

# Rootenberg Rare Books & Manuscripts Presents:

# A Short List of Treasures Found in Durham







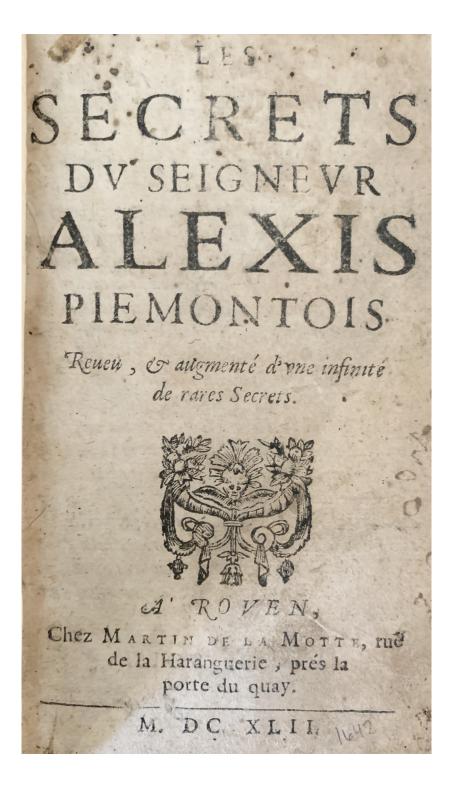
#### THE ORIGINAL HOW-TO BOOK

# 1. ALESSIO, Piemontese (ALEXIS OF PIEDMONT); RUSCELLI, Girolamo.

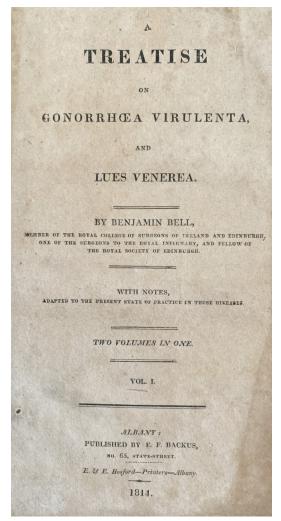
Les secrets du seigneur Alexis Piemontois [pseud.] Revue, & augmente d'une infinite de rares secrets. Rouen: Martin de la Motte, 1642. 8vo. 675, [lxxi] pp. Woodcut illustrations throughout. Contemporary mottled calf, joints cracked, spine gilt though bottom section missing. Title dusty but otherwise internally nice. A good copy.

First published in 1555, this "book of secrets" went through 266 editions and was translated into six languages. It contains recipes and instructions for making medicine, cosmetics, ink, dyes, metals, perfume, pigments, paper, and much more. The author's empirical approach to science as a hunt for the secrets of nature was an important innovation in the writing of natural philosophy. According to Thorndike, "publication of the literature of secrets, medicinal and otherwise, received a great impulse from the appearance... of the Secrets of Alessio of Piedmont." Although this text is by no means anonymous, this is the only known work by "Alexis of Piedmont", and it is now generally accepted that Giolamo Ruscelli (1500-1566), an important humanist, wrote the *Secrets* under this pseudonym.

Thorndike VI, 215-216. \$ 350.00



#### A SEMINAL TEXT ON STI'S



# 2. BELL, Benjamin

A Treatise on Gonorrhoea Virulenta and Lues Venerea. Albany: E. and E. Hosford for E.F. Backus 1814. 2 vols in one. Half-sheet 8vo. Vol I: 1/4, 2/2. 3-30/4, 31/2; xii, 17-244 pp. Vol II: 1/2, 2-43/4 and 3 doublepage and 1 folding etched plate; [iii], 8-332, [11] pp. Contemporary brown calf (worn but sound), gilt red morocco title label. Internally somewhat browned. The illustrations show progressed levels of venereal disease in human genitals and medical instruments for treating them.

First Albany edition of the "first [text] to differentiate between gonorrhea and syphilis" (Garrison-Morton 5200, 2378). Although first published in Edinburgh in 1793, an advertisement to the present edition located in the frontmatter of Volume I indicates that this imprint leaves the original text untouched, but with numerous notes and case studies added in a smaller type "to render that work more valuable, by adding to it the improvements in practice as well

as the investigations on the nature of the disease, which have been offered since the period at which the Author wrote." Written by a surgeon with a special interest in pathology, this treatise covers symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and recurrence of venereal diseases in men and women. Bell pays particular attention to the spread of venereal disease between partners and from mothers to infants, stressing the importance of treatment to all those potentially exposed. The comprehensive index at the end of Volume II makes the work user-friendly.

