

**H. G. Wells**

**A Selection of 13 Books**

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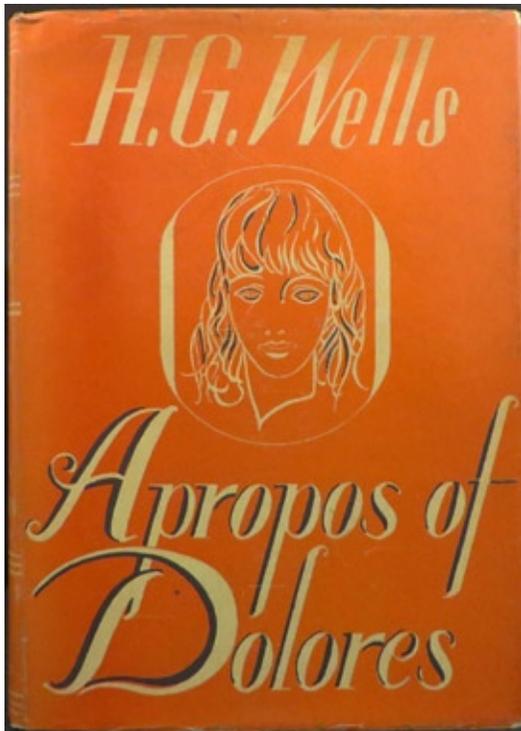
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***Apropos of Dolores* - Scarce in Publisher's Dustjacket  
One of H. G. Wells' Finest and Most Personal Novels**



1 Wells, H. G. APROPOS OF DOLORES (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1938) First edition, this copy WITH the publisher's ADVANCE REVIEW slip laid-in. 8vo, publisher's original blue cloth lettered on the spine and upper cover in gilt, in the SCARCE original dustjacket. viii, 290 pp. A fine copy in a jacket that is also fine but for slight age mellowing, uncommon thus.

*THE TRUE FIRST EDITION OF WELLS' MOST PERSONAL NOVEL. This is "the story of a jealous, possessive and capricious woman"- Wells Society. Wells, a somewhat notorious lady's man, used this novel to settle the score with Odette Keun, "the most unusual of his mistresses" [Smith] who had recently published her views of Wells in the feminist magazine 'Time and Tide'. This American printing is the true first edition. Methuen had initially agreed to publish the novel in England, but after further consideration declined due to concerns of libel. Jonathan Cape would eventually publish a British edition later in the same year.*

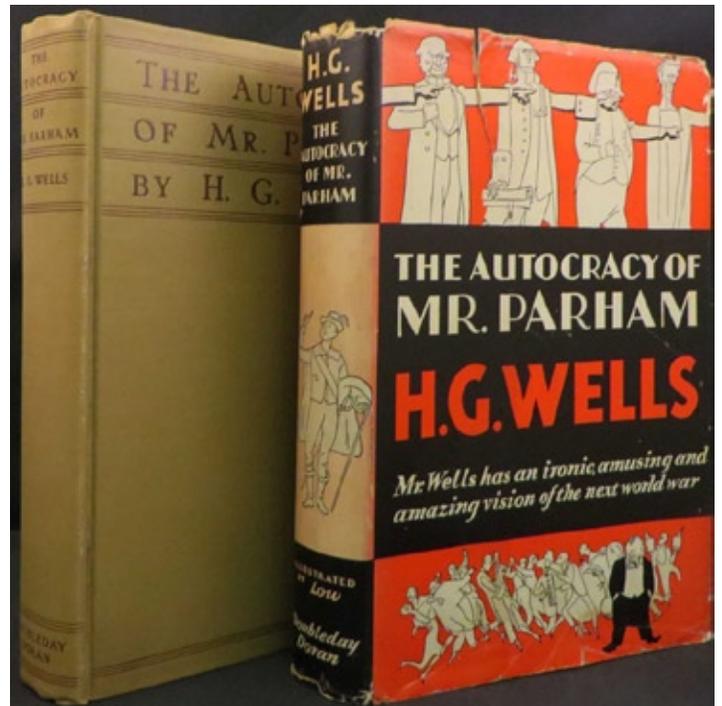
*Wells precisely manages to deliver the natural consciousness of relationships within changing eras. The narrative is finely told in a diarist method, allowing for hypocrisies to be revealed through written bias against scenarios and actions. It is often compared to the later published LOLITA. Wells Society 134; Hammond A26 \$115.*

