‘Tis the Season
Books for Others (Or for You)

BUDDENBROOKS
21 Pleasant Street
On the Courtyard
Newburyport, MA. 01950, USA
Boston MA. 02116 - By Appointment
(617) 536-4433  010: (978) 358-7805
Info@buddenbrooks.com or Buddenbrooks@att.net
www.Buddenbrooks.com

Newburyport - Boston - Mount Desert Island
1 [Bible]. The Holy Bible, the Text According to the Authorized Version and a Commentary from Henry and Scott with Numerous Observations and Notes from Other Authors; Also the Marginal References, Maps of the Countries Mentioned in Scripture & Various Useful Tables (London: The Religious Tract Society, 1836, 1837) Six volumes in the preferred bound as three format. A very early issue of the Tract Society’s important scholarly version with commentary. With 8 maps, 6 of which printed in colour and 4 of which being folding. Large 8vo, contemporary full calf, the boards with chain tool boarders in blind and triple-line gilt frames, the spines beautifully gilt tool ed in large compartments between double raised bands gilt tooled, two compartments with black morocco labels multi-ruled and lettered in gilt, board edges gilt tooled, turn-ins decorated in blind, endpapers, flies and page edges handsomely marbled. viii, 496; iv, 540; iv, 452; viii, 552; x, 562, viii, 524. A very well preserved and handsome set, the textblocks all quite fine, maps fine, second volume only with some chipping and loss to the front free-fly, the bindings handsome and proper with just a bit of minor wear or rubbing to the tips or extremities, less so then would be expected.

A VERY HANDSOME SET OF THE IMPORTANT AND SCHOLARLY USEFUL BIBLE FROM THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY. The Authorized Version augmented by extensive commentary, tables, notes, prefaces and arrangements. The bindings are likely publisher’s originals, in which case we suspect this was their best format.

$750.

‘A Pilgrimage to Al-Medina and Meccah’
A Handsome Copy - Sir Richard F. Burton
The First Memorial Issue with Fine Coloured Plates

2 Burton, Richard F. PERSONAL NARRATIVE OF A PILGRIMAGE TO AL-MADINAH AND MECCAH (London: Tylston and Edwards, 1893) 2 volumes. First Issue of the Memorial Edition. Portrait and color lithograph frontispieces, folding coloured map, illustrated with coloured and tinted lithographs and black and white illustrations throughout the text. 8vo, publisher’s original black polished cloth lettered and pictorially decorated in gilt on the spine and upper covers. xxviii, 436; xii, 479 pp. A pleasing set, handsomely clean and quite bright with only light shelf or time wear to the extremities of the spine. One volume with a bit of chipping. Textblocks clean and unmarked and without foxing, Scarce in this well preserved condition.

A BRIGHT AND WELL PRESERVED SET OF THE MEMORIAL EDITION OF THE ACCOUNT OF BURTON’S FAMOUS PILGRIMAGE, EDITED BY HIS WIFE, EXPANDED WITH NEW MATERIAL. The text of the Memorial Edition contains the full complement of 8 appendices and numerous illustrations not contained in first edition. It was edited by Lady Burton and was considered by Penzer, and by countless readers since, to be “one of the greatest works of travel ever published.”
Burton was one of the first westerners to enter the Arab holy cities. To accomplish this, he had to assume the character and costume of a Persian Mirza, a wandering Dervish, and a "Pathan." Lady Burton said of his feat, "It meant ...living for nine months in the hottest and most unhealthy climate, upon repulsive food; it meant complete and absolute isolation from everything that makes life tolerable, from all civilization, from all his natural habits; the brain at high tension, but the mind never wavering from the role he had adopted; but he liked it, he was happy in it, he felt at home in it, and in this book he tells you how he did it, and what he saw."

Richard Burton was one of the foremost linguists of his time, an explorer, poet, translator, ethnologist, and archaeologist, among other things. He spent much of his childhood in Italy and France and was educated eclectically. In 1840, he began studies at Trinity College, Oxford and distinguished himself through his eccentric behavior. Two years later, he joined the 18th Regiment of Bombay Native Infantry at Baroda, in order to study "Oriental" life and languages. He had already studied some Arabic in London and learned Gujarati, Marathi, Hindustani, Persian and Arabic while in India. He eventually took on a position that allowed him to mix more freely with the indigenous peoples, especially the lower classes, and began to dress like them. Burton's seven years in India allowed him to become familiar with the languages, customs and geography of the East. This preparation paved the way for his famous trip to Mecca.