Shaw & Shoemaker 30842; see Garrison-Morton 5200, 2378 and Heirs of Hippocrates 675. \$400.00

#### A LANDMARK BOOK ON PHYSICS

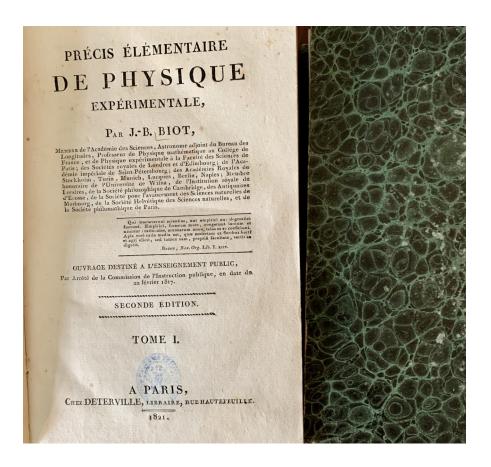
# 3. BIOT, Jean-Baptiste

Précis élémentaire de physique expérimentale. Paris: Deterville, 1821.2 vols. 8vo. xiv, 688; [iv], 736 pp. Contemporary green marbled paper boards, gilt title labels, old library shelf mark. Illustrated with eighteen folding etched plates of instruments, projections, a map, optometric explanations, laboratory apparati, and animal dissection. Internally fresh and in excellent condition.

**Second edition**, greatly expanded from the first, of this landmark treatise on physics. The text covers bodily movement and use of energy, acoustics, electricity, magnetism, light and color theory, microscopy, and optometry. A comprehensive table at the end of the second volume makes this a user-friendly reference work. Biot (1774–1862) was a pioneer of the scientific community and made significant contributions in the fields of physics, astronomy, optics, and mathematics. He proved the existence of meteorites, and his work on light polarization led to the development of modern screen displays.

Poggendorff I, 195.

\$ 500.00



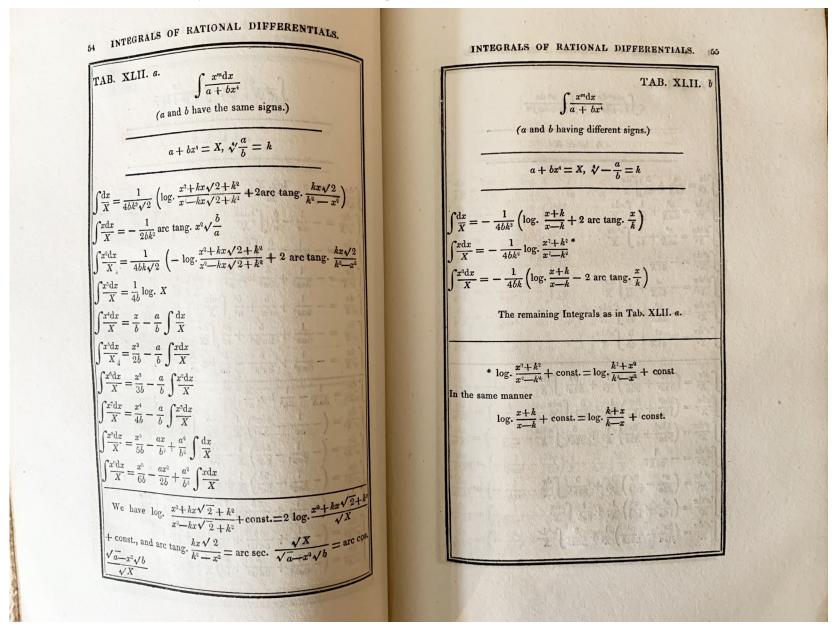
#### **DIFFERENTIALS EXPLAINED**

# 4. HIRSCH, Meyer

Integral tables, or a collection of integral formulae. Translated from the German. London: T.C. Hansard for William Baynes & Son, 1823. 4to. xxx, 279 pp. Each page in a double-rule frame with formulas and tables throughout. Contemporary blind-ruled brown sheep, rebacked. A fine, wide-margined copy.

First English edition of the first published compilation of integrals. The text contains formulas for analysis of fractional functions, reduction, rational and irrational differentials, and transcendental differentials. Hirsch (d. 1851) was an otherwise unsuccessful German mathematician. He never made any new contributions to the field, but his expository books made excellent teaching materials.

