications” of this work, a series of barely disguised and very bitter digs at the three great circumnavigators Byron, Carteret and Wallis.

The work is most famous for its suite of privately-printed maps and views, including his genuinely important “Map of the World, on a new projection” (sometimes called his map of “The Great Pacific Ocean”), and it is fair to say that its original publication effectively announced the dawn of the golden age of Pacific exploration. Dalrymple collected together all the major accounts of Spanish and Dutch voyages: beginning with Magellan’s voyage of 1519, together with the Spanish accounts including those of Mendana to the Solomon Islands in 1595 and Quiros in 1606. The Dutch accounts include those of Le Maire, Schouten, Tasman and Roggeveen. Dalrymple’s long introduction on trade and his ‘investigation of what may be farther expected in the South Sea’ expound his belief in the existence of a “Great Southern Continent”, a theory firmly laid to rest when Cook later sailed right over it.

This is an excellent copy of the regular issue of the work dated 1770-1771, with the armorial bookplates of Samuel Leightonhouse. While collations by later bibliographers sometimes vary, this set does include the full suite of 16 maps and plates, as well as the rare contents leaf with the directions for placing the plates.

Hill, 410; Holmes (first edition), 32; James Ford Bell, D20; JCB, III, 1730; Kroepelien, 245; O’Reilly-Reitman, 97.

$25,500
82. **DALRYMple, Alexander.**

*Autograph Letter Signed to Henry Dundas, Lord Melville, discussing the north-west Pacific after his meeting with Sauer at the house of Sir Joseph Banks.*

*Single sheet of wove paper, 265 x 445 mm., watermarked "JW", folded to letter-size with holograph manuscript to three pages; traces of original folds, later refolded to docket-size and with manuscript description in another hand, small tears around original seal (not present). London, 12 January 1801.*

A very significant letter from the great cartographer Alexander Dalrymple, of especial interest regarding British and Russian ambitions in the northwest Pacific. Its opening line sets the scene wonderfully: 'Last night at Sir Joseph Banks's house, I saw a gentleman, Mr. Sauer, who is arrived within these 10 or 12 days from Russia…'

This must have been an exceptional meeting of Pacific Ocean experts, and further underlines Banks's abiding interest in the region. Certainly the letter also highlights Dalrymple's continuing research in his position as hydrographer to the Admiralty, while the fact that it is written to Henry Dundas, first Viscount Melville, then serving as the War Secretary under Pitt, also confirms the strategic importance of the work he was doing.

Dalrymple gives a fascinating précis of his detailed conversation with Sauer, who had sailed as an officer on the expedition that left St Petersburg in 1785 under the command of Joseph Billings. On their lengthy expedition Billings, who had sailed with Captain Cook on the third voyage, even met up with a fellow Cook-alumnus, John Ledyard, in Yakutsk. Billings and Sauer made a second voyage in the northern Pacific in 1790. Most importantly, it was Sauer who wrote the important account of the Billings voyages, published not long after this meeting, in 1802.

In the letter, Dalrymple sketches Sauer's valuable account of the Russian Fur Trade, noting that it has 'undergone a great change, by the present Emperor having established an American Company.' He comments that they are said to employ seven vessels of about 150 tons each, and includes military and hydrographic details of the base at Okotsk, giving this description of the American coast: 'very populous… they could collect 20,000 men in 24 hours; but that the NW part is the least populous many of the places named in the map having no existence and others being merely fishing huts… the Russians have 1200 men at Cook's River.' There is a good description of the warlike Tschutski, with the note that 'their country having no wood for Canoes they cross over to America & supply themselves by violence from their more peaceable neighbours and also make slaves of them.'

The letter makes clear that Sauer was already planning his publication ('He proposes publishing his Voyage having all the Charts &c. but it is not written out'), and, reflecting Dalrymple's sense of the importance of the information, he urges Dundas to buy Sauer's papers 'for I suppose a small sum, as he would be entitled to the profits of Publication.' It seems that this transaction was never approved.

Dalrymple's papers are chiefly in the British Library and the Public Records Office, although interestingly his correspondence with Dundas is in the National Library of Scotland.

$21,000
D. Sir,

Last night at the Joseph Amak's House, Isaac a Gentleman, informed me, who is arrived within these 10 or 12 days from Batavia, where he has been these 20 years, and for more than 9 years accompanied Billing in his voyage to the NE parts of Asia and NW of America and lately in the South parts of Africa, telling me many more in the town.

Mr. Lewis informs me that the course of the East Trade has undergone a great change, the present voyage having been added to American Company's. They employ seven vessels of about 150 Tons each from Batavia, which is a place of no strength, having no Guns but two Albacore, more dangerous than those who should venture to use them, than to an enemy: he says the River has deep water, but that there is only 6 feet at low water near the town, and fourteen at high. He tells me that the land is very bad, having a strong bottom, on which the bottoms will not hold.

The Furs from America and the Island to the Eastern of Prantsch are now brought directly to Batavia, where they arrive in August. They are sent in the autumn to Japan, where they are resold and conveyed to their Place of destination in the Winter. He says the East Furs are neither sent to China nor Russia through land to Moscow. He describes the annual revenue to be much less than has been stated, not exceeding 350 who, new.
Superb collection of eastern maps by the great French hydrographer

83. D'APRES DE MANDEVILLETTE, Jean-Baptiste.

Neptune Oriental...

*Large folio atlas with 69 maps (many double-page), title-page and single contents leaf; in excellent condition, in nineteenth-century quarter calf (a bit worn at extremities) and green papered boards. Paris, Compagnie des Indes & Dépôt Générale de la Marine, 1775 - circa 1810.*

Magnificent French marine atlas of the eastern oceans, updated to 1810 using French admiralty charts to provide a full working atlas for officers navigating towards the east, with routes to India, China and South-East Asia.

D'Après de Mannevillette (1707-1780), the son of a captain in the service of the Compagnie des Indes, made his first voyage to the Caribbean at the age of 19 after a comprehensive naval education. From the outset he collected information for a future marine atlas of the eastern seas, and after many voyages published the first edition of the *Neptune Oriental* in 1745. ‘The new sea atlas quickly found its way into the pilot cabins of ships of several nations, and its 22 charts were immediately recognised as being superior to all previous maps of Southeast Asian coasts’ (Suárez p.238). Its success brought him a wide following, and he was later employed in the library of the Compagnie des Indes at Lorient. Some thirty years later, in 1775, he published a second edition, completely revised and greatly increased thanks to the information collected from the company logbooks at his disposal.

The present example is a yet further publication, with maps assembled from three different sources. Some 46 of the total of 69 maps derive from the 1775 edition of the *Neptune Oriental*; a further six maps are added from a separately-published supplement of 1781; finally a further 17 French admiralty charts are added, based chiefly on the work of d'Après de Mannevillette, but many
of them post-dating his death and most of them updated with recent surveys and discoveries. For example the magnificent double page chart of the Indian Ocean bears an engraved caption beneath the New Holland landmass that reads ‘Cette partie de la Nouvelle Holland est tirée de la Carte générale du Voyage des Découvertes aux Terres Australes, rédigée par M.L. Freycinet en 1809’. This is the latest dated reference in the charts, suggesting a date of publication of around 1810.

Despite their different sources, the maps are similar in appearance and printing; the admiralty charts bear the insignia of the Dépôt Générale de la Marine and are priced (typically at 1-3 francs). They bear the details of the engraver De la Haye, who has likewise signed many of the maps from the 1775 second edition. By its nature, the Neptune Oriental was a changeable publication. A glance at the Shirley and Phillips catalogues reveals no systematic standardisation of the copies they collated. Indeed, Shirley also records several variations of the 1775 second edition, each with differing totals. The composite nature of the atlas reflects d’Après de Mannevillette’s working methods at the Compagnie des Indes in painstakingly comparing and collating information from merchant and naval officers returned from the eastern oceans.

Three of the maps here that derive from the 1775 second edition of Neptune Oriental are in fact English maps, published at the instigation of Alexander Dalrymple for the Admiralty around 1770-1771. D’Après de Mannevillette enjoyed a long friendship with Dalrymple; indeed the accuracy of both hydrographers in many ways reflected their free and open correspondence. The inclusion of Dalrymple’s maps in such an official French publication is testament to the amicable collaboration that existed between official French and British cartographers working at the highest level. The free exchange of information – especially maritime charting of vital naval importance – only became strained with the onset of war with Napoleonic France.

*Phillips, 3165-3168; Shirley, pp.1067-1068; Suárez ‘Early Mapping of Southeast Asia’, pp.237-240.*

$24,500
Botany Bay and the Wedgwood Medallion

84. Darwin, Erasmus.

The Botanic Garden; a Poem, in Two Parts...

Two parts in one volume, quarto, with separate title-pages to each part, two frontispieces, one engraved vignette in Part II, and 18 engraved plates, of which nine in Part I (four folding) and nine in Part II; some slight offsetting from the plates and very light foxing to a few leaves; an excellent copy in a handsome contemporary binding of polished crimson calf gilt. London, Printed for J. Johnson, 1791.

A beautiful copy of Erasmus Darwin's verse epic, his first major literary work, admired by Walpole and praised in a poem by Cowper and Hayley. Grandfather of Charles, Erasmus Darwin was a physician, philosopher and poet; Coleridge called him the 'first literary character in Europe'. This book is best known as a precursor to the work of his famous grandson in propounding a sort-of evolutionary theory. It was issued in two parts "The Economy of Vegetation" and "The Loves of the Plants".

It has an interesting connection with the first settlement at Botany Bay. Darwin's poem "Visit of Hope to Sydney Cove, near Botany Bay" was written to accompany the medallion made by Josiah Wedgwood from clay sent by Joseph Banks from Botany Bay. An engraving of the medallion was used to adorn the title-page of Phillip's Voyage. Wedgwood sent one of the medallions to Erasmus who replied that 'I have received great pleasure from your excellent medallion of Hope. The figures are all finely beautiful, and speak for themselves…' (Smith, The Sydney Medallion). Both the medallion and Darwin's poem portray, in allegorical form, Hope encouraging Art and Labour, under the influence of Peace, to give security and happiness to an infant settlement. The Wedgwood medallion makes another appearance in this book, appearing as an engraving opposite a new reference in verse to Botany Bay, while a note describes how the Wedgwood medallion was 'made of clay from Botany Bay; to which place he sent many of them to shew the inhabitants what their material would do, and to encourage their industry…' (p. 87).

While Erasmus' grandson Charles would shake the world with evolutionary theory, he had actually been an earlier explorer in the subject – 'to elaborate upon the implications of the 'promiscuous' animals of New South Wales [and to use] the idea of this promiscuity as the basis for his theory that all life derived from primeval filaments, such promiscuous intercourse between different filaments giving rise to the extant species of animals…' (Finney, To Sail Beyond the Sunset). Darwin's scientific speculations, including his ideas on the generation of life, influenced Mary Shelley, and through her, science fiction writing.

William Blake seems to have engraved at least five of the plates (see Bentley, p. 547), although only one – the striking "Fertilisation of Egypt" after Fuseli – is signed. Blake was probably also responsible for the four engravings of the Portland Vase.

Not recorded by Ferguson, despite its obvious Australian relevance.

Hayward, 198; Henrey, 468; Nissen BBI, 551 (different edition). $5250
Voyagers’ collecting guide

85. DUCHESNE, H. & P.-J. MACQUER.

Manuel du Naturaliste ouvrage utile aux Voyageurs et à ceux qui visitent les Cabinets d’Histoire Naturelle et de Curiosités.

Four volumes, octavo; contemporary calf, spines gilt with red morocco labels. Paris, Remont, 1797.

A fine set of this French natural history encyclopaedia, intended specifically as a guide for voyagers, as well as a handbook for examining the contents of the fashionable “cabinets of curiosity” then in vogue in many privately-owned museums throughout Europe. Many of the exhibits displayed were collected during the great era of voyaging in the Pacific, and works such as this one were indispensable for advice on collecting specimens in useable condition. This is the second edition of the book, revised and considerably expanded.

$4750

86. [DUFF VOYAGE] WILSON, William.

A Missionary Voyage to the Southern Pacific Ocean…

Quarto, 13 maps and plates; tear to one fold of the largest map, some offsetting and marking especially to plates and a few spots as common for this issue, marginal repairs to title-page; a good copy attractively bound in mottled calf antique, spine label.


Attempts to evangelise the Pacific followed hard on the heels of the explorers, with the voyage of the Duff the most ambitious example of the early period. This is an attractive copy of the Chapman edition of the narrative of the Duff’s voyage. This is the second edition of this account, published the same year as the Gosnell edition: both editions were set up by the same printer, but were distinct (the two works, for example, have different lists of subscribers). A preliminary census would suggest that this is the scarcer of the two contemporary editions.

This is the full official account of the first missionary voyage to the South Pacific. The Duff set out for Tahiti in 1796, but visited many island groups, including particularly Tonga and the Marquesas. A new group of islands, the “Duff Group”, was discovered among the Santa Cruz Islands. The maps here include a large chart of the Fiji Islands as well as charts of Tongataboo, the Gambier Islands, the Marquesas, Tahiti and the Duff Group; the plates include an engraved view of Rio de Janeiro.

Perry & Prescott have pointed out that “the Wilson book contained a map that actually used the words “Greater Australia” - taking in Captain Cook’s map of the south and east coasts of Van Diemens Land… this map would have influenced Matthew Flinders…”. Flinders is usually said to have been the first to use the term “Australia” in a voyage context: the Duff account appeared fifteen years earlier.

There is much of Australian interest in the account of the voyage including a mention of escaped Botany Bay convicts, and the flight of several missionaries from Tonga, where three were killed, to Sydney. Some of the missionaries made their homes in Sydney and founded families later to become important in Australian history. As is acknowledged today by some descendants of early missionary families in the Pacific islands, many of them “came to do good and did well”.

Ferguson, 302; Hill, 1895; Kroepelien, 529; O’Reilly-Reitman, 675; Perry & Prescott, Guide to Maps of Australia, 1799.15; Sabin, 49480; Spence, ‘Bligh’, p.26. $3600
Dufour's incredible vision of the Pacific

87. DUFOUR, Joseph after Jean-Gabriel CHARVET.
“Les sauvages de la Mer Pacifique”: a set of the Captain Cook 'wallpaper'.

Panoramic wall hanging, printed in colour from woodblocks with the colouring finished by hand, forming a panorama, eighteen (of twenty) original rolls laid down on hessian and forming five sections (each some 2057 mm. tall, and measuring respectively 900, 1150, 2230, 2500 & 2670 mm. wide); some overall wear but good old patination of colour; more notes on condition available on request. Mâcon, Dufour, 1805.

A wonderful and luxurious celebration of Cook's voyages and the opening up of the Pacific. This room-sized printed wall hanging is a superb example of French colour printing and one of the rarest and most striking icons of the Pacific. Although designed to capture public interest in all of the major eighteenth-century voyages, it is chiefly a product of the public fascination with Cook, as one of its alternative titles makes clear: Les Voyages du Capitaine Cook. Its production is testament to Dufour's craft, particularly to his ability to master the difficult production process. Like the work of his compatriot Grasset de Saint-Sauveur, Dufour's papier peint paysage derived from a belief in the universal fraternity of humanity. The image is an encapsulation of how the Pacific could be seen as an idyllic and lush paradise, and it is an eloquent summary of the extraordinary effect on the eager European spectators of the eighteenth-century voyages into the new worlds of the southern hemisphere. It also virtually marks the end of the glamorous publication of the voyages and discoveries of the golden period. After this, and the final issue of Webber's Views in the South Seas in about 1820, the voyages of the eighteenth century had been fully absorbed into the public imagination. Future publications would deal with specific nineteenth-century voyages, often at great length and with lavish visual effects, but the striking mixture of the exotic with both fact and fancy was finally over. The Dufour panorama can be seen as both a final example and perhaps the ideal representation of the exotic, a new world of the imagination as much as of actual geography. The noble savage was replaced with a more exacting approach to the process of discovery and colonisation, an approach which required more attention both to scientific fact and to the requirements of geopolitics.

Yet, although the work is evidently fantastic, it is not simply an invention, as the panorama is closely derived from the discoveries of the voyagers among the islands of the South Seas and the northern Pacific. Throughout, there are clear allusions to the published accounts of Bougainville (especially his visit to Tahiti, or “New Cythera”) and La Pérouse, and each of the panels is devoted to a distinct region (some, such as Tahiti, Hawaii and New Zealand, are given more than one). As a result, each shows typical aspects of the inhabitants of a particular area: detailed vignettes include Nootka Sound with inhabitants drying fish, and the Friendly Islands; the dances of the Tahitians in the presence of their king; the death of Captain Cook and natives of the Hawaiian Islands; and the inhabitants of New Zealand.

The work was particularly popular in the United States, and it was even popularly – if erroneously – reported that the example of the wallpaper at the Philadelphia Museum of Art was originally the gift of Mrs Cook herself. Surviving examples of this famous work are very few: altogether about a score of sets are known in varying states of completeness. Because the panorama was intended to be mounted in a room the known examples have often been cut to fit around doors, windows, furniture, etc. They have also often been trimmed on either the top or the bottom to fit the size of a room. The present example is of good height, and contains eighteen of the twenty panels originally published (the two panels not present here are numbers 15 and 16, relating to Tonga). The set in the Art Gallery of New South Wales contains twelve of the possible total of twenty panels, while a fuller set is in the National Gallery of Australia, the only other Australian institution to have any of Dufour's magnificent work.

$225,000
Detail of the panorama, with scenes from Alaska, Tonga, and New Caledonia.
Departure medal for the first Dumont D'Urville expedition

88. [DUMONT D'URVILLE] CHARLES X.

Medal for the departure of the first voyage of the Astrolabe.

Bronze medal, 50 mm., extremely fine. Paris, Depaulis, 1826.

Rare original medallion commemorating the departure on 25 April 1826 of the first voyage of the Astrolabe to the South Seas, under the command of Dumont d'Urville.

The Astrolabe (Duperrey's old ship the Coquille renamed in honour of La Pérouse) was instructed to explore the principal island groups in the South Pacific, completing the work of the Duperrey voyage, on which the commander had been a naturalist. The expedition sailed via the Cape of Good Hope, through Bass Strait, stopped at Port Phillip, and arrived at Sydney on 1 December 1828. They later sailed via the northwest coast of Australia to Tasmania, from where they proceeded to Vanikoro in search of traces of La Pérouse.

Marquess of Milford Haven, 'British and Foreign Naval Medals', 190. $4850

A Baudin voyage veteran studies Dumont D'Urville

89. [DUMONT-DURVILLE] D'HAUSSEZ, Baron.

Original letter signed to Bory de Saint-Vincent, granting him access to the reports of the Astrolabe voyage.

Letter signed on official letterhead of the "Ministère de la Marine", 310 x 200 mm., a few marks but very good. Paris, 25 March 1830.

Intriguing letter which shows the workings of the inner circle of French grands voyages experts and veterans, explicitly thanking Bory de Saint-Vincent for the important work he had done on the scientific volumes published after the Duperrey voyage (1822-1825), and therefore granting him access to the latest volumes relating to the Dumont d’Urville voyage (1826-1829) as they are published.

Bory de Saint-Vincent, who had sailed with Baudin in 1800 and published an important account of his difficult time aboard and his researches in the Indian Ocean, had a long and interesting career as a scientist, and had indeed in 1828 – as this letter suggests – helped prepare the botanical volume published as part of the official account of the Duperrey circumnavigation.

His work was greatly appreciated by the ministry, which is why d’Haussez, then minister of the navy, was able to grant Bory de Saint-Vincent access to all of the volumes relating to the Dumont d’Urville voyage that had been published to date. D’Haussez is granting the request, he writes, not only as a mark of thanks, but as a way of encouraging the scientist to perhaps publish an account of his own recent expedition to the Mediterranean (Bory de Saint-Vincent was the director of a scientific expedition to the Peloponnese, the so-called “Expédition de Morée” of 1828-1833).

$2850
90. DUMONT D’URVILLE, Jules Sébastien César.

Voyage de découvertes autour du monde et à la recherche de La Pérouse.

Ten octavo text volumes bound as five, and folio atlas with a portrait of Dumont d’Urville and 20 maps and plates (six coloured); some browning and foxing of the text (as sometimes found with this paper stock), also affecting a few plates; a good set in a recent French period style quarter navy polished calf, spines lettered numbered and banded in gilt. Paris, Librairie Encyclopédique de Roret, 1832-33.

A notably scarce version of the official account of Dumont d’Urville’s first voyage, publishing the voyage narrative and a selection of the fine lithographic plates for a popular audience.

The Astrolabe expedition visited Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific in 1826-29, and was a major scientific undertaking, ultimately taking a large number of natural history specimens to France, and making a particular study of geography and ethnography. The full publication of the voyage was extensive, numbering some 13 text volumes accompanied by five folio atlas volumes. Exclusive and expensive, the official account was beyond the means of most readers, hence the desire for this abridged and accessible edition. It includes as narrative text the Historique section of the full voyage account, though the title has been changed to include the words “et à la recherche de La Pérouse”, and has a selection of eight maps and 12 plates as a separately bound atlas volume.

Three of the twelve plates issued with this edition are Australian Aboriginal studies lithographed from drawings by the official artist Louis Sainson. A coloured portrait plate of two Aboriginal men is followed by depictions of two encounters, one at the Georges River and the other at Jervis Bay. Of additional interest are two coloured Maori portrait plates, and further studies of the native inhabitants of New Guinea, Vanikoro and Tikopia. The maps are notable as some of the finest ever produced of the Pacific, and include charts of Australia and New Zealand, New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga and Vanikoro.

One of the primary results of the voyage was to confirm the fate of the ill-fated La Pérouse expedition, a long-standing mystery. Dumont d’Urville’s expedition confirmed the reports of the South Seas trader Peter Dillon that the La Pérouse expedition was wrecked at Vanikoro (Solomons), and during their visit erected a monument to La Pérouse and his men upon the island (the ceremony is memorialised in a fine lithographed plate included in the atlas to this edition).

Despite the fact that this was intended to be a popular edition it is surprisingly rare on the market and not noted by several standard bibliographies. This edition was only noted for the Ferguson Addenda volume from the set of the text in the State Library of Victoria and from a copy of the atlas volume that appeared (without text) in a Bernard Quaritch catalogue in 1983. McLaren too could cite the atlas only from the Ferguson/Quaritch entry.

Ferguson, 1531b & 1642aaa; McLaren, ‘La Pérouse in the Pacific’, 87-8 not in the catalogue of the Hill collection.

$16,000
Dumont d'Urville presents his new work to a scientific opinion-maker.

91. **DUMONT D'URVILLE, Jules Sébastien César.**

Autograph letter signed to Mr. Chauvin presenting a copy of the official account of his voyage.

*Single sheet of laid paper, 207 x 260 mm., folded vertically to form a letter, written in a small and neat hand to first page and addressed – but not stamped – to the last, old folds; excellent. no place, no date but circa 1832.*

A significant letter in which the great Pacific and Antarctic explorer Dumont d'Urville presents the first parts of his official account of his first voyage to the natural historian F.J. Chauvin of Caen, active in botanical studies in the mid-nineteenth century. Chauvin's herbarium is still held at the Université de Caen, and he is remembered by several plants named in his honour.

In the letter, Dumont d'Urville sends Chauvin the "first two parts" of his voyage account, in the hope that they will be of interest. It may be that he was sending the first parts of the historical narrative of the voyage, first published in 1830, but given Chauvin's botanical studies, it is probably fair to assume that he was being sent the two parts of the *Botanie* volume, edited by Lesson & Richard (*I. Essai d'une Flore de la Nouvelle Zelande. II. Sertum Astrolabianum*, Paris, 1832-4). Only as a postscript to the letter does Dumont d'Urville remember to offer his regards to Chauvin's wife and little girl.

Dumont d’Urville had sailed on the *Astrolabe* (Duperrey’s old ship the *Coquille*, renamed in honour of La Pérouse) from Toulon in April 1826. He was instructed to explore the principal island groups in the South Pacific, completing the work of the Duperrey voyage, on which the commander himself had been a naturalist. Because of his great interest in natural history, huge amounts of scientific data and specimens were collected, described and illustrated in sumptuous folio atlases. The expedition stopped at the Cape of Good Hope, passed through Bass Strait visiting Port Phillip, and arrived at Sydney on 1 December 1828.

Extensive visits were made to both Sydney and Parramatta, where Dumont d’Urville visited Samuel Marsden; the expedition sailed for New Zealand in January 1827, explored Tasman Bay, found a pass between an island in Cook Strait and the northern shore of South Island (the island consequently named D’Urville and the strait French Strait) and worked up the coast of North Island, completing the ‘most comprehensive exploration of the islands since Cook’s death’. They made Tonga in April 1827, explored the Fiji Archipelago, New Britain and New Guinea. In November, after a stop at Amboina, they coasted along the north-west coast of Australia and reached Tasmania. In 1828 they continued to Vanikoro in search of traces of La Pérouse, and stopped at Guam in the Marianas, before returning via the Cape of Good Hope, reaching Marseille on 25 March 1829.

$4500
92. [DUPERREY] MASSON & CARNOT.

*Tete Humaine enchâssée dans une Idole que les Papous conservent dans l’intérieur de leurs maisons…*

*Watercolour on laid paper, 482 x 310mm., large pencil sketch to the verso, some tears and nicks to the edges, small loss at lower left-hand corner not affecting either illustration; very good. Offak Bay or later on the voyage, circa 1825.*

Exceptional original watercolour depicting a Papuan idol of carved timber topped by a human skull, noted in the caption as typically kept in the interior of their houses. The back of the sheet has a detailed pencil sketch of the same idol. The idol itself was acquired by the French expedition of Duperrey and is now in the Quai Branly in Paris, where it is described as a korwar sculpture and considered one of the “100 masterpieces” of their Oceania collection. The museum catalogue notes that it was acquired in Cenderawasih (“Bird of Paradise Bay”) on the north coast of Papua New Guinea.

Duperrey had first circumnavigated as a junior officer on the Freycinet voyage, experience which led to him being given command of *La Coquille* for the voyage of 1822-5. Dumont d’Urville was his second-in-command, and he in turn was later given command of two further Pacific voyages. The Duperrey voyage made many significant ports of call in the Pacific, including stays in Australia, Tahiti, and New Zealand. Under the naturalist René Lesson the voyage made many important ethnographic notes, particularly in Australia and New Zealand, and collected ‘vast quantities of ethnographic and scientific data’ (Hill).

