186. [GODOLPHIN, William, Marquis of Blandford]. A Letter from an English Traveller at Rome to his Father. (1721). Now first printed. 12pp., decorative headpiece and initial letters. One of 120 large paper copies. A fine copy in gilt lettered red cloth. 4to. privately printed for the Clarendon Society. 1884. £40.00

187. [MISON, Francis Maximilian.] A New Voyage to Italy. With curious observations on several other countries; as, Germany; Switzerland; Savoy; Geneva; Flanders; and Holland. Together with useful instructions for those who shall travel thither. The fifth edition, with large additions throughout. Four volumes. (8) + lii + 348pp; (4) + 349-712pp; (2) + 379pp + (3)pp adverts; (2) + 379-731 + (1)pp., frontispiece, 26 engraved plates (11 folding), a folding map, folding plans, and one folding chart of measurements. A very good clean set in full contemporary sprinkled calf, raised and gilt banded spines with red morocco labels. Some slight marginal worming to the blank lower edge of the first gathering in volume three, and one joint slightly cracked. 8vo. printed for J & J. Bonwicke [and others]. 1739. £750.00
Each volume is in two parts, with separate title-pages and with continuous register and pagination. Final page of Volume One is misnumbered 448 (i.e. 348). François Misson (1650-1722), was a French émigré, he became tutor to Charles Butler, the Earl of Arran. He also published his Memoirs and Observations of his travels in England, which he presented in the form of a lively dictionary, with an evident slant for the low-life. Whores, Debauchery, Buggery, Cuckolds, Hangings, and Funerals all receive good mention, and provide a spirited account of England in the reign of Queen Anne.

This present work is a similarly enjoyable read, with a lively combination of artistic visits (cabinets of art, galleries, &c), and low life observations. On the Carnival in Venice he writes that, “they are not satisfied with the ordinary Libertinism; they improve and refine all their pleasures, and plunge into them up to the Neck. The whole city is disguised. Vice and Virtue are never so well counterfeited, and both the names and use of them is absolutely changed.”

Provenance: Contemporary ownership signature and armorial bookplate of John Preston, Queens College, Cambridge. Sir John Preston is recorded as a visitor to Italy in John Ingamells’s Dictionary of British and Irish Travellers in Italy 1701-1800.

188. STERNE, Laurence. A Sentimental Journey through France and Italy. Second edition. Two volumes. A very good copy bound in contemporary calf, expertly rebacked, and corners very neatly repaired. Raised bands, red morocco labels. Some scattered foxing, and front endpaper a little browned with slight edge chipping. 12mo. for T. Becket and P. A. De Hondt. 1768. £420.00

Provenance: Contemporary signature M. Larpent on the front end paper. Possibly a relation of Anna Margareta Larpent, whose diary, written from the age of 15, is in the Huntington Library.

John Soane annotated this work whilst on his travels in Italy.

189. MILLER, Lady Anna Riggs. Letters from Italy, Describing the Manners, Customs, Antiquities, Paintings, &c. of that Country, in the Years MDCCLXX and MDCCLXXI, to a Friend residing in France. By an English Woman. Three volumes. First edition. v + (6-11) + 12-344pp; 298pp; 256 + (24)pp index. A good tall set with wide margins, bound in early 19th century half calf, marbled boards. Several joints cracked but firm, and a little darkening to the foot of one spine. Expert repairs to the head of the spines. A little light foxing and the margin of three leaves a little creased. With the armorial bookplate of W.E. Hope Vere, Craigie Hall. Very scarce. ESTC T89035. 8vo. Edward and Charles Dilly. 1776. £395.00

Lady Riggs Miller was a poet and authoress, and three of her works were published. Sir John, at extravagant cost, built Batheaston Villa at Bath, and Walpole’s letter to Mr Conway in 1775, refers to the poetic academy which they instituted there.
“Ten years ago there lived a Madame Riggs, an old rough humourist, who passed for a wit; her daughter, who passed for nothing, married to a Captain Miller, full of good-natured officiousness ... They ran out their fortune, and all went to France to repair it. In France the mother was left with the grandchildren, while the fond pair resorted to Italy. Thence they returned, her head turned with France and bout-rimés; his, with virtú. They have instituted a poetic academy at Bath-Easton, give out subjects, and distribute prizes; publish the various prize verses, and make themselves completely ridiculous; which is a pity, as they are good-natured, well-meaning people.” - [Walpole’s Letters, ed.1857, v.20; vi.170, 332.]