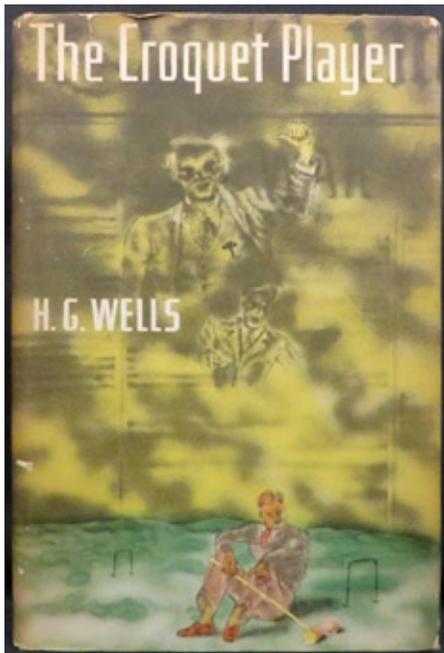
***The Autocracy of Mr. Parham*  
H.G. Wells - First Edition - Fine in Dustjacket - 1930**

2 Wells, H. G. THE AUTOCRACY OF MR. PARHAM. His Remarkable Adventures in This Changing World (Garden City: Doubleday, Doran and Company, 1930) The true first edition, according to Smith, Doran's U.S. issue came out prior to the London printing. Illustrated with fun double-page caricature illustrations by David Low. 8vo, publisher's original olive drab cloth lettered on the spine and upper cover in maroon, in the ORIGINAL DUSTJACKET which features Low's illustrative talents. 328 pp. An as fine, clean and handsome copy, of the book, the jacket is also very good and attractive with only a little mild edge wear and a few small closed tears with no loss.

*FIRST EDITION, AND A FINE COPY STILL IN ITS ORIGINAL JACKET. THIS IS THE TRUE FIRST EDITION, PRECEDING THE LONDON COUNTERPART. This is a tale of Oxford don who nods off during a seance and dreams he has become a world leader: He is unfit for leadership, however, and a terrible war breaks out between England and the United States, fought in the midst of the North Atlantic. The work is an entertaining study of reaction under pressure, and is also Wells' commentary on the failure of contemporary education to prepare anyone for that kind of pressure.*

*Mr. Low's illustrations add nicely to the novel, contemporary political figures such as Churchill and Mussolini are featured in them. Wells Soc. 109; Hammond B15 \$125.*





