Ken Spelman
Rare Books of York

Catalogue Eighty Seven

The English Lake-District

recent acquisitions

August 2015
None of the items in this catalogue appeared in our last Lake District catalogue, and are all very recent acquisitions.

£220.00

~ ESTC T124552, Brighton, BL, Cambridge, Nottingham, York; McMaster, Chicago, Delaware.

One of 2 issues, in this the final line of the title is “With the exact distances by the mile-stones”; there is no price beneath the imprint and page 137 is not numbered. Only one copy (Birmingham) is recorded of the other issue.
“Beauty, Horror and Immensity united...”
~ the ‘black-tulip’ of Lake District books ~

2. [BROWN, John]. A Description of the Lake at Keswick, (and the adjacent country) in Cumberland. Communicated in a letter to a friend. By a late popular writer. 8pp. Disbound, slight foxing but a very good copy of this great rarity. Only two copies of this ‘second’ printing are recorded by ESTC (Armitt Library, and Bodleian), and it is unrecorded in auction records.

8vo. Kendal: printed by J. Ashburner. 1770. £2,200.00

~ The first ‘Lake District’ printing of this rare account, which was original written as a private letter to Lord Lyttelton. Brown, tutor to William Gilpin, was praised by Wordsworth as ‘one of the first who led the way to a worthy admiration of this country’, and his ‘Description...’ is the earliest separately printed prose work on the Lake District.

It was published in April 1766 in the London Chronicle, and then issued as an 8 page pamphlet, first in Newcastle in 1767, with subsequent editions in 1770, 1771 and 1772. Only 7 copies are recorded of all editions [1767 Cambridge, 1770 Armitt and Bodleian, 1771 BL & Cornell, 1771 variant - National Trust, 1772 BL).
8vo. Oriel Press.  1983.  £10.00

4.  GILPIN, William.  Observations, relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, made in the Year 1772, on several parts of England; particularly the Mountains, and Lakes of Cumberland, and Westmorland, Second edition. Two volumes.  [2]., xvi, 238pp; [2]. 268, xiv pp., 30 aquatint plates.  A near fine copy bound in full contemporary tree calf, gilt greek key-pattern borders. Elaborate gilt spines with black morocco title labels, and red morocco volume labels. One corner slightly bumped, but the best copy we have handled for a long time.  
8vo.  R. Blamire.  1788.  £495.00

8vo.  for W. Richardson.  1789.  £140.00

~ First published in 1778, this book was dedicated to “lovers of landscape studies and to all who have visited or intend to visit the lakes”, and was the earliest guide to picturesque mountain scenery. For nearly half a century it was carried by almost every visitor to the Lakes.
6. WALKER, Adam. [Remarks made in a Tour from London to the Lakes of Westmoreland and Cumberland, in the summer of M,DCC,XCI. Originally published in the Whitehall Evening Post, and now reprinted with additions and corrections. To which is annexed, a sketch of the police, religion, arts, and agriculture of France, made in an excursion to Paris in M,DCC,LXXXV. By A. Walker, lecturer in experimental philosophy; and author of “ideas suggested on the spot in a tour to Italy,” &c.] [6], 251, [1]p. An uncut copy, bound in original boards with 19th century cloth spine. Covers rubbed and worn at edges. With the half-title, but lacks the title-page and engraved portrait. Scarce.
8vo. [London: printed for G. Nicol, Bookseller to his Majesty, Pall-Mall; and C. Dilly in the Poultry, M,DCC,XCII.] £40.00

7. JOLLIE, Francis. Jollie’s Cumberland Guide & Directory: containing a descriptive tour through the county, and a list of persons in public and private situations, in every principal place in the county. Illustrated with maps and views. Also a list of the shipping. First edition. Two parts in one. viii, 84, xxxiv, xxxix-[xl], [1]p advert; [2], 129, [3]pp., 2 maps (one folding, one coloured), 4 plates (one folding), large folding plans of Workington and Whitehaven, and a woodcut in the text. A very good copy in original boards with printed backstrip. Some slight wear to the joints and head and tail, but a rare survival of a scarce title. The first edition of the first Cumbrian directory, and the first copy we have offered for sale. As in all recorded copies pages xxxv-xxxviii in the first part are omitted, and were presumably intentionally cancelled.
8vo. Carlisle: printed by F. Jollie and Sons. 1811. £250.00
8. STAGG, John. The Minstrel of the North; or, Cumbrian Legends. Being a poetical miscellany of legendary, gothic, and romantic tales. [8], 352pp. A large uncut copy in original boards, with expert repairs to the upper joint, head of the spine and corners. Rather foxed. Scarce. 8vo. Manchester: printed by Mark Wardle. 1817. £95.00