The Duperrey circumnavigation spent a great deal of time on the Papuan coast in 1823. The expedition reached New Ireland in August 1823, before sailing past the Duke of York group and finally reaching Offak Bay, Waigeo on 6 September. Offak Bay was the main Papuan landfall of the voyage, and after much initial reserve from the islanders, soon a great market atmosphere of trade prevailed. The term “Papua” (Papous) used in the caption was at the time chiefly associated with the western tip of the New Guinea region by the French (Quoy and Gaimard in the Freycinet account limited the area to Waigeo and neighbouring islands), so the actual trading of the idol may date from the time spent in Offak Bay.

A version of this image, rather altered, was included as an engraving in the official voyage account of Duperrey, in which the idol is depicted from three angles. The printed version has the extraordinary shell-eyes in both eye-sockets, where this watercolour only has one. Was the idol damaged before the engraving was made? Or, probably more likely, was the final engraving simply “improved” based on the original sketches? The drawing was made by Masson and Carnot, probably soon after the expedition’s return. For the sculpture search “korwar” at quaibranly.fr.

$12,850
93. **ERMAN, Adolph.**

*Reise um die Erde durch Nord Asien und die Beiden Oceane in den Jahren 1828, 1829, und 1830.*

Seven volumes, comprising five octavo text and two atlas volumes (one quarto and one small folio), complete with the suite of 36 plates and maps; the text volumes with four folding plates, three handcoloured maps, and accompanying folding handcoloured chart; the quarto atlas of views with eleven plates, all double page and two folding; the small folio atlas of natural history plates with 17 numbered plates (two handcoloured); aside from some browning of the text volumes and a few spots an excellent uncut set in recent period style half green morocco with gilt labels. Berlin, Reimer, 1833-1848.

One of the rarest and best accounts of nineteenth-century exploration in north-eastern Asia, Siberia, Russian America, and the northern Pacific, with significant early scientific observations made in the Americas, including in Sitka and San Francisco in late 1829.

This ambitious work comprises a three-volume narrative account of Erman’s travels in the years 1828-30, a two-volume natural history text, an atlas of geographical views, and a natural history atlas. It was issued in parts over a span of fifteen years and is almost never found absolutely complete as here: this fine set includes the frequently missing final volume of text comprising the second part of the scientific results (a further volume of narrative text was planned but never published); and it includes the full suite of 36 lithographed and engraved plates and maps, 8 of them accompanying the text, 11 forming an atlas of views, and 17 forming the natural history atlas.

Adolph Erman, born in Berlin in 1806, was a physicist and traveller in the mould of Alexander von Humboldt. In 1828 he set out to travel around the world, joining Christopher Hantseen’s expedition to carry out magnetic measurements in Siberia. They travelled eastward across Russia, and when the Hantseen expedition turned back at Kyakhta, Erman proceeded onward at his own expense to Yakutsk and Okhotsk. He crossed the Sea of Okhotsk to Kamchatka and journeyed across the peninsula to the port of Petrovalovsk, where he met Leontii Hagemeister whose ship was supplying Russian colonies in Alaska. Erman travelled with Hagemeister to Sitka and then on to San Francisco, Tahiti, the coast of South America, and then around the Horn to Europe, although the textual narrative closes with Erman in Kamchatka in late 1829.

Erman spent several years after his return to Germany preparing his narrative. Published in parts through the 1830s and 1840s, it contains detailed observations on zoology, botany, geography and ethnology, as well as accounts of the peoples and places he encountered, including brief Yakut and Tungus vocabularies. The two volume natural history text contains observations on latitude and longitude, as well as geomagnetic studies and magnetic observations made on land in Siberia, Kamchatka, Alaska, California, and South America, as well as on the Pacific Ocean. The natural history texts, therefore, contain an impressive amount of early, accurate scientific material on Alaska, California, and South America.

The plates in the geographic atlas (each of which contains at least two and up to four views) chiefly depict scenes in Kamchatka, showing forests, waterways, mountains and volcanoes. The natural history atlas features attractive lithographs of birds (the majority of the images), a sea otter from Sitka, fish, insects, and plants.

*Arctic Bib, 4661; BM (NH) II, 539; Nissen, 1305; Sabin, 22770.*

$36,000
‘IT IS MUCH TO BE LAMENTED, THAT THE INNOCENT NATIVES HAVE BEEN SUFFERERS BY THE EVENT...’

94. [FITZGERALD, Gerald].

The Injured Islanders; or, The Influence of Art upon the Happiness of Nature.

Quarto, 25, [iii] pp., engraved vignette of Tahitian dancers on the title-page (by Isaac Taylor after W. Hamilton); library stamps (Harvard College) with release stamp; a little light foxing, especially to first and last leaves, but a very good copy, complete with the half-title, in later quarter calf over early marbled boards, printed label on cover. London and Edinburgh, J. Murray and W. Creech, 1779.

Very rare and important work, notable for its uncompromising attitude towards the effects of the eighteenth-century voyages of discovery on the native peoples of the Pacific. The text departs from the norm by condemning the catalogue of European-introduced disasters that includes war, revenge, ambition, and venereal disease.

We have found records for only three other copies of this elusive book since the Harmsworth sale in 1935 (which had a copy of the Dublin edition); a copy of this edition (lacking its half-title) was sold by Sotheby's London in 1977, and another copy was sold in the US in 2006. No priority between the London and Dublin editions has been established (they may well have been effectively simultaneous). Rolf du Rietz favours the priority of the Dublin edition, though the question is somewhat academic in view of the rarity of either.

Although essentially based on the experiences of Wallis in Tahiti, the poet, professor at Trinity College, Dublin, takes account of the Cook voyages, quoting from both Forster and Cook, and specifically mentioning Cook voyage experiences, with a special interest in the stories of Tupaia and Omai, both taken aboard ship by Cook to travel far from their native lands.

Bernard Smith has taken significant note of the book (European Vision and the South Pacific, second edition, pp. 85-6): 'George Forster's reflections provided the basis of the Injured Islanders... On this occasion it is Captain Wallis, the discoverer of Tahiti, and not Banks, whose absence is mourned by the forsaken Tahitian queen, Oberea... Fitzgerald turns Oberea's unhappiness into a paradigm of the misfortune that has befallen all her people. The poem is thus of interest in that, while preserving the pattern adopted by Scott's earlier satires, it witnesses to quite a different kind of emotional response to the native peoples of the Pacific. Sentiment replaces satire. Oberea's love for Wallis has destroyed her love for her country – no longer can she enjoy its natural pleasures. The poet, closely following suggestions from Forster, shows how European trade is quickly corrupting and degrading island life...'

Beddie, 3812 (Mitchell Library copy only); Hill, 606; Hocken, p.19; Holmes, 32; Kroepelien, 434; O'Reilly-Reitman, 9803. $12,250
FLEURIEU, Charles Pierre Claret, comte de.

Voyage fait par ordre du roi en 1768 et 1769, à différentes parties du monde, pour éprouver en mer les horloges marines inventées par M. Ferdinand Berthoud…

Two volumes, quarto, with four maps, two plates, and five folding tables; in fine condition in contemporary French marbled calf, spines panelled in gilt between raised bands, double labels, marbled endpapers and edges; with the bookticket “Decrès” in each volume Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1773.

First edition, surprisingly rare today (perhaps because the scientific nature of the voyage described limited the book’s original audience): the early work of Louis XVI’s Minister of Marine.

This fine copy of an important voyage account belonged to another highly important naval figure, Admiral Denis Decrès, Napoleon’s Minister for the Navy and the Colonies from 1801 to 1814 and thus the Minister directly responsible for Baudin’s voyage, which departed shortly before he took office (see number 77 in this catalogue for another work from his library). Decrès was commemorated by Baudin in the naming of Ile Decrès, better known today as Kangaroo Island. Flinders and Baudin gave the island their chosen English and French names just four weeks apart, but because the Baudin voyage was published long before that of Flinders (thanks to the French capture and imprisonment of Flinders) it was the name of Ile Decrès that first gained currency. Anse Decrès (present-day Decres Bay) near Ceduna, north-west of modern Adelaide, was also named by Baudin in his honour.

Count Charles Pierre Claret de Fleurieu (1738-1810) was one of the most important figures in the history of French exploration, in many ways the equivalent of Alexander Dalrymple, heavily involved with the cartography and science of voyages during his era, and closely associated with the actual planning and publication of many of them. The voyage described here in his first of many books was the single voyage undertaken by him personally. Its modern rarity may well have to do with its partly technical nature. No racy account, it tells the story of the voyage of the Isis under his command in 1768 to the Caribbean coast and New York, chiefly from the point of view of its scientific aims, which were significant: this was the major French participation in the race to establish Longitude and the means of gauging it at sea. Fleurieu’s specific purpose was to test the marine clock built by the pioneering Swiss, later French, instrument maker Ferdinand Berthoud, the first such French attempt to solve the scientific puzzle pre-occupying Europe at the time. Scientific progress made by him and during his administration enabled the commissioning of the first of the French grands voyages of the late eighteenth century, those of La Pérouse and d’Entrecasteaux.

Fleurieu too was honoured by the Baudin expedition in their naming of the Fleurieu Peninsula south of Adelaide and Fleurieu Island in northwest Tasmania. Louis XVI’s Minister of the Navy from 1790, he was several times imprisoned during the Terror, surviving to re-join the administration after the fall of Robespierre. Subsequently he was several times again appointed Minister of the Navy, was a Governor of both the Tuileries and the Louvre, and was personally commissioned by Napoleon to establish the causes of the French defeat at Trafalgar.

The competition between Berthoud and Le Roy to develop a viable marine chronometer in France at the same time as Harrison was working in England is described by Catherine Cardinal in “Ferdinand Berthoud and Pierre Le Roy: Judgement in the Twentieth Century of a Quarrel Dating from the Eighteenth Century” (in The Quest for Longitude, ed. W.J.H. Andrews, 1996).

Not in the catalogue of the Hill collection; Sabin, 24750 (collation here incomplete). $21,000
FLEURIEU, Charles Pierre Claret de.

Discoveries of the French in 1768 & 1769 South-East of New Guinea, with the subsequent visits to the same lands by English Navigators, who gave them new names… To which is prefixed, an historical abridgment of the voyages and discoveries of the Spaniards in the same seas… Translated from the French.

Quarto, with 12 folding charts; a fine copy in attractive modern speckled calf by Aquarius. London, John Stockdale, 1791.

First English edition of the great work on the French discovery of the Solomon Islands, and a direct result of the voyage of the First Fleet to New South Wales: the French original was issued in 1790. Phillip's Voyage, first published in 1789, had included the journal of Lt. Shortland on his return voyage in the Alexander transport from Botany Bay to England, during which he coasted along a group of large islands which he named “New Georgia”. Fleurieu, writing in a period of intense international rivalry over Pacific discoveries, denies that discovery and promotes those of Louis de Bougainville and Jean de Surville. He draws on unpublished manuscripts as well as the printed narratives of Cook, Bougainville, Phillip, Mendana, Quiros and others.

There are also interesting comments on the La Pérouse voyage. Fleurieu announces the receipt of journals from as far as Botany Bay, and in discussing the Great Ocean Chart (a fragment of which is published here), says publication is to be delayed until his later discoveries can be inserted. The translator of this edition notes that La Pérouse has still not turned up and “the apprehension for his loss increases daily”.

Beddie, 1302-3; Hill, 611; Kroepelien, 437. $7850
Fleurieu's narrative of the voyage of the *Solide* under the command of Etienne Marchand, the first French commercial voyage to the Northwest coast of America, and the second French circumnavigation (some 25 years after Bougainville's).

Returning from Bengal in 1788, Marchand had come across the voyager Portlock who told him of the lucrative fur trade between the Northwest coast and China. 'The trading firm of Baux in Marseille underwrote a commercial expedition and purchased and fitted out the copper-sheathed ship *Solide*, which sailed in December 1790 for the Pacific via Cape Horn. At the Marquesas, Marchand took possession of two islands, Uapou and Nukuhiva (which he named Ile Baux), not knowing of Ingraham's visit on the *Hope* two months earlier... At the Northwest coast he obtained a large cargo of furs, sailed south to Hawaii, through the Marianas, and reached Macao...'. This was a successful voyage but a commercial failure. Marchand was unable to sell his furs, and upon his return to France they were impounded by a revolutionary faction and eventually perished. The firm of Baux ultimately lost two-thirds of its capital in the venture...’ (Forbes).

Nevertheless, Marchand had proved that in times of peace, the French could compete successfully in the Pacific trade. As Marchand died in 1793, the work was actually written by Count Charles Pierre Fleurieu, himself an explorer. Fleurieu was much more than just an editor here: he put the narrative together from the logbooks of the ship's surgeon Claude Roblet, and Prosper Chanal, the second-in-command. Using these as a foundation he brought together what O'Reilly and Reitman describe as 'un vaste travail de compilation, où les observations géographiques, nautiques, ethnographiques et zoologiques sont confrontées avec celles des voyages espagnols (Mendaña, Quiros), hollandais (Roggeween), anglais et américains (Cook, Ingraham, Roberts, Hergest)...'. As a result the book includes a good account of discoveries along the American coast, from Cortes in 1537 to Malaspina in 1790, including records of Drake, Juan de Fuca, Cook, La Pérouse, Meares, Colnett, Portlock and Dixon. Considerable text is devoted to descriptions of natural history specimens collected en route. The final volume contains a critical analysis of Roggeween's voyage, and the engraved charts include five of Alaska and the Northwest coast, four of Marquesan interest and one of Hawaii, while the China Sea chart contains important corrections. Lada-Mocarski calls it "a very important and authoritative work for the history of the Northwest coast".

The book was published in two versions in Paris in 1798-1800; the octavo format version was reissued in the form offered here, with the simple substitution of a new title-page (Forbes cites a re-issue of the quarto rather than the octavo version, perhaps in error).
98. [FLINDERS] BAUER, Ferdinand.

Illustrationes florae Novae Hollandiae, sive icones generum que in Prodomo Novae Hollandiae et insulæ Van Dieman descripsit Robertus Brown.

Super royal folio, 15 engravings, early owner's notes on title-page and front endpaper; a fine copy in early marbled boards with red spine label. London, Ferdinand Bauer, 1806-1813.

The Treviranus-Caspary copy of this rare and “very beautiful work of which probably less than 50 copies... were issued” (Great Flower Books, 1990).

This fine, unsophisticated copy of one of the greatest botanical works by one of the greatest botanical artists of all time was once in the libraries of two great German nineteenth century botanists: Ludolph Christian Treviranus (1779-1864) and Johann Caspary (1818-1887). Ferdinand Bauer engraved the plates himself; according to Bauer’s elder brother Franz, the amount of work involved was too much for Ferdinand and he was forced to suspend the project after only three parts were published as he could not find competent engravers to complete the work.

Born in Feldsberg, Austria in 1760, Ferdinand was the son of the court painter to the Prince of Liechtenstein. He was trained in botany at the monastery of Feldsberg under the protection of Norbert Boccius (1729-1800). Ferdinand was later sent to study at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Schonbrunn Palace before travelling to England and studying with John Sibthorp, the celebrated Professor of Botany at Oxford.

Bauer’s first published work was the famous series of engravings that he made for Sibthorp’s great Flora Graeca - described by Joseph Hooker as “the greatest botanical work that has ever appeared” (On the Flora of Australia). His talent soon caught the attention of Sir Joseph Banks who was involved in the preparations for Matthew Flinders’s voyage in the Investigator, which was to make the first circumnavigation of Australia. Ferdinand was invited to be the expedition's scientific artist in partnership with the botanist on this momentous expedition Robert Brown.

In 1801 Bauer was employed on the coastal survey of New Holland carried out under the command of Captain Flinders. In 1803, after the Investigator was condemned as unseaworthy, Flinders left for England to obtain another ship to complete the expedition. Bauer and Brown, however, continued their travels in Australia. They were an ideal team, Brown describing the collected specimens and Bauer sketching and painting them. Bauer continued, collecting and sketching on Norfolk Island and in New South Wales, while Brown went south to Van Diemen’s Land. They finally returned to England in 1805 with several thousand botanical specimens and many hundreds of sketches of plants.

Sir Joseph Banks persuaded the Admiralty to pay Ferdinand to work on a selection of the plates for publication, and the Illustrationes florae Novae Hollandiae was prepared in three parts of five plates each. Although work began as early as 1806, both coloured and uncoloured copies of the book were only finally issued in 1813. This association copy is uncoloured. Ferdinand returned to his native Austria in 1814, and died in Vienna in 1826.

This particularly fine and fresh copy with its impeccable provenance is of exceptional rarity.

Ferguson, 549; Henrey, II, p. 195; Pritzel, 493; Stafleu & Cowan, TL2 362 (noting coloured and uncoloured copies).
CANCELLATION OF THE RUSSIAN VOYAGE TO NEW HOLLAND


Autograph letter signed, to Georg Forster, informing him of the cancellation of their proposed voyage to the Pacific and Australia.

Single sheet of laid paper, 232 x 382 mm., folded to letter size, watermark "J. Honig & Zoonen", written in French in a neat and legible hand, signed "G. Moulowsky", noted as received on 1 January 1788; old folds, chipped along inner margin, in excellent condition. Kronstadt, 26 November 1787 (old calendar; 7 December 1787 in the modern calendar).

An important letter: the Russian commander Grigory Mulovsky writes to Georg Forster informing him of the cancellation of their proposed voyage to the Pacific and Australia.

In April 1787 Catherine the Great commissioned Mulovsky as commander of a squadron destined to carry out a voyage to the Pacific Ocean, Japan and the western coast of America. Five ships – four naval vessels and a transport – were to have taken part, with officers and crew recruited from around the world: indeed, one of the driving forces in planning the expedition was James Trevenen, a midshipman on Cook's third voyage, who first discussed his idea with the Russian ambassador in London as an attempt to circumvent the monopoly of the British South Sea Company. Trevenen was so convinced of the reality of his Russian appointment that he did not push for another commission for which he was being sponsored by Alexander Dalrymple: to command the Bounty on her ill-fated breadfruit voyage.

Mulovsky's voyage was openly modelled on the discoveries of Captain Cook and was intended as a Russian riposte to British ambitions in the region, much in the same way that the French had appointed La Pérouse and the Spanish Malaspina. It is considered very likely that Mulovsky would have visited the new colony at Port Jackson, much like the French and Spanish expeditions: if this had eventuated it would have been an incredible opportunity for Forster to judge the merits of his 1787 essay on Botany Bay, “Neuholland und die brittische Colonie in Botany Bay”.

This expertise was, of course, the reason why Georg Forster was asked to join the expedition. Forster had sailed as a young man on Cook's second voyage, and had forged a career as a Pacific expert. He was approached by Mulovsky in person and offered a position as naturalist and "scientific commander” in June 1787; the same month Forster wrote to his friend Thomas Soemmering inviting him to join an expedition which 'will visit England, Lisbon, Madeira, Brazil, the Cape of Good Hope, New Holland, New Zealand, the Friendly, Society and Sandwich Islands, the Coast of America, Kurile Islands, Japan and China – and everywhere our zeal for Science will be left unhindered' (Forster, 17 June 1787, Werke, vol. 14, p. 696). Sadly, the hoped for expedition never materialised as the Russian Navy became increasingly immured in the war with the Sultan of Turkey. As this letter confirms, the Pacific voyage was finally cancelled in 1787; Mulovsky died two years later during the war with Sweden.

The letter, sent from the Russian naval capital Kronstadt, written in rather halting French, informs Forster about the cancellation of their planned voyage ('Je suis bien fâché de vous apprendre que mon Expédition n'a plus lieu et que par consequand, tous ceux que vous aurez peut engagée...'). Mulovsky also comments that he has written a second letter to Soemmering as well, and he stresses that there is no personal conflict behind the cancellation. hoping that their relationship will continue to be amicable.

This letter was transcribed as part of the East German publication of Forster's complete works, although it was only located in time for the appendix volume (Werke, volume 17, p. 541).

100. [FREYCIENET] ARAGO, Jacques Etienne Victor.  


Two volumes, octavo, and small folio atlas; the atlas with separate title, table and 23 lithograph plates, some scattered foxing; text in period-style quarter calf with double labels, the atlas uncut in the original blue-grey boards with printed paper label on the front cover; a fine set. Paris, Leblanc, 1822.

First edition: a fine and attractive set of this significant narrative of the Freycinet expedition, one of the most important of all voyages to the Pacific. This wonderful, informal account is written in the form of letters to a friend by the voyage’s official artist Jacques Arago, and has a fine series of lithographs by him: “these entertaining letters, written in a lively and witty literary style, provide vivid descriptions of the topography and the inhabitants of the Pacific islands” (Hill). A lavish publication in its own right, Arago’s “unofficial” account appeared years before the much grander official account of Freycinet himself even began publication, and was enormously popular.

The Uranie, with a crew of 125 under the command of Captain Louis de Freycinet, entered the Pacific from the west to make scientific observations on geography, magnetism, and meteorology. Arago was the artist of the expedition, which visited Western Australia, Timor, Hawaii, and New South Wales. The text is peppered with Arago’s personal and insightful comments on the places they visited, with long sections devoted to Western Australia and especially to New South Wales, where Arago gives an interesting account of colonial society at the close of the Macquarie era. There are good descriptions of Sydney, and the explorers’ visits to Camden and the Blue Mountains. The French were entertained handsomely by the governor and other members of the local aristocracy, with expeditions to the country estates of the Macarths, the Oxleys and the Kings the order of the day.

Arago was particularly known for his lively and arresting images of the people he encountered, with a distinct preference for the unusual or the grotesque. He would return many times to his experiences, and his accounts were enormously popular.

Ferguson, 850; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 537; Hawaii One Hundred, 26; Hill, 28; Sabin, 1867.

$21,000

Souvenirs d’un aveugle. Voyage autour du monde…

Five volumes, octavo, with two portrait frontispieces and 60 hand-coloured lithographic plates (six folding) in the first four volumes and 15 plates in the fifth volume (3 hand-coloured); with moderate scattered foxing and a handful of browned plates resulting from differing paper stocks (as often); otherwise a very attractive set in a charming contemporary French binding of quarter crimson calf, flat spines ornamented and lettered in gilt. Paris, Gayet et Lebrun, 1840.

The French artist’s classic account of his circumnavigation in the Uranie under the command of Louis de Freycinet, here in the rare and desirable third and best edition in which the sixty lithographs appear in handsome original colouring. Although this was one of the most frequently published of all nineteenth-century voyage accounts, this is the only edition in which the plates appear in this coloured form. Seldom seen on the market, this should be ranked as one of the rarest and most prized Pacific or Australian colour-plate books. This set is notable for having the rare fifth supplementary volume entitled “Chasses - Drame”; sometimes added to a set though it was produced by a quite different publisher, neither of the careful bibliographers Ferguson (on Australia) or Forbes (on Hawaii) calls for it but it is an occasional addition. The plates in this extra volume are usually uncoloured but in this copy the first three are in skilful colouring.

By the time this substantially different version of his book reached the public, at first accompanied only by black-and-white illustrations, Arago had lost his sight, hence the new title used for the work of Souvenirs d’un aveugle (Memories of a Blind Man). As noted in the catalogue of the Hill collection of one of the earlier uncoloured issues, this version is often erroneously catalogued as a later edition of Arago’s Promenade, when in fact the narrative has been considerably enriched and Arago shows an even more witty and elaborate style, especially with the lively plates. The lovely handcolouring of this edition means that Arago’s wonderful depictions of the Pacific are here given full rein. Volume III of this work is almost entirely devoted to Hawaii, with portraits of Young, and Queen Kanoé, alongside many other scenes: the elaborate and colourful headgear and dress of the Hawaiian warriors is especially beautiful. Of equal interest is the large section of the book devoted to Australia, with no less than five plates depicting Aborigines of New Holland. These include evocative depictions after Péron (artist for the official Baudin voyage account), as well as Arago’s own images of, for instance, a duel in New South Wales, a fierce Maori warrior bailed up by a dandy with two flint-lock pistols, and an Aboriginal man climbing a tree - to the amazement of a European in candy-stripe pants.

Ferguson knew only the Mitchell Library copy of this special edition; Forbes gives a fuller census, but could still list only three more copies (Kahn Collection, Hawaiian Mission Children’s Society Library in Honolulu, and private collection).

Ferguson, 2906; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 1189; Hill, 30 (earlier uncoloured version).

$16,750
102.  [FREYCI.NET] ARAGO, Jacques.

Narrative of a Voyage Round the World, in the “Uranie” and “Physicenne” corvettes, commanded by Captain Freycinet during the years 1817, 1818, 1819 and 1820.

Two parts in one volume, quarto, with a folding map as frontispiece and 25 engraved plates from original drawings by Arago; fore-edge of the title-page neatly repaired, occasional spotting, but a very good copy in period-style full morocco, gilt. London, Treuttel and Wurtz, 1823.

The first edition in English of this private narrative of the 1817-1820 Freycinet expedition to Australia and the Pacific – in fact the first appearance in English of any account of the whole voyage. The huge multi-volume official account of the voyage was far more serious and scientific in tone, and has never been published in full in English translation. Arago’s book in this and many subsequent editions became one of the voyage best-sellers of the nineteenth century. Included in this English edition is the important official report to the French Academy of Sciences on the collections made in the course of the expedition: this was not included in the French edition published in Paris the previous year.

Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 112-4; Ferguson, 885; Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 562; Hawaii One Hundred, 26n; Hill, 29; Judd, 4; Sabin, 1865.  

$10,850
Insects by a Freycinet artist

103. **[FREYCINET] TAUNAY, Adrien Aimé.**

Watercolour “Insectes de la Praya (11 X.bre 1820)”.

*Single sheet of paper, 255 x 195 mm, with four figures in ink and watercolour and an ink caption; in fine condition. La Praya, Rio de Janeiro, 11 October 1820.*

Charming watercolour of coastal insects of Rio de Janeiro by one of the artists who accompanied Freycinet on the Uranie expedition.