**The Croquet Player - H. G. Wells - First Edition  
The Fine Line Between Superstition and Madness**

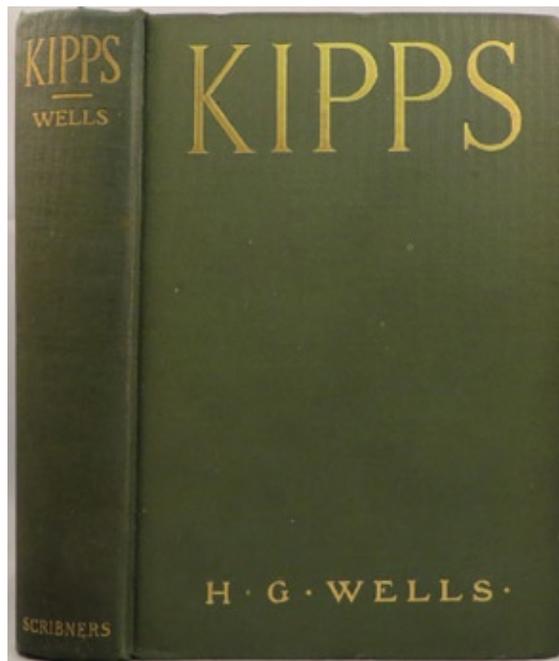
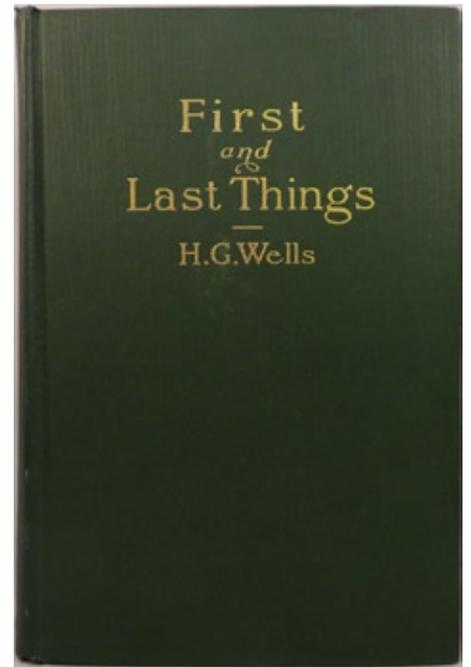
3 Wells, H. G. THE CROQUET PLAYER (New York: The Viking Press, 1937) First American edition. With black and white illustrations by Clifton Line. 8vo, publisher's original light gray cloth with black and white decorations to the front cover and with lettering in silver on the upper cover and spine. In the scarce original colour illustrated dustjacket. [vii], 98 pp. A very good copy with a little of the mellowing typical to Depression era materials, the jacket very handsome with only light edgewear and a scuff or two. *FIRST EDITION. UNCOMMON IN THE DUSTJACKET. The jacket is known in two states, this is the state with the predominate colours being green and yellow. The work consists of four chapters and tells the story of the nervous breakdown of Dr. Finchatton, who has been plagued by horrendous and evil dreams. He seeks counsel from religious leaders and a psychiatrist. The story has been called a short allegory written under the stimulus of the Spanish War. Wells Soc. 125; Hammond B18 \$125.*

**"One of Wells' Most Important Books" - 1908  
A Fine Copy of the First Edition - *First and Last Things***

4 Wells, H. G. FIRST AND LAST THINGS. A Confession of Faith and Rule of Life (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1908) First American edition. 8vo, publisher's original green cloth lettered in gilt on the upper cover and spine. vi, 307. ads. pp. A fine copy, the text and binding both very uncommonly fresh, clean and bright.

*FIRST EDITION OF "ONE OF WELLS' MOST IMPORTANT BOOKS" -Smith. This volume represents a collection of beliefs and forecasts in four parts: Metaphysics, Of Beliefs, Of General Conduct, and Some Personal Things.*

*"Remarkably the book has received little attention from Wells scholars and biographers... It is one of Wells' most important books, and provides a clear statement of the role of the individual, of the self and it relationship to the group, to the species, to the rushing future." [Smith] Wells Soc. 37; Hammond E8 \$195.*



**Kipps - H.G. Wells' Amusing Novel of Social Status  
An Uncommonly Fresh First Edition Copy - 1905**

5 Wells, H. G. KIPPS. The Story of a Simple Soul (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1905) First American edition. 8vo, publisher's original olive green cloth lettered in gilt on the upper cover and spine. 479, 4 ads. pp. A very near to fine copy, the text block quite fine and fresh and clean, only a little minor rubbing to the edges of the green cloth and a cosmetic-only crack to the front endpaper but hinges still firm and tight.