At this time, there were areas of the Middle East that were still unknown to Westerners and represented grey areas on the world map. Rumor and second hand information about the inner workings and holy sites of one of the largest religions in the world was all that was available to European scholars. In order to fill this void, Burton decided to go to Mecca, and his idea was approved by the Royal Geographical Society. He passed himself off as an Indian Pathan and was required to know the rituals of a pilgrimage as well as the exigencies of manners and etiquette. His publication of the journey---THE PILGRIMAGE TO AL-MEDINAH AND MECCAH---allowed European readers to experience new cultures, traditions and history. Burton's writing was accessible to the general reader and provided an intimate and well-documented portrayal of the Middle East.

$950.
Italian Villas and Their Gardens - A Beautiful Book
Maxfield Parrish and Edith Wharton
The Magic of the Italian Garden

4 [Gardens; Italian Gardens; Parrish, Maxfield]; Wharton, Edith. ITALIAN VILLAS AND THEIR GARDENS (New York: The Century Co, 1905) First Edition, second issue. Profusely illustrated with 52 illustrations, 27 of which are colourplates or half tones by Maxfield Parrish, the rest being photographs and drawings by E. Denison, Malcolm Fraser and C. A. Vanderhof. Tall 8vo, publisher’s original dark forest green cloth decorated and lettered in gilt on the spine, cover design by Decorative Designers with elaborate pictorial decorations after Maxfield Parrish in an all over design, upper cover stamped in gilt and blocked in light green, blue, purple, gilt and rust, showing a villa garden. 270 pp. A beautifully preserved copy, very fresh and bright withal, the binding very clean and the gilt and cloth colour in excellent condition, corners sharp and interior clean and tight. An as pristine copy of this beautiful book.

SCARCE FIRST EDITION, AND A BEAUTIFUL COPY OF THE 1905 ISSUE OF THIS HIGHLY REGARDED AND SOUGHT AFTER WORK. One of the most well-written books on Italian garden design. The combination of Wharton’s liquid descriptions and Parrish’s romantic paintings, makes for an extremely delightful book. Special attention is given to the gardens found at Florentine, Sienese and Roman villas. The relationship of the buildings to the natural surroundings is explored in detail.

“The Italian garden does not exist for its flowers; its flowers exist for it: they are a late and infrequent adjunct to its beauties, a parenthetical grace counting only as one more touch in the general effect of enchantment. This is no doubt partly explained by the difficulty of cultivating any but spring flowers in so hot and dry a climate, and the result has been a wonderful development of the more permanent effects to be obtained from the three other factors in garden-composition - marble, water and perennial verdure - and the achievement, by their skillful blending, of a charm independent of the seasons.”

The format and decorative binding and illustration are the same as in the first issue.
$1500.

Ernest Hemingway - A Very Fine Copy in Dustjacket
1954 - The Old Man and The Sea

5 Hemingway, Ernest. THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1952 [1954]) First edition, later issue, probably printed in 1954 with dustjacket noting the award of the Nobel Prize for Literature to Hemingway in that year, photograph of the author on the rear panel with listing of books. 8vo, publisher’s original pale blue cloth in the illustrated dust-jacket with photograph of Hemingway. 140 pp. A very fine, bright and especially clean copy. The dustjacket and book both in fine and very pleasing condition.

FIRST EDITION, LATER ISSUE OF WHAT IS ARGUABLY, THE AUTHOR’S GREATEST WORK. Hemingway’s Nobel Prize winning novel and one of the most perfect works penned in the 20th century. Eric Linklater for the Broadsheet states, “Hemingway has written nothing so beautiful as this brief tale, and nowhere, I think has his vision of heroic scars of live been so surely realized... It is a little book in space but read it three times and it grows in the mind like an old story of one’s childhood: so certain it is, so satisfying are its pains and valiancy.” Hanneman A24.a (first printing)
$325.
A Bell for Adano - Pulitzer Prize Winner - First Novel
John Hersey’s Classic Story of the Italian Occupation

6 Hersey, John. A BELL FOR ADANO (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1944) First edition, a very early issue. 8vo, publisher’s original brick red cloth lettered and decorated on the spine in gilt. In the original dustjacket. vii, 269, [1]. An especially fine copy for a book printed to war standards, internally very fine, the cloth and dustjacket just a touch mellowed along the edges.