The John Soane Museum records that the architect took a copy of the 1777 second edition of Lady Miller’s work to Italy, and it accompanied him for his entire trip from 18 March 1778 until the end of June 1780. The volume contains his comments on paintings, sculpture, buildings and places, as well as corrections and additions to Lady Miller’s text.

8vo. sold by Rivington in St. Paul’s Church-Yard, and Elmsley in the Strand. 1776?
£295.00

ESTC T147509. Only 2 copies in North America, Library of Congress and Yale Center. Stephen Weston, (1747 – 1830). “Though described in Italian archives as ‘Tomaso’ and ‘Roberto’ Weston, it was more probably Stephen who accompanied Bampfylde and Hatsel in Italy in 1773.4”, as a tutor or ‘bear leader’, [Ingamells page 884].

The final leaf contains a sideswipe by the anonymous editor, at the recently published Lady Miller’s Letters from Italy.

“The Editor cannot discover, in the volume before him, the least traces of stage, post, inn, horses, bill, adventure, intrigue, manners, customs, conversazione, conference with Prince, or discourse with Pretender (See the travels of an ingenious Englishwoman, lately published.”

The editor is only identified as a friend of the author, “who had gone over the same ground, and seen the same things.” and who was given the manuscript shortly after Weston’s return from the Grand Tour. His preface is dated Cambridge, Nov. 1776.
191. VENICE. Hull, Thomas. Select Letters between the late Duchess of Somerset, Lady Luxborough, Miss Dolman, Mr. Whistler. Mr. R. Dodsley. William Shenstone, Esq. and others; including a sketch of the manners, laws, &c. of the republic of Venice, and some Poetical Pieces; the whole now first published from original copies, by Mr. Hull. In two volumes. First edition. (4) + xvi + 320pp; xi + (i) + 336pp., half-titles. A good copy expertly bound in recent quarter mottled calf, raised and gilt banded spine with red morocco labels. Some browning and foxing to the paper. Scarce. 8vo. J. Dodsley. 1778. £295.00

This work contains an extended series of letters dated 1765-1766, covering over 80 pages, and are addressed “to Mrs S.”, “Dr A to Mr Hull.” Thomas Hull (1728-1808), actor, dramatist, poet, and manager of the Bath Theatre.

192. NUGENT, Thomas. The Grand Tour; or, a journey through the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, and France. Containing, I. A description of the principal cities and towns, their situation, origin, and antient monuments. II. The public edifices, the seats and palaces of the princes and nobility, their libraries, cabinets, paintings, and statues. III. The produce of the countries, the customs and manners of the people, the different coins, their commerce, manufactures, learning, and present government. IV. An exact list of the post-routes, and of the different carriages by water and land, with their settled prices. The third edition, corrected, and considerably improved. To which is now added, the European itinerary. Four volumes. A very good set in full contemporary sprinkled calf, gilt decorated spines with black gilt labels, and with three of the very small oval volume number labels expertly replaced. Very minor repairs to the foot of the spines, and one joint cracked, and several corners worn. Blank corner of one leaf torn with loss but not affecting the text. Scarce, not in the Bodleian or the Beinecke Library. 12mo. R. Rivington. 1778. £495.00

First published in 1729, with a 2nd edition in 1756. ESTC records just a single copy at Yale, of any of the three editions (Lewis Walpole Library copy of the 3rd edition.) Although the term had been introduced c1670, Nugent’s was the first major guidebook in English to the ‘Grand Tour’.