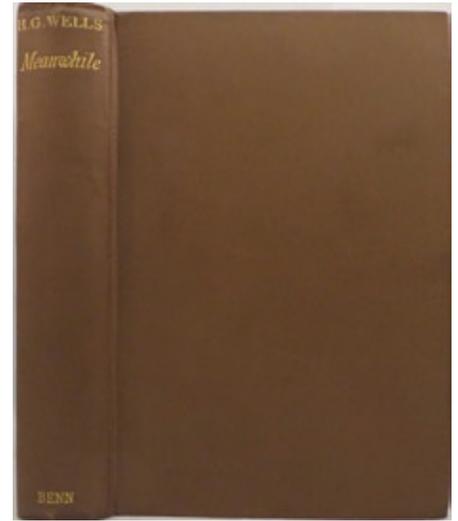
*SCARCE FIRST EDITION OF WHAT WELLS CALLED "THE COMPLETE STUDY OF A LINE IN RELATION TO ENGLAND'S SOCIAL STANDING." In KIPPS, a draper's apprentice (such as Wells had once been) strikes it rich, which leads to many amusing scenes as he attempts to move up in society. Wells Soc. 26; Hammond A3 \$150.*

***Meanwhile: The Picture of a Lady***  
**A Most Unusual H. G. Wells Novel - First Edition - 1927**

6 Wells, H. G. MEANWHILE *The Picture of a Lady* (London: Ernest and Benn Limited, 1927) First edition. 8vo, publisher's original brown cloth lettered on the spine in gilt. 288 pp. A near fine copy, very clean and fresh overall with just some minor age evidence.

*AN UNUSUAL WELLS OFFERING, FIRST EDITION. This is a quirky in-between kind of novel, part political commentary, part lyrical nature writing, part social comedy. Many consider Lady Rylands to be one of Wells' more interesting female characters.*

\$95.



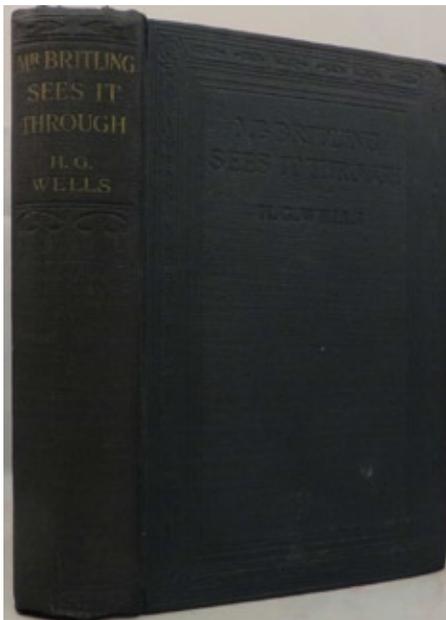
**Wells' Masterpiece of Wartime Experience - First Edition**  
***Mr. Britling Sees it Through* - First Edition - 1916**

7 Wells, H. G. MR. BRITLING SEES IT THROUGH (London: Cassell and Company, 1916) First edition. 8vo, publisher's original dark green cloth lettered in gilt on the spine and lettered and decorated in blind on the upper cover. 433 pp. A near fine copy of a book never found fine due to the wartime materials and production and always dulled.

*FIRST EDITION OF WELLS' MASTERPIECE OF THE WARTIME EXPERIENCE.*

*"The novel, set in a house very like Wells', features a character who is clearly H. G. Wells. It mirrors in its text the way in which English people had first felt about the war, but also how those ideas had changed and become more fluid as the war went on... The death of a character in combat, the use of a German counterpart facing the same doubts... the concept of a world forsaken by conventional Christianity, and, above all, the natural way in which the world was described, combined to make the novel a great seller". Smith*

\$135.