Born in France, Adrien Taunay the younger moved with his family to Rio de Janeiro while still young. In 1818 he joined the Freycinet expedition when it called at Rio; on the return journey he stayed on in Rio after the expedition's second vessel, the Physicienne, departed in September 1820 – much to the regret of his shipboard companion and fellow-artist Jacques Arago, who lamented in his eccentric book about the voyage that 'a whole family, all members of which cultivate the arts with success, lives unknown, and rather despised, in a half-savage country, where it hoped for patrons, and where it has found nothing but humiliations.' 'O Taunay!' Arago later exclaimed, 'What could have induced you to come to Rio?'

Taunay stayed in touch with his fellow voyagers, and was responsible for a number of the drawings that made their way into print in the official publication of the voyage, including a substantial number of the scientific images resulting from the expedition's visits to Western Australia and to Port Jackson. This study of coastal insects of the region remained with others by the young artist among Freycinet family papers until modern times. Completed a month or so after the expedition had left to return to France it was very likely among natural history drawings commissioned by Freycinet for eventual use in the publication. Subsequently Taunay travelled into the Brazilian interior as a member of the Langsdorff expedition; he died crossing the Guaporé River in 1828.

$3200
A fine depiction of the personnel of the Uranie collecting water for the ship and washing clothes in an idyllic freshwater stream at Waigeo, on the northwest coast of New Guinea. This is the original watercolour prepared for engraving as plate 49 in the Atlas Historique of Freycinet's monumental Voyage autour du Monde..., the full account of the voyage published over twenty years from 1824-1844. Sailors are collecting fresh water from a stream to be loaded onto the ship's tender in barrels. Three unclothed men are washing clothes and themselves in the creek while a fully dressed gentleman walks the beach with a rifle. This figure of a civilian member of the expedition is probably that of Jacques Arago the expedition's official artist, out for either natural history specimens or edible game.

The watercolour was prepared by Pierre Marchais after a drawing made on the spot by Alphonse Pellion, the young midshipman whose talent for drawing resulted in his recognition as a second official artist on the voyage.

$17,500
105. [FREYCINET] GRESSIER, C.L.

Cardes Hydrographiques des parties connues de la Terre…

Engraved map, 700 x 1020 mm., printed on india paper, a proof with pencil notes including “gridding-up” of “Nouvelle Hollande”; a few creases and old folds, but very good. Paris, Dépôt générale de la Marine, 1835.

An exceptional large map, showing the known coastlines of the world on the Mercator projection. Printed on india paper, this evidently a working proof, and its known provenance together with the pencil annotations on the map, show that it had been forwarded to Louis de Freycinet – at the time still finishing work on the publication of his voyage account – either for correction or as a working favour.

The map was prepared by C.L. Gressier, who published many French maps of this era, and was printed by the French version of the Admiralty, the Dépôt générale de la Marine. The actual engraving was by Michel, after J.M. Hacq, and it is dedicated to Admiral Duperré, then Minister of the Marine and Colonies.

Although without the familiar Archives de Laages stamps, the map is now known to have come from the Freycinet archive, and has two distinctive styles of pencil annotations of the kind associated with Louis de Freycinet himself. The first is a small series of minor marginal numbers relating to longitude and latitude, all figured within small pin-drop circles. The second, equally familiar, is that one of the main landmasses has been covered with a neat grid, Freycinet’s well-known modus operandi for analysing or transferring cartographic data: in this case, and tellingly, this has been done to the continent of Australia, and has as the final confirmation, the enigmatic word “colonie” added in his distinctive hand.

$12,500
FREYCI\-NET, Louis-Claude de.

Substantial archive of manuscripts relating to meteorology and sea temperature, including notes on the Uranie voyage.

Working archive of some substance, the bulk in Freycinet\'s own hand, a simple folding cover sheet with the Archives de Laage stamp but otherwise un-marked (see details below), [Paris], probably dating from the preparation of the "Meteorologie" section of the official account, circa 1830.

A genuinely substantial and significant manuscript archive of notes, tables and calculations prepared by Freycinet chiefly relating to the question of the temperature of the sea, including much relating directly to the work he did during the circumnavigation of the Uranie under his command in 1817-20.

The archive includes scores of pages of detailed information. The endless tables of observations and calculations are nearly all in Freycinet\'s own tiny and exceedingly neat hand, testament to both the rigour and the patience which he brought to his work. While some of the material related directly to his own voyage on the Uranie, this archive is the more interesting as so much relates to later French grands voyages, showing Freycinet developing into his role as the great patron of French astronomy and navigation.

We have prepared a detailed calendar of the material (available on request) but some of the more exceptional inclusions are a two-and-a-half page \"Extrait des observations météorogiques faites pendant le voyage de la Corvette l\'Uranie\" with detailed notes on the meteorological observations made on the voyage, and particular notice of Port Jackson; a series of notes on the comparison of air- and sea-temperature, building on the early work of the Baudin veteran Péron; a group of tables relating to prevailing winds on the Duperrey circumnavigation of 1822-25; Freycinet\'s own notes on the traversing of the Straits of Magellan on the 1786 voyage of the Spanish frigate Nuestra Senora de la Cabeza; and other pieces referring to all manner of voyagers including the natural historian and Freycinet voyage veteran Gaimard on the polar sea, sea-temperature readings taken on board the Uranie, and a substantial piece on the use of the "hygromètre" with an early manuscript note to the effect that the results should be suppressed.

$24,000
Rare report by Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire on the zoological volume of the Freycinet voyage publication, including some personal observations on the mammals of Australia.

The Zoologique section of the voyage publication was prepared by Jean René Constant Quoy and Joseph Paul Gaimard, physicians and naturalists accompanying the expedition, and was published in 16 livraisons between 1824 and 1826. In this report, the eminent naturalist and savant critiques the publication, summarising the chapters and adding his own notes and observations. Originally prepared for inclusion in the Revue encyclopédique (1825, volume 26), it was separately printed in this form by the Parisian publishers Pillet to encourage sale of the Zoologique and other upcoming volumes of the Freycinet voyage publication. Effectively it forms a prospectus for the Zoologique, distributed gratis by Pillet to likely buyers.

In his report Saint-Hilaire comments on the remarkable mammals of New Holland, including the possum, potoroo and kangaroo, remarking on the remarkable quality and colour of its pelt: ‘...le kangaroo laineux; cette dernière espèce est surtout très-remarquable par la qualité de son poil, rappelant tout-à-fait celui de la vigogne par la vivacité de sa teinte (le roux ferrugineux), et par sa finesse et son abondance.’ Interestingly, Saint-Hilaire also makes a passing reference to Australia’s first professional artist John Lewin: ‘Cependant peut-être faudra-t-il revenir aux premières vues de M. Lewin dessinateur et graveur sur les lieux mêmes, à Sydney’.

Saint-Hilaire was a towering figure of French science, appointed professor of quadrupeds, cetaceans, birds, reptiles and fish at the Musée d’histoire naturelle in 1793 at the young age of twenty-one. He travelled with Napoleon’s campaign to Egypt, but it was his long study of the museum’s mammalian collection that made him famous, and led to comparisons with Cuvier (although the two men fell out in 1829). During his tenure he published a series of articles and monographs on the platypus (see for example catalogue no. 34).

Not in Ferguson or Forbes.

$3750
108. **GILBERT, Thomas.**

Voyage from New South Wales to Canton, in the year 1788, with Views of the Islands discovered.

Quarto, with an engraved vignette on the title and four large folding plates; a very good copy, finely bound in full speckled tan calf. London, J. Debrett, 1789.

First edition of a scarce (sometimes neglected) First Fleet book that describes the first trading voyage out of Australia: Captain Thomas Gilbert was part of the establishment of the first European settlement at Port Jackson as commander of the *Charlotte*, the 335-ton First Fleet transport carrying convicts to Australia. *Charlotte* sailed on from Port Jackson on 6 May 1788 for China, to take on a cargo of tea for England under charter to the East India Company. Sailing in company with Gilbert was Captain John Marshall on the *Scarborough*, another First Fleet ship that had delivered 208 convicts to the newly established colony.

Gilbert records in small detail the voyage to and his subsequent stay in Port Jackson. 'I had on board my ship upwards of one hundred and thirty convicts, male and female: many of the former were fellows of a most abandoned and desperate character...; I took leave of Governor Phillip... and here let me embrace the opportunity... of acknowledging... the civilities I received from those gentlemen; among whom I would particularly notice that valuable officer Captain Hunter.' Gilbert also makes much mention of the constant fight to hold scurvy at bay: 'we hauled... for fish as often as possible, but we found, that though this kind of food might palliate in some degree, the violence of the scurvy, it did not prove an effectual remedy.'

Gilbert goes on to describe their voyage to Canton. En route he discovered the Gilbert and Marshall islands, naming them for himself and his fellow captain. 'The trade that converged at Canton in China was of riveting interest to the Western world. By the end of the eighteenth century it was the greatest that had ever been made with a single country – and a prize over which the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch and English had competed for centuries. Tea was a Chinese monopoly. In 1795 over fifteen million pounds of tea were sold in London' (Broadbent, Rickard & Steven, *India, China, Australia: Trade and Society 1788-1850*, p. 30).

The *Voyage from New South Wales to Canton* was designed to be a companion volume to surgeon John White's *Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales*. The two works are very occasionally found bound together, and in fact the publisher's advertisement for White's journal at the end of this volume notes that 'the above being uniformly printed to bind with Captain Gilbert's Voyage, may be bound together or separate.'

$19,500
From ethnology to fashion

109. GRASSET DE SAINT-SAUEUR, Jacques.

Tableau des découvertes du Capne. Cook & de La Pérouse.

Engraved aquatint with original handcolouring, 440 x 530 mm. (sheet size); slight toning, a well preserved example. Paris, circa 1795.

Hand-coloured engraving of the islanders of the Pacific.

This rare engraved tableau is composed of twenty-four groups of two, three or four inhabitants from different areas of the Pacific, chiefly based on the discoveries of Cook and La Pérouse.

As Forbes notes in the Hawaiian National Bibliography, Grasset's engraving was separately issued and was the only such large image by him to depict the peoples of the Pacific.

Bernard Smith discusses the importance of Saint-Sauveur's costume studies in disseminating this exotic imagery: “The engravings published in Cook's Voyages provided new visual information about many previously unknown peoples, and greatly enlarged Europe's knowledge of the family of man. Joppien has shown how important encyclopedias of costume and 'gallery of man' books were in this process of popular dissemination. But as artists copied the engravings so they altered them still further in the direction of European pre-conceptions, the anthropological and ethnographic intentions of the originals being diverted increasingly to fulfil the demands of taste and the intrinsic needs of decoration. A fascinating example is the hand-coloured etching by St.-Sauveur, the finest of the costume encyclopaedists of the late eighteenth century…” (European Vision and the South Pacific, p. 113).

Grasset de Saint-Sauveur, was born in Montreal in 1757 and died in Paris in 1810. Like other artists of the period he was captivated by Pacific discoveries and here he shows figures from Nootka Sound on the northwest coast of America, Prince William Sound in Alaska, as well as Easter Island, Hawaii, Unalaska, Tahiti and Ulitea.

Beddie, 557; see Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 271 and 281. $12,850
Acknowledging its debt to the Baudin publication.

110. HOQUART, Mme (publisher).

Moeurs et coutumes des peuples, ou, Collection de tableaux représentant les usages remarquables, les mariages, funérailles, supplices, et fêtes des diverses nations du monde.

Two volumes, quarto, with 144 handcoloured plates; in fine condition, a very large copy; completely uncut, in a handsome contemporary binding of half crimson roan, flat spines banded and lettered in gilt. Paris, Madame Veuve Hocquart, 1811-1814.

Lavishly illustrated study of the peoples of both old and new worlds, concentrating on ceremonial events and native customs. The spirit behind the work is very much that of the Enlightenment – a tremendous curiosity about newly discovered parts of the world and about human behaviour, particularly for ritualised behaviour evolved in isolation such as native punishments and social rituals.

The first section, Europe, is dealt with in just 22 of the 144 plates, the other more heavily illustrated sections being Asia, Africa, America and Oceania. This last Pacific section includes images of New Holland, Van Diemens Land, New Zealand and Hawaii. There are two plates depicting Australian scenes: the ‘Mariage de la Nouvelle Holland’ which depicts a rather violent scene of abduction, and the more bucolic ‘Repas des habitans de la terre de Diemen’, in which a family group fishes next to a river – one man is lowering a clearly defined crab onto a fire. The accompanying four-page description is derived, as a note acknowledges, from the voyages of Cook, Turnbull, Péron and Freycinet, as well as an unnamed edition of George Barrington.

The New Zealand section includes a very fine depiction of a war canoe of great splendour, while a good section on Tahiti and the Friendly Isles is accompanied by no fewer than four plates, one of them a particularly good depiction of the Tahitian Chief Mourner. One of the most interesting plates of the entire work is the last, depicting a scene in Hawaii: ‘Prêtre des Iles Sandwich Tabouam un terrain’, in which a grey-haired priest marks out an area of taboo.

The work was published by the Parisian firm of the widow Hocquart, who had also published an equally rare edition of the work of Grasset de Saint-Sauveur in 1806 (Forbes, 371), as well as an important edition of the works of the physiognomist Lavater.

The range of the book is particularly wide for such a comparatively early work, with plates, for instance, of an Iroquois warrior scalping his enemy, the funeral ceremonies of the Natchez in Louisiana, the ‘anthropophages’ of Brazil, or of an Unalaskan man in his kayak (perhaps after John Webber’s original). Apparently the only copy of this work in an Australian institution is in the National Library of Australia, part of the Rex Nan Kivell collection. It is not recorded by either Ferguson or Forbes.

Not in Ferguson; not in Forbes; Rex Nan Kivell Collection, NK 2107. $22,000
Including a waratah collected in the Southern Highlands in 1845

111. [HERBARIUM] JAUBERT, Hippolyte.

French herbarium with 29 plants collected in Australia and the Pacific in the 1840s, including a waratah personally gathered by Jules Verreaux.

A collection of herbarium sheets, most approx. 420 x 270 mm., many with original manuscript labels and most in blue paper covers; very good. Prepared in Australia and France, circa 1840-1850.

Remarkable Colonial herbarium of 29 plants collected in Australia and the Pacific for the Comte Hippolyte Jaubert (1798-1874), a wealthy industrialist and amateur botanist who was able to indulge his passion for exotic and newly described plants. Jaubert’s collection was recently discovered in the south of France, and provides a remarkable snapshot of the practicalities of early exotic botany: not least, it is fascinating to see evidence of the important role played by the Maison Verreaux, founded in 1803 and one of the foremost suppliers of natural history specimens in this golden age of collecting. This collection is not only a rare survival, but a very beautiful and significant one as well.

Without doubt the highlight of the collection is a magnificent mounted specimen of a Sydney waratah in marvellous original condition, collected in Australia by the French natural history dealer Jules Verreaux in 1845. The label on Verreaux’s distinctive blue paper reads: “Telopea speciosissim. 433, alentours de sydney, Australie, Août 1845. M. Verreaux.” The Maison Verreaux financed its own expeditions to collect exotic botany, notably to Australia and South Africa. In the 1830s the business passed into the hands of the three brothers Jules-Pierre, Jean Baptiste Édouard and Alexis, and it was Jules (1807-1873) who was the great traveller: in 1842 he travelled to Australia and Tasmania with the backing of the Muséum national du histoire naturelle, and remained there until 1847, including a fifteen-month sojourn in Tasmania where he made a particular study of the platypus. The Verreaux brothers collected great quantities of such material, but apart from occasional specimens known in major public collections, surviving examples are almost unknown on the market.

Other plants are from across the region, notably New Zealand and New Caledonia, but from further afield as well. There are some particularly beautiful Grevillea and the rainforest shrub Lomatia, but all are remarkable for the quality of the mounting and the good condition of the specimens. Many are in the original dark blue paper wrappers provided by Jaubert.

A detailed listing is available on request.

$11,000
112. HUNTER, John.

An Historical Journal of the Transactions at Port Jackson and Norfolk Island, with the Discoveries which have been made in New South Wales…

Quarto, with 17 engraved plates, folding maps and charts, list of subscribers, the often cropped date on the title-page intact; an excellent uncut copy bound in period-style half calf, gilt, with the bookplate of George Bennett, and the signature of a member of the Sutton family of Bathurst on title page. London, John Stockdale, 1793.

First edition of Hunter's Journal: a foundation book of Australian coastal exploration which, together with Phillip's account, gives the first charting of Sydney Harbour. Captain John Hunter was appointed second captain of HMS Sirius under Phillip for the voyage to Botany Bay. Once in New South Wales he was actively engaged in surveying and exploration, and only left for England in late 1791 after the loss of the Sirius at Norfolk Island while under his command. He spent the next few years in England, where he wrote the Journal.

Hunter gives an excellent account of many activities, particularly exploration and the settlement at Norfolk Island, which are treated more cursorily by the other First Fleet chroniclers. The engraved plates and maps, many of the latter from original cartography by Hunter, Dawes and Bradley, are very fine. Of particular note is the plate View of the settlement on Sydney Cove, after a sketch by Hunter, which is the earliest depiction of the town of Sydney and that of A family of New South Wales after a drawing by Philip Gidley King and given particular beauty by William Blake as engraver.

With the bookplate of George Bennett M.D. (1804-1893), who made a particular study of Australian and Pacific botany on his visit to the region in the early 1830s, and who published his own account as Wanderings in New South Wales… (1834).

Crittenden, 'A Bibliography of the First Fleet', 110; Ferguson, 152; Hill, 857; Wantrup, 13, Essick, William Blake's Commercial Book Illustrations, XXVII.

$9500
113. **HUSS, John Axel and Carl Peter THUNBERG.**

*D.D. Fauna Novae Hollandiae…*

Small quarto, pp. [ii], 8; a fine copy in modern cloth. Uppsala, Royal Academy Press, 1822.

A scarce and significant academic paper, this was the first serious attempt at compiling a formal fauna of Australia, in the form of a dissertation presented by Huss before Carl Thunberg, Linnaeus’s great disciple and successor. Thunberg ‘mapped’ much of the flora and fauna of South Africa, China, Japan, and, in this instance, Australia. His prolific output included especially important work on both the botany and the zoology of South Africa and the far east, but this is his only work that deals specifically with Australia. It is interesting to note that a large proportion of the animals noted are in fact insects, assiduously collected by Banks and Solander.

$2400

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114. **KAEMPFER, Engelbert.**

*The History of Japan: giving an account of the antient and present state and government of that empire… Together with a description of the kingdom of Siam…*

Two volumes, folio, with an engraved additional title (dated 1727) and 45 plates and maps, many folding (a couple of clean tears); titles printed in red and black; contemporary panelled calf, spines gilt; neat old repairs to spines. London, Thomas Woodward and Charles Davis, 1728.

An exceptionally important book on Japan and an enormous pioneering collection of facts by the “truthful and learned traveller” as Voltaire described Kaempfer, who had reached Japan in 1690 after sailing from Batavia via Siam as a physician with the Dutch East India Company. Although much of his two-year stay was spent on the island of Deshima, to which the Dutch merchants were confined by the strict orders of the Tokugawa regime, he was twice able to accompany the annual Dutch embassy from Nagasaki to the Shogun’s court at Edo (Tokyo).

After Kaempfer’s death in 1716 Sir Hans Sloane bought his botanical collections and library, including his unpublished manuscripts. Sloane’s librarian, J.G. Scheuchzer, translated everything in the manuscripts that concerned Japan and published it under the aegis of the Royal Society. This English edition is therefore its first appearance in print in any language.

Subsequent French versions derived from this English original became the source from which the *philosophes* took a good deal of their information. Kaempfer’s information became the principal source for the many entries in the *Encyclopédie* concerning Japan: as the *Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment* points out, Koseki Takeshi has written of 219 separate entries relating to Japan in the *Encyclopédie*, the most significant being Diderot’s “Japonais, Philosophie des”.

The *History of Japan* was ‘for more than a century the chief source of Western knowledge of the country. It contains the first biography of Kaempfer, an account of his journey, a history and description of Japan and its fauna, a description of Nagasaki and Deshima; a report on two embassies to Edo with a description of the cities which were visited on the way; and appendixes on tea, Japanese paper, acupuncture, moxa, ambergris, and Japan’s seclusion policy’ (DSB). The Second Appendix, present in this issue, recounts the unsuccessful attempt of the English East India Company in 1673 to re-open direct trade with Japan after a lapse of 50 years.

This is an example of the first edition, in its second and best issue with the extra Second Appendix containing ‘part of an authentick journal of a voyage to Japan, made by the English in the year 1673’. This was not included in the first issue of the book that appeared in 1727, here unchanged except for the new title-pages (dated 1728) which specify the addition of the journal.
Both volumes of the present copy have a 1728 title-page; some copies of this issue have mixed title-pages retaining a 1727 title-page in the second volume. Here the engraved title to the first volume retains its 1727 date.

Landwehr, VOC, 530n; Nissen, BBI 1019n; Wellcome III, 376.

$28,500
‘Much more than the Greco-Roman and Judaeo-Christian world’

115. **JONES, Sir William (President) and others.**

Asiatic Researches; or, Transactions of the Society, Instituted in Bengal, For Inquiring into the History and Antiquities, The Arts, Sciences and Literature of Asia.

_Eleven volumes, quarto, with a total of 132 plates (of which 24 are folding), some handcoloured; contemporary polished half calf with gilt spines. London, printed for J.Sewell; Vernor and Hood, and others, 1799-1812._

A splendid set in a handsome and well-preserved contemporary binding: the first eleven years of this important publication, dating from a period when India was the fulcrum of British activity in the region. The journal covers everything from non-Western medicine to mystic poetry, and includes serious scholarly papers such as Sir William Jones _On the Hindus_ – the first paper to demonstrate the unity of the Indo-European languages.

_Printing and the Mind of Man_ acknowledges the tremendous importance of Jones’ paper, first published as a pamphlet in 1788 and reappearing in the first volume here (pp. 415-431): ‘This slim paper… marks a turning point in the history of linguistics and signalled the birth of comparative philology.’ In it Jones first revealed the similarity of Sanskrit, Greek, Gothic and Latin languages; and by so doing gave rise to the new discipline of Indo-European studies.

The Asiatic Society was instituted in 1784 (originally as “The Asiatick Society”), comprising members of the East India Company stationed in Bengal and further afield alongside merchants, scholars and literati living in Britain with a deep interest in the history and cultures of Asia. The geographical scope of the studies is significant, from Arabia to Indonesia, encompassing the Indian subcontinent, China, Nepal and Tibet.

The diversity of articles is remarkable, ranging from ancient history and languages through to natural history, ethnology and astronomy. Interestingly, a number of articles concern the peoples and trading products of South-East Asia including articles on the Andaman Islands and the ethnology of the Nassau Islands off Sumatra. Entries on inter-island trade and natural commodities include a detailed article of ten pages on the varieties of pepper cultivated in Prince of Wales Island (present day Penang in Malaysia).

The effect of the society’s various publications and undertakings was profound, doing much to acquaint its European readership with the principles and practice of both Hinduism and Buddhism and contributing generally to the growing interest in the comparative study of civilisations. As Michael Palencia-Roth has noted, ‘The founding of the Asiatick Society reflected – and then influenced – a profound change in humankind’s view of itself. This change had to do with the realization that the study of human society and its cultural and political manifestations had to encompass much more than the Greco-Roman and Judaeo-Christian world, and that the meaning of human history could not be made to depend primarily on a Judaeo-Christian conception of the world and of human destiny’ (“The Presidential Addresses of Sir William Jones”, online resource).

See _Printing and the Mind of Man_, 235.

$11,500
William Bligh’s kangaroos


Engraving. 175 x 265 mm., trimmed inside the plate-mark on three sides, but the image complete including caption and imprint; a few marks, very good. London, Thomas Kelly, 1 May 1829.

Interesting early depiction of kangaroos brought to England and given to the private collection of the Earl of Darnley: although the plate was made in 1829, the actual animals were some of those brought back alive from Australia by William Bligh when he returned to England on the Hindostan after being ousted from the governorship of New South Wales in 1810.

The animals were given to John Bligh, 4th Earl of Darnley (1767-1831), a British peer and cricketer; his family house Cobham Hall near Gravesend in Kent is one of the grandest houses in the county. William Bligh and the Earl were certainly known to each other: an 1805 letter from William Bligh written just before he left for New South Wales in 1805 is in the Mitchell Library (perhaps there was a family connection between the two?).

The plate was prepared for Robert Huish’s The Wonders of the Animal Kingdom (1830), where it is noted that the kangaroos ‘appeared for some time to endure the climate of Cobham Hall with every expectation of their being eventually naturalized; from some cause, however, not yet ascertained, they died a few months after their portrait was taken…’: Huish’s note concludes with the comment that nonetheless ‘some very fine specimens of them are still to be seen in the collection of his Majesty, at Windsor, and in some of the itinerant menageries.’

$675
Preparing to search for the Terra Australis

117. [KERGUELEN] PAGES, Pierre-Marie François de. Manuscript letter to his patron Marcassus de Puymaurin, written on the eve of the Kerguelen voyage.

Closely written two-page letter, 212 x 167 mm., address panel with red wax seal intact; old folds, very good. Paris, 26 March 1772.

Intriguing personal letter by Pierre-Marie François de Pagès, the naval officer who sailed with Kerguelen in hopes of founding a French colony on what Kerguelen had said was an important harbour on the great Southern Continent.

The letter is addressed to the Baron Nicolas Joseph Marcassus de Puymaurin (1718-1791), an important political figure in Toulouse. At the time of writing Pagès (1748-1793) was in Paris, recovering from his long voyage through America and around the world, and the letter openly discusses his meetings with influential political figures in Paris including the Archbishop of Toulouse (Étienne Charles de Loménie de Brienne, who would go on to be the finance minister of Louis XVI) and the Minister of the Marine (Pierre Étienne Bourgeois de Boynes). This is significant because it was de Boynes who would appoint him to the Kerguelen voyage; which is why, Pagès continues, he has been summoned to the Naval base in Brest, to help in its outfitting. In the letter he also discusses a hoped-for publication based on his travels, the work which was ultimately published as *Voyages autour du monde* (1782), a rare book today.