FIRST EDITION OF HERSEY’S FIRST NOVEL AND THE WINNER OF THE 1945 PULITZER PRIZE. A classic novel written after first hand experience in the invasion and occupation of Italy. It tells the story of an Italian-American officer in Sicily during World War II who wins the respect and admiration of the people of the town of Adano by helping them find a replacement for the town bell that the Fascists had melted down for rifle barrels.

$245.

The Evergreen Tales - Limited Editions - Children Classics
With Volumes Signed or Inscribed by the Illustrators
Complete in 15 Books - Timeless Tales Beautifully Designed

7 Hersholt, Jean; Lawson, Robert, Le Prince de Beaumont and E. Legrand; Kingston, William and Shenton, E.; E. Powys Mathers, Ardizzone, Perrault, Sauvage; Andersen, Hersholt, Jackson; Hersholt, Jean; Hawthorne, Nathaniel and Andersen, Hans Christian; Brothers Grimm and Perrault, C. THE EVERGREEN TALES; Or, Tales For The Ageless; Beauty And The Beast; Dick Whittington; St. George And The Dragon [with,] EVERGREEN TALES; Or, Tales For The Ageless; All BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES, Translated from the Arabic into French by J C Mardrus and then translated into modern English by E Powys Mathers; THE UGLY DUCKLING, Translated from the Danish by Jean Hersholt; and THE SLEEPING BEAUTY, Translated from the French by P H Muir. [with,] EVERGREEN TALES; Or, Tales For The Ageless: THE STORY OF ALADDIN AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP, Retold by Jean Hersholt and illustrated by Fritz Kredel; and THE THREE BEARS, by Robert Southey with illustrations by William Moyers; and THE STORY OF JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS, As Told in the King James Version of the Holy Bible with illustrations by Arthur Szyk. [with,] EVERGREEN TALES; Or, Tales For The Ageless: KING MIDAS AND THE GOLDEN TOUCH, as told by Nathaniel Hawthorne and illustrated by Fritz Eichenberg; PANDORA’S BOX, by Nathaniel Hawthorne; and THE EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES, translated by Jean Hersholt. [with,] EVERGREEN TALES; Or, Tales For The Ageless: JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, re-told by Jean Hersholt; THE STORY OF WHAT HAPPENED TO HANSEL AND GRETEL, as told by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm and translated by P H Muir; THE WHIMSICAL HISTORY OF BLUEBEARD, by Charles Perrault, translated from the French by Arthur Quiller-Couch. (New York: The George Macy Companies, Inc for the Limited Editions Club, 1949) 15 volumes. Number 1258 of 2500 copies, the Dick Whittington signed by Lawson and inscribed by Hersholt to a private recipient. Number 1258 of 2500 copies, The UGLY DUCKLING signed
by Jackson and inscribed by Hersholt to a private recipient, the ALI BABA signed by the illustrator Ardizzoni. Number 1258 of 2500 copies, each signed by Jean Hersholt. Number 1258 of 2500 copies, each volume signed by its illustrator, the EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES signed also by Hersholt, the translator. Number 1258 of 2500 copies signed by Hersholt, Pitz and Hersholt, respectively. With lovely illustrations throughout. Folio, publisher’s original cloth over boards in turquoise, orange, and gray with pictorial decorations on the upper covers and housed in the publisher’s slipcase; original cloth over boards in yellow, green, and red with pictorial decorations on the upper covers and housed in the publisher’s slipcase; original cloth over boards in yellow, brown, and beige with pictorial decorations on the upper covers and housed in the publisher’s slipcase; original cloth over boards in green, white, and navy with pictorial decorations on the upper covers and housed in the publisher’s slipcase; original cloth over boards in beige, orange, and yellow with pictorial decorations on the upper covers and housed in the publisher’s slipcase. 45; 37; (76); 51; 44; 43(2); 39; (34); 48; 47; 42; 35; 39; 42; 46 pp. A fine set with light toning on the spines, otherwise in bright, clean condition.