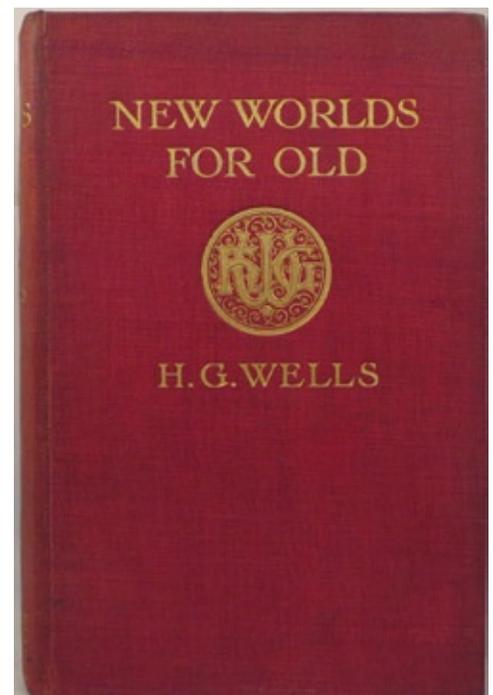


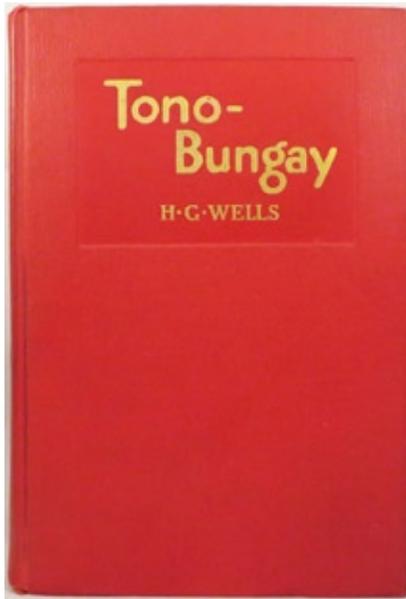
**H. G. Wells' Final Collection of Socialist Essays**  
***New Worlds for Old* - First Edition - 1908**

8 Wells, H. G. NEW WORLDS FOR OLD (London: Archibald Constable & Co., 1908) First edition. 8vo, publisher's original maroon cloth, lettered in gilt on the upper cover and spine. vii, 355, ads. pp. A near fine copy, far better than typically encountered, just a tad of mellowing or age evidence.

*FIRST EDITION OF WELLS' COLLECTION OF FIFTEEN SOCIALIST ESSAYS. Many of the essays here had originally appeared, though heavily rewritten since, serially in "The Grand Magazine." This work was the last of Wells' quartet of books on the socialist future; a series Wells began with ANTICIPATIONS in 1901 and followed with MANKIND IN THE MAKING and A MODERN UTOPIA. Wells Soc. 35; Hammond E7*

\$125.





**H.G. Wells - *Tono-Bungay* - First Edition**  
**"The Epitome of Wells" - McKenzie**

9 Wells, H. G. TONO-BUNGAY (New York: Duffield & Company, 1909) First edition American issue, precedence between this and the English issue is still unestablished. 8vo, in the publisher's original red textured cloth lettered in gilt on the upper cover and spine. 460 pp. A fine copy, bright and clean and virtually without any rubbing or aging to the binding.

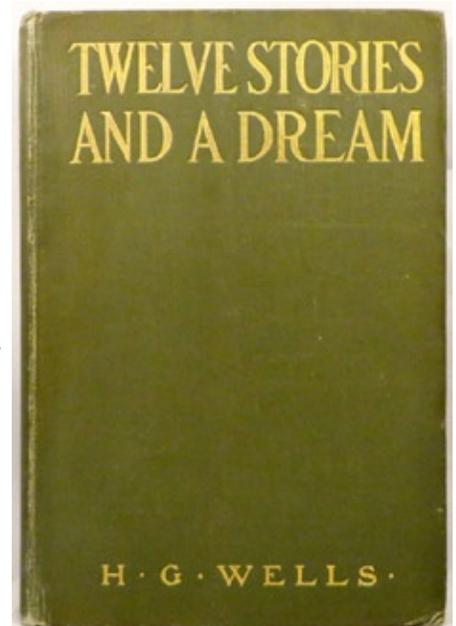
FIRST EDITION OF THE NOVEL ACCORDING TO MCKENZIE "WITH [WHICH] WELLS REACHED THE PEAK OF HIS CAREER AS A NOVELIST..." *What on the surface is the story of a get-rich-quick scheme, Tono-Bungay was described by Wells as a 'social panorama in the vein of Balzac'. Tono-Bungay is " a picture of English society in dissolution and of the advent of a new class of rich, embodied in Uncle Ponderevo, an entrepreneur intent on peddling a worthless patent medicine."* Wells Soc. 38; Hammond A4; Currey p. 525 \$145.