Wordsworth & Southey are both listed as subscribers

9. ANDERSON, Robert. The Poetical Works... to which is prefixed the life of the Author, written by himself. An essay on the character, manners, and customs of the peasantry of Cumberland; and observations on the style and genius of the author. Two volumes. lxi, [I], 223, [1]p; [6], 278pp. Uncut copies in original boards, spines worn, but in good sound state, the text clean. The front end papers have at some time been removed. Both Wordsworth and Southey appear in the list of subscribers at the end of Volume II. Scarce, first edition. 8vo. Carlisle: B. Scott. 1820. £195.00

~ Nigel Leask, the author of Burns, Wordsworth and the Politics of Vernacular Poetry, makes the intriguing suggestion that Wordsworth may have co-authored one of Robert Anderson’s songs ‘Lucy Gray, of Allendale’ (1794).
10. LITT, William. Henry and Mary, a Local Tale; illustrative of the peculiar habits, customs, and diversions of the inhabitants of the west of Cumberland, during the greater part of the eighteenth and preceding century. [2], ii, 3-382pp. A good copy bound by Fazakerley in late 19th century half calf, marbled boards, raised and gilt banded spine. Damage to the upper edge of the front board from a knock at some time.

£125.00

Very scarce, first edition, Copac recording only two copies, BL and Cambridge.

~ William Litt is perhaps best know for his publication in 1823 of Wrestliana, the first book about the sport. In it he traced the history of wrestling from ancient times, looked back to 18th-Century wrestling traditions in Northern England, gave a detailed account of his contemporary wrestlers, and proposed a set of rules to regularise the sport.

He was baptised at Cleator Church in 1785 and brought up with all the advantages of a wealthy childhood for his father was “Commissioner for the Inclosure of Waste Lands in the area and he also owned coal and iron mines. His classical education was supposed to lead to Ordination in the Church of England, but his real interests lay in writing poetry for the local newspapers, horse racing and wrestling. The result was that he led a life where he did not settle to anything for long: in turn he was an agricultural labourer, collector of king’s taxes, victualler of the King’s Arms, Hensingham, author not only of Wrestliana, but also a novel Henry and Mary written in 1825. The money he made from his books he Litt then turned to smuggling. This novel, Henry and Mary, shows detailed knowledge of smuggling and in the preface Litt claims that ‘This work was more truth than fiction’.


13. ROSE, Thomas., Allom Thomas, and Pickering George. Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland, illustrated. From original drawings by Thomas Allom, George Pickering, &c., with descriptions by T. Rose. Engraved title-page, and 108 leaves (mostly two views to a page). A good copy in contemporary dark green embossed floral cloth, gilt lettered spine. Some occasional foxing and wear to the head and tail of the spine and several sections of the joints, but still very firm. 4to. H. Fisher, R. Fisher & P. Jackson. 1832-35. £120.00
14. ANDERSON, R. Ballads in the Cumberland Dialect... with notes, a glossary, and biographical sketch of the author. xiv, 222pp., woodcut frontispiece. A very good copy in contemporary glazed linen cloth, gilt lettered spine. Front-end-paper removed. Scarce, this edition not in Copac. 12mo. Wigton: printed and sold by John Ismay. 1834.