AN IMPRESSIVE EDITION ILLUSTRATED AND SIGNED THROUGHOUT. Beauty and the Beast is illustrated with bold and colorful paintings by Edy Legrand. Dick Whittington and His Cat is retold and illustrated by Robert Lawson and is signed by Lawson and the General Editor. Saint George and The Dragon is dramatically illustrated by Edward Shenton. King Midas, illustrated with color lithographs by Fritz Eichenberg: Pandora’s Box, illustrated by Rafello Busoni; Emperor’s New Clothes illustrated by Ervine Metzl.

$850.

Abraham Lincoln - The Famous Work by Beveridge
A Fine Set of the Special Limited Edition - 4 Volumes
With a Leaf of Autograph Manuscript Included

8 [Lincoln] Beveridge, Albert J. ABRAHAM LINCOLN 1809-1858 (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1928) 4 volumes. First Edition, the Manuscript Edition and one of only 1000 numbered copies specially bound and with a leaf from the original Beveridge manuscript. Illustrated throughout with a profusion of plates in each volume. Tall, royal 8vo, publisher’s original dark blue ribbed cloth with light blue lettering labels gilt over blue paper-covered boards. xxvi, 297; vi, 310; vi, 361; vi, 381 including index. An especially fine set, extremely well preserved and bright, as mint and pristine with only the most minor hint of mellowing. A partially unopened set, with the leaf of autograph manuscript.

SCARCE FIRST EDITION AND THIS, FROM THE LIMITED ISSUE WITH A LEAF OF AUTOGRAPH MANUSCRIPT INCLUDED. Beveridge, known also for his great biography of Chief Justice Marshall, spent many years researching the available materials for this work. He made ongoing investigations, questioning what had been published by others and trusting no agent without verifying the work. He made journeys to the Lincoln country, sifted the many traditions which have grown wherever the family rested, and sought to see for himself how far the neighborhood could influence the man. He was tireless in reading collections of papers still unpublished, in carefully going through files of newspapers, journals and books. The result of his labours presented itself in the form of this fine four volume work on Lincoln in the years leading up to the presidency.

$950.
First Edition of Longfellow’s “Hiawatha”  
A Pleasing Copy in the Original Decorated Cloth

9 Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. THE SONG OF HIWATHA (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1855) First edition, an intermediate issue with “curlew” on page 27, “n” in the word “one” restored on Page 279 and “dived” on page 96. November, 1855 ads. 8vo, publisher’s original brown cloth lettered in gilt on the spine. Blind-stamped decorations and borders to the covers. iv, 316 pp., 12 pp. ads. A pleasing copy, the cloth and text-block very well preserved with only light evidence of shelving. Front free-fly removed.

AN IMPORTANT AND REVERED AMERICAN LITERARY FIRST. This is a pleasing copy of Longfellow’s romantic verse tale. Its metre was based on the Finnish epic Kalevala, which the poem resembles in spirit as well as in several passages. Longfellow drew much of his information from the works of Schoocraft, Catlin, and Heckewelder. BAL12112
$325.

An Excellent Printed Edition of John Milton’s Works  
Fine and Handsomely Gilt Decorated Calf Bindings  
Including all His Great Works and All of the Minor Works

10 Milton, John. THE POETICAL WORKS OF JOHN MILTON: Edited, with Memoir, Introductions, Notes, and an Essay on Milton’s English and Versification by David Masson, M.A., LL.D. (London: MacMillan and Co., Limited, 1882) 3 volumes. First of the Edition. Engraved frontispiece of Milton in each volume. 8vo, handsomely bound in three-quarter tan polished calf over pleasing marbled boards with matching endleaves, the spines with raised bands separating compartments decorated with elaborate gilt panels showing central gilt ornamental devices at the centers surrounded by gilt tooled border work, two dark-brown morocco labels lettered in gilt to each volume, t.e.g. lxix, 312; [vi], 374; [vi], 420 pp. A very handsome and well preserved set, clean and tight and handsome both internally and externally. Only light evidence of age or use.

A FINE AND HANDSOME SET. In PARADISE LOST, PARADISE REGAINED and SAMSON AGONISTES Milton revived the heroic verse of Homer and Virgil to frame the tale of Satan and Paradise that has become the best-known epic poem written in English. He had difficulty in finding a publisher because of the plague of 1665, which killed many pressmen, and the Great Fire of the following year, which destroyed many printing houses—and those publishers who were still operating were wary of the project because of Milton’s anti-Restoration sympathies.