\$ 150.00



#### A MONUMENTAL TEXTBOOK ON CALCULUS

## 5. LACROIX, Sylvestre Francois

Traite du Calcul Differentiel et du Calcul Integral. Paris: Chez Courcier, 1810-1814-1819. 3 volumes. 4to. lvi, 653; xxii, 820; xxiv, 776 pp. Eleven etched folding plates and numerous tables and calculations in the text. Modern brown cloth, ex-library. Internally clean and lovely.

**Second edition**, greatly enlarged. This textbook on differential and integral calculus was the most monumental synthetic work of its type. The author, a celebrated mathematician, incorporated the work of Euler, LaGrange, LaPlace, Monge, Legendre, Poisson, Gauss, and Cauchy. The book first appeared in a two-volume edition in 1797. It was translated into English in 1816 by George Peacock. Lacroix (1765-1843) wrote five important mathematics textbooks over the course of his career.

DSB VII, 550; Poggendorff I, 1340.

## \$ 400.00

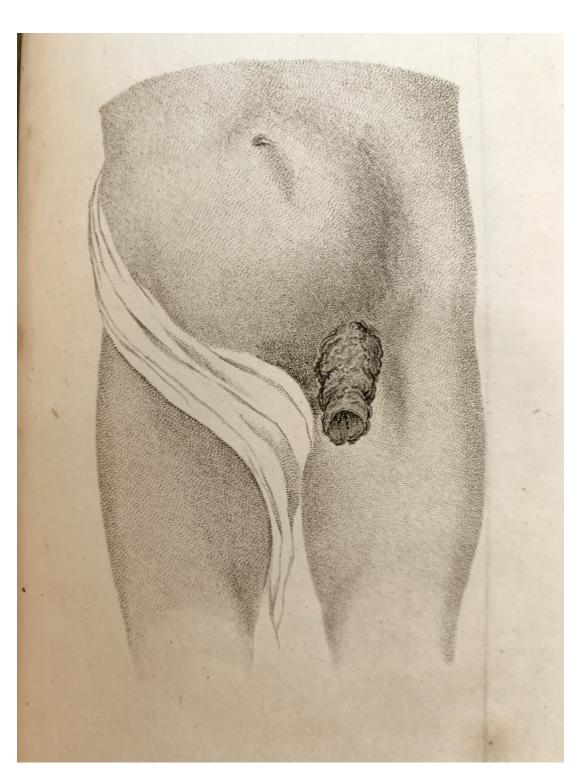
#### SERMONS FROM THE FIRST PATRIARCH OF VENICE

# 6. LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN, Saint

Opera Omnia. Venice: Hieronymi Albritii, 1721. Folio. Frontis., [xxii], 638, [36] pp. Full-page engraved frontispiece of an angel and the Holy Spirit visiting St. Lawrence Justinian while he writes. Contemporary blind-tooled vellum over stiff boards, panels alike with outer laurel and chain rolls, inner daisy and laurel roll surrounding a central rectangle with corner drawer handles and central floriated medallion, gilt spine title label, old red edges. Ex-libris David Lewis. Front flyleaf and plate coming away from the spine, otherwise internally fine. A good copy in a fantastic binding.

Later edition of the complete works of the first Patriarch of Venice. It includes his sermons on virtues and vices as well as commemorations of feast days and holy weeks. A table of contents precedes the main body of text, and a comprehensive index of words follows it. St. Lawrence Justinian (1381-1456) was ordained in 1406. He was prior of the Augustinian community at San Giogio in Venice that Constantinople, one of Venice's primary trading partners, fell to the Muslims. He was instrumental in seeing the city through the ensuing crisis. He was beatified in 1524.





#### **EXIT ONLY**

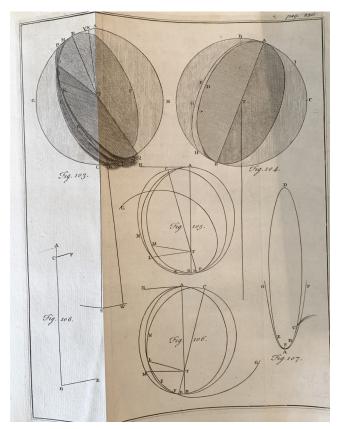
# 7. LAWRENCE, William

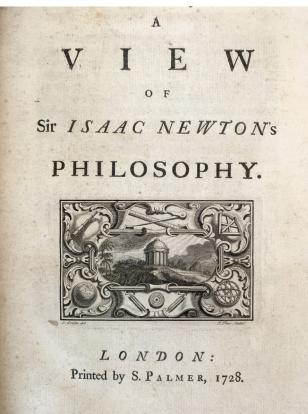
A Treatise on Hernia. London: Charles Spilsbury for John Callow, 1807. 8vo. xv, [i], 314, [6] pp. With three plates (one folding), and publisher's advertisements. Modern boards, spine label worn and chipped, edges untrimmed. First leaf detached, pages brittle and some chipped, tape repair to first detached leaf, title, and p. 184 and p. 193, text is toned throughout.