***Thirteen Tales of the Fantastic - Twelve Stories and a Dream***  
**A Scarce H. G. Wells First Edition - 1905**

10 Wells, H. G. TWELVE STORIES AND A DREAM (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1905) First American edition. 8vo, original olive green cloth lettered in gilt on the upper cover and spine. 331, 2 ads. pp. An essentially fine copy, the cloth with only very minor rubbing or evidence of age, the text is unusually fresh and bright.

FIRST EDITION OF ONE OF WELLS' MOST ELUSIVE BOOKS. *This is a collection of thirteen tales of fantasy and the supernatural; including "The Magic Shop", "The Valley of Spiders", "The Inexperienced Ghost" and "The Stolen Body".*

\$250.

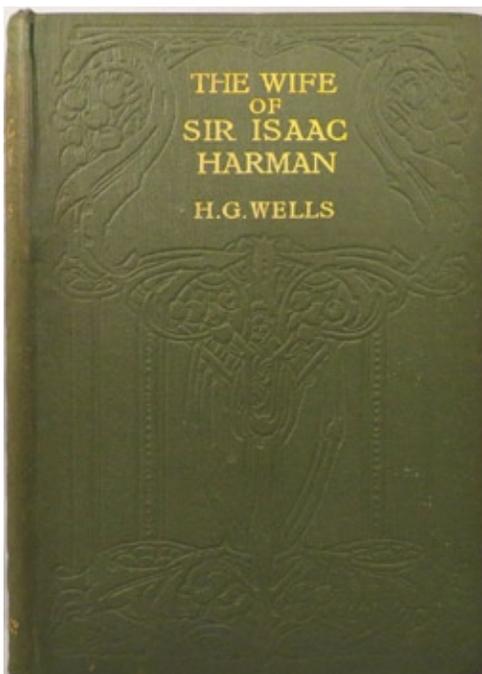


**Wells Novel Reflecting His Own Domestic Life**  
***The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman* - First Edition - 1914**

11 Wells, H. G. THE WIFE OF SIR ISAAC HARMAN (London: Macmillan and Co., 1914) First edition. 8vo, publisher's original blind-stamped green cloth gilt lettered on the upper cover and spine. 465, ads. pp. A fine bright copy, only the most trivial evidence of age.

FIRST EDITION OF WELLS' NOVEL REFLECTING HIS OWN DOMESTIC SITUATION. *The novel is about a woman trapped in a marriage with a dominating husband and her abortive love affair with a famous author. A strong supporter of women's rights, Wells provides here a description of feminist of various kinds, and most especially the suffragettes who where, according to Wells, "defusing and re-focusing the battle for equality."* Wells Soc. 54; Hammond A10

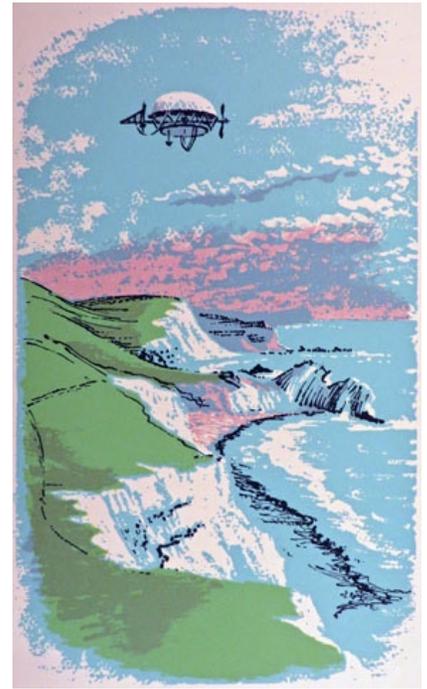
\$125.