Pagès did of course sail on the disastrous second voyage of Kerguelen, an expensive failure which brought to an end, at last, the long-held French belief in “Gonneville land”, a mythical continent based on the accidental southern discoveries of the French sailor De Gonneville at the beginning of the sixteenth century (Dunmore, *French Explorers in the Pacific*, pp. 196-249). Pagès was no admirer of Kerguelen, and would later be an important and highly critical witness at his former commander’s court-martial regarding the dismasting of their vessel during a storm.

$12,500
The second great Russian expedition to the Pacific

118. KOTZEBUE, Otto von.

Entdeckungs-Reise in die Süd-See und nach der Berings-Strasse … Unternommen in den Jahren 1815, 1816, 1817 und 1818… auf dem Schiffe Rurick…

Three volumes bound in one, quarto; with six maps (five folding) and 20 engraved and aquatint plates (19 with original handcolouring and four double-page); contemporary quarter black roan, rebacked, gilt arms on cover of Ernst Augustus, King of Hanover. Weimar, Gebrüder Hoffmann, 1821.

First edition of Kotzebue’s account of his voyage, the second Russian scientific expedition and one of the great Pacific exploration accounts.

The plates include two each of Alaska and Hawaii, and four of Micronesia. The aquatint plates are finely handcoloured (with the exception of the single engraved plate of the monkey-skull), and retain the quality of original watercolours. The third volume includes the fine coloured butterfly plates omitted from the English and Russian editions. This famous voyage narrative is particularly important for its descriptions of Alaska, California (including the first scientific account of the state flower, the Golden Poppy), Hawaii and Micronesia; Lada-Mocarski describes the account of Alaska as ‘rich in early original source material’.

The expedition rounded Cape Horn and visited Chile, Easter Island, the Marshall Islands, Hawaii and the North American coast, making an unsuccessful search for a Northwest passage. The Rurick sailed along the California coast, stopping at San Francisco; Kotzebue describes the missions, and the work is considered one of the most important early accounts of the state. Kotzebue made a stop in Hawaii in November-December 1816, revisiting again in September-October 1817, anchoring off Hawaii and Oahu. The Hawaiian portion is extensive with important observations on life and customs during the reign of Kamehameha I, whose famous “red vest” portrait by Louis Choris is one of the illustrations.

The account of Albert von Chamisso, the expedition naturalist, includes important information about flora and fauna, as well as the native inhabitants and the work of the missionaries. There is also a comparative vocabulary table for languages of some of the islanders. As a record of historical import, and as a collection of significant maps and beautiful plates (most notably those of the butterflies), this work is one of the prime desiderata of Pacific voyages. ‘Kotzebue belonged to that group of outstanding Russian naval officers of the first half of the nineteenth century, which included Kruzenshtern, Golovnin, Lisianskii, Sarychev, and others…’ (Lada-Mocarski).

There were altogether three issues of this first edition, as noted by Forbes in the Hawaiian National Bibliography. This is an example of the second issue with the text printed on laid paper and the plates coloured (the regular issue has the plates in sepia aquatint).

Forbes, ‘Hawaiian National Bibliography’, 525; ‘Hawaii One Hundred’, 24n; Hill, 943; Judd, 94; Kroepelin, 670; Lada-Mocarski, 80; Wickersham, 6197.

$27,500
119. [KOTZEBUE] CHORIS, Louis.


Folio, with lithograph frontispiece portrait of Count Romanzoff, 104 hand coloured lithograph plates, folding map of the voyage and two plans (on one sheet); with text in 12 separately paged sections and with plates also separately numbered; original crimson morocco spine and corners, crimson glazed paper boards, title in gilt on spine; occasional foxing to text leaves as in nearly all copies, some browning to a few plates. Paris, de l’Imprimerie de Firmín Didot, 1822.

A superb copy of this amazing book, “a spectacular and early lithographically illustrated travel account that has always been considered one of the most beautiful and important colour plate books of the Northern Pacific. It contains more early coloured views of Hawaii, Alaska and California than any other work of the period…” (Forbes).

Choris, a Russian of German stock, was just twenty years old when he was appointed as official draughtsman on the Kotzebue expedition of 1815-1818. During this voyage he produced a vast number of important sketches and watercolours, and on his return to Paris was encouraged to produce this great work, which was first issued in 22 parts between 1820 and 1822. Most of these views did not appear in the official account of the expedition published in Germany and in Russia, and some of the copper engraved plates in the official account were re-lithographed to suit the artist. Overall, this publication reflects Choris’ personal interests and preferences. It has a rich and exotic point of view not seen in any other voyage book. Over the years copies of this wonderful book have been broken up for sale as separate prints which helps to account for its modern rarity.

This copy contains the Norblin version of the Queen Kaahumanu portrait, the preferred Langlume lithograph of Kamehameha and the first state of the female dancers (Plate XVI) with the plain background.

The many beautiful plates include views and scenes of native life, artefacts, plants, shells and animals. Twelve relate to California (including several of San Francisco), nineteen of Hawaii (with the first view of Honolulu), twenty-three of Alaskan interest, and twenty-one of various parts of Micronesia. Lada-Mocarski calls it “one of the very valuable and fundamental works on Alaska, California and the Hawaiian Islands”. The list of subscribers, which accounts for only 188 copies, includes the Emperor of Russia, and the King of France.

This most attractive copy has the armorial bookplate of the Swiss count Frederic de Pourtales (1779-1861, to whose eldest son, oddly enough, the future governor of Victoria Charles La Trobe served as tutor in the 1820s) and subsequently formed part of the great Carlsmith library in Hawai’i (sold by ourselves in 1985).

Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 541; Hill, 290; Lada-Mocarski, 84; Sabin, 12884. $225,000
Vue dans les Isles Kiloa.

Vue des Habitans de Californie.
CHORIS' MAGNIFICENT COLOURED “TABLEAUX” OF THE PACIFIC

120. [KOTZEBUE] CHORIS, Louis.

Vues et Paysages des Regions Equinaux, recueillis dans un voyage autour du monde.

Folio, with 24 hand coloured lithographs interleaved with descriptive letterpress; without the letterpress note to Tsar Nicolas (as is the case with many copies); contemporary crimson morocco spine, marbled boards, extremities a little worn, occasional spotting to text and some plates, plate VII and accompanying leaf of text repaired at an early date. Paris, Imprimerie Paul Renouard, 1826.

First edition: a superb copy of the coloured issue of this beautiful voyage book, with its magnificent series of views, including scenes in Brazil, Chile, Hawaii and other Pacific islands, Kamchatka, the Marianas, Manila, the Cape of Good Hope and St Helena. The book was also issued with the plates uncoloured. According to a contemporary prospectus there was a large paper issue of the work, limited to fifty copies, to which this fine copy might belong on the basis that at 425 x 288 mm (text block) it is larger than or at least as large as other copies that have been claimed to form part of the special issue; however we have been informed of a copy sold in the 1980s measuring 490 x 325 mm, though at this remove in time one can never be sure whether the text block or the binding was being measured.

The plates emphasise the lush effects of palms and other plants in the tropics, contrasted by the stark grandeur of the views of Kamchatka and Chile. These were inspired by von Humboldt’s Tableaux de la Nature, which Choris aimed to emulate by producing series of similar “tableaux” which would summarise the characteristics of each region. The plates include five of Brazil, three of Chile, six of Micronesia, two each of Hawaii and Kamchatka, and one each of Manila, the Cape of Good Hope, St. Helena and Easter Island. The most famous plate shows the audience of officers of the Kotzebue expedition with King Kamehameha in Hawaii.

‘The coloring of the plates is vivid and strikingly beautiful… This was the first Russian circumnavigation devoted exclusively to scientific purposes and several well-known scientists contributed greatly to its success. Choris made a great many drawings during this voyage. In 1822 he published Voyage pittoresque autour du monde. Despite his using many of his drawings in that work, Choris found 24 subjects among the remaining drawings which he published four years later [as this work]’ (Lada-Mocarski).

Choris dedicated his book to Humboldt. Some copies, perhaps later issues, have an additional preliminary leaf, an address by Choris to Tsar Nicolas ‘sa majesté l’empereur de toutes les Russies’, which is dated February 1827 and must have been added after the initial publication of the work in 1826.

Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 632; Lada-Mocarski, 90; O’Reilly & Reitman, 786; Sabin, 12885; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection.

$85,000
The very rare St Petersburg printing

121. KRUSENSTERN, Ivan Fedorovich.

Reise um die Welt in den Jahren 1803, 1804, 1805 und 1806 auf befehl seiner Kaiserlichen Majestät Alexander des Ersten auf den Schiffen Nadeshda und Newa...

Three volumes, quarto, in excellent condition; discreet library stamps; in original marbled boards with glazed labels; spines rubbed; a couple of old labels; some inoffensive wear to the upper portion of the spine of volume one; in generally excellent original condition, the three volumes in quarter morocco bookform boxes. St. Petersburg, Gedruckt in der Schnoorschen Buchdruckerey, 1810-1812.

The rare St Petersburg printing of the German-language edition of Krusenstern’s own account of his voyage, the first Russian circumnavigation in which he was accompanied by a brilliant corps of officers, including men like Lisiansky, Langsdorff, and Kotzebue. The voyage was of great importance to Pacific history for the Russian attempt to open Japan to commerce, and for the observations made on the Russian-Chinese trade. The Nadeshda and the Neva were together at the Marquesas and Hawaii; there they separated and from this point on Krusenstern’s narrative of his part of the voyage concerns the western Pacific.

These three volumes, published over a three-year period, represent the complete text of the voyage in its first appearance in German. An accompanying Atlas that appeared two years later is only very rarely found with the text today. The three volumes appeared shortly after each of the three volumes of the Russian-language edition of the text was published over a period of four years (Путешествие вокруг света, St Petersburg 1809-1812).

An Atlas of plates prepared in St Petersburg to accompany the Russian-language edition was published a year after the final volume of the Russian text in 1813. In 1814 the German-language version of the Atlas appeared with some changes to the original plates including the addition of German captions.

All components of both editions are very rare on the market; nor are they widely held in institutions. In Australia the full Russian edition (text and Atlas) is held only by the National Library and the State Library of New South Wales. However, according to Trove at least, no copy of this important St Petersburg printing of the German language account is held by either library; a single example of the text volumes is recorded at the State Library of Victoria.

Krusenstern has chosen a wonderful epithet from the voyage historian De Brosses to put on the three title-pages of his narrative: “Les Marins écrivent mal, mais avec assez de candeur” (“Sailors write badly, but with great honesty”).


$12,850
Some of the most famous Pacific images

122. [KRUSENSTERN] LANGSDORFF, Georg Heinrich.
Bemerkungen auf einer Reise um die Welt [with the accompanying atlas] Kupfer zu G.H. v. Langsdorff's Bemerkungen auf einer Reise um die Welt...

Two volumes quarto bound in one, some foxing; with accompanying two part atlas bound as one quarto volume with two frontispiece portraits and 43 other engraved plates (one folding) and a folding leaf of music, title-page to each part and a leaf with explanatory text each side to face each of the plates, old library stamp and shelf-mark on first title, a very good set, the text in contemporary half calf, double labels, the atlas in original marbled boards, leather label on spine. Frankfurt am Mayn, Friedrich Wilmans, 1812.

The uncommon first edition of the Langsdorff account of the Krusenstern voyage to the north Pacific and Japan, in its preferred form with separate atlas. The small atlas, with its marvellous series of plates after Langsdorff’s original sketches, is seldom seen in this form as the plates were more often bound into copies of the text, usually with the leaves of explanatory text (here present) discarded by the binder on account of the complication that they present: the text on recto and verso of each leaf describes two different plates which are not always to be bound near each other. This copy contains both the two separate title-pages (“27 Kupfer...” and “17 Kupfer...”) to each part which are also usually discarded.

The plates include eight of the Marquesas, five of Japan, three of Alaska, and two of California, and this original edition also includes the earliest known view of San Francisco – which was one of the images that was dropped and did not re-appear in the subsequent English version.

The Marquesas plates are of particular interest for the images of tattooing in the islands, and especially for the engraving of Jean Baptiste Cabri, the French deserter who had been living there for some time and had taken a Marquesan wife and become extensively tattooed. Cabri went back with the expedition to Russia and made a living exhibiting himself and telling tales of his life among the “savages” of the islands. He toured widely in Russia and then in Europe for some years. He is noteworthy as one of the first extensively tattooed Europeans to exhibit himself: since the late seventeenth century such exhibitions were almost exclusively of native people, such as Giolo who came back with Dampier, and Omai who came to England on Cook’s Endeavour.

Borba de Moraes, p.388; Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 427; Hill, 968; Kroepelien, 706; Lada-Mocarski, 69; O’Reilly-Reitman, 733, etc; Russica, L260; Sabin, 38895; Wickersham, 6243. $15,500
"Vanished trackless into blue immensity"

123.  **LA PERouse, Jean François Galaup de.**


*Four volumes, quarto, and an atlas, folio; with the engraved portrait of La Pérouse as frontispiece to the text, the atlas containing the engraved title and 69 engraved maps and plates (21 folding); a particularly good clean copy of the text volumes, unpressed and especially large with the edges entirely uncut (measuring approx. 305 x 235 mm), with the Atlas volume also with generous margins and its engraved plates all in strong and fresh impressions; in a fine binding of period-style half calf. Paris, de l’Imprimerie de la République, An V, i.e. 1797.*

First edition of one of the finest narratives of maritime exploration ever published. In January 1788, two and a half years after their departure from France, La Pérouse's ships sailed into Botany Bay just hours after the settlers under Governor Phillip began the move from Botany Bay to Port Jackson. After their subsequent departure from the Australian east coast they "vanished trackless into blue immensity" (Carlyle); no further trace was found of the expedition for three decades.

La Pérouse's habit of forwarding records whenever he had an opportunity to do so ensured their survival. The first portion of the expedition's records had been forwarded by sea from Macao; the second (Macao to Kamchatka) went overland with de Lesseps, and the final reports went back with British despatches from Botany Bay, the British extending what was then a normal courtesy between the exploring nations. It was from these records that Milet-Mureau, the editor, established the official narrative of the expedition for its publication in this form.

It has been remarked that the friendship between the two nations grew in proportion to their distance from home. Certainly the English attitude to La Pérouse seemed natural to Watkin Tench: "during their stay in the port the officers of the two nations had frequent opportunities of testifying their mutual regard by visits and other interchanges of friendship and esteem;" and La Pérouse endeared himself particularly "by the feeling manner in which he always mentioned the name and talents of Captain Cook."

As Glyn Williams has characterised it, the French voyage was 'A deliberate réplique française or counter-stroke to Cook's voyages… a follow-up to Cook's third voyage, [with] its instructions a running commentary on what Cook had discovered and left undiscovered….’ This was well understood at the time, and Philip Gidley King noted in his journal that the French explorer “informed me that every place where he has touched or been near, he found all the astronomical and nautical works of Captain Cook to be very exact and true, and concluded by saying, ‘Enfin, Monsieur Cook a tant fait qu’il ne m’a rien laissé à faire que d’admirer ses oeuvres’ [Captain Cook has done so much that he has left me with nothing to do but admire his achievements]."

A voyage despatched in the fullest spirit of the Enlightenment, under the direct orders of the monarch himself, it was intended to complete discoveries and satisfy many different curiosities. La Pérouse was specifically instructed to study climates, native peoples, plants and animals, to collect specimens and artefacts and to observe the activities of other European powers. The official instructions included the requirement that he should ‘act with great gentleness and humanity towards the different people whom he will visit.’

The timing was remarkable: coincident at its close with the Australian First Fleet, La Pérouse left France in 1785 and never knew of the French Revolution; and while Marie Antoinette chose Cook's voyages to read the night before her death, Louis XVI is said to have repeated on his way to the scaffold the question that he had been asking for months: "Is there any news of M. de La Pérouse?"

The narrative published here and in subsequent editions and translations covers the progress of the voyage from the departure of the two vessels from Brest in 1785. On their way to the northwest coast of America they stopped in Chile, Easter Island and Hawaii, where they were the first Europeans to land on Maui. During 1786 La Pérouse followed the American coast from their
landfall near Mount St Elias in Alaska to southern California, exploring and mapping the coast and making particularly significant visits to Lituya Bay where they transacted with the Tlingit tribe (as dramatised two centuries later by Carl Sagan in *Cosmos*), the outer islands of British Columbia, San Francisco and Monterey. The first non-Spanish visitor to California since Francis Drake, the French explorer took close note of Spanish activity in the pueblos and missions.

The expedition sailed on, visiting Macau, Manila, Korea, the Pacific coast of Russia, Japan, and Samoa and exploring the central Pacific, but their main instructions were to make for Australian waters to check on English activity in the region. On 24 January 1788 they reached Botany Bay.

The folio Atlas contains the wonderful series of views chiefly after the original drawings by the chief official artist, Gaspard Duché de Vancy, that had been sent back to France with the various despatches; many of these were recently exhibited at the Musée de la Marine in Paris. Strikingly interpreted as engravings and printed here in rich dark impressions they were, as Christina Ionescu (*Book Illustration in the Long Eighteenth Century*) has noted, like the engravings in the huge Napoleonic *Description de l’Egypte*, continuing a tradition of “large and extravagant productions” at a time when more commercial publishers were generally downsizing the illustrative content of publications.

The Atlas also includes magnificent maps of Russian Asia, Japan, California and the Pacific Northwest Coast with important new data for the then imperfectly known Asiatic side of the Pacific.

*Borba de Moraes*, p. 449; Cowan, p. 383; Ferguson, 251; Forbes, 272; Hill, p. 173; Judd, 102; Lada-Mocarski, 52; McLaren, 1.

$38,000
The best English edition

124. LA PEROUSE, Jean François Galaup de.

A Voyage Round the World, performed in the Years 1785, 1786, 1787 and 1788, by the Boussole and Astrolabe, under the command of J.F.G. de la Pérouse.

Two volumes quarto (text), with frontispiece portrait, complete with half-titles, in very good condition; the folio atlas with engraved title, and 69 maps and plates, the large folding map of the voyage coloured in outline; the atlas volume large with edges uncut; a very good set with the text volumes in contemporary mottled calf, neatly rebacked, original double labels, atlas in matching quarter calf over old boards


The official account of the great and tragic expedition of La Pérouse: the best English edition, the first to contain a full translation of the French original. Abridged translations had appeared in 1798, but this was the first complete translation, and the first English publication of the complete set of images of the expedition. Most of the engraved plates are by Heath, engraver of some of the plates for Cook's third voyage. The translator modestly announces: 'The book now laid before the world is one of the most magnificent in its conception, and recent in its execution.'

This excellent copy of the handsome English edition has the armorial bookplates of Jeremiah D'Olier of Co. Wicklow, Ireland. D'Olier, 1745-1817, a Huguenot goldsmith, was one of the founding governors of the Bank of Ireland and served as Sheriff of Dublin in 1788. D'Olier Street in modern Dublin commemorates him.

Forbes, 'Treasures', 27; Hill, 975; Judd, 104; McLaren, 10; Strathern, 304 (xviii); Wagner, Northwest coast, maps 837-48 (French versions).

$22,500
La Pérouse needs 400 metres of canvas for his schooner

125. LA PEROUSE, Jean François Galaup de.

Short autograph note signed by La Pérouse.

Small sheet, 120 x 135 mm., old folds, clearly and legibly written and docketed; very good. At sea, not dated, but likely 1781-1785.

Exceptionally rare: an autograph note signed by the great French explorer La Pérouse. Hordern House has never before handled an example of any letter in his hand, let alone confidently signed, as here.

The extraordinary story and achievements of La Pérouse are well known, and recounted in the handsome official account of his expedition (see catalogue no. 123). However, because of the fact that he was lost without trace mid-voyage, manuscript material relating to his life is very rare indeed; the obvious point of comparison would be with anything relating to Bligh on the Bounty.

In the note La Pérouse asks that his boat ("goelette") be given an impressive 286 "aunes" of canvas which is needed on board. The vessel known as a "goelette" – now more normally goélette – is usually considered to mean schooner, while an "aune" was an old-fashioned French word usually translated as "ell" or cubit: a French aune is recorded as being around 54 inches, meaning that La Pérouse is in fact asking for almost 400 metres of canvas. The sheer quantity of the request speaks to La Pérouse having written the note while in charge of a large vessel, but it is unlikely that either of his ships of discovery are meant, as the Astrolabe and the Boussole are usually listed as flûtes. La Pérouse had joined the navy as a 15 year old in 1756, seeing a good deal of action in American waters during the Seven Years War.

The document is counter-signed and noted as “delivered” by one “Deletombe”: it seems very likely that this is Philippe-André-Joseph de Létombe, who arrived in the United States in 1781, and was the French Consul in Boston and a correspondent of Thomas Jefferson. If this identification is correct, the note would possibly date from La Pérouse’s cruising in the West Indies and along the coast to Hudson Bay in 1781 and 1782.

$32,000

La Navigation, Poëme.

Two volumes, octavo, engraved frontispiece and half-title in each volume, some occasional light foxing; nineteenth-century mottled calf, gilt, hinges cracked but joints still strong. Paris, Chez Giguet et Michaud, 1805.

First edition of Esmenard’s epic poem on voyages of discovery generally, and La Pérouse specifically. The work includes a plate imagining the then hypothetical wreck of La Pérouse, ‘Naufrage des Canots de la Pérouse au Port des Français.’

A hardy and experienced mariner himself, Esmenard composed the poem while under sail with Villaret-Joyeuse to Martinique. The epic poem demonstrates his broad knowledge of the voyages of the eighteenth century, with references to Bougainville, Malaspina, Byron, Wallis and Surville, as well as sections on the ‘immortelle’ Anson and ‘sage et malheureux’ Cook.

Esmenard writes that the distraught French people still wait and hope for his return, but probably in vain. In fact, both text and image assume that La Pérouse has wrecked on some fatal island: ‘Dans ce gouffre écumant que la mort environne, / De leur fatal naufrage embrassent les débris, / Voyez-vous ces soldats, entendez-vous leurs cris, / Mêlés au bruit lointain des rochers et de l’onde?’

Very rare: not known to Ferguson but appearing in the Addenda volume noting Bibliothèque Nationale and National Library of Australia copies only.

Ferguson, Addenda, 409a (noting Bibliothèque Nationale and National Library of Australia copies only); McLaren, 320 (adding Mitchell Library copy); Sabin, 22880 (later edition only)

$3250


La Perouse, A Drama, in Two Acts. From the German of Augustus von Kotzebue; by Benjamin Thomson… as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Octavo, 40 pp., some foxing or staining, old marginal paper repairs to the title-page and first 2 ll. of text; recent wrappers, solander case. London, Vernor and Hood, 1799.

A light-hearted drama based on the disappearance and conjectured fate of La Pérouse in the Pacific.

This is the London-published translation of the German play which had appeared in Leipzig in 1797, an early example of what would become a number of fanciful works speculating on the fate of the lost French Pacific explorer, a tradition which continued even after Dillon discovered the site of his fatal shipwreck in the late 1820s.

Augustus von Kotzebue was the author of some two hundred theatrical works. Director of the Vienna Court Theatre, he was also successful abroad, becoming the key figure in the short but brilliant ‘Glanzperiode’ (1798-1802), during which German drama dominated the London stage. He was also a successful librettist, and Beethoven, Schubert and Weber each set his librettos to music. After a period living in Russia, Kotzebue returned to Germany as an agent of Czar Alexander I. He was detested for his reactionary propaganda and was subsequently assassinated in Mannheim by a student. Of his twelve sons, the best-remembered is Otto von Kotzebue, the Russian navigator and scientist who completed three circumnavigations, charted much of the Alaskan coast, and discovered and named Kotzebue Sound (off western Alaska) as well as several islands in the Society and Marshall groups in the Pacific.
Benjamin Thomson, translator here, was noted by Thomas Dibdin in his *Reminiscences* as a translator of German plays for the London theatre scene. Ferguson notes another English translation of 1799 by Anne Plumptre. The play itself was clearly a frolic, summarised by a contemporary reviewer: 'To create distress out of nothing, La Pérouse is supposed to be found on an uninhabited island, after residing there for eight years with a lovely female, who, from his preserver, had become his wife. Here he is found by his real wife, Adelaide, and after much struggle which he shall retain, and which relinquish, and after nearly killing both the ladies with grief, it is agreed that the three should live together as sisters and brother. It is a little peculiar that they are dissuaded from returning to France on account of the Revolution; this passage was an agreeable surprise to us.'

Ferguson, 286b; McLaren, 510.

$2200
Very rare: Pacific voyage costumes


West’s Characters, in the Grand Historical Ballet Called La-Perouse, or the Desolate Island.

Two quarto engraved sheets, each with multiple images, 240 x 190mm; in good condition, corners just chipped. London, W. West “at his Theatrical Print Warehouse”, 25 October 1824.

Extremely scarce, indeed apparently unrecorded: these two sheets show the main characters in John Fawcett’s highly popular play La Pérouse, or the Desolate Island which had been performed at the Theatre Royal and many other English theatres well into the 1820s (see following item for an example and for a short précis of the action of the play). The play is known chiefly from Fawcett’s libretto Life of La Perouse and a handful of surviving play-bills, and West’s figures provide a remarkable opportunity to better understand the staging of this popular pantomime.

These two costume plates were produced by William West for the “Toy Theatre” market. West, a London stationer, is thought to have developed his Toy Theatre around 1811, when he began to produce printed sheets depicting characters from various popular plays of the day. The cartouches suggest that there were originally a total of three plates, although given that all of
the main characters are present, it is possible that the putative third sheet was a background or, indeed, never existed.

Toy Theatres became a popular form of family entertainment during the early nineteenth century. More lavishly decorated forms were out of reach for all but the children of the wealthy. West's plates enjoyed a big sale at the modest price of “1d. Plain”, to be coloured and cut out by children. They were so popular that at his peak West is said to have been taking over £30 a week.

Twelve characters are shown here on the two sheets, including a fierce looking Umba, Kanko (Umba’s suitor), Negaski (Umba’s father), the chimpanzee, two American Indians, Madame Pérouse, Conge (African servant to Madame La Pérouse), son Theodore and Pérouse in two different costumes.

McLaren in his bibliography of La Pérouse listed several pamphlets and play-bills relating to the pantomime (see 333-340), but did not know these West plates nor are they recorded by either Forbes or Ferguson.