£45.00


£60.00


£45.00
17. HARWOOD, John & Frederick (publishers). Harwood’s Lakes Illustrations. Fifteen engraved views, dated 1845-1846, and including ‘A glimpse through the trees Rydal Water, near the residence of the late W. Wordsworth, Esq.’ Some slight foxing but a very good copy bound in original decorative gilt boards, blue linen backstrip. small oblong folio. [J & F. Harwood]. c1846. £120.00

18. MANNIX & WHELLAN. History, Gazetteer, and Directory of Cumberland: comprising a general survey of the county, and a history of the diocese of Carlisle: with separate historical, statistical, & topographical descriptions of all the boroughs, towns, parishes, chapelries, townships, and villages, wards, baronies, manors, &c., and presenting a descriptive and geological view of the lakes, tarns, cataracts, rivers, mountains, rocks, mines, minerals, antiquities, curiosities, &c., and a list of the seats of the nobility, clergy, and gentry. xvi, [1], 10-630, [2]pp appendix. Original blind stamped and gilt lettered cloth. Head and tail of the spine worn, some fading to the cloth, and the text block rather loose in the binding. The separately issued map is, as usual, not present. 8vo. printed for the authors, by W.B. Johnson, Beverley. 1847. £40.00
19. HODGSON, William. The Shepherd’s Guide, or a delineation of the wool and ear marks of the different stocks of sheep in Lancashire, Cumberland, and Westmorland. [6], 751, [1]p., each facing page depicts three pairs of sheep, each with the distinguishing marks added in red or black ink by hand. A very good copy in original dark blue morocco, blind stamped border, and simple gilt lettered spine. Some rubbing and head of the spine neatly repaired. Very scarce, Copac records just two copies (BL and Oxford).
8vo. Ulverston: printed by S. Soulby. 1849. £550.00

“This book will be found not only a Guide, but will prove of the utmost benefit to all Sheep-owners who have Stocks going upon the Commons within the Districts it comprehends. It will be a great preventative against the loss of Sheep that may go astray, by observing the following Rules:

1st.- It will be considered the duty of every person who enters into this book, when he has seen a stray sheep, to take care of it; and should he not have a book of his own, that he make application to some person who has one, in order to peruse it, and endeavour to find out whether the owner of the stock to which the strayed sheep belongs be entered in it; if he finds him out, notice must be sent him, as soon as possibly convenient, to take it away; if the owner cannot be made out, the sheep will belong to the Lord of the Manor, according to custom and the law.

2nd.- Should any one be found keeping a sheep, the property of another person who has entered in this book, for a longer time than is necessary for making application to some one having a book, (should he not have one himself,) it will be considered that he intended to defraud the owner of it, and will be prosecuted according to law.”
20. **DICKINSON**, William. *Essay on the Agriculture of East Cumberland*, to which the prize of fifty pounds given by the Right Hon. The Earl of Lonsdale, in 1852, was awarded. [4], ii, 96pp., *hand-coloured frontispiece map, folding chart*. Unsigned, but this is a family copy. 8vo. Carlisle: A. Thurnam. 1853.

bound with...


Two titles, bound in mid 19th century half roan, marbled boards. Some rubbing, upper joint split, and light foxing. £75.00

23. DUNNE, J. Orders, Rules, Regulations, and Instructions framed and issued for the government and guidance of the Cumberland and Westmorland County Police. viii, 124pp., folding table of scales of pay, and a tipped-in 12 page ‘abstract’ of regulations relating to cruelty to animals. This is printed on tinted paper. Original diced calf, some browning to the inner boards, and head of spine neatly repaired. Scarce, unrecorded in Copac. Ownership name of John Dickinson, Havercroft, Feb. 1858.


£120.00

24. [HATFIELD, John.] The Life of John Hatfield, commonly called the Keswick imposter, with an account of his trial and execution for forgery; also his marriage with “Mary of Buttermere” To which is added a pastoral dialogue and the celebrated Borrowdale letter, shewing the native dialect of the district. 28, 12pp.

bound with...
COOPER, T. A Poetical Prospect of Keswick, and the parts adjacent. 12pp.

Original limp dark red morocco cloth with printed paper label announcing the three titles, price sixpence. Old mark to the upper cover and backstrip worn, but a good copy. Copac records one copy of this edition (Newcastle).

small 8vo. Cockermouth: E. Thwaites. [1863].