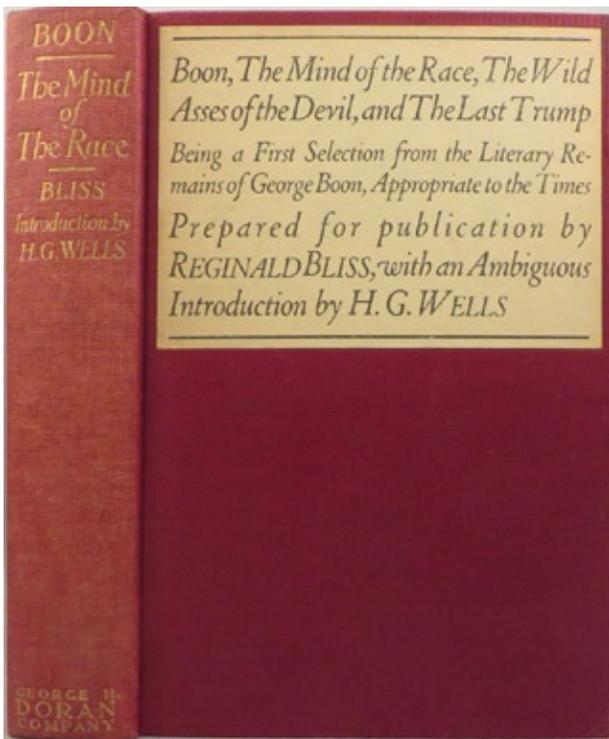
**H.G. Wells - Tono-Bungay - Limited Editions Club  
1960 - Signed by the Illustrator - Lynton Lamb**

12 Wells, H. G. TONO-BUNGAY. (New York: The George Macy Companies, Inc for the Limited Editions Club, 1960) First of the Edition and one of 1500 copies signed by the illustrator. With illustrations by Lynton Lamb. 4to, bound in original navy patterned cloth, with lettering label to the spine panel and decoration in blind, housed in the yellow slipcase. 395 pp. A very fine copy, light mellowing to the case.

ILLUSTRATED AND SIGNED FIRST PRINTING OF THE EDITION. Illustrated by Lynton Lamb. Described by Wells as a 'social panorama in the vein of Balzac'. Tono-Bungay is "a picture of English society in dissolution and of the advent of a new class of rich, embodied in Uncle Ponderevo, an entrepreneur intent on peddling a worthless patent medicine."  
\$75.



**Boon, the Mind of the Race, The Wild Asses of the Devil  
H. G. Wells' Satire - A First Edition in Fine State - 1915**



13 [Wells, H. G.]. BOON, THE MIND OF THE RACE, THE WILD ASSES OF THE DEVIL, and THE LAST TRUMP. Being a First Selection from the Literary Remains of George Boon, Appropriate to the Times Prepared for Publication by Reginald Bliss, With an Ambiguous Introduction by H. G. Wells (New York: George H. Doran Company, [1915]) First American edition. 8vo, original maroon cloth, gilt lettered on the spine and with a printed paper pastedown on the upper cover. 345pp. A fine copy with very minimal mellowing.

FIRST EDITION OF THIS PSEUDONYMOUS COLLECTION THAT IS ACTUALLY WRITTEN ENTIRELY BY H. G. WELLS. It purports, however, to be by the fictional character Reginald Boon, and for some time after publication Wells denied authorship. BOON is best known for its part in Wells's debate on the nature of literature with Henry James, who is caricatured in the book. This led to a rift between the two writers that lasted till James' death. Prior to this the two had been friends since the mid-1890s and had held each other in high esteem. Wells also mocks himself in BOON, calling into question and ridiculing a notion he held dear—that of humanity's 'collective consciousness'. Well Soc. 57; Hammond D3  
\$95.

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