Not in McLaren.

$4250

LA PEROUSE ON THE ENGLISH STAGE

129. [LA PEROUSE] PLAYBILL: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

De La Perouse: or, The Desolate Island [et al, including “Guy Mannering”].

Folio playbill on wove paper, 330 x 195 mm., in fine condition. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, Tabby Printer, 19 November 1825.

Rare playbill for the performance of the popular South Seas utopian melodrama based on the wreck of La Pérouse, in London on Saturday 19 November 1825. Peter Dillon did not confirm the wreck of La Pérouse’s two ships on Vanikoro until 1827, but as this playbill confirms, interest in the French explorer was undiminished: the show ‘will be repeated every Evening till further notice.’

European fascination with the whereabouts of the lost French Pacific explorer – and the often fantastic, utopian explanations of his disappearance – continued well into the nineteenth century and even persisted after discovery of the expedition’s fate. In the best pantomime traditions, the dramatis personae includes Theodore, son of La Pérouse played by Miss Lane, and a surely compelling performance by Master Wieland as ‘Chimpanzee, an Animal of the Desolate Island’. Any number of important hints about the production can be gleaned from the playbill, notably that the overtures and music were by Davy and Moorhead, the dresses by Mr. Banks and the Misses Smith, and the “Machinery and Properties” by Nall and Kelly. A note also says that the “new scenery” is by Marinari, Roberts and Stanfield; interestingly, the list of eight major scenes including “Storm and Shipwreck” and “Perouse's Hut and Drawbridge” notes the name of the principal artist in each case. Some idea of the spectacle may be gleaned from a few surviving graphic sources such as the costume plates described above.

Ferguson records a copy of an 1808 prospectus for the pantomime (see Ferguson 464b). McLaren notes a few examples of similar playbills including another Drury Lane announcement for December of the same year (340).

$3850
Voyage de Dentrecasteaux, envoyé à la recherche de la Pérouse.

Publié par ordre de Sa Majesté l'empereur et roi, avec le ministère de J. F. le vicomte Decazes, comte de l'empire.

Rédigé par M. de Bougainville, ancien capitaine de chasseur.

Tome Premier.

A Paris, de l'imprimerie impériale. 1808.
The commander’s account of the voyage in search of La Pérouse

130. D’ENTRECASTEAUX, Antoine Raymond Joseph Bruni.

Voyage de Dentrecasteaux, envoyé à la Recherche de La Pérouse. Publié par ordre de sa Majesté l’Empereur et Roi… Rédigé par M. de Rossel, ancienne capitaine de vaisseau.

Two volumes, quarto, with 32 folding engraved plates in volume I, and an Atlas, imperial folio, containing 39 charts and maps (29 double folding); original mottled boards, entirely uncut and with very generous margins; a few light stains in the text, some slight rubbing to bindings and wear to joints, inner hinges weak, spine of atlas renewed; but an outstanding copy in its original binding, boxed. Paris, de l’Imprimerie Imperiale, [1807-]1808.

First edition: the official commander’s account of the search for La Pérouse, published posthumously. The twelve magnificent maps of Western Australia and Tasmania in the fine Atlas record much of these coasts accurately for the first time and are among the most significant ever made. Of prime importance to Tasmania, it was d’Entrecasteaux’s explorations of 1792 and 1793 which focused attention on the Derwent River area (now Hobart) as a suitable place for settlement. No news of La Pérouse had been received for several years by the time this voyage was equipped. It was the 1791 intervention of Delattre and the Société d’Histoire Naturelle which finally forced the hand of the National Assembly and led to d’Entrecasteaux’s appointment. As a result, d’Entrecasteaux was given command of the Recherche and the Espérance, and sent to the Pacific the same year. No trace of La Pérouse was found, although the expedition sailed close by Vanikoro where it is possible that La Pérouse expedition survivors may have remained even at that time.

The voyage did however have other purposes, their official orders having specified that they take scientists and artists and that they explore the coasts of Western Australia, Tasmania and the Gulf of Carpentaria, as well as New Caledonia, the Solomons, and north-east New Guinea. They did indeed make substantial geographical and scientific discoveries, particularly in Tasmania and along the west and southwest coasts of Australia – during the stop at Recherche Bay alone in mid-1792 they collected some 5000 botanical specimens and at the end of the year they headed for south-western New Holland discovering Esperance Bay. They also made important visits to New Caledonia, Tonga and the Santa Cruz Islands.

The expedition was marred by illness, and d’Entrecasteaux himself was one of many to die during the voyage. It was the long-reaching effect of the French Revolution, however, that ultimately split the expedition in half. After reaching Java, the acting commander and ardent royalist D’Auribeau put himself under the protection of the Dutch authorities, while the Republicans among the officers and crew were imprisoned. On their eventual release, the prisoners were again taken and held by the British navy. Ultimately it was Sir Joseph Banks himself who ordered that the expedition’s journals, charts and natural history specimens be returned under a flag of truce. It was the journal of the Republican Labillardière, the expedition’s doctor and botanist, that was first published.

This is an excellent copy of a very scarce voyage account, of great relevance to Australia and the Pacific; the Atlas volume is in its correct first edition form, with the charts all present in their original issues. Copies are sometimes found with later issues.

Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, pp. 104-5; Ferguson, 461; Hill, 467; McLaren, ‘Lapérouse in the Pacific’, 49; Wantrup, 64a-64b.

$28,500
D’ENTRECASTEAX’S SUCCESSOR PRESENTS THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT

131. [D’ENTRECASTEAX] ROSSEL, Paul-Édouard.

Autograph letter signed, to Vicomte Charles Morel de Vinde regarding the d’Entrecasteaux voyage publication.

Manuscript letter, 227 x 183 mm., on a bifolium sheet, letter comprising first page with three blank pages, dated and signed by Rossel; folded to letter size, addressed with remnants of seal, very good condition. Paris, 25 August 1814.

A friendly letter from Paul-Édouard Rossel to the Vicomte Charles Morel de Vinde, agronomist, politician, and man of letters, expressing his hope that a set of the d’Entrecasteaux voyage publication, with accompanying atlas, will be well received. The letter was sent during the peace established by the first Treaty of Paris (signed in May 1814).

Rossel had edited the official account of the d’Entrecasteaux voyage for publication, a process which took many years due to the political fall-out from the Revolution. By the time the expedition had reached Dutch Java Rossel was the commanding officer, and despite his inexperience “was to prove a resourceful and able commandant in a passage that had perils and hardships in store” (Horner, Looking for La Pérouse, p. 194). However, Rossel was also a royalist, with the result that he was sidelined for many years. Only in 1808, after several years in exile in England, did he publish the magnificent official account of the voyage, from d’Entrecasteaux’s original journals.

This letter originally accompanied a gift of “les deux gros volumes et l’atlas que j’ai l’honneur de lui envoyer”, with the hope that it will take pride of place in Morel’s library. The Vicomte was certainly an influential figure, a corresponding member of the Académie des sciences, who had also had a few narrow escapes because of his political allegiance. He is known to have had a magnificent library.

$3200
Rossel, astronomer of the expedition in search of La Pérouse, writes to Louis Marie Bajot, inspector-general of the library of the Ministry of the Marine and editor of the *Annales Maritimes et Coloniales*, who had asked Rossel to review some articles on the lunar method. Rossel reports that the method was unsatisfactory and should be abandoned since the difficulty of accurately measuring the height of the moon is too great and liable to “grandes erreurs”.

Rossel joined the *Recherche* at the age of 26, one of the vessels under the command of Bruni d’Entrecasteaux dispatched in 1791 to solve the mystery of La Pérouse. The d’Entrecasteaux expedition was remarkable for its talented scientific members, including the naturalist Jacques Labillardière, hydrographer Charles-François Beaupré and astronomer Ambroise Pierson.

Although differences in social origin and political allegiance proved a source of ongoing tension amongst the officers, overall the scientists worked co-operatively. The practical application of astronomy to navigation was an important one for these men, and during their stay in Tasmania Rossel constructed a temporary observatory for this purpose.

Some years later, Rossel took on the editing of the official voyage account which was published in 1808, eight years after Labillardière’s account. In the official account the subject of longitude is treated in detail, forming a valuable explanatory text on the limitations of astronomical and lunar methods: “Rossel devoted the whole of the second volume of the official *Voyage* to an exposition of the methods used by himself and others in taking and correcting astronomical observations made during the voyage, together with detailed tables setting out the resulting calculations of latitude and longitude. By this means, he hoped, readers would be able to judge for themselves the probable accuracy of these estimates, especially those of longitude. Like Beaupré’s appendix to the first volume, this became a kind of instructional treatise on the subject” (Horner, *Looking for La Pérouse*, p. 41).

Furthermore, in preparing material for the press Rossel cross-referenced the results with observations taken at Greenwich and supplied by the Astronomer Royal Nevil Maskelyne. The intention was to produce longitude bearings more accurate than those of Captain Cook, which had remained the benchmark of navigational accuracy.

This letter reflects Rossel’s experience reconciling the sciences of astronomy and navigation, and the high regard accorded by his peers. By this stage the use of marine chronometers was gaining widespread acceptance for longitude calculation as the lunar method became obsolete.
133. LABILLARDIERE, Jacques Julien Houton de.

Relation du Voyage à la Recherche de La Pérouse, fait par ordre de l'Assemblée Constituante, pendant les années 1791, 1792…

Two volumes, quarto, and folio atlas; text volumes uncut; the atlas with engraved title, folding chart of the voyage and 43 engraved maps, and plates; title-page and several other leaves with paper restoration, some foxing, and five plates slightly smaller; text in marbled papered boards, atlas in contemporary quarter calf with marbled paper sides. Paris, H. J. Jansen, 1800.

First edition of the narrative by the naturalist on the d'Entrecasteaux expedition, in which Australia was fully circumnavigated, if sometimes at a distance, and the islands surrounding investigated for traces of La Pérouse. Labillardière, botanist on the voyage, remains an important figure in early Australian science as the author of the first extensive monograph on Australian botany. The voyage spent many months on the coasts of Western Australia, just a year after Vancouver's visit, and made two long visits to Tasmania, charting, botanising and exploring the coasts. The visits are remembered in numerous place names, most notably Recherche Archipelago and Recherche Bay, named for the expedition's ship. Labillardière's account is one of very few eighteenth-century accounts of Australian exploration, and the only major French account of the continent in the early settlement period to be published in the same century. Because Labillardière was a Republican, his was the first account published; the important narrative based on the commander d'Entrecasteaux's papers (see number 130), did not appear until 1808.

The work is particularly interesting for its descriptions (and illustrations) of Tasmania, Tonga, New Caledonia, and New Guinea, and the atlas contains outstanding views of these areas by the official artist Piron. Included is the famous engraving of the black swan, the first large depiction of the exotic Australian bird. Fourteen botanical plates, all by or produced under the direction of Redouté, the most famous of all botanical artists, include two of Eucalypts and two of Banksias. D'Entrecasteaux, died of a 'dreadful cholic' shortly before the expedition collapsed in Batavia. There they learned of the French Revolution, where the monarchist commander put himself under Dutch protection, arrested the remainder of the officers, including Labillardière and Piron. Ultimately the survivors did return to Europe, only for the papers and natural history specimens to be seized en route and carried to England, but in 1796, with the urging of Sir Joseph Banks, were returned to France under a flag of truce.

Ferguson, 307; Hill, 954; Kroepelien, 697; McLaren, 'Lapérouse in the Pacific', 51. $24,000

134. LABILLARDIERE, Jacques Julien Houton de.

Voyage in search of La Pérouse, performed by order of the Constituent Assembly, during the years 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794.

Two volumes octavo, with a large folding chart and 45 engraved plates; complete with three advertisement leaves at the end; some slight offsetting, a few leaves foxed; an excellent set in contemporary half calf. London, John Stockdale, 1800.

A very good set of Stockdale's English edition of this very popular voyage account in which the republican Labillardière first described the voyage commanded by d'Entrecasteaux that set out to search for the mysteriously disappeared La Pérouse. According to the Hill catalogue this octavo version is the first English edition. This handsome copy was once in the library at Clonbrock, the Irish house famous for the consistently fine condition of the books in its collection, which was dispersed in the 1970s.

Ferguson, 310; Hill, 955; McLaren, 'Lapérouse in the Pacific', 57. $8500
RELATION
DU VOYAGE A LA RECHERCHE
DE LA PERouse,
TOME PREMIER.
A PARIS.

133

134
MALMAISON AS THE CENTREPIECE OF THE NEW SCIENTIFIC GARDENS

135. LABORDE, Alexandre de.

Description des Nouveaux Jardins de la France et de ses Anciens Châteaux…

Folio, a fine complete copy, collates as: title-page with engraved vignette, engraved title-page, 122 plates depicting gardens and chateaux (of which 58 full-page, 60 half-page, and 4 quarter-page), together with an additional 3 maps (of Malmaison, Ermenonville and the country around Paris), 8 quarter-page engravings on 2 plates in the Repton style with intact overlays, and one plate with 21 small technical figures; old staining, some scattered foxing, but overall a most appealing copy in contemporary red half morocco, neat repairs to head and foot of spine, tips renewed. Paris, Delance, 1808.

One of the first works on contemporary landscape architecture for gardens and a highly influential work on French eighteenth-century garden and landscape design. Published at the height of Napoleon's First French Empire, Laborde's work is of central importance to the history of Malmaison, and provides the best contemporary overview of the house and its extensive grounds, marking it out as a companion to the more famous botanical works of Ventenat and Bonpland. The introduction discusses the history of gardening, with a discourse on the Greeks and Romans, the creation of scientific gardens, Montaigne, Louis XIV and Versailles, and the rise of modern natural history: it is as good a mission statement for Enlightenment botany as one could find. Although Laborde is at pains to distinguish the new chateaux from those of the Ancien Régime, it is telling to see the grandeur of these Napoleonic era houses.

The main part of the book is divided into sections which study actual gardens. In this section the main French text appears in simultaneous German and English translation (the latter a quite remarkable innovation for a work of this date). Pride of place is given to Malmaison, both as homage to Napoleon, but also in recognition of the fact that it was Malmaison which set the agenda for European gardens of the early nineteenth century.

For Malmaison alone there are seven full-size plates depicting the house and grounds, as well as four half-size plates, for a total of 11 views, comprising the most comprehensive and important contemporary suite of views of Malmaison. The Malmaison section concludes with a map of the grounds (here bound slightly out of order).

The other major houses noticed are: Mortefontaine, then owned by Napoleon's elder brother Joseph-Napoleon Bonaparte (plates 12-27); Ermenonville, the house of the Marquis René de Girardin built in honour of the ideas of Rousseau (plates 28-43 and unnumbered map of the grounds); and Méréville, the home of the Marquis Jean-Joseph de la Borde, the grounds of which included both a cenotaph to the memory of Captain Cook, but also a memorial column to de Girardin's two sons Edouard and Ange Auguste who had died at Lituya Bay in California in 1786 on the La Pérouse expedition (plates 44-57). Smaller houses depicted include those of Saint-Leu, Tracy, Raincy and Trianon. An unusual inclusion is a view of the Chinese kiosk at Le Désert in Monville (dismissed as "an instance of the bad taste which then reigned").

Vicaire, XIXe siècle, IV 745-6.

$13,850
Comte de Lauraguais, old friend of Banks, still dazzlingly witty at 90

136. LAURAGUAIS, Louis-Léon-Félicité de Brancas, comte de.

Three important ALSs from the 1820s.

Three interesting and witty letters written by an elderly Comte de Lauraguais, providing a revealing glimpse of the exalted scientific circles in which he still moved. This small cache of letters represents a rare opportunity to gain a better understanding of the enigmatic Count, and includes a particularly good letter to Prince Pierre d'Arenberg, his grandson.

Louis Léon Félicité, comte de Lauraguais, duc de Brancas (1733-1824) was a French aristocrat and accomplished chemist, now remembered for his friendship with Sir Joseph Banks. In early 1772 Lauraguais had angered his friend by attempting to publish an account of the Endeavour voyage based on a letter written by Banks, only for Banks to personally seize it from the printer and have all but one copy burnt (that single copy is now one of the treasures of the State Library of New South Wales). Lauraguais had a lifelong interest in the sciences and in voyages of discovery particularly, making the present letters, written when he was almost 90 years of age, a moving testament to his reputation. Hordern House have only once previously handled any manuscript material relating to Lauraguais.

The three letters are as follows:

Single page to the Chevalier de Rébourguil, 6 May 1822. Lauraguais reflects disarmingly on his long life and his old age, mentioning his old friend Voltaire, and the "spirits coming out of their tombs" as he reflects on former times. The letter was sent to his "good and old" friend the Chevalier de Rébourgil, undoubtedly connected to the town of that name in the Midi-Pyrénées.

One-and-a-half pages to M. Bouillon-Lagrange, 3 July 1822. Edme-Jean Baptiste Bouillon-Lagrange (1764-1844) was a professor and later the director of the Ecole de pharmacie in Paris. He had evidently written to the Comte to discuss news relating to chemistry, as he has replied in a witty and self-deprecating way, thanking Bouillon-Lagrange for his kind words and the indulgence with which he has discussed his work, but that he now not only doesn't have a laboratory but in fact barely a kitchen. Lauraguais nonetheless looks forward to meeting him as an old colleague in chemistry.

Four pages to his grandson Prince Pierre d'Arenberg, 26 May 1823. Easily the most substantial and personal of the three letters, it is written to the Prince in Marseille, and makes mention of the "Princesse de Poix" (presumably Anne Louise Marie de Beauvau-Craon, the dowager of Philippe-Louis de Noailles, duc de Poix). The letter shows Lauraguais still moving effortlessly through the beau monde – including a reference to his old friend Rébourgil, the recipient of the earlier letter in this group, as an old "ultra" who is still enjoying his health after some 60 years – and concluding with the hope that the Prince will come and see him soon. Pierre d'Arenberg (1790-1877) was the son of Lauraguais' daughter, Pauline Louise Antoinette Candide Felicité de Brancas-Villars de Lauraguais (1755-1820).

$4250
137. [LONGITUDE] [ARNOLD] MAYER, Christian.

A Letter from Mr. Christian Mayer… On the Going of a New Pendulum Clock, made by Mr. John Arnold…

Quarto, 19 pp., final page advertisement for a work by John Arnold, a few spots; very good in neat modern paper boards with morocco spine label. London, T. Becket, 1781.

Very rare: one of very few publications to directly discuss the chronometers of John Arnold, and clearly published with his consent – and almost certainly with his involvement – this work was issued in very small numbers to puff the technical prowess of Arnold at a time when he was working on the revolution in chronometers that would culminate in “Arnold 36” of 1782, the first timepiece to actually be called a chronometer, and the forerunner of the viability of quantity production: by the mid-1780s ‘Captains of the East India Company and the Royal Navy flocked to the chronometer factories’ (Sobel, Longitude).

Arnold (1736-1799) was the English watchmaker most responsible for making practical advances in the manufacture of chronometers. He had benefitted from the magnum opus of longitude, John Harrison’s Principles of 1767, the publication of which was forced by Astronomer Royal Nevil Maskelyne, who first gave copies of the detailed plates to Larcum Kendall for the manufacture of K1, the chronometer taken on board Resolution for Cook’s second voyage. Soon after, Maskelyne also gave a copy of Harrison’s book to Arnold, who ultimately produced three chronometers which were also taken on board the Resolution. Kendall’s was by far the superior timepiece, although Arnold’s chances were not helped by the fact that one was allowed to go unwound (the fiery debate about whether this was the fault of William Wales helped fuel his acrimonious split with the Forsters).

Arnold had a better business mind than Kendall, and was more aware of the practicalities of watch-design meaning that his “Arnold 36” of 1777 is considered the first modern chronometer. Arnold was also not only personally charming but, as this rare pamphlet neatly proves, a wonder at self-promotion. This work translates a laudatory essay by the German astronomer Christian Mayer, praising Arnold’s work on a new pendulum clock at Manheim. The fact that this is in effect an extended advertisement is safely proven by the long translator’s preface, which concludes triumphantly: ‘While Mr. Arnold’s improvements in clock-work may thus become serviceable to astronomers; that superior degree of perfection to which he had brought his Pocket Chronometers must be of the highest utility in geography and navigation… ships may now proceed on their voyages with a degree of certainty and expedition unhoped for and unknown to preceding navigators…’

$4650
Important French work on measuring longitude at sea


Memoire sur l'observation des longitudes en mer...

Octavo, three folding plates, two engraved vignettes, early owner’s note on title-page; an attractive uncut copy in the original marbled paper wrappers. Paris, de l’Imprimerie Royale, 1767.

A most attractive copy of this uncommon work on longitude, published in France at the precise moment that the Harrison revolution was gaining ground in England.

Charnières was a French naval officer and chart-maker: a series of his beautiful original maps of the Atlantic and the West Indies from a voyage in 1766 is now in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France. The present work is his important study of the problem of longitude, and starts with a short reflection written by him on how he came to realise the importance of the riddle of longitude to the problems of navigation. The work includes two major essays, the first describing Charnières’ invention of a new device that he christens the “mégamètre”, and the second discussing his invention in terms of the octant designed by the English mathematician John Hadley; Hadley’s octant had been revolutionary in its day, but was fast being superseded by newer instruments.

The Mémoire includes much practical advice on the difficulties of the calculation of longitude at sea, and also a series of tables of lunar distances of the kind more fully developed by Mayer and Maskelyne. The three handsome plates show a series of highly-finished technical diagrams of Charnières’ work.

Polak, 1621.

$2250
The great contemporary of Harrison and Arnold

139. [LONGITUDE] EARNSHAW, Thomas.

Longitude. An Appeal to the Public: Stating Mr. Thomas Earnshaw’s Claim to the Original Invention of the improvements in his timekeepers…

Octavo, half-title, early owner’s name to title-page, bookplate and leather spine-label for the Marquess of Headfort, errata slip and additional manuscript erratum, some scattered foxing quite heavy on a handful of pages; original half calf, a bit worn. London, Printed for the author, 1808.

One of the most important publications relating to longitude, written by Thomas Earnshaw, John Arnold’s great competitor, and the man who ‘ushered in the age of the truly modern chronometer’ (Sobel, Longitude). One of Earnshaw’s greatest achievements was supplying two timekeepers to Matthew Flinders, who also took two of Arnold’s chronometers with him on Investigator: of the four, only one of Earnshaw’s clocks, “E520”, was still working by the end of the voyage, leading Flinders to refer to it as ‘this excellent timekeeper’ in his published account. E520 is now held in the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

Earnshaw (1749-1829) had a distinguished career but one marked by bouts of penury that saw him locked up in debtor’s prison. His great success was the use of a spring rather than pivot escapement, which didn’t need oil. This device was at the essence of his fight with Arnold, who was accused of peeking inside one of Earnshaw’s finished watches and then rushing to patent the design. Earnshaw had one decisive factor going for him: Nevil Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal, liked him. In 1803 Maskelyne declared the new Earnshaw watches the best trialled at the Royal Observatory, and in 1805 awarded the watchmaker £3000, the same amount being given to Arnold’s son (the father had died in 1799). This was the last straw for Earnshaw, and led to the publication of his book, his vindication (it is interesting to remember that if it were not for scientific argy-bargy almost none of the great longitude books would have been printed).

Personal and sometimes bitter, this is not a technical treatise, rather Earnshaw glories in the details of his career and its successes. He is particularly proud of having the imprimatur of William Bligh, who had been asked to trial chronometers on the Providence during the second breadfruit voyage, and who singled Earnshaw out for special praise. Otherwise, the book is full of stories about the machinations of the Board of Longitude, featuring luminaries such as Thomas Mudge and Maskelyne himself, as well as polite attacks on Sir Joseph Banks and out-and-out vitriol against Alexander Dalrymple, both of whom preferred Arnold.

The appendices feature the results of some of the important trials.

Earnshaw also noted the support of Crosley “of the Providence and Investigator, ships on discoveries”, Flinders’ astronomer as far as the Cape of Good Hope; a letter from Crosley regarding the Investigator is printed here on pp. 226-9.

Printed for the author in evidently very small numbers, this copy not only has the errata slip but also a manuscript erratum, no doubt written by the author. The Museum of Victoria has a copy of the 1986 reprint, but the book itself is very scarce. There is a copy in the Powerhouse Museum, and another in the National Library, although this latter is reported as missing the first 24 pages.

Not in Ferguson.

$6200
140. [LONGITUDE] FREYCINET, Louis-Claude de.

Archive of manuscripts relating to navigation and longitude, with particular notice of Mendoza y Rios, and Freycinet’s translation of an important essay.

Five manuscripts of varying lengths and sizes (see note) and some loose sheets; very good, loosely held in a later file headed “Astronomie et Navigation” with Archive de Laage stamp and other notes.

[France], circa 1800-1820.

A fascinating group of five manuscripts on improvements to measuring longitude at sea, including Freycinet’s own translation of an important essay by Mendoza y Rios that first appeared in London in 1801.

At least one of the other manuscripts has significant additions in Freycinet’s own hand, while the remaining three appear to have been sent to him by correspondents, including one addressed to him as commander of the Uranie. The group would appear to date from circa 1800-1820, and in fact is most likely associated with the interregnum between Freycinet’s two voyages, when he was working in Paris not only on the publication of the Baudin voyage account, but was also closely involved with all manner of innovations at the Ministry of the Marine.

Freycinet was appointed to the French Bureau des Longitudes early in the century, an appointment which presumably helps explain why he retained this group in his private archive. It is possible, perhaps even likely, that this group of manuscripts travelled with Freycinet on the Uranie voyage.

The main manuscript in the group relates to the Reflecting Circle, an important astronomical measuring device used for measuring longitude, first perfected by the German astronomer Tobias Mayer in 1752, and subsequently improved by Jean-Charles de Borda as the “Borda Circle”, much used in the late eighteenth century. In 1801 the Spanish astronomer Mendoza y Rios further improved the device by the addition, in particular, of a vernier scale. Freycinet would certainly have used the instrument (and in fact, a copy of the 1787-published work by Borda explaining the use of his improved device is known to have been in Freycinet’s personal library). However, critically, the fact that he personally made a translation of the Mendoza y Rios article from the original English has not hitherto been recorded, marking the present manuscript out as a particularly significant addition to the known oeuvre of Freycinet, and attesting to his command of English.