£45.00


£180.00
26. **GIBSON, Alexander Craig.** The Folk-Speech of Cumberland and some districts adjacent; being short stories and rhymes in the dialects of the West Border Counties. *viii, 232, [8]pp adverts.* Original cloth, some wear to the upper joint and the head and tail. The work is dedicated to William Dickinson, and this copy has the signature of John Dickinson, Red How, at the head of the title-page. William Dickinson was the author of ‘A Glossary of the Words and Phrases pertaining to the Dialect of Cumberland.’ [1878].
8vo. Carlisle: Geo. Coward. 1869. £40.00

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27. **ATKINSON, J. Priestman.** A Week at the Lakes, and what came of it, or the Adventures of Mr Dobbs and his Friend Mr Potts. First edition. *Pictorial title-page and 24 engraved plates, each with multiple caricature drawings.* Original cloth backed pictorial boards, corners worn. Some light fingermarks to the lower edges, and several paper tears without loss.
oblong 4to. Macmillan and Co, 1878. £120.00
the author’s own copy

28. DICKINSON, William. Reminiscences of West Cumberland. 47, [3]pp. A good copy in original buff printed wrappers. Butterfly clip to inner margin. From the library of the author, with a note on the title-page that only 100 copies were printed. There is also an additional hand-written note relating to his sighting of a Little Grebe. Scarce, Copac records a single copy only (BL).

Small 8vo. printed for private circulation. 1882.

£95.00

29. MACPHERSON, H.A. The Birds of Cumberland critically studied, including some notes on the birds of Westmorland. xx, 206pp., coloured frontispiece, and folding coloured map. Tipped-in errata slip. Original dark blue gilt lettered cloth. Some damp fading to the lower corners of the boards.

8vo. Carlisle: Chas. Thurnam & Sons. 1886.

£40.00

30. FERGUSON, Richard S. A History of Cumberland. [8], 312pp. A good copy in dark blue and maroon gilt lettered cloth. Some slight rubbing to the board edges, and corners a little bumped.

8vo. Elliot Stock. 1890.

£12.00


8vo. Bemrose and Sons. 1892.

£60.00
32. BOGG, Edmund. A Thousand Miles of Wandering along the Roman Wall, the Old Border Region, Lakeland, and Ribblesdale. 256pp., 180 illustrations. A good copy in original blind stamped and gilt lettered red cloth. Spine a little sunned. Large 8vo. Leeds: Edmund Bogg. 1898. £20.00

33. DICKINSON, William. A Glossary of the Words and Phrases pertaining to the Dialect of Cumberland. Re-arranged, illustrated and augmented by quotations by E.W. Provost... with a short digest of the phonology and grammar of the dialect. By S. Dickson Brown. cvi, [2], 383, [1]p., tipped-in errata slip. A good copy in slightly letter pebble grain brown cloth, gilt lettered spine. Not noted as such, but this is a family copy, and most likely the author’s own. 8vo. Gloucester: John Bellows. 1899. £75.00

34. PEILE, Thomas Williamson. Annals of the Peiles of Strathclyde and of some of their kinsfolk during three centuries. [8], 140pp., tipped-in errata slip, frontispiece. A good copy in original cloth, gilt lettered spine a little faded. Scarce. From the library of the Dickinson family of Red How, Cumbria, descendants of the Peiles. With a later family letter inserted. Scarce. 8vo. Bemrose and Sons. 1899. £50.00

35. WATSON, John. The English Lake District Fisheries. x, [2], 271, [1]p., 12 plates, folding map. A good copy in original gilt lettered blue cloth, spine a little sunned. 8vo. Lawrence & Bullen. 1899. £25.00

36. CUMBERLAND. The Victoria History of the County of Cumberland. Volumes I and II. xxvi, 425pp.; xvii, 507pp. Very good copies in original red gilt cloth. Folio. Westminster: 1901 & 1905. £120.00

8vo. Glasgow: James MacLehose. 1902. £10.00

8vo. Glasgow: James MacLehose. 1902. £10.00

8vo. Glasgow: James MacLehose. 1903. £10.00

8vo. Kendal: Titus Wilson. 1904. £25.00

8vo. Kendal: Titus Wilson. 1912. £20.00

8vo. Kendal: Titus Wilson. 1913. £95.00


49. EASTWOOD, T. The Geology of the Whitehaven and Workington District. xi, [1]. 304, xiii - xvii., 8 plates and 27 figures in the text., tipped-in errata slip. A very good copy in original blind and gilt stamped dark blue cloth. large 8vo. HMSO. 1931. £50.00