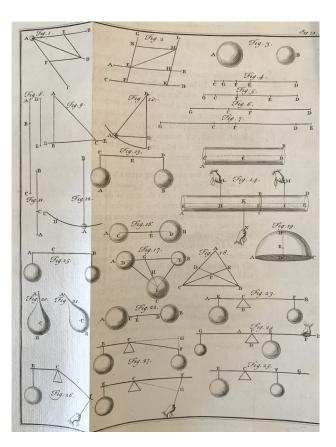
**First edition**, "the standard text for many years" (Garrison-Morton). This comprehensive manual details the different kinds of hernias, their causes, symptoms, and both surgical and non-surgical treatments, including medical devices. For example, the author recommends the use of an external truss to contain a herniated protrusion, illustrated on the first of the plates. The book concludes with a case study of a very specific nature: a man whose untreated scrotal hernia began to excrete feces. Lawrence (1783-1867) was a British surgeon and President of the Royal College of Surgeons of London. He was an early proponent of Darwinian philosophies on evolution.

Garrison-Morton 3587.

\$ 1250.00







#### NEWTONIAN THEORY FOR THE AVERAGE JOE

# 8. [NEWTON]. Pemberton, Henry

A view of Sir Isaac Newton's philosophy. London: Samuel Palmer, 1728. 4to. [1], 407 pp. With engraved title-vignette of an observatory within a border of instruments, 12 folding plates, and historiated initials, all engraved by J. Pine after J. Grison, including the arms of Sir Robert Walpole, to whom the work is dedicated. Complete with subscriber's list (including Isaac Newton's 12 books). Recent cloth; a nice, wide-margined copy. Title browned but otherwise internally fresh. Final leaf reinforced.

First edition of this comprehensive summary of Newtonian theory. Pemberton's writing is expository and humble, making the complicated mathematical and scientific topics accessible to the average reader. The author was friends with Newton for many years, and the preface contains Pemberton's recollections of the scientist, especially in his old age. Pemberton (1694–1771) studied under Boerhaave at Leiden and was attached to St. Thomas' Hospital in London. Pemberton's mathematical prowess was impressive enough to Newton that he employed him to edit the third and definitive edition of his *Principia mathematica*, 1726.

ESTC T53471.



#### HIDDEN FORE-EDGE PAINTINGS

MONASTI REMAINS

PARKY

# 9. PARKYNS, George Isham

Monastic and baronial remains, with other interesting fragments of antiquity in England, Wales, and Scotland. London: T. Davidson for Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown, 1816. 2 vols. 8vo. xii, 120; [iv], 168 pp. Contemporary straight-grained black morocco, panels alike with gilt outer acanthus roll and inner blind chevron roll, spine and embossed labels gilt, board edges, turn-ins, and all edges gilt, minor rubbing to joints. Fore-edge paintings are concealed beneath the gilt on both volumes: Spencer House in Green Park on Vol. I and The Old Queen's Head Pub in Islington on Vol II. Illustrated with 100 uncolored aquatint plates by the author. A fine, unique set.

**First edition** of this illustrated history of ninety-seven noble landmarks. Each concise entry treats the geography, history, design, materials, occupation, and, where relevant, tourism of the building. Although Parkyns intended the work to be comprehensively illustrated, but his publishers were unimpressed with thirteen of the plates, so the illustrations for those monuments were excluded from these volumes and offered later at an additional fee. George Isham Parkyns (1750-1820) was an English-born artist who specialized in landscape and architectural aquatints. He traveled to America in the 1790s and made connections in elevated political circles.

Abbey, Scenery 17. \$ 650.00

#### COSMOLOGY WITHOUT SCIENCE

#### 10. PLUCHE, Noël Antoine

Histoire du ciel, où l'on recherche l'origine de l'idolatrie, et les méprises de la philosophie, sur la formation des corps célestes, & de toute la nature. Paris: Veuve Estienne, 1742. 2 volumes. 12mo. [iv], iii-xxxvii, [iii], 518, [2]; [iv], 495, [5] pp. With frontispiece and 25 engraved plates by J.P. Le Bas. Contemporary calf, gilt spine; marbled endpapers. An attractive copy in excellent condition from the library of J.M. Fector, with his stamp, and an unidentified signature.