The other manuscripts are all equally detailed, including notes on further work by Mendoza y Rios; an interesting work on measuring latitude which can be dated quite firmly because it is actually addressed to Freycinet on board the Uranie (material firmly associated with the voyage is, of course, of special importance); a long essay on longitude by P. Levêque, “Examinateur Hidrographie de la Marine”; and a “Nouvelle methode” with notes on Maskelyne, Borda, and others. A fuller description is available on request.

$28,000
COOK’S “FAITHFUL GUIDE THROUGH ALL THE VICISSITUDES OF CLIMATES”

141. [LONGITUDE] [HARRISON, John and James SHORT]

A Narrative of the Proceedings relative to the Discovery of the Longitude at Sea; by Mr. John Harrison’s Time-Keeper; Subsequent to those published in the Year 1763.

Octavo, with the rare half-title, 18 pp.; a remarkably tall untrimmed copy, numbered in ink “no. 23” to half-title, disbound but fine in Sangorski & Sutcliffe quarter morocco box. London, Printed for the Author, and Sold by Mr. Sandby, 1765.

Very rare: John Harrison’s self-published pamphlet defending the success of his elegant chronometer H-4, and staking his claim to be awarded the full “Longitude Prize” of £20,000. An exact copy of H-4 built by Harrison’s colleague Larcum Kendall would be carried on Cook’s second voyage to great acclaim, Cook himself calling it ‘our faithful guide through all the vicissitudes of climates’ (Journals, ed. Beaglehole, II, p. 692). All of the eighteenth-century books and pamphlets
relating to the riddle of longitude, of which this is one of the most significant, were published in very small editions and are now understandably rare.

Harrison had been worrying away at the riddle of longitude for over three decades by the time he published this book. H-4 had first been properly tested in 1761, when Harrison's son William took it with on a voyage to Jamaica in the ship Deptford for a sea-trial. Although the trial was a triumph which exceeded the demands of the Longitude Act, Harrison's claim to the Prize was not recognised, meaning that he was forced to another West Indies trial of H-4 in 1764. Again accompanied by William, on this occasion H-4 computed the longitude of Barbados within 9.8 geographical miles, exhibiting accuracy three times greater than that required by the Act. Despite this success, the board still refused to issue the award, in some part due to resistance from the Astronomer Royal Nevil Maskelyne, an advocate of the cheaper lunar distance method.

Faced with another refusal, Harrison had this appeal to the Board of Longitude printed. It includes his relevant correspondence with the Admiralty and the basis for his claim, concluding that 'whereas a method (invented by your Memorialist) for the Discovery of the Longitude hath been tried by Experiments made according to the Appointment of your Honourable Board… Your Memorialist therefore humbly prays; that your Honourable Board will be pleased to grant him such Certificate as directed by the above recited Act'. The board, however, continued unmoved, even sponsoring subtle changes to the Longitude Act the same year as this work was published. Under duress, Harrison would even be forced to reveal the technical specifications of his invention.

The work was printed with the technical assistance of the maker of optical instruments James Short, who is usually listed as the author/editor. Although noted in several libraries, this work is very rarely offered for sale. The National Maritime Museum in Greenwich did not have a copy until 2003 when it acquired the papers of the Second Viscount Barrington, himself a member of the Board of Longitude in the eighteenth century.

Adams & Waters, 2017; Baillie, p. 274; Crone, 557; Polak, 4304, 7534; de Backer/Sommervogel, VI, 650.

$58,500

THE KRUSENSTERN ASTRONOMER GRAPPLES WITH LONGITUDE

142. [LONGITUDE] HORNER, Johan Kasper.

A Short and Easy Method for correcting the apparent distances of the moon from the sun or a fixed star with several new tables.

Octavo, 27 pp.; very good, original pale blue wrappers. Genoa, C.M. Reggio, late H. Bonaudo, 1822.

Only edition in English: very unusual. This treatise, by the Swiss astronomer and mathematician Johann Kaspar Horner, was his contribution to the question of determining longitude at sea. Horner had himself grappled with the difficulties of practical navigation during his five year stint as the official astronomer for the Krusenstern voyage.

In 1798 Horner was appointed the adjunct to Franz Xaver von Zachs, a position which led him to being appointed the secretary of the first European congress of astronomy. It was at the request of Zachs that Horner also took part in the Krusenstern voyage, taking the position of official astronomer from 1803 to 1808. This was evidently the great event of Horner's life, as he continued to have a tangible interest in the practical difficulties of voyaging even after he was appointed a Professor of Mathematics in Zurich. As Horner himself announces, this work is similar in design to that of Captain Elford in Charleston, but of superior accuracy.

This work, as might be expected for a small pamphlet printed for the author at Genoa, is from a very small edition and is now of corresponding rarity.

$4750
The mystic Swedenborg tries for the prize

143. [LONGITUDE] [SWEDENBORG, Emanuel].

Methodus Nova inveniendi Longitudines Locorum terra mariaque per Lunam.

Quarto, 8 pp., with an engraved plate; a little dusted, an inoffensive ink stain to front; in completely unsophisticated condition, uncut and unbound, stitch-sewn as issued. [Amsterdam], n.d. but 1766.

Very rare: the first separate edition of Swedenborg’s proposal for a method of determining longitude by lunar observations; an excellent copy in completely original condition. Swedenborg had a wide-ranging and influential career as a scientist before turning to the mysticism for which he is now chiefly remembered. This proposal dates from the period of his research in natural science and engineering. It is little wonder that he was attracted to the problem of longitude: not only was it one of the great scientific debates of the day, but the Longitude Prize was worth a staggering £20,000. Although the Board duly ignored Swedenborg’s proposal (as they did every proposal for several decades), this pamphlet is evidence, nonetheless, of the international interest in the problem of longitude, and of the attractiveness of the enormous prize. A Swedish version of this text first appeared in a periodical in 1716, reprinted in 1718. In 1721 Johann Oostgerwyk published it as part of a small 55-page pamphlet containing four treatises including Swedenborg’s text; the group of treatises was reissued unchanged in 1727 and in 1754. Only in this edition issued in 1766 was Swedenborg’s treatise given the honour of appearing as a separate work; it was slightly revised for this first separate publication. We thank James Wilson, Librarian of the Swedenborg Society, for his help in identifying this printing.

James Hyde, A Bibliography of the Works of Emanuel Swedenborg original and translated (1906), no. 171. $6800

Czech/Polish attempt at the Longitude prize

144. [LONGITUDE] WRONSKI, Josef Höené.

Pétition au Parlement Britannique, sur la spoliation d’un savant étranger pa le Bureau des Longitudes de Londres.

Tall octavo, half-title, title with Wronski’s printed Egyptian device, 59 pp., bookplate of First Earl Eldon, endpapers with printed notes on red paper including additional errata; a handsome copy in contemporary straight-grained red morocco, gilt. Londres, J. Barfield, March 1822.

First edition, rare: a delightful copy of this late but significant attempt to win the longitude prize. Wronski came from a Czech family settled in western Poland. In 1794 he served in Poland with Kosciuszko and was taken prisoner by the Russian forces. He resigned his commission in 1798, studied in Germany for a few years, and then enlisted in the Polish Legion at Marseille. Wronski was a prolific writer on all manner of subjects, but it was evidently scientific work to which he was drawn. He joined the Marseille Observatory in 1803 and published widely on mathematics before moving to London in 1819.

His great ambition while in London was to revolutionise the study of longitude and win for himself the famous Longitude Prize of £20,000, still unclaimed after more than a century. On arrival his instruments were detained by Customs, but he did eventually address the Board of Longitude though without success. This work details his troubles, and a significant part of the book is effectively a resumé of Wronski’s qualifications, taking the form of a series of letters of support from his friends. Easily the most interesting part, however, is the second half of the book, a detailed assessment of the machinations of the Board of Longitude, making this book an interesting comparison with the more famous stoushes between the Board and earlier figures such as John Harrison and Thomas Mudge. Wronski ultimately failed in his attempt, at least in part because his skills were more theoretical than practical: he returned to the continent in 1823. With the bookplate of John Scott, first Earl of Eldon, and Lord Chancellor of Great Britain between 1801 and 1827.

$1800
MARTYN, Thomas.

The Universal Conchologist, exhibiting the figure of every known Shell, accurately drawn and painted after Nature… Figures of nondescript shells collected in the different voyages to the South Sea since the year 1764.

Two volumes in one, quarto; parallel text in French and English; two engraved title-pages, both in French and English, engraved dedication to the King, two engraved plates of medals, 39 pp. Introduction and Preface, both in French and English; hand-coloured engraved frontispiece (with a Greek-key border applied in gold), 80 engraved plates, finely hand-coloured in imitation of watercolours, each numbered in ink and protected by a facing guard of thin blank paper; extra-illustrated with 19 hand-coloured variant plates; without the two engraved Explanatory Table leaves found in some copies; near-contemporary red straight-grained morocco, covers with gilt neo-classical border built up from fillets, a Greek-key roll, and a decorative roll, neatly rebacked with the original spine laid down, flat spine gilt in six compartments between raised bands; gilt edges. London, [the Author], 1789.

A most appealing, extra-illustrated copy of “one of the most beautiful of all shell books, containing exquisite renderings of shells collected on Cook’s three voyages and on other voyages, with specimens identified as having been obtained from New Holland, New Zealand, Tahiti, Tonga, and the Hawaiian Islands” (Forbes).

The plates in this work are of such refinement and beauty that they are routinely mistaken for original watercolours, testament to the skills of the artists involved. This is an example of the second edition, slightly revised from its first appearance five years earlier. It is dated 1789 on the title, and contains a frontispiece, 80 plates, and two plates of medals (one dated 1792): this according to Forbes is complete. Although some copies of the Universal Conchologist have been described as having 160 plates, according to Forbes such copies “were apparently assembled rather than published and contain no letterpress text.”

This copy is extra-illustrated with an important series of 19 very rare variant plates believed to be images that were ultimately rejected for publication by Martyn. The publication history of
the work is complex, in part due to Martyn having halted production of the first edition and
redrawn eighty plates. This example includes 14 of these rejected plates, here bound adjacent to
the published versions. They are printed on different paper to the published images and show
differences in the way they are laid out on the page as well as variations in the colouring. An
intriguing additional five plates with no corresponding counterparts in the published work, but
very faintly titled on the versos in an unknown hand, are bound at the back of the volume.
Martyn's Conchologist is one of the finest of all books relating to Australia and the South Pacific,
and rare in any edition. It is "a work which, for beauty, has seldom been surpassed in the history
of conchological iconography" (Dance, A History of Shell Collecting), and the only work of the
late eighteenth century to deal exclusively with shells. The shells are beautifully detailed and
clearly displayed, with only one or two different specimens per plate. The plates are delicately
engraved with faintness of line and then richly handcoloured with minute attention to detail
and highlights. This was a deliberate – and successful – attempt by Martyn to achieve the life
and energy of original watercolours. All are the work of an academy of young artists trained by
Martyn himself; he recruited young men who showed artistic talent, and trained them so that
there "would generally be found that uniformity and equality of style, conception, and execution
which it would be in vain to expect from a variety of independent artists" (Martyn, quoted by
Dance, op. cit.).

The engraved secondary-title (Figures of Non Descript Shells, collected in the different voyages to
the South Seas since the year 1764) makes clear the impetus which induced Martyn to publish his
masterpiece. A highly lucrative market in shells from exotic lands had developed by the middle
of the 18th century. The shells collected on Cook's voyages were greatly desired and when the
specimens collected on the Third Voyage were offered for sale, one of their most enthusiastic
buyers was Thomas Martyn himself. In a letter dated 9 December 1780, he wrote: "I may venture
to affirm that I have purchased, amounting to 400 guineas, more than 2 thirds of the whole
brought home. Nevertheless I do not abound either in variety of the new or many duplicates of
the known ones that are valuable" (quoted by Dance, op. cit.). For the present work, in addition
to his own collection, Martyn was also able to supplement where necessary with specimens from
the other great collections of the time. The most notable was the Portland Museum, but a number
of private collections are represented here; indeed Martyn's discussion of contemporary collectors
occupies six entire pages of the Introduction and is an important guide to that era.

The Conchologist is the only extant illustrated catalogue of the greater part of the shells collected
on Cook's voyages. From a scientific perspective, it is therefore an invaluable conchological
record, much as Banks' Florilegium stands as a monument to the botanical discoveries made on
the first voyage.

Bagnall, 3437 (listing the 1789 edition); BM(NH), III, p.1258; Ferguson, 40; Forbes, 'Hawaiian
National Bibliography', 176; Nissen, ZBI 2728; Spence, p.39. $64,000
146. MEARES, John.

Viaggi dalla China alla costa Nord-Ovest d'America fatti negli anni 1788 e 1789

Four volumes octavo, with 18 plates, maps and charts, some of them folding; original Italian half blue-green roan and glazed boards, flat spines banded and lettered in gilt; a very attractive set. Florence, Giovacchino Pagani, 1796.

First Italian version, one of two editions published in the same year (the other was published in Naples). This attractive copy, once in the library of the Pacific Union Club in San Francisco, was sold by Warren Howell in the 1970s. The charming engravings here, redone for this edition by a Florentine artist, include two of Hawaiian subjects and the text describes two important, early visits to the islands in 1787 and 1788. “This is one of the early and fundamental books on the Northwest coast of America in general and on Alaska in particular. In addition to his voyages from China to America in 1788 and 1789, which form the principal part of this work, Captain Meares describes his earlier voyage to the Northwest coast from Bengal, which took place in 1786 and 1787… This work, profusely illustrated and with many valuable historical documents appended to the main narrative, is of great importance in the study of early trading in furs originating on the Northwest coast and of a serious conflict between the English and the Spaniards in this connection…” (Lada-Mocarski, of the English edition).

Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 268; Strathern, 364.

$5850
147. MENDOZA Y RIOS, Josef de.

Tratado de Navegacion…

Two volumes, octavo, with 20 folding engraved plates, including two large folding maps, five folding tables bound in the text of volume II; period-style mottled calf, red and green labels; a few faint spots to margins but a fine copy. Madrid, En la imprenta real, 1787.

First edition of this important navigational treatise by the Spaniard Mendoza y Rios. Along with his other works on longitude, astronomy and navigation, it was translated into English in the early nineteenth century.

This is a broad-ranging discussion of the theory and practical applications of navigation. It includes two folding maps, one of the northern Atlantic, including the Americas from Labrador to the Caribbean, and the second a world map featuring the tracks of the voyages of Byron, Bougainville, Phipps and all three voyages of Cook.

Mendoza y Rios (1762-1816) was one of the most remarkable mathematicians of his time: a naval officer, astronomer and writer who became a leading expert in the application of mathematics and astronomy to navigation. Based in Madrid, he was commissioned with the task of collecting cartographic information for the Spanish navy, and after many travels returned to Spain in 1800. He later emigrated to England, where he devoted the rest of his life to the continued study of navigation, in particular nautical astronomy. His navigation tables (London, 1804) introduced notable advances into the question of locating the position of a ship at sea.

Mendoza y Rios was a significant figure in the confrerie of late Enlightenment explorers and scientists; a friend and correspondent of Louis de Freycinet (see also catalogue number 140), he was also one of Joseph Banks’s closer friends and for decades one of his chief correspondents. His other major work, A complete collection of tables for Navigation and Nautical Astronomy (London, 1805) was dedicated to Banks, and while he was still in Spain it was Banks who communicated his Recherches sur les principaux problèmes de l’astronomie nautique to the Royal Society (Proceedings, 1796). Remarkably, it was Mendoza y Rios who commissioned Thomas Phillips to paint the famous portrait of Banks in 1807-9. Banks, to show his appreciation, had Phillips show one of Mendoza y Rios’s scientific papers on the table in front of his subject (“On an improved Reflecting Circle” in Philosophical Transactions of 1801).
Early discoveries in the South Seas

148. NEW DISCOVERIES.
New Discoveries Concerning the World and its Inhabitants.

Octavo, with two folding plates and two folding maps; old quarter pebblegrain cloth and marbled boards, spine and edges rubbed but a good copy. London, J. Johnson, 1778.

First edition of this early compendium of information about Australia, New Zealand and the South Seas. The accounts of Cook's first two voyages are assembled from a variety of sources, including Hawkesworth, Parkinson, Forster and Cook himself. This gives a good overall picture of the voyages, while the material on the second voyage in particular, published during Cook's absence on the third voyage and before any news of his death, is of a good early date.

The various discoveries in the South Seas, and especially those of Cook, are put into a context of particular significance for Australia, by comparison with the voyages of Mendana, Quiros, Tasman, Le Maire, Schouten, Dampier, Roggeveen and others. One of the engravings bears more than a passing resemblance to the celebrated Dufour panorama, the printed French wallpaper which illustrates Cook's and others' discoveries; in the plate here, a marvellous composite of people, places and animals discovered in the South Seas, we see a "Kangaroo" and a "Woman of New Holland", as well as "A Canoe of O-Taheetee" which, defying climate, is separated from Endeavour only by 'A Floating Ice-Island, numbers of which were seen towards the Southern Frigid Zone'. The Tahitian Chief Mourner enters at right.

Beddie, 9, 1220, 1297; Hill, 1219; Kroepiel, 893. 

$3200
OLIVIER, Guillaume Antoine.

Entomologie ou histoire naturelle des insectes.

Eight volumes, large quarto, hand-coloured frontispiece by Audebert and 362 finely hand-coloured plates, the plates neatly annotated in early manuscript with the genera of the insects; a handsome set in early nineteenth century tan quarter calf, banded spine gilt with double red morocco labels, a few bumps and the marbled boards a little scuffed, wear to hinges. Paris, Baudoin, Lanneua & Desray, 1789-1790-1795-1795-1807-1808.

The first major comparative study to illustrate Australian insects. Published over twenty years, this is a splendid set of this important work of entomology. The hand-coloured plates are bound separately in two volumes, as issued, and an early owner of this set has made extensive manuscript note to the plates, naming every specimen.

Although the entomological works of John Lewin and Edward Donovan (both published 1805) have rightly been accorded iconic status in Australian natural history, this work by Olivier has not been given any real attention despite the fact that scores of Australian insects are illustrated here for the first time – by our count at least 98 are firmly attributed to Australia or Van Diemen’s Land – most of them by comparison with the originals in the collection of Sir Joseph Banks. A selection of New Zealand bugs and others from Pacific islands also derives from the Banks collection.

Olivier’s brief but gracious avertissement in the first volume here suggests that the primary resources for this work were the collections of Linnaeus, the descriptions of Fabricius, and the entomological riches of London. First among equals in London, Olivier notes, is of course Banks, who personally made valuable collections during his voyages around the world with Captain Cook (“La riche collection d’insectes que ce célèbre naturaliste à rapportés de ses voyages autour du globe, avec le Capitaine Cook...”). Not only did Banks himself collect on the voyage, but his interest in insects made Soho Square the paramount collection in London over the succeeding decades, as his friends and colleagues vied for the chance to supply non-descript insects; literally hundreds are described from specimens in the Banks collection. Olivier is known to have visited London in 1789, when he visited Banks, and other collectors including the James Edward Smith, the nurseryman from Hammersmith James Lee, John Latham and Thomas Martyn.

Equally significantly, by the publication of the fifth volume (1807) many of the new insects being added, including several more Australian specimens, are from the Labillardière collection, and must have been gathered by the famous French natural historian on the d’Entrecasteaux voyage.

Horn & Schenkling, 16447 (“Sehr selten”); Musgrave, p. 243; Nissen, 3012.

$24,500
The ideal image of the “Noble Savage”

150.  [OMAI] DANCE, Nathaniel, engraved by F. BARTOLOZZI.

Omai, A Native of Ulaitea.

*Etching and stipple engraving, 540 x 330 mm.; a good, well-inked and very crisp impression, generous margins; mounted. London, Publish’d according to Act of Parlt., 25th October 1774.*

A wonderful full-length portrait of Omai (also known as “Mai”), the Tahitian who was seen as the embodiment of Rousseau’s noble savage when he arrived in England on the *Adventure* with Captain Furneaux in 1774. The portrait is based on the painting by Nathaniel Dance, who would later also paint Captain Cook. Omai is shown carrying the wooden pillow-stool now in the Musée de Tahiti et des Iles and a feathered circlet, and is draped in tapa cloth. Banks so admired Dance’s painting that he personally commissioned Bartolozzi to do the engraving. Dance’s portrait is the best known of the many images of the famous Tahitian, who was placed in the care of Joseph Banks and Dr Solander when he arrived in England, both of whom he remembered from their visit to Tahiti five years earlier on Cook’s first voyage. His natural grace captivated London society, and the fine portrait epitomised the eighteenth-century ideal of the noble South Sea islander, here printed for a popular audience.

Bartolozzi was renowned for his technique of “stippled” engravings, of which this is a fine example. The portrait is testament to the contemporary interest in Omai, and this romantic portrayal was one of the first large-scale and separately-issued images that were produced to satisfy European curiosity, and to advance anthropological interest in the peoples of the Pacific. This tradition of taking exotic natives of interest back to Europe really took hold with the voyagers of the second half of the eighteenth century, most famously with Bougainville and Cook (though nearly a hundred years earlier Dampier had taken Giolo, the “Painted Prince”, back to England with him) and continued well into the nineteenth century.

The four-line inscription mentions both Furneaux and, particularly, Lord Sandwich of the Admiralty, who was Omai’s great friend and protector during his two-year stay in England.

*Beddie, 4569; Nan Kivell and Spence, p. 238 (illustrated, p. 75).*

151.  [OMAI] UNKNOWN ARTIST, after Francesco BARTOLOZZI, after Nathaniel DANCE.

“Omiah. A Native of Otaheite, brought to England by Capt. Fourneaux.”

*Engraving, 170 x 115 mm., trimmed inside the plate mark but retaining the whole image and the main caption, pasted down on a sheet of wove paper; very good. [London], 1774.*

An unusual contemporary engraving of “Omiah”, the Tahitian ‘brought to England by Capt. Fourneaux (sic).’ Although charmingly naive, it is clearly based on the famous Dance/Bartolozzi engraving of the same year.

This depiction shows a rather femininised Omai clutching his famous stool and displaying, on the tops of his feet and the back of his left wrist, some rudimentary tattooing. A copy of this print in the National Library confirms that it was prepared for the *London Magazine* for August 1774, but that part of the caption is clipped from this example.

$15,500

$650
152. [OMAI] ANONYMOUS.

Omiah's Farewell; Inscribed to the Ladies of London [bound with five other works, see below]

Quarto, six works bound together; some water-staining and a little dusted; 20th-century calf, gilt, crimson morocco spine label. London, G. Kearsly, 1776.

First edition, scarce, of this famous poem lampooning Omai and his supposed liaisons with the ladies of London society. In this 154-line poem, Omai (properly "Mai") dwells sadly on the necessity of parting from the women, who are each referred to under the partial disguise of asterisks: 'Oft Lady ******* hast thou promise made./ To sleep with me beneath the Bread-tree's shade,/ For brighter suns, to leave this clouded sky,/ And with Omiah share Eternity'.

Although obvious in its intentions as a comic poem, the work is also notable for its clear implication that Omai's return to Tahiti, loaded with gee-gaws and fireworks, represented a missed opportunity, when he could so easily have been returned 'with some useful knowledge... in British culture' (Harriet Guest, "Omai's Things", in Cook & Omai, p. 33). Omai is warmly described as a man of wonderful temperament and great charm, but is also compared – unfavourably, it must be said – with the Chinese boy Hwang ya Tung brought to England around the same time by Captain John Blake, and who was also painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

This rare work is bound here in the appropriate company of five other satirical poems published between 1777 and 1779, including William Combe's "The Diaboliad" in a new edition and Voltaire's "Ghost to the Apostle of the Sinless Foundery" (a full listing available on request).

Beddie, 4551; Holmes, 19; O'Reilly-Reitman, 9800. $16,000

Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-Seven… in a Poetical Epistle from a Lady of Quality in England, to Omiah, at Otaheite.

Octavo, complete with half-title; a fine untrimmed copy in the original marbled wrappers, a little browned at the edges. Dublin, W. Wilson, 1777.

Rare verse satire taking the form of a “Poetical epistle” to the romantic figure Omah, the Tahitian who had thrilled London society when he was brought back by Captain Furneaux on the Adventure. The “first Polynesian ambassador to England”, Omah was a prized guest at salons, balls, and other social and intellectual gatherings: he was “feted by Fanny Burney, approved by Samuel Johnson, entertained by Mrs. Thrale & Lord Sandwich, and painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds…” (Thomas Blake Clark).

Omah’s visit inspired a number of works of literature, more or less indecent. This rollicking example is certainly no exception, taking the form of a long epistle said to be by a female admirer who invites Omah to send yet more Tahitian men to fulfill the needs of the new, modern English woman, no longer bound by the social constraints or expectations of the previous generation. It begins, as so many of them do, with a swipe at Sir Joseph Banks (or “Opano”) and his amour with Oberea in Tahiti: “If yet thy land preserves Opano’s name, / And Oberea pines with am’rous flame…”

Anonymously published, this is known to have been the work of the Dublin poet and satirist William Preston (1753-1807). A London quarto version was published in the same year, but as with most of Preston’s other poems this Irish edition probably appeared first.

Beddie records only the London printing of this scarce work.

Beddie, 4552 (London edition). $2600

FRENCH PORTRAIT

154. [OMAI] BENARD, Robert after William HODGES.

Omai, amené en angleterre par le Capne. Furneaux.

Engraving, 235 x 180 mm. (plate size); a good image. Paris, 1778.

Fine French version of the portrait of the Tahitian by William Hodges RA (1744–1797), originally engraved for publication in the official account of Cook’s second voyage: Hodges had sailed with Cook as the expedition’s artist.

$475
An English Alphabet, For the Use of Foreigners: wherein the Pronunciation of the Vowels, or Voice-Letters, is explained in Twelve short general Rules, with their several Exceptions, as abridged (For the Instruction of Omai) from a larger Work.

Octavo, 76 pp.; a very good untrimmed copy in recent quarter calf. London, J. Galabin, 1786.