Simmons, to whom he finally came, drove a hard bargain, and according to the agreement reached and the number of copies sold Milton was paid a total of £15. Milton’s work survives and is revered to this day as amongst the most significant poetry and prose ever penned and additionally important, at a defining moment in the development of the English language. A truly towering figure, Milton remains one of the most celebrated and analyzed poets in English literature. Dryden described ‘Paradise Lost’ as ‘one of the greatest, most noble and sublime poems which either this age or nation has produced,’ while Blake, keying in on the poem’s heretical implications, described Milton as ‘a true Poet, and of the Devil’s party without knowing it.’

This thorough collection includes not only ‘Paradise Lost’ and the other major works, but the sonnets, psalms, translations, and his work in Latin. As well, there is a fine Memoir of Milton and history of his literary work.

$695.
In The Grip of The Nyika - J.H. Patterson’s Classic Work
A Fine Copy of the First Edition

11 Patterson, Lieut.-Col. J.H. IN THE GRIP OF THE NYIKA: Further Adventures in British East Africa (London: Macmillan and Co., Limited, 1910) First edition, a very early issue, identical to the first issuance printed two months earlier. Illustrated with numerous black and white photographs, eight maps in the text, and one full page map. 8vo, publisher’s original navy-blue cloth with gilt lettering on the spine, pictorial vignette of a native scene in gilt on the upper cover, t.e.g. xiv, 389, 2 ads. A fine and bright copy, internally unusually fresh and near pristine, the cloth with some minor mellowing along the back edges, but the spine uncommonly vivid with no fading and the gilt bright and sharp.

SCARCE IN FINE CONDITION. Somewhat of a companion volume to the author’s MAN-EATERS OF TSAVO, this book gives a plain account of “the trials and adventures which befell me on two recent expeditions through the ‘nyika,’ or wilderness, in British East Africa. “On the first trip there were three of us, and all returned safely to civilization, although dangers were not wholly absent. On the second and longer expedition there were also three Europeans, but, alas! only two got back, the ‘nyika’ having claimed the third; nor was the god of the wilds content with this sacrifice, for, in addition, he claimed several of my native followers.” Includes quite a bit on rhino and lion hunting, as well as other sporting adventures.

$295.

Irish Fairy Tales - First Edition, First Issue
Imaginatively Illustrated by Arthur Rackham


SCARCE FIRST EDITION. Rackham’s friend James Stephens wrote his collection of Irish Stories drawing from a rich oral tradition and also from the original Gaelic texts. He succeeded in presenting the old tales in a poetic and accessible form for the general modern reader. The collection is an excellent introduction to traditional Irish Fairy Stories and includes: The Story of Tuan Mac Cairill, The Boyhood of Fionn, The Carl of the Drab Coat, Mongan’s Frenzy, and many more.

Rackham brought forth another collection of dazzling and imaginative illustrations. The Dublin Independent wrote a warm review of Rackham’s Irish Fairy Tales: “We read English tales with appreciation because pictures have familiarized us with English imagery. A Fenian tale lacks imagery because we have no art to give it colour and shape to what are presently only names. Some of Mr. Rackham’s pictures are pure poems - they set you dreaming.”

$795.
13 Rutledge, Hugh. EVEREST: THE UNFINISHED ADVENTURE (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1937) First edition. Pencil sketches of expedition members, 2 large folding maps, portfolio of photos at rear. Large 8vo, publisher’s original royal blue cloth, lettered in gilt on the spine. 288, index pp. A very nice copy, internally quite pleasing and clean, with very little evidence of shelving, use or age, the blue cloth still bright and unfaded, only very light mellowing.

Rutledge’s Important Account. Involved in the aborted expedition were, among others, Eric Shipton and Frank Smythe. ‘This expedition was carried out under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society. It was the fifth undertaken to attempt the climb of Mount Everest, and the second one under the leadership of the author. [T]he first part is Rutledge’s personal narrative, which covers the topics of reconnaissance, mobilization, and reflections on the ascent; Part II covers the scientific aspects of the climb, the weather, fauna, flora, oxygen, etc.; part III consists of a portfolio of 63 photographic plates of the climb. Kahn ’04

‘[The journey] was plagued by an early monsoon and stricken with weather problems from the beginning. Finally the problem of Everest was being largely reduced to one of weather.’ (Cox) His companions found that to travel with Rutledge across the high uplands was a delight, for he had a keen interest in the strange topography, in the unusual customs of hospitality and bargaining, and in the animals and birds whose lack of timidity he revelled in’ (DNB)

An important work in the history of the efforts made to climb Everest. Neate R100; Perret 3831; Salkeld & Boyle R30; Yakushi R214.