193. MARTYN, Thomas. A Tour Through Italy. Containing full directions for travelling in that interesting country; with ample catalogues of every thing that is curious in architecture, painting, sculpture, &c. Some observations on the natural history, and very particular descriptions of the four principal cities, Rome, Florence, Naples, and Venice, with their environs. With a coloured chart. First edition. xxxix + (i) + 480 + (8)pp index., folding hand-coloured map “of the roads in Italy, agreeable to Martyn’s Tour”, printed on thick paper. A little marginal browning to the title-page, but a very good clean copy bound in contemporary half calf, marbled boards. Joints cracked but very firm, and spine a little rubbed and chipped at head. From High Legh Library, Cheshire, with armorial bookplate. High Legh Hall was rebuilt towards the end of the 18th century, and the grounds were landscaped by Repton. 8vo. C & K. Kearsley. [1791]. £295.00
194. ITALY. The Island and Kingdom of Sicily, according to the best observations, & improved; from the map of Baron de Schmettau, Quarter Master General to the Imperial Army... from the map of Messrs. Don C. Ventimiglio, and A. D’Aedone; and from Mr Danville, and others. By Robert Mylne on a journey in 1757. A folding engraved map, hand coloured and mounted on linen. Rather browned, especially to the reverse, and with ink splash to the extreme lower left hand corner. Contemporary signature of R.B. Baron, 31st Foot, on the verso, which also bears the engraved label of W. Faden, Geographer to His Majesty. Original marbled paper slipcase which is rather rubbed and worn. Laurie & Whittle. 12th May, 1799. £50.00


The guidebook read by Turner in preparation for his Italian travels

196. SASS, Henry. A Journey to Rome and Naples, performed in 1817; giving an account of the present state of society in Italy; and containing observations on the fine arts. First edition. lv + (i) + 345 + (1) errata + (2)pp adverts. Contemporary boards, marbled paper spine with hand written label. Spine and corners a little worn and rubbed, but a good copy. Two signatures, one contemporary, on the inner front board. Pine-Coffin 817.5. 8vo. Longman. 1818. £260.00

Henry Sass (1784-1844) was a London portraitist and historical painter. He ran a private drawing school for young painters at 50 Great Russell Street in Bloomsbury, the Henry Sass Academy, and taught W.P. Frith amongst many other notable artists. He concludes this work with his ‘general directions in travelling’: “In advancing into Italy your money seems to increase in value; but, in returning, it is as well not to carry the coin of one state into another... I need hardly say that the less luggage a person takes the better... a complete suit of nankeen... I should recommend to every traveller in Italy, particularly in summer, made loose, but secured in some way in the shoes, so as to prevent the fleas getting to the legs.”

“An Italian guidebook by Henry Sass was thought to have been bought and read by Turner in 1818 as part of the preparation for his tour of Italy. In the guidebook, Sass states that Hannibal crossed the Alps in 218BC choosing a route that led him through Mont Cenis pass. Turner’s prior interest in Hannibal is clear from his earlier work of 1812, ‘Hannibal and his Army crossing the Alps’. Painted following his first tour abroad of 1802 Turner envisaged the general’s journey by following his suggested route through the Alps that took him by the pass known as the Little St Bernard, into the Val d’Aosta. This route was commonly agreed at the time to be the one taken by Hannibal and so was also chosen by Turner so that he could understand the landscape and atmospheric conditions of the general’s journey. However, Sass brought this well acknowledged theory into dispute and undoubtedly Turner wished to also experience the alternative route suggested by Sass as a means of comparison.”
197. HOARE, Richard Colt. A Classical Tour through Italy and Sicily; tending to illustrate some districts which have not been described by Mr Eustace, in his classical tour. Second edition. Two volumes. xiii + (3) + 395 + (1)pp; (4) + 358 + (6)pp., half-titles, and an engraved map. Contemporary dark blue roan backed boards, with elaborate gilt decorated spines. Some heavy foxing and browning to a number of pages, which is often the case with this book, and with fresh contemporary endpapers and pastedowns. Corners bumped. Large 8vo. J. Mawman. 1819. £220.00

conversations with Canova

198. SIMOND, Louis. A Tour in Italy and Sicily. xi + (i) + 624 + (4)pp adverts. A very good uncut copy, recent blue boards, paper spine label. Some slight foxing. 8vo. Longman, Rees. 1828. £280.00

Tipped in is a 4 page manuscript letter, sent from Rome in April 1820 by Charles Young to Professor Walker at Glasgow University. He describes his tour of Italy, and gives some detail about the architectural antiquities in Rome. He appears to be a friend of Canova, and mentions a conversation with him concerning a statue of a priestess in Naples. “Canova is himself an army - his studio or workshop is a rich treat and he himself I think is the best morceau in it: I never saw in any man to a greater degree the perfect simplicity & modesty of true genius.”