Very rare English grammar which records the unique method used to teach English to Omai. Omai became an overnight sensation when he arrived in Portsmouth aboard Cook’s Adventure on 14 July 1774. He was presented to the king, feted by Fanny Burney, approved by Samuel Johnson, entertained by Mrs Thrale and Lord Sandwich, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and even his rapid mastery of ice skating was reported in the General Evening Post. But while Joseph Banks was happy to have Omai tour the celebrity circuit, other, more devout souls recognised his potential to spread the gospel in the Pacific and made particular efforts to improve his religious instruction at the same time as his elocution. William Ellis, himself a missionary, recounts in his Polynesian Researches of 1830 that ‘Granville Sharp became acquainted with Mai [Omai], taught him the first principles of writing and, so far as his knowledge of our language allowed, endeavoured to pour light of divine truth into his ignorant and untutored mind. He made such progress in the use of letters, that on his voyage to the South Seas, while staying at the Cape of Good Hope, he wrote a letter to his friend Dr. Solander’.

In February 1776 Granville Sharp approached Lord Sandwich, First Lord of the Admiralty, to gain permission to instruct Omai. The method he employed, published here as An English alphabet: for the use of foreigners, was based on his earlier work, A Short treatise on the English tongue, of 1767. The record shows that Sharp tutored Omai regularly for a month, but by 6 April Sharp wrote that ‘Omai was so taken up with engagements that I could have no more opportunity of giving him lessons, which were but fifteen in all’.

He had taught his pupil the use of English letters and made him sound ‘every combination of vowels and consonants that letters are capable of’.

Just over a decade after Omai returned to Huahine with Cook, Sharp published An English alphabet, probably in anticipation of a need for such a work in the spread of the gospel in the South Seas. A large portion of the book is devoted to rules for “The Lord's Prayer”, the “Creed”, the “Ten Commandments”, and shorter prayers, all part of Sharp’s ‘instruction in the first principles of Christian religion’.

In any case, it must have been produced in very small numbers, as today it is very scarce indeed. Searches of COPAC and ESTC have revealed only five copies in British libraries and a single copy in the United States (at Yale’s Walpole Library). Alston VI, 502 adds a copy at Heidelberg University.

Alston VI, 502; Beddie, 4556; not in O’Reilly-Reitman; not in OCLC. $11,850
THE OMAI FANTASY

156. [OMAI] BASTON, Guillaume A.R.

Narrations d’Omaï, insulaire de la mer du sud, ami et compagnon de voyage du Capitaine Cook. Ouvrage traduit de l’O-taïtien, par M. K***, & publié par le Capitaine L.A.B.

Four volumes, octavo, portrait frontispiece to volume one ("Omaï amené en Angletere par le Capitaine Furneaux"), wood-engraved headpieces; some early jottings on verso of frontispiece and final leaf of volume one, a handsome set in early quarter calf, spines gilt. Rouen, Chez de Boucher, 1790.

First edition of this romantic fantasy about Omai, the Tahitian islander brought back to England by Cook. This is, with Elliott’s Hildebrand Bowman, one of the two key imaginary voyages which relate specifically to Cook’s voyages.

Canon Baston (1741-1825) was a native of Rouen who published many works on rather arcane questions of theology, making it all the more surprising that he should be the author of this extraordinary work: an imaginary autobiography of Omai concentrating on the Tahitian’s visit to Europe, supposedly translated from the Tahitian and including a four-page glossary of difficult Tahitian terms). Seen by Tarlton and McCormick as Omai’s ‘supreme literary tribute’, the fantasy borrows heavily from the imaginary voyage tradition by depicting Omai as the ‘saviour of his people, a leader who on returning from England purges his society of all its evils while he introduces only the benefits of European civilisation’ (Auckland City Art Gallery, The Two Worlds of Omai, 1977, p. 14).

Unlike his compatriot Diderot, whose writings on Autorou – the Tahitian who returned with Bougainville to France – are marked by bitter regret at the European influence on the Pacific (see catalogue no. 30), Baston depicts an idyllic synthesis of Tahitian innate nobility being enhanced and purified by contact with Europe. Tragically, of course, it was Diderot’s cynicism which provided a far more accurate appraisal of the coming destruction of Polynesian society, a fact which increases the historical fascination of Baston’s portrait of bucolic harmony.

Beddie, 4560; Grente-Moreau, p.136; Holmes, 74; Kroepelien, 54; O’Reilly-Reitman, 9312. $6850
The peoples of Oceania depicted for French savants

157. PERROT, Ferdinand Victor.

Engraving, 540 x 710mm.; in fine condition, mounted and framed. Paris, Basset, circa 1830.

A very scarce tableau comparing various races of the world divided into five sections – Europe, Asia, Oceania, America and Africa – with a detailed list of their inhabitants. The Oceania section includes New Holland, New Zealand and Hawaii.

In the eighteenth century an interest in ethnography took a central place in the lives of educated Europeans as science and world history were not yet too esoteric and specialised for the average person to understand. Maritime discovery was enthusiastically followed by both the French and English nations and the savants of both countries had a keen intellectual curiosity in the ethnography of the newly-discovered Pacific islands.

Oceania is represented by a man from New Holland in a striking pose and with his body painted, holding a club. The brief note in the key merely comments on the fact that the coast of this immense island has a sterile aspect, and that the inhabitants are of the deepest black with tough hair, lanky limbs and a "horrible" figure ("noir fuligineux, à cheveux crépus, à membres grêles à figure Hideuse"). Of the New Zealanders the main point in the accompanying note is that they are cannibals similar in appearance to Tahitians, and for the Sandwich Islanders Perrot notes that seven of the main eleven islands in the group are inhabited, that the group was discovered by Captain Cook, and that the character of the Hawaiians is very gentle ("extrêmement doux"). There are besides men from Vanikoro (where La Pérouse was killed), a "cannibal" from Ombay, and several others.

$5750
158. PHILLIP, Governor Arthur. 

The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay, with an Account of the Establishment of the Colonies of Port Jackson & Norfolk Island… to which are added the Journals of Lieuts. Shortland, Watts, Ball & Capt. Marshall… [Edited by John Stockdale].

Quarto, portrait and engraved title, seven folding engraved charts and 46 engraved plates; bound with the final leaf of advertisements, with the title-page in the second state (with Webber’s name removed from the medallion), the early state of the ‘Kangooroo’ (later changed to ‘Kangaroo’), and the later state of the ‘Vulpine Opossum’ plate, and page 122 misnumbered 221; some scattered foxing but overall a good copy in contemporary polished calf, skilfully rebacked with original spine laid down, spine gilt in compartments with original crimson label. London, John Stockdale, 1789.


Based on the governor’s journals and despatches and assembled into book form by the London publisher Stockdale, this is – as the the official account of the first settlement – the single most important book to describe the journey to Botany Bay and the foundations of modern Australia. It describes the events from March 1787, just before the First Fleet sailed from the Isle of Wight, up to September 1788. There is a chapter dealing with the fauna of New South Wales, appendices detailing the routes of various ships to Botany Bay, from Botany Bay to Norfolk Island and from Port Jackson to various other ports, and finally a list of convicts sent to New South Wales. The book also contains some excellent maps by John Hunter and William Dawes, including the first of the Sydney Cove settlement, which shows in detail the buildings and “progress” which had been made by July 1788.

Davidson summarises the importance of this volume: ‘Being the authentic record of first settlement the work’s importance cannot be over-emphasised, and no collection [of Australiana] can be complete without a copy’, and Wantrup notes that ‘as a detailed and officially sanctioned account of the new colony, the first edition of Stockdale’s Phillip is a key work and essential to any serious collection of Australian books.’

Crittenden, ‘A Bibliography of the First Fleet’, 180; Ferguson, 47; Hill, 1346; Wantrup, 5. $8000
THE STORY CONTINUES: PRINTING LETTERS BY PHILLIP TO LORD SYDNEY

159. PHILLIP, Arthur.

Extracts of Letters from Arthur Phillip, Esq. Governor of New South Wales, to Lord Sydney; to which is annexed a Description of Norfolk Island by Philip Gidley King, Esq. and An Account of Expences incurred in transporting Convicts to New South Wales.

Quarto, 26 pp., some very minor foxing; a fine tall copy in period-style full calf gilt, morocco label to front. London, printed for J. Debrett, 1791.

Very rare: the first public printing of the House of Commons paper published some months earlier. This is one of the rarest of First Fleet books, and 'there is keen competition among collectors when a copy turns up' (Australian Rare Books).

Printing three letters from Phillip to Lord Sydney and an important description of Norfolk Island by Philip Gidley King, these letters and despatches continued the story of settlement after the events described in Phillip's official account. In this regard it is curious to note that it is printed by John Debrett of Piccadilly, the publisher of White's Journal (1790), rather than his competitor John Stockdale, who originally published Phillip; no doubt Debrett was able to take advantage of his position as the official publisher of the Parliamentary Register to get the jump on his competitor. Although the parliamentary papers are marginally earlier, most collectors in fact prefer the Debrett edition because the text is printed very much in the same grand style as the books of Phillip and White. The following year Debrett continued the series of publications based on the parliamentary papers by issuing Copies and Extracts of Letters.

Australian Rare Books, 9; Ferguson, 116.

$38,500
A superbly annotated copy of this rare and important auction catalogue, with many natural history lots that had been originally gathered by Cook in the Pacific. This is the most annotated copy of the catalogue known to have been offered for sale, and includes the names of the purchasers of many lots not known from the printed record of the sale. In fact, the internal evidence of the annotations strongly suggests that this is the auctioneer’s retained copy, as it includes occasional notice of items being returned after the sale (see, for example, p. 21). This copy is further enhanced by the inclusion of the very rare supplement, only recorded in a handful of known copies.

The catalogue is a testament to the remarkable Margaret Cavendish Bentinck, second Duchess of Portland. Patron of Captain Cook, friend of Rousseau, colleague of Daniel Solander, bluestocking and philanthropist, she made her home, Bulstrode House in Buckinghamshire (or “The Hive”), a place of great activity and home to her private museum, which was ‘considered the finest in England’ (S. Peter Dance, *A History of Shell Collecting*, p. 73). The sale included many hundreds of natural history lots, with a particularly fine collection of shells. Many of the specimens had been collected from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific during Cook’s first voyage, and were presented by Banks and Solander in person, when they visited the Duchess in 1771.

As the introduction attests, it was the Duchess of Portland’s ‘intention to have had every unknown species in the three kingdoms of nature described and published to the world’, but this hope was thwarted by the death of her secretary Daniel Solander in 1783, and her own two years later. Her collection was sold from 24 April to 3 July 1786 and included over 4000 lots. The catalogue was drawn up by her chaplain and librarian the Reverend John Lightfoot, and features both scientifically correct nomenclature but also the unusual feature of printing locality information in the description of lots (J.M. Chalmers-Hunt, *Natural History Auctions 1700-1972*, p. 46).

Although all copies of this work are rare, this example is particularly significant as it records details of the sale of every lot – a Herculean task. As such, this copy gives a rare opportunity to follow the dispersal of the Portland Museum. The roll-call of buyers represents a who’s-who of contemporary collecting and connoisseurship.

This copy, numbered “37” in manuscript on the title-page, also includes the engraved frontispiece which is missing in many copies. Loosely inserted but annotated in the same hand is the 6-page supplement *A Catalogue of a very valuable collection… lately the property of the Duchess Dowager of Portland, deceased…*

Chalmers-Hunt, ‘*Natural History Auctions 1700-1972*’, p. 62; Forbes, 116. **$19,500**
Handsome set of an early nautical compendium

161. RODING, Johann Hinrich.
Allgemeines Worterbuch der Marine in allen Europaeischen Seesprachen nebst Vollstaendigen Erklaerungen.

Four volumes, quarto, with an engraved title-page and 115 engraved plates (17 folding) of nautical subjects; title-pages with old oval library stamp, title-page to the third part bound in the wrong volume; without leaves of subscribers and errata found in some copies (perhaps denoting early issue?); a fine and very attractive set, crisp and clean in contemporary patterned paper boards, white and orange labels, additional white labels with the monogram “F.H.” (Franziska von Hohenheim). Hamburg, Nemnich and Leipzig, Adam Friedrich Böhme, 1794-1798.

A beautiful copy of the first edition of this wonderful reference work for all things nautical at the end of the eighteenth century.

The first section (which occupies the first two volumes) comprises a dictionary of German nautical terms with definitions in German, along with the equivalent terms in English, Italian, Portuguese, French, Spanish, Dutch, Swedish, and Danish. The third volume contains nine sections with terms from these eight languages and their definitions in German (for some reason, there are two different sections of Italian terms). Finally, the fourth volume contains the splendid engraved plates: keyed to the text, they cover nearly every aspect of nautical life, including various types of ships from around the world, rigging and sail configurations, hull designs, armaments, navigational tools, knots, block and tackle, and so on. There is even a series of plates outlining the complete process of manufacturing rope.

Graesse, VI, 146; Nederlandsch Historisch Scheepvaart Museum, p.1001; Zischka, p.75.

$9500
Handsome mezzotint portrait of Lord Sandwich, engraved by Valentine Green (1739-1813) after the great portrait by Zoffany now in the National Portrait Gallery, London.

John Montagu, Earl Sandwich (1718-1792), is shown seated comfortably at a table with books. Ornately dressed in an embroidered coat and long matching waistcoat he is depicted as a refined, intelligent gentleman, a leader in society. In 1771, when he was the newly appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, Sandwich arranged Cook's second voyage, and was later instrumental in outfitting the third voyage as well; Cook would acknowledge his patron by naming both the Sandwich Islands and Montague Island in his honour.

It was in early 1771 that Sandwich commissioned a portrait by the popular artist, John Hamilton Mortimer, of himself standing with James Cook, Joseph Banks, Dr Daniel Solander and Dr John Hawkesworth (now in the National Library of Australia). The Library catalogue summarises Sandwich's enormous influence on Cook's Pacific voyages:

“The presence of Banks and Solander on board, and the role played by the Royal Society in formulating the scientific aims of the voyage were unprecedented in a British Naval expedition and created enormous interest amongst polite society as to its outcome, an interest that would quickly spread to the broader public when sailors' tales of 'curious' social customs in the Pacific began to circulate. Amongst those eagerly awaiting the Endeavour's return was John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich.

“Lord Sandwich, who would become something of a byword – even by eighteenth century standards – for the extent to which he employed the vast patronage of his office for personal and political ends, had not been responsible for the Endeavour's voyage but was now in a position to benefit from its success. He set about associating himself with the voyage and its principal players in a number of ways: establishing a lasting friendship with Banks, extending his professional patronage to Cook by promoting him to the rank of Commander on 19 August 1771, commissioning Dr John Hawkesworth to edit and see to publication an illustrated, authorised account of the voyage, and agreeing to undertake a second voyage to the Pacific along the lines suggested in Cook's detailed postscript to his voyage journal…”

This fine mezzotint is a rare example of a proof state “before letters”, printed before the caption had been prepared for engraving.

$5850
A splendid early nineteenth-century German handcoloured paper globe, here offered complete with the original publisher’s ensemble containing a folding suite of 15 plates depicting native peoples of the earth and other educational aids. Two of the plates depict Australian Aboriginal subjects.

The globe and its accompaniments are a fine example of late enlightenment publishing for the benefit of children. The publisher Schutz states his plan for a novel educational aid ‘to facilitate the introduction and use of geographic education in schools about the nature and classification of the earth’. By presenting the countries of the world as a readily assembled globe to be handled by children, abstract geographical concepts could be grasped with relative ease.

The paper globe is significant for the information that accompanies it, especially the suite of 15 folding plates illustrating the peoples of the world. Geographers and ethnologists of the early nineteenth-century were fascinated by the relationship between race, climate and environment. In this wonderful package Schutz presents the regions of the earth as a paper globe alongside skilfully lithographed depictions of its peoples. In this way geographical space is linked to costumes and appearances in a manner comprehensible for children. Two of the plates depict Australian Aborigines, one from Van Diemen’s Land and the other from New Holland (specifically, Western Australia), who is curiously illustrated with a bow and arrow. The Pacific Islands are represented by a Tahitian warrior in a tapa wrap brandishing an axe.

In addition to the paper globe and folding plates, the folding case contains a loose handcoloured engraved card sheet explaining the orbit and poles of the earth. The card is printed on both sides and includes delicate engravings of the sun’s orbit and the relationship between the tilt of the earth and her seasons. The card is attached to a printed letterpress sheet elucidating the diagrams in further detail.

This example is a rarity, here offered complete in the original publisher’s folding case with four detailed letterpress onlays. A folding flap protecting the ethnological portraits features a further fine lithographic plate titled “Künstlicher erd Globus” (reproduction earth globe). This lithograph is a humorous composite, featuring amongst other figures an Ottoman maiden reclining on a divan facing an African beauty flanked by a lion and a crocodile. Paper children’s globes are rare by their very nature, and this example preserved in its complete, original condition is an unusual survival.
164. SMITH, James Edward & James SOWERBY.

Exotic Botany: consisting of coloured figures, and scientific descriptions, of such new, beautiful, or rare plants as are worthy of cultivation in the gardens of Britain…

Two volumes bound in one, tall octavo, with 120 superbly hand-coloured engravings (one folding), both title-pages and index leaves bound in; an excellent large paper copy in early diced russia, spines renewed, bookplate of “Willm. Kent”. London, R. Taylor & Co., sold by James Sowerby, 1804-1805.

A rare large paper copy of the first edition: Smith’s beautiful work is more commonly seen bound in a much smaller octavo format: the present large quarto volume allows all but one of the plates to be full-page, meaning that the handsome botanicals can be seen in all their glory. Smith and Sowerby’s work includes thirty-eight Australian species, the majority of which were not included in Smith’s earlier Botany of New Holland, and many of which are figured here for the first time.

This impressive copy comes from the collection of the eminent botanist William Kent, for whom the Australian and Pacific species Kentia is named. Kent had extensive gardens in Clapton and later at Bathwick Hill in Bath, and was personally famous for the remarkable number of exotics he was able to grow: many of his specimens were figured in Curtis’ Botanical Magazine and the description of one, Templetonia glauca, published in 1819, briefly mentions his “curious collection of exotics at Clapton”. His obituary in the Gentleman’s Magazine suggests he lived until 1840 at Bathwick Hill.

Of great interest are Smith’s notes on each plant, which often give a glimpse of the tremendous fascination with “Botany Bay” plants at the time. Specimens are derived, for instance, from the gardens of Lady Hume at Wormleybury, the greenhouse of the Dowager Lady de Clifford, or the grounds of the Marquis of Blandford. Several others have come from the famous exotic plant specialists in London, Lee & Kennedy. Throughout, Smith and Sowerby show themselves to be up-to-date regarding the latest botanical discoveries, and they are thorough in their attempts to clarify current designations by comparing specimens with those held in great collections such as that of Sir Joseph Banks. Of particular note are the several comparisons and discussions of plants noticed by Ventenat at Malmaison: there are some polite disagreements, but Smith and Sowerby’s respect is confirmed with the naming of a hitherto non-descript species as the “Ventenatia” (plate 66 & 67; long since shortened to “Ventenata”). Smith writes: “I am happy to dedicate so distinct and curious a New Holland genus to the honour of a botanist who has so much illustrated the plants of that country as M. Ventenat has done.”

The last Australian plant noticed here is the Arethusa catenata, which includes a curious note. Smith writes that he has been sent the specimen by John White, and goes on to say that he has also seen the drawing by Bauer, that is about to be illustrated “by the accurate pen of Mr. [Robert] Brown, now Clerk and Librarian to the Linnean Society, and we will not anticipate his discoveries, nor execute imperfectly what he has so much better materials for completing. We shall therefore in general decline the publication of New Holland plants for the future, except we should want to elucidate any particular point to which we may have given peculiar attention, or any thing that may want explanation from the gardens.” Bauer and Brown, of course, sailed with Flinders.

Although not as well-known as the earlier Botany, this is, in part, because of this work’s scarcity. Ferguson only located this work for the addenda (with copies in the Nan Kivell collection at the National Library of Australia, the South Australian Royal Geographical Society, and the Turnbull Library in New Zealand).

Dunthorne, 288; Ferguson, 397a; Henry, 1341; Nissen BBI, 1858; Stafleu, 1241. $28,000
165. **SMITH, Thomas.**

*Le Cabinet du Jeune Naturaliste ou Tableaux Intéressantes de l'Histoire des Animaux.*

*Six volumes, octavo, engraved frontispiece and title to each volume, 65 engraved plates; fine, uncut, in original bright pink wrappers with original paper spine labels. Paris, Maradan, 1810.*

The first French edition of Thomas Smith's delightful natural history for young people: an immaculate set, in completely original condition. Gumuchian reports that this original edition was such a success that successive editions appeared in the years that followed.

This production stands apart from other juvenile natural history primers for the fineness of its engravings, which are of exceptional quality. Some four hundred and thirty species of fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and birds are described, sixty-five of which are illustrated, providing a fascinating cross-section of the contemporary interest in zoos and menageries, with many of the animals shown in less than natural settings (the orangutan is having a cup of tea, for example). Despite this, there are an impressive number of what would have been the very newest exotic animals to arrive in France, including an Indian elephant, and the notes are more than mere newspaper reportage, showing that Smith was well versed in the literature on the subject.

In this vein, the description of ‘*le kanguro*’ is interesting because it records and describes a number of live specimens in Europe, including those at the royal gardens at Richmond, ‘*un couple de très beaux kanguros*’ at an exposition at Exeter-Change of 1806 (the famous menagerie and a London landmark), as well as ‘*une très belle variété*’ which had arrived in England on the frigate *Lady Barlow*. The description is accompanied by an engraving of a man boxing a kangaroo.

Gumuchian, 5392.  

$2850

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166. **[SOLANDER] ANONYMOUS**

*“Dr. Solander” Portrait Silhouette.*

*Well preserved portrait silhouette in ink on oval cream card measuring 80 x 105 mm., inscribed ‘Dr. Solander’, mounted on small sheet of blue tinted laid paper with portion of unrelated decorative calligraphy to the rear, framed. [? London], before 1800.*

A rare survival: an attractive contemporary portrait silhouette of Daniel Solander (1733-1782), a student of Linnaeus, companion of Sir Joseph Banks aboard the first voyage of Captain Cook and prominent member of the London scientific elite. Having moved to London from Sweden in 1759, Solander was quickly embedded in leading scientific circles, and became a lifelong friend of Sir Joseph Banks, who personally asked him to join the voyage of the *Endeavour* in 1768 as one of his team of naturalists. Between them, Banks and Solander collected over 1400 plant species which were new to science, including many from the east coast of Australia. As a mark of esteem, Captain Cook named one of the headlands of Botany Bay “Point Solander” (nowadays Cape Solander) in his honour. The two men were lionised on their return, and this portrait silhouette, an example of a popular Georgian pastime and mark of respect, reflects contemporary interest in him.

$2450
167. **SPARRMAN, Anders.**

*A Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, towards the Antarctic Polar Circle, and round the World…*

Two volumes, quarto, with ten engraved plates and a folding map; an excellent copy in contemporary speckled calf, rebacked. London, G.G.J. Robinson, 1785.

Sparrman’s account of his travels in Africa with an account of experiences on Cook’s second voyage: this is the first English version, here in its second and most complete edition, with corrections and revisions: “a new and revised edition… apparently the best of the editions of the English version” (Rolf du Rietz in the Kroepelien catalogue). Sparrman, professor of Zoology at Uppsala University, was in South Africa when Cook’s second voyage called there in 1772; Forster offered him a place on the expedition as assistant naturalist: “As two Swedes, Dr. Solander and Mr. Spoering, with singular credit to themselves and advantage to science, had before undertaken a voyage to New Holland, &c. and so round the world, I could not help wishing that a Swede likewise might have the opportunity of making a visit to the south pole, and the continent supposed to be in the vicinity of it…”.

Based on the 1783 Swedish original, this English version, which was widely read and translated, remains the only eighteenth-century text by this member of the second voyage, and the only English language version until the Golden Cockerel Press translation of the entire work.

Much of the book is a narrative of travels in Africa with emphasis on its flora and fauna (and a remarkable series of plates on termites and their habitations), but Sparrman also includes an interesting account of the Cook voyage in the first volume – as Hocken notes: “Hairsbreadth escape from collision of the two ships, not mentioned elsewhere. Shocking details as to the food on board. Described the plants which Georg Forster drew… Both interesting and amusing…”.

The voyage revisited various Tasman and Quiros discoveries, and Sparrman also mentions their sighting of Norfolk Island, “the first discovery the English made beyond the tropics. We landed upon it, and found it uninhabited…”.

*Bagnall, 5275a; Beaglehole, II, pp. clvi-clvii; Beddie, 1276; Davidson, ‘A Book Collector’s Notes’, p. 62; Hill, p. 279; Hocken, p. 25; Holmes, 54; Kroepelien, 1220; O’Reilly-Reitman, 405 (second edition only); Rosove, 316.C1; Spence, 1146.*

$12,250
168. SWAINSON, William.

Zoological Illustrations, or Original Figures and Descriptions of new, rare, or interesting animals...

Six volumes, octavo, 318 handcoloured plates, very occasional light foxing and toning; an excellent set in uniform contemporary green half morocco over marbled boards, all edges gilt. London, Baldwin, Cradock, and Joy, 1820-1823 & 1830-1833.

A particularly attractive set of both the first and second series of this beautiful work of natural history; all published, and rare in such fine original condition. The importance of this work to Australian and Pacific natural history cannot be overestimated: several plates feature Australian specimens - particularly birds - figured for the first time, while many of the illustrations are derived from the collections of important figures such as Sir Joseph Banks, Elizabeth Bligh, Allan Cunningham and John Byron. Peculiarly attractive is a plate in the second series, depicting the Jamaican “Two-Toothed Disk Snail”, from an original sketch by John Lewin, a friend of the Swainson family.

The work deals with specimens from all around the globe, with many from Java, the East Indies, and the Americas (particularly Brazil, visited by Swainson in 1816). Of great interest are the many plates illustrating specimens from the South Seas. Swainson was particularly good on shells, although he relied on the sometimes poor recording of earlier collectors, and was sometimes not able to be more specific than simply giving their habitat as “South Seas”. There are, nonetheless, three illustrations of Australian shells, the “New Holland Mitre”, the “Mitra melaniana”, and the “Scaphella maculata”; the last from the collection of Elizabeth Bligh. Several other South Seas shells are from the collection of Sir Joseph Banks, including the “Mitra vitatta”, about which Swainson comments that “this superb shell is figured from a matchless specimen brought home by that illustrious and lamented patron of science, the late Sir J. Banks, from the Pacific Ocean”.