$375.

Henry David Thoreau - 1865 - Letters to Various Persons
First Edition - A Copy in Original Cloth with Provenance
Edited by Ralph Waldo Emerson

14 Thoreau, Henry David. LETTERS TO VARIOUS PERSONS [Edited by Ralph Waldo Emerson] (Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1865) First Edition. A copy with provenance, having belonged to A. Pell, Jr. of West Point, a friend and colleague of William Cullen Bryant and a founder and owner of the International Ocean Telegraph Co. which received the rights from Congress to lay the cables from America to Cuba and on to Latin America. Bryant visited and stayed in touch with Pell for some years and was involved with him in the Free Trade Club. Pell is buried at West Point and owned historic property there. 8vo, publisher’s original brown cloth lettered and decorated in gilt on spine and paneled and decorated in blind on both covers. 229. A small bit of wear at the head and foot of the spine, and with evidence of a bit of old typical water staining at the top edge of the pages, not affecting the text and rather unobtrusive. A very decent copy and with some pleasing provenance attached.

FIRST EDITION IN ORIGINAL CLOTH AND A COPY WITH KNOWN PROVENANCE.

A SCARCE FIRST EDITION. In respectful admiration of Thoreau and as an honour to their good friend, Ralph Waldo Emerson, leader of the Transcendentalist Movement in America, gathered these letters from the original manuscripts to form this wonderful volume replete with very personal encounters with the mind of one of the period’s most revered writers. Bal 5426. Borst A6.1.a.

$650.
Edith Wharton - The Fruit Of The Tree
Original Cloth Gilt - 1907 - 1st Edition

15 Wharton, Edith. THE FRUIT OF THE TREE. (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1907) First Edition. With three full page black and white illustrations by Alonzo Kimball. 12mo, publisher’s original red cloth, the upper cover and spine lettered in gilt. 633, (4) ads pp. A lovely copy with binding cloth and gilt showing very little wear.

SCARCE AND A HANDSOME AND WELL PRESERVED COPY. “Her precision and directness in delineation of character are far beyond that of any of the novelists of to-day.” -Boston Advertiser. “Dramatic, absorbing, and well written.”-New York Sun. $450.

Superb Dark Green Morocco by Bayntun-Riviere of Bath
The Medici - Colonel G.F. Young’s Classic Work
The Best Biography of the Great Renaissance Family

16 Young, Colonel G. F. THE MEDICI (London: John Murray, 1930) 2 volumes. An early printing, with the January, 1930 imprint, but using the original English sheets. With over 100 illustrations from numerous sources on finely produced black and white plates, and with 2 folding genealogical charts. Tall, thick 8vos, very finely bound by Bayntun-Riviere of Bath in signed contemporary three-quarter dark green morocco over green cloth, all covers with a gilt fillet lines at the borders of the morocco, the spines with six gilt framed compartments separated by raised bands gilt stopped, four compartments with gilt central fleur-de-lis and two gilt lettered, additional gilt rules at the head and tails and additional gilt lettering at the tail, endpapers marbled, t.e.g. xxix, 538; xii, 576 pp. A very fine, clean, bright and handsome set, very well preserved and unusually appealing.

AN IMPORTANT TEXT IN EXCELLENT SIGNED BINDINGS BY BAYNTUN-RIVIERE OF BATH, one of the most important bookbinding companies of the 19th and 20th centuries, famous for their materials and tooling used in binding. The elegance of the bindings is especially fitting to the subject.

This is considered the foremost biography of the Medicis, and is the first history of the whole family, rather than one dealing with only the very famous or infamous members. Leaders of the city-states of Italy, they were merchants, warriors and patrons of some of the most famous and influential artists of all time. The powerful Medici family shaped not only the history of Italy, but the history of the world. They lie at the very center of all cause to the flowering of the Renaissance. $950.