Third edition, enlarged, of this rare and interesting treatise on the perception, both ancient and modern, of the universe, the creation, and the superiority of Moses' cosmogony. Pluche here seeks to refute the entire range of speculation on the origin of the world which conflicts with Mosaic cosmogony. In displaying the excellence of the physics of Moses, which supposedly conforms to the teachings of both history and experimental physics, he carefully explains his opposition to the cosmologies proposed by those physicists which he termed "romans philosophiques." "In the *Histoire*, Pluche restated his opposition to the cosmologies proposed by the physicists. He also attempted to demonstrate that monotheism preceded polytheism" (DSB). The plates illustrate numerous Egyptian, Roman, and Greek mythological symbols. Many are signed by the popular Paris engraver, Jacques Phillippe Le Bas (1707-1783). Pluche (1688-1761), a teacher of humanities and rhetoric, was the leading French popularizer of natural theology. He is best known for his immensely successful Spectacle de la nature (1732), which was used as a text on the Continent and in England. He encountered much criticism with the present work.

DSB XI, 44; Caillet, III, 8750.

HISTOIRE JU CIEL, Où l'on recherche L'ORIGINE DE L'IDOLATRIE, LES MÉPRISES DE LA PHILOSOPHIE, Sur la formation des corps célestes, & de toute la nature. TROISIEME EDITION. TOME PREMIER. Chez la Veuve Estienne, rue Saint Jacques, Democrite, sans sin te verra-ton rever Et tracer à l'écart ton Monde imaginaire? Va, ce n'est pas à l'homme à constraire la terre; M. DCC. XLII. Il est lait pour la cultiver

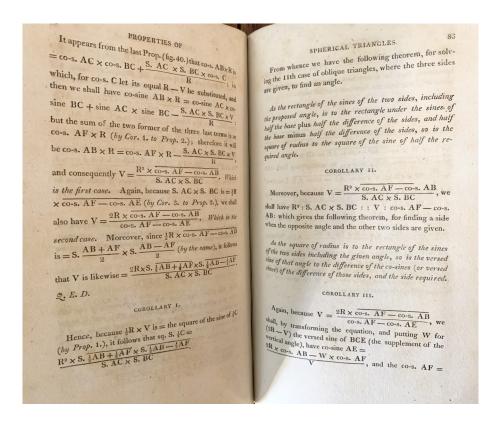
#### TRIGONOMETRY AT ITS FINEST

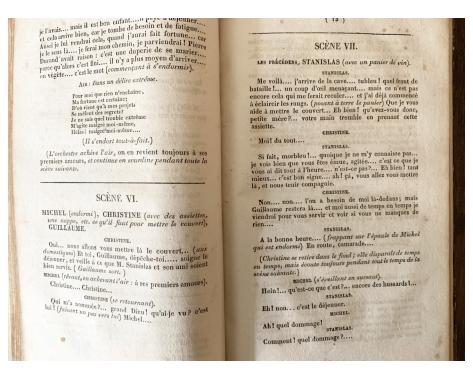
# 11. SIMPSON, Thomas

Trigonometry, Plane and Spherical; with the construction and application of logarithms. Philadelphia: Kimber and Conrad, 1810. 8vo. A-Q4 (-Q4 blank). 125 pp. and 7 engraved plates. Contemporary mottled calf, gilt flat spine and title label. Some light foxing and a dampstain at the inner fold to the first half of the book. Overall, a good copy.

First American edition of this important illustrated mathematical textbook. The title first appeared in 1748 and went through numerous printings in London before making its way to the New World. In addition to the seven folding plates of spherical projections at the end are dozens of charts, equations, and diagrams throughout the text. Thomas Simpson (1710-1761) was a self-taught English mathematician who became assistant to the chief master of mathematics at the Royal Military Academy and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He published eleven books on mathematics and is best known for Simpson's Rule for numerical approximation of definite integrals.

Shaw and Shoemaker 21348.





#### PARISIAN VAUDEVILLE

12. [VAUDEVILLE] NOEL, Edouard

A Londres, ou Vive La France. Paris: Louis Etienne Herhan for Malaisie, 1831. DARTOIS, Achille

Les Femmes Volantes. Paris: François Hocquet for Duvernois, 1824.