The work is rich with images of Australian birds, with lovely depictions of the “Azure Kingsfisher”, “Red-shouldered Parakeet”, “Turcosine Parakeet”, “Blue-fronted Parakeet”, and the “Tabuan, or King Parakeet” (drawn by Swainson from a live specimen). He includes an image of the “White-collared Honeysucker”, with the interesting note that “Lewin’s figure is so excellent, that I should not again have represented this bird, had not the plate been prepared previous to the publication of his work”. Perhaps the most personal note accompanies his depiction of “Swainson’s, or Blue-bellied Lory” (Trichoglossus Swainsoni), where he comments on his “pleasure at seeing our name affixed to this charming bird, and in clearing up its history. As a child we well remember our unwearied delight at seeing its figure in White’s Voyage”.

Several Australian birds are depicted for the first time, including the “Yellow-tufted Honeysucker”; “Red-Collared Parakeet” and the “Keel-billed Flycatcher”. Two birds and two butterflies are noticed from specimens collected by Allan Cunningham, the famous natural historian and His Majesty’s Botanist in New South Wales, who sailed with Phillip Parker King.

Not only is Swainson’s important work rarely offered, very few examples in contemporary bindings seem to have survived as complete sets, as here: it is more commonly seen in parts, even as single volumes. This work is not in Ferguson, who did note Swainson’s work in cataloguing Elizabeth Bligh’s shell collection for auction in 1822 (Ferguson, 879). Sitwell lists the first series as having one hundred and ninety eight plates, but all copies of which we are aware, including the copy in the State Library of South Australia, have one hundred and eighty two plates, as here.


$28,750
**Signed, Sydney**

169.  **SYDNEY, Viscount, Thomas TOWNSHEND.**

Autograph letter signed “Sydney” regarding the transfer of a young lieutenant.

*Manuscript letter on laid and water-marked paper, folded to letter-size 240 x 186 mm., closely written to 2 pp., manuscript docket note to fourth page; splitting at old folds, some browning yet good.*

Albemarle Street, 23 August 1786.

A rare example of Sydney’s signature while Home Secretary; the letter seeks patronage favour for private rather than public interests.

This manuscript, which presumably because it concerns private affairs is entirely in the Home Secretary’s hand, concerns the reinstatement of one Lieutenant Hutchinson, formerly of the 46th Regiment and now on half-pay. It appears Sydney had some affection for young Hutchinson, stressing the importance of finding him a position and ‘taking him out of a state of idleness to which much danger belongs in the case of a young man of very high spirits & very considerable talents’. Given the dating of this letter, it is clear that this was the William Hutchinson who was posted lieutenant of the 59th Regiment in early September the same year, a few days after this letter was sent (testament to Sydney’s political clout). Hutchinson’s regiment was stationed in Gibraltar.

On 18 August 1786, a mere five days before writing this letter, Sydney had delivered his speech to the Treasury promoting Botany Bay as the site of Britain’s new penal colony and announcing George III’s decision to send out the First Fleet. When Governor Phillip finally decided to establish the settlement at Port Jackson, rather than Botany Bay, he paid the Home Secretary the compliment of naming the city after him, now one of the great cities of the world.

$2650

**Sydney**

170.  **[SYDNEY] YOUNG, John after Gilbert STUART.**

Lord Viscount Sydney…

*Mezzotint engraving, 440 x 310 mm; framed. London, n.d., circa 1790.*

A fine and fresh impression: Lord Sydney, after the official portrait by Gilbert Stuart, the “father of American portraiture”, who worked in England from 1775 until the late 1780s. A protégé of Benjamin West, with whom he studied for six years, he reached such success in England that at one point only Reynolds and Gainsborough were getting higher prices.

*Nan Kivell and Spence, p. 300 (and reproduced, p. 317).*

$5250
An early piece of "Otaheite" tapa cloth

171. [TAHITIAN TAPA]

Fragment of tapa cloth tipped onto old backing with manuscript note “Otaheite Cloth from the bark of Trees”.

Small fragment of Tahitian tapa cloth, approximately 55 x 92 mm., tipped onto a note with an old (eighteenth-century?) manuscript note, in an envelope circa 1900. Tahiti, circa 1800.

A rare and fragile piece of Tahitian bark-cloth tapa, probably dating from around 1800 based on the style of the tapa, the paper to which it is tipped, and the manuscript note in an old hand which uses the old-fashioned “Otaheite” spelling (the OED suggests that it was largely obsolete by about 1820, and it is certainly true that it was very early recognised that the initial “O” was an article in the Tahitian language, not part of the name). It is, therefore, not likely to date from much later than 1820, meaning that it is from the earliest phase of the collection of Pacific materials.

As a result, this tiny fragment is a reminder of the way in which all manner of artefacts and curiosities were traded and compared in the wake of Cook’s voyages and the opening of the Pacific. It may never prove possible to work out whose is the old hand-writing – even though it is very distinctive – but tapa was one of the most sought after relics; the sheets issued in the famous Alexander Shaw tapa cloth book of 1787, for example, were often trimmed by eager early collectors. Indeed, the present piece is not dissimilar to one of the cloths in Shaw: see the copy in the Mitchell collection of the State Library of New South Wales (online record a1179038, p. 36), captioned in that copy “cinnamon coloured bark cloth from Otaheite”.

The great mystery, of course, is whether this sheet could in fact be contemporary with the tapa collected on Cook’s third voyage. It must be said that it is certainly possible, not least considering what we know of its interesting later provenance in the eccentric Henri Ledoux collection, which contained quite exotic autograph material, including manuscript material relating to the major French voyagers. Ledoux has also added his distinctive heart-shaped red stamp, as well as stamping the little envelope in which he preserved it.

$1400
THE EARLIEST SEPARATE SERIOUS WORK ON TAHITI

172. [TAHITI] TAITBOUT, M.

Essai sur l’Isle d’Olahiti, située dans la Mer du Sud, et sur l’esprit et les moeurs de ses habitants.

Octavo, with an engraved frontispiece view of Tahiti; a fine copy in contemporary speckled half calf, orange spine label chipped. Avignon and Paris, Froulle, 1779.

First edition: the very scarce and earliest separate serious work on Tahiti (predated only by the Omai-based fictions and the poetical satires on Joseph Banks); it is based for its facts on the reports of Wallis, Bougainville and Cook, and for its philosophy on Montesquieu and Rousseau.

Tahiti was much discussed in Europe from the early 1770s, and various voyage accounts were in print during that decade. The Tahitian Aotourou had travelled back to Paris with Bougainville in 1769, while Omai had reached London with Cook in 1774. After its successive discoveries by Wallis, Bougainville, and Cook, Tahiti came to symbolize a living social and political experiment in the minds of many European philosophers: a primitive paradise that became spoiled and tainted by Western decadence. In this little work… Taitbout speculates on the fundamental differences between the “homme sauvage” and the “homme civilisé,” drawing from the example of Tahiti. He suggests that societies like Tahiti, that evolved in isolation, could offer political lessons to European nations, but acknowledges that the arrival of Europeans on their shores will deal them a death blow. Taitbout’s purpose, in his own words, is revolutionary: “to assist in bringing about the much-desired general revolution, to which the human spirit will one day owe the free, complete, and perfect union of all men”…’ (online resource at Princeton University Library).

‘Taitbout’s pamphlet is of interest, not for the originality of its ideas, but because it reveals how notions of geographical control deriving from Montesquieu and applied by the Forsters to the islanders of the Pacific, could provide a rational explanation for the soft primitivism with which Bougainville, Hawkesworth, Banks, Diderot, and others, had endowed the peoples of the Society Islands, and add point and fire to a revolutionary pamphlet…’ (Bernard Smith, European vision and the South Pacific, 1985, p. 87). Barbier notes that the book – published anonymously but now attributed to Taitbout – was in the past sometimes attributed to Bougainville. A German translation appeared in 1783.

This copy has an additional work bound at the end, P.A. Caron de Beaumarchais, Le vœu de toutes les nations…dans l’abaissement et l’humiliation de la Grande-Bretagne, 1778 (Sabin 4178).

Barbier, II 234; Kroepelien, 1271; O’Reilly-Reitman, 9291.

$7850
A LETTER FROM AOTOUROU: ONE OF THE EARLIEST BOOKS ON TAHITI

173. [TAHITI] [BRICAIRE DE LA DIXMÉRIE, Nicolas]

Le Sauvage de Taïti aux Français; avec un Envoi au Philosophe ami des Sauvages.

Octavo, bound with two other works (see below); in fine condition in contemporary marbled calf, lightly rubbed, flat spine ornamented in gilt with four alternating crimson and green labels. “A Londres et se trouve à Paris” [in fact Paris], chez Le Jay, 1770.

Rare first edition of an important and very early work relating to Tahiti in a most attractive contemporary volume.

This enlightenment satire takes the form of a letter supposedly from Aotourou, the Tahitian who returned to Paris with Bougainville. There was much criticism of Bougainville on this point – Diderot particularly upbraided him for having “torn” the native from his environment – but Aotourou was a sensation, and apparently fascinated by the French capital. Bougainville himself paid to kit out a ship when Aotourou expressed a wish to return home, but the Tahitian died on the voyage from an outbreak of small pox.

La Dixmerie was personally involved with Aotourou, and helped introduce him to Parisian high society. He remained virulently opposed to the popular notion of the noble savage, just as he sided with Diderot in arguing that it was a violence to have brought Aotourou to France. In this fictional letter, Aotourou satirically compares the mores of Paris society with those of Nouvelle-Cythère. The description of Tahiti is based on the Lettre de Monsieur de Commerson, the naturalist on the voyage, which was first published in 1769. Published the next year, la Dixmerie’s imaginative work is, as Du Rietz comments, “one of the earliest books relating to Tahiti”. Not until the 1779 publication of Taitbout’s Essai sur l’Isle d’Otahtí (see previous) was there a separately-published factually-based work on Tahiti.

The work has a particularly complicated collation, dealt with at length by Du Rietz in the Kroepelien catalogue. Our copy does not have the initial and final blank leaves that he describes, but is otherwise perfect, with the title-page giving the phony London imprint (another issue had a phony Tahitian imprint). Here it is bound with copies of Louis de Boissy, Les filles femmes, et les femmes filles… (Paris, 1751; the first edition of a tale in which Love proves resentful of Marriage) and Charles Duclos, Acajou et Zirphile, Conte (Paris, 1761; first published 1744).

Kroepelien, 126; O’Reilly-Reitman, 9274.

$2250

ITALIAN TRANSLATION OF THE EARLY TAHITI FICTION

174. [TAHITI] [BRICAIRE DE LA DIXMÉRIE, Nicolas]

Il selvaggio di Taiti ai Francesi con una lettera diretta al filosofo amico dei selvaggi.

Octavo, xvi, 104 pp.; a fine uncut copy in original soft boards, rather worn and stained but nonetheless attractive, owner’s inscription ‘Girolamo Gherardini’ on title. “A Londra”, 1770.

Very rare Italian translation of Bricaire de la Dixmerie’s fictional account of Autourou, published in Paris in the same year; one of the earliest works on Tahiti.

The book is not recorded by the National Union Catalog, nor by the standard bibliography of Tahiti (O’Reilly and Reitman’s Bibliographie de Tahiti). Rolf Du Rietz comments in the Kroepelien catalogue that the printing is so rare that he has been able to locate only two copies of the work and no reference to it in any bibliography or catalogue.

Kroepelien, 127; not in NUC.

$4500
A very uncommon German satire purporting to have been translated from a Tahitian account of a journey to Athens written by the “world-famous” traveller and friend of Captain Cook, “O-Wahau”. There was an old man on Tahiti called by Cook “Owhaa” (Beaglehole; or in the printed version “Owhaw”) – perhaps this is the name that has been borrowed for the present work? Or it may be a play on the contemporary spelling of “O-why-hee”. Whatever the case, despite its obvious interest as an imaginary work based on Cook’s first voyage, the current work has slipped under the radar, notwithstanding the many studies of the subject: it is not in Beddie nor Gove, and not noticed in Howgego’s recent volume on imaginary voyages (Encyclopedia of Exploration, volume 5).

This humorous account has much in common with other political writing of the Enlightenment, not least the use of a foreign visitor as a convenient mask for the delivery of a few political barbs, but is most unusual in that the overarching conceit of the whole book is that it comes from the pen of a Tahitian brought to Europe by Captain Cook, who seeks to explain the history of Europe by the example of a society in Athens, describing the cultural round, and the truths and discoveries he finds there. The purported author O-Wahau is described as a cultured and philosophical man who wants to commit his thoughts on the subject to paper in an attempt to influence his own society.

The account begins with the comment that it is “well-known” that on his first voyage Cook had brought O-Wahau back from the rich island of Tahiti, because the young islander wanted to be in a position to give his people an account of the ways of Europe. As this implies, the author is setting out to claim a factual basis for his work, by muddying the water about the real Tahitian travellers such as Tupaia (who died in Batavia), Omai, and Autourou. The German “translator” claims to have met O-Wahau in Athens on the latter’s Grand Tour, where they taught each other Greek and Tahitian. The two men became so close, he comments, that the German seriously contemplated returning to the Pacific with his new friend.

The work is signed with the mealy-mouthed pseudonym “J.G.S. Methermänevomenos”, and the initials have led to it being attributed with some authority to Schulz (although J.G. Seume and J.G. Schlosser have both also been suggested, with varying degrees of plausibility). Schulz (1762-1810) was sometimes called the “Don Quixote of the Eighteenth Century” and was an important Enlightenment thinker in Germany. The epigram on the title-page is a quote from Christoph Martin Wieland which suggests that there is already a fool’s paradise, no doubt a comment on utopian writing generally.
One of two French editions of Tench’s *Narrative*, the first French publication on settled Australia, and one of the very earliest descriptions in French of the appearance of La Pérouse at Botany Bay in 1788.

Tench’s first work on the colony at Port Jackson was the earliest authentic account of New South Wales to appear in print, the earliest English printing appearing for sale on 24 April 1789. In the first eight months of publication it went through four editions in English (one a Dublin piracy), two in French, two in German and one in Dutch, testament to its popularity and to the exceptional curiosity of the European public about the colonial experiment at Botany Bay. Tench’s book did not disappoint the reading public: he was a perceptive observer, and his polished and shrewd account is considered the most readable of all of the First Fleet books.

Two French editions of Tench’s *Narrative* were published during 1789, of uncertain priority; the other was published by Knapen fils. This is the more extended version and includes a long, 85-page section about the history of discovery entitled “Récit historique de la découverte de la Nouvelle Hollande et du nouveau Pays de Galles Méridional”. The economic historian K.M. Dallas sees this section as significant evidence in the continuing debate about the reasons for the decision to settle New South Wales.

This copy, like all examples of this edition that we have handled, does not have a folding map: Ferguson mentions there being one in the National Library’s copy but that is almost certainly an addition as no map is mentioned in the “Table”.


$2400

**Subscriber’s copy**

Tench’s second book, completing his account of the settlement at Sydney Cove: a fine and large copy, and an original subscriber’s copy, inscribed on a flyleaf “Woodgate. Ex dono G.B. Prescott Bart”: George Beeston Prescott of Westminster appears in the printed list of subscribers.

The first edition of one of the scarcest First Fleet accounts, this is the second of Tench’s two books and brings his account of settlement in New South Wales down to the end of the first four years. Tench left New South Wales with the other marines on 18 December 1791 aboard HMS *Gorgon* which had accompanied the Third Fleet, and his book was published in November or December 1793, more than a year after his return.
Tench's well-crafted book paints a comprehensive view of daily life in the settlement through years of hardship and severe shortages. An understanding and intelligent observer of human nature, he gives vivid insights into the often strained relationships between convict labourers and the marines set to guard them. His account has been praised as the most insightful and detailed description of the social fabric of the penal colony, in contrast to other more formal and official narratives. Tench also describes his significant explorations of the landscape of the Sydney basin and forays into the Blue Mountains, while providing sympathetic descriptions of their contact with the Eora Aboriginal people. The book includes a folding map providing an excellent survey of known lands, detailing Botany Bay and Broken Bay along the coast and inland to the Nepean river, with numerous engraved notes on the landscape with a view to future farming and grazing ventures.

Crittenden, 'A Bibliography of the First Fleet', 238; Ferguson, 171; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection (although Tench's octavo 'Narrative' is held by the collection); Wantrup, 16.

$18,500
Cook’s great apprentice in the Pacific: with the chart of Albany and the SW coast of Australia

178. VANCOUVER, Captain George.

A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and round the world… in the Discovery sloop of war, and armed tender Chatham, under the command of Captain George Vancouver.

Complete set, three volumes, quarto, with 18 engraved plates of views, some offsetting from plates, bound with half-titles (often discarded), contemporary half calf gilt; with the separate folio atlas with 16 large plates of charts and views, a little light foxing, the atlas bound in contemporary red half calf with original paper boards, paper spine label., G.G. and J. Robinson, 1798.

First edition of this great voyage, “one of the most important ever made” (Hill), and of considerable significance for its discoveries in and charting of the south-west coast of Australia. Vancouver’s chart of the “S.W. Coast of New Holland” is the West’s equivalent of Cook’s chart of Botany Bay.

George Vancouver (1757-1798) got his early training as a midshipman and later Lieutenant on Cook’s second and third voyages. After his return he spent most of the 1780s in West Indian waters, before being appointed, in 1791, to the command of a major scientific expedition to focus on the northwest Pacific: the successes of Cook’s voyages were much in mind in the planning of this expedition, and it was no coincidence that Vancouver’s new command was named Discovery, explicitly in honour of the vessel of that name that had sailed on Cook’s third voyage. Vancouver sailed to the Pacific by way of Australia where, in 1791, he made landfall on the then largely unknown south-west coast and discovered and named King George III Sound (modern Albany). This was the first English visit to any part of the west coast since Dampier, whose poor reports had led to the neglect of that part of the continent. Indeed, the west was explicitly excluded from Governor Phillip’s otherwise extensive realm, with the western boundary of his authority stopping at the famous “Pope’s line”, the line that still constitutes the inland border of Western Australia.

After leaving the south-west coast, Vancouver unsuccessfully attempted to enter the Great Australian Bight, discovering and charting Point Hood on its western extremity. He then sailed past Van Diemen’s Land into the Pacific, visiting New Zealand, Hawaii, and the Northwest coast of America. During the course of three seasons, he surveyed Alaska, the Northwest Coast, investigated the Straits of Juan de Fuca, discovered the Strait of Georgia, and circumnavigated Vancouver Island. He visited San Francisco, Monterey and other Spanish Settlements in Alta California, and made three visits to the Hawaiian Islands where he introduced cattle from Monterey. The expedition’s storeship Daedalus sailed twice to Port Jackson, to deliver cattle and stores for the colony and despatches for Phillip – including Vancouver’s charts of the south-west coast of Australia – and others for transmission back to London. Daedalus also collected such stores as were available at Port Jackson for the expedition. Vancouver also mentions that his ship was carrying breadfruit for planting at Norfolk Island.

Cook would have approved of the accuracy of Vancouver’s charting, which survived almost unchanged into modern times, and certainly Vancouver had learned the lessons of long voyages from his old captain, with only five men of a complement of 180 being lost in over four years at sea. But it is also true that by 1794 Vancouver was subject to wild mood swings and erratic behaviour which led to him being feared and sometimes mocked by his men (in modern times it has been argued that he was suffering from some form of hyperthyroidism, possibly Grave’s Disease). His health was ruined by the time they returned to England in 1795. Vancouver retired to Petersham to prepare this publication for the press, but in an eerie foreshadowing of the fate of his successor Flinders, died at age 40 while the account was nearing publication.

Ferguson, 281; Forbes, 298; Hill, 1753; Lada-Mocarski, 55; Wantrup, 63a. $68,500
With Australian plants gathered on the d'Entrecasteaux voyage.

VENTENAT, Etienne Pierre.

Description des plantes nouvelles et peu connues, cultivées dans le jardin de J.M. Cels.

Folio, 100 engraved plates each with descriptive letterpress sheet, some light foxing but a most attractive uncut copy complete with the half-title; contemporary green quarter morocco, spine gilt, a few bumps. Paris, de l’Imprimerie de Crapelet, 1800-1803.

One of the most elegant botanical books, this study of "new and little known" plants is the first of the three major works on exotic plants by the great Ventenat, and a superb example of this golden age of botanical illustration. The work includes plates by famed artist Pierre-Joseph Redouté, as well as Cloquet, Laneau, Maréchal and Sauvage.

Ventenat’s work represents the apogee of the French fascination with exotic botany, and this study is a monument to the work of the botanist and adviser to the Empress Josephine, Jacques Martin Cels. Cels began what would become a successful scientific and commercial venture by cultivating such plants in his famous garden at Montrouge, south of Paris (this book includes a fascinating two-page note by Cels detailing his background, and noting some of the correspondents that helped him in his endeavours, including officers who sailed with d’Entrecasteaux and Baudin, but also English savants such as Sir Joseph Banks and William Aiton). The French interest in plants from the farthest reaches of the known world is confirmed by the fact that no fewer than ten Australian plants are included, of which seven were drawn by Redouté himself.

Of the ten Australian plants represented here, five are given their first scientific notice. These Australian plants were grown from cuttings by Cels, who notes that all of them had to winter in the Orangerie. Included are the *Mimosa distachya*, discovered by Felix la Haye on the east coast of New Holland during the 1792 visit of the D’Entrecasteaux voyage, as well as the *Mimosa linifolia* and the *Melaleuca Hypericifolia* (a full listing of the Australian plants is available on request).

This was the first great work Cels made in conjunction with Pierre Ventenat (1757-1808), botanist to Josephine, Lycée professor in charge of the Panthéon library and a member of L’Institut de France. Together with Redouté, the third of Josephine’s botanical advisers, all three men went on to work together on a successor work, the *Choix des Plantes* (published between 1803 and 1808), as well as completing the third significant title in this impromptu series, the *Jardin de la Malmaison*, cataloguing Josephine’s own magnificent collection, which also included many specimens from around the world, including some sent to her by Banks, Napoleon in Egypt, Baudin in Australia, and Alexander von Humboldt in South America.

Dunthorne, 253; Nissen, 2048; Staffeu, TL2 16.005. $38,500
THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL EARLY WORK OF AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HISTORY

180. WHITE, John.

Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales with sixty-five plates of nondescript animals, birds, lizards, serpents...

Quarto, with an engraved title page and 65 engraved plates; some intermittent foxing; overall a good copy in old full speckled calf, recently rebacked. London, J. Debrett, 1790.

First edition: the foundation of natural history of the new colony, John White's *Journal* is a travel and ornithological classic by a medical voyager. The handsome volume is “graced by sixty-five engraved plates, all but one of which illustrate the natural history of New South Wales” (*Australian Rare Books*).

John White was chief surgeon of the First Fleet, and was particularly successful in managing both the difficult conditions on the voyage out and the early years of the settlement. He was also a keen amateur naturalist and after arriving at Port Jackson found time to accompany Phillip on two journeys of exploration.

The natural history content of the published account makes White's particularly noteworthy amongst the First Fleet journals. Many of the plates were drawn in England by leading natural history artists of the day, such as Sarah Stone, from original sketches done in the colony. White's journal also contains an interesting and valuable account of the voyage from London, with long, detailed accounts of the stops at Rio de Janeiro and Cape Town and of the colonial voyages to Norfolk Island. The book was an immediate success, with subscribers alone accounting for seven hundred copies.

There has been much discussion over the years regarding variations in the printing of the first edition of this work, but this copy is a typical example of the standard configuration most often seen, with the earlier errors of the list of subscribers corrected, and the text describing the female wattled Wattled Bee-eater (for a full discussion see Ferguson, 97; Matthews, *Birds of Australia, Supplement*; and Wantrup, *Australian Rare Books*, pp. 75-7).

An interesting note about this copy is that the front endpaper includes the ownership inscription of a surgeon named Richard Wright dated November 29th 1804; it is perhaps not surprising to see a surgeon's account of the First Fleet owned by another member of the profession.

Casey Wood, 626; Crittenden, 'A Bibliography of the First Fleet', 248; Davidson, 'A Book Collector's Notes', pp. 81-6; Ferguson, 97; Ford, 2495; Hill, 1858; Nissen ZBI, 4390; Wantrup, 17; Zimmer, 672.

$7250
Putting kangaroos and dingos on the map

181. ZIMMERMANN, Eberhard August Wilhelm.

*Specimen Zoologiae Geographicae, Quadruipedum domicilia et migrationis sistens…*

Quarto, with a large folding map (500 x 695 mm.); a very good unsophisticated copy in simple modern blue paper wrappers, a few marks, the large folding map in a very good impression. Leiden, Theodor Haak, 1777.

Rare: first edition of the first book to describe the worldwide distribution of mammals, with the information summarized in a large folding world map, one of the first to include Captain Cook’s 1770 discoveries on the east coast of Australia.

Zimmermann (1743-1815) was a German geographer and zoologist, best known as a teacher and as the patron of the mathematician Gauss. He published a number of monographs on mammals, including several published in the nineteenth century specifically on American animals. This remarkable work is an early and extensive survey of the worldwide geographical distribution of domestic and migratory quadrupeds. He concluded that land-masses were differently distributed in prehistoric times, making this the first in a long line of publications that led to the theory of continental drift; some of his conclusions influenced Charles Darwin and Charles Lyell.

Importantly, the details of animal habits in Australia, the South Pacific and New Zealand derive from the great voyages, from Quiros to Cook, making this study an example – along with the various publications of the Forsters on the Cook voyages – of the earliest application of Pacific discoveries to general scientific research.

The fine accompanying world map renders the east coast of Australia, and lists the Kangaroo and several species of Australian wild dog. Designed by Zimmermann himself and prepared by the German naturalist August Wilhelm Knoch (1742-1818), this was the first map to show animal distribution (Robinson, *Early Thematic Mapping in the History of Cartography*).

*B.M. (Nat. Hist.), p. 2391; not in Beddie. $5750*