199. ROME. Plan Topographique de la Campagne de Rome. Dessine et explique par F. Ch. L. Sickler, a l’usage des Voyageurs. Nuovamente corretta. A large folding engraved map, in sections mounted on linen. Some dustiness and browning, slightly heavier on the reverse, but in good condition. Original marbled paper slipcase which is worn and lacking the label. Rome: chez Venance Monaldini. 1828. £40.00

200. ROME. Pantogramma des Environs de Rome. A large multi-folding panorama of the city in three joined sections. In good condition, though a little close cropped along the lower edge affecting some words of the title. 240mm x 1740mm. Rome? c1830. £40.00

200. [PASQUIN, Antoine Claude]. Voyages Historiques et Litteraires en Italie, pendant les Annees 1826, 1827 et 1828; ou l’Indicateur Italien. Par M. Valery (pseud.) (4) + ii + 606pp double column text. Some browning to the paper, but a good sound copy bound in full contemporary vellum, gilt decorated spine with dark green morocco label. Armorial bookplate of Patrick Fraser. Large 8vo. Bruxelles, Louis Hauman et Compagnie. 1835. £75.00

201. TAYLOR, Catharine. Letters from Italy. To a Younger Sister. First edition. Two volumes. xii + 310pp; xii + 354pp. Contemporary half calf, marbled boards, gilt banded spines with gilt labels. Some rubbing to the spines, but a good sound copy. Endpapers and pastedowns foxed. With the small oval 19th century stamp “English Library Funchal [Madeira]” on each title-page, and several other pages, and ink shelf number on endpapers. Small label “may be kept eight days” on the inner front board. Scarce. 8vo. John Murray. 1840. £120.00

203. [DUNBAR, Margaret Juliana Maria]. Art and Nature Under an Italian Sky. Large paper copy. viii + 301 + (1) + (16)pp subscribers., half-title., engraved frontispiece. A good copy bound in original blind stamped and gilt lettered blue cloth, all-edges-gilt. Some foxing, mainly to the endpapers. Bookplate of William Young Herries. large 8vo. Edinburgh: Thomas Constable and Co. 1852. £120.00

204. VON ROCHAU, A.L. Wanderings through the Cities of Italy in 1850 and 1851. Translated by Mrs Percy Sinnett. Two volumes in one. xii + 324pp; vii + (i) + 335 + (1)pp. Original dark blue cloth, gilt decorated spine. Expert repairs to the joints and the head of the spine. Scarce. 8vo. Richard Bentley. 1853. £140.00

“Darkness is around her now indeed; for the flush of the glorious past has faded from her horizon, and the gleams that appear in the opposite region towards the future, may be rather the lurid portents of coming storms, than the dawning promise of a bright day. Is this beautiful country, indeed, mouldering away to inevitable decay, or does it contain within itself germs of imperishable vitality... “ [Preface].

205. ITALY. Stanford’s Map of North Italy and Surrounding Countries. An attractive hand coloured folding map, mounted on linen, and published May 5th 1859. It also marks the military high roads, railroads, and fortifications. A very good copy, bright and clean, in original blind stamped and gilt lettered olive green cloth, adverts printed onto the inner covers. Contemporary ownership name on the inner front board of Henry Kimber. Edward Stanford. 1859. £75.00

206. PENNELL, Joseph and Elizabeth Robins. Our Sentimental Journey through France and Italy. A new edition with appendix. 256pp., a profusely illustrated account of a tricycle ride from London to Rome, dedicated to Laurence Sterne. Original decorative blue cloth, spine dull and one gathering a little loose. 8vo. T. Fisher Unwin. 1893. £20.00

207. CRAWFORD, Francis Marion. The Rulers of the South. Sicily, Calabria, Malta. With a hundred original drawings by Henry Brockman. Two volumes. x + (2) + 391 + (1)pp; viii + (2) + 407 + (1)pp., half-titles., 31 plates, and numerous text illustrations. A good copy in original gilt lettered dark blue cloth. Slight marking to the covers. 8vo. Macmillan and Co. 1900. £30.00

208. STENDHAL. Promenades dans Rome. Three volumes. Original gilt decorated boards. A very good set in original slipcase which is rubbed. large 8vo. Firenze. 1958. £60.00

209. BRIGSTOCKE, Hugh. William Buchanan and the 19th Century Art Trade: 100 letters to his agents in London and Italy. x + 525pp. A fine copy in original cloth. 8vo. Published privately by the Paul Mellon Centre. 1982. £40.00