SCRIBE, Eugene and DAUPIN, Henri

Michel et Christine. Paris: J. Smith for Pollet, 1822.

NOEL, Edouard

La Femme de Chambre, ou Luxe et Détresse. Paris: Selligue for Barba, 1831.

MOLIERE (POQUELIN, Jean-Baptiste)

Les Femmes Savantes. Paris: Barba and Hubert, 1817.

SCRIBE, Eugene

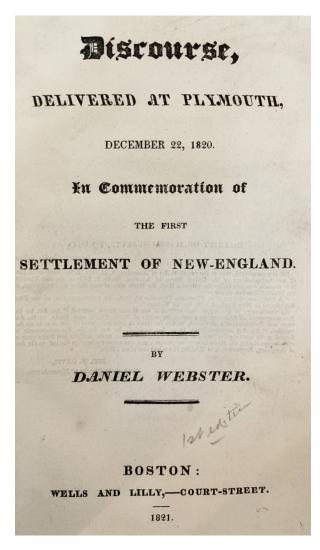
Malvina, ou Un Mariage D'Inclination. Paris: Auguste-Francois Dondey-Duprey for Pollet, 1829.

SCRIBE, Eugene and MAZERES, Édouard Joseph Ennemond *La Quarantaine*. Paris: David for Pollet, 1825.

8vo. 38; 40; 38; 44; 84; 68; 40 pp. 19<sup>th</sup>-century half cloth over marbled boards, gilt spine. A bound collection made not long after publication of the individual plays. Some leaves browned, but overall a nice set.

A unique sammelband of short vaudeville plays performed in Paris. All are comedies of fewer than five acts, and include verse and dance numbers. Intended for individual and cheap distribution, these tracts represent an ephemeral genre and are rare in today's market. \$ 250.00

#### CELEBRATING THE LANDING AT PLYMOUTH ROCK



# 13. WEBSTER, Daniel

Discourse delivered at Plymouth, December 22, 1820. In commemoration of the first settlement of New-England. Boston: Wells and Lilly, 1821. 8vo. 104 pp. Recent half green sheep over marbled boards, flat spine gilt, top edge gilt. A fine copy.

First edition of this oration celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Pilgrims' landing at Plymouth Rock. Webster details the efforts of the settlers in setting up a government, education system, trade, and military. He compares the settlements in New England to the ancient Greek and Roman civilizations in their brilliance and purpose, and he notes some of the important players in early national development, including Miles Standish, Cotton Mather, and Benjamin Franklin. Notably, he describes the land the Pilgrims met as a

wild and uncultivated place without mentioning native tribal settlements, except for the sentiment of "Indian hostilities on the frontiers now being happily removed" (p. 67). He goes on to condemn the African slave trade as a morbid and un-Christian practice.

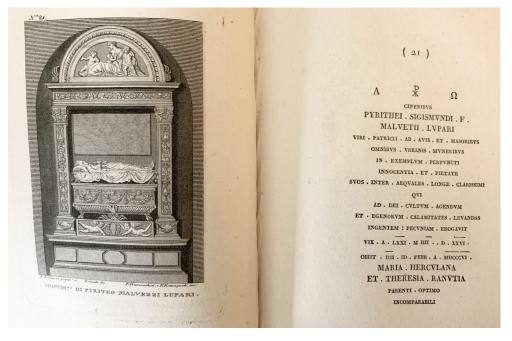
Sabin 102262. \$ 250.00

#### A GUIDE TO FUNERARY MONUMENTS

#### 14. ZECCHI, Giovanni

Collezione dei monumenti sepolcrali del cimitero di Bologna. Bologna: Giovanni Zecchi, 1825. 2 volumes in one. 8vo. frontis., 3 engr. titles, 39 pp.; 3 engr. titles, [viii], 52 pp. & 81 fine engraved plates of monuments by Francesco Franceschini, Pietro Romagnoli, Giuseppe Rosaspina, L. Carlini, Antonio Verico and Nicola Mellini. 19th-century half morocco over marbled boards. Internally fresh and beautiful.

First edition of this bilingual guide to the funerary monuments in the Bologna cemetery. Written in Italian and French, each entry includes a plate illustration, a transcription of the epitaph, and an expository essay about the deceased and the monument. This work eventually spanned four volumes, with these first two issued in 1825 and the final two published two years later. The Bologna public cemetery was established in 1801 following a period of Napoleonic suppression of the attached Carthusian monastery. It was a stop on the Grand Tour and much praised by authors like Byron and Dickens. \$400.00



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