Rootenberg Rare Books & Manuscripts Presents:

A Catalogue for RBMS

June 2024
1. [AUBIN, Nicolas]

**First edition** of this narrative of demonic possession at the Loudon convent. In 1632, several nuns at the convent claimed to have been bewitched by the Jesuit priest Urbain Grandier, a plot organized by Cardinal Richelieu who hated Grandier for his political and religious liberality. Grandier was convicted of witchcraft and burned at the stake. This text records the events surrounding the allegations and the subsequent trial and offers general information about Inquisitional torture and executions.

Caillet 509.

$750.00
2. BELL, Alexander Graham.


Privately printed offprint, issued for distribution by Bell. His essay provides a detailed account of his success in teaching a five year old congenitally deaf boy to read and write. It includes a leaf of “specimen of impromptu conversation” as well as a diagram of a hand with the alphabet at various points which was adopted by Bell.

First edition, privately distributed by Bell, with his printed card. Bell puts forth his theory that it is better to give deaf children books to read before they learn the language, and that repeated readings ultimately enhanced by pantomime explanations will produce the best comprehension. He exhibits a decided antipathy to sign language. Quite scarce.

Both items

$ 1800.00

3. BERKELEY, Edmund C.

Giant brains or machines that think. New York: John Wiley & Sons, London: Chapman and Hall, 1949. 8vo. xvi, 270 pp. Original gray cloth, yellow pictorial dust jacket with a small tear to the top front cover near the spine. Overall a fine copy.

First edition of the first popular book on electronic computers. The tag-line on the dust jacket reads “An authority tells the story of ‘mechanical brains’ – how they ‘think,’ what they do, and what they can mean in your future.” This work was published well before the first actual computer was built and delivered to the U.S. government, and apart from occasional newspaper or magazine articles, the public had no knowledge nor had really even heard of computers at this point. Berkeley’s book is intended to explain a complex subject to both lay and professionals. It includes chapters on the early computers in development such as ENIAC and the Harvard Mark, punched-card machines, and Bush’s Differential Analyzer. Of particular interest is a section on the future impact of computers on society. The work also includes an extensive bibliography.

Origins of Cyberspace, 463.

$ 950.00
4. **BRAHE, Tycho**


*Facsimile* of Brahe’s important work describing his astronomical instruments and his observatory at Hven. Brahe took up residence on the island of Hven in the Danish Sound in 1576 at the invitation of King Frederick II. There he constructed an observatory, Uraniborg (heavenly castle), a smaller observatory, Stjerneborg (castle of the stars), a windmill, a papermill and workshops; in 1584 a printing press was also installed. The instruments he built at Hven were among the most advanced of the time, greatly benefiting from large-scale construction which space on Hven allowed. In a letter to Caspar Peucer in 1588 Brahe reported that he was planning to write a detailed report on his instruments, the result of which was this work, first published in a privately-printed edition of 40 for presentation in 1598, and the first trade edition in 1602. $ 500.00
CORRECT WAY TO TEACH ASTRONOMY TO KIDS
(A WOMAN’S WAY OF COURSE)

5. BRYAN, Margaret
A compendious system of astronomy, in a course of familiar lectures ... also trigono-
metric and celestial problems, with a key to the ephemeris, and a vocabulary
of the terms of science used in the lectures. London: J. Wallis, 1799. 8vo.
xxxviii, [ii], 415 pp. With frontispiece plus 16 full-page plates (3 folding),
text illustrations and tables. Contemporary half calf and marbled
boards, marbled endpapers; interior a bit browned and spotted throughout. From the library of Richard Townsend (of the Marquess Towns-
hend family) with the family arms and motto on his bookplate on the
paste-down.

Second edition. This group of lectures, first published in 4to.,
1797, were a part of the curriculum of Bryan’s students during the time
she was running a girls’ boarding school. The book consists of ten lec-
tures on optics, astronomy, the universe, astronomical instruments, and
aspects of mechanics relating to shadow, eclipses, tides and wind. She
includes some mathematics at the back and explains by way of plates
various celestial phenomena.

The present work was admired by the mathematician Charles
Hutton, whose written endorsement is included in the preface. He
praised that "even the learned and more difficult sciences are beginning
to be successfully cultivated by the extraordinary and elegant talents of
the female writers of the present day." Included is a list of subscribers to
the first edition naming among many others the Archbishop of Canter-
bury, mathematicians and astronomers including Hutton and Nevil
Maskelyne, and many women, including Bryan’s own pupils.

Bryan (1759-ca. 1836) was an English natural philosopher and
educator. This was her first publication; she later published lectures on
natural philosophy, a textbook on the fundamentals of physics and a-
stronomy, and an astronomical and geographical class book for schools.
The frontispiece is a portrait of the author and her two daughters en-
graved by Nutter from a miniature by Samuel Shelley.

DNB, III, p. 154. $1200.00
6. BYRNES, Thomas

*Professional criminals of America.* New York: Cassell & Company, 1886. 4to. [x], 433 pp., including index. With frontispiece photograph and 34 plates, each containing 6 photographs. Original morocco, title in gilt on front cover and spine; marbled endpapers and paste-down. Bookplate of Paul S. Powers.

**First edition.** A gripping work reflective of the problems faced by late nineteenth-century American society. In the preface, the author expresses his opinion, perhaps not too unfamiliar to us today: "As crimes against property are of so frequent occurrence in the cities and towns of this country, it was suggested to my mind that the publication of a book describing thieves and their various ways of operating would be a great preventive against further depredations." Believing that the circulation of photographs of known criminals would work to slow down their exploits, Byrnes, over twenty years a detective with the New York City Police Department, provides photographs along with explanations of the methods of committing crimes used by the identified individuals. Highlights include exploits of bank robbers, forgers, house thieves, shoplifters and pickpockets, con men, and the all too familiar frauds in horse sales.

A completely fascinating work, one in which you might find a long-lost friend or relative. $ 950.00
THE ART OF DEMONIC POSSESSION

7. CHARCOT, Jean-Martin; RICHER, Paul

First edition of this study of mental illness portrayed in art. The authors examine over sixty works of art from the 6th through the 17th century that depict demonic possession and retroactively diagnose the disorder with which the possessed was likely afflicted, mostly epilepsy and “hysteria.” They point out specific positions of limbs and facial expressions that hint at underlying psychiatric problems.

Charcot, known as “the founder of modern neurology,” was interested in the physical manifestation of mental illness and experimented with photographing psychiatric patients. He educated Sigmund Freud, who wrote Charcot’s obituary.

Garrison & Morton, 6605. $ 750.00
8. COPERNICUS, Nicolaus
De revolutionibus orbium caelestium Libri VI. Thorn: Sumptibus Societatis Co-
pernicanae, 1873. Folio. xxx, [iii], 494 pp. With diagrams and tables in text. Half calf. An excellent copy despite occasional foxing: from the library of J.L.E. Dreyer, with his bookplate on the front paste-down, and a few annotations.

The definitive publication of Copernicus’ manuscript written at Prague. Included is the tract by his disciple and friend, Georg Joachim Rheticus, in the form of a letter to Joh. Schoener, the Nuremberg astronomer, from the 1566 second edition.

J.L.E. Dreyer (1852–1926), a Danish astronomer, was the director of the Armagh Observatory in Ireland. President of the Royal Society between 1923 to 1925, he was the author and editor of Copernicus an International Journal of Astronomy (1881–84), A History of Astronomy from Thales to Kepler (1906), Herschel’s Scientific Papers (1912) and the 15-volume Opera Omnia of Tycho Brahe.

$3250.00

9. CUREAU DE LA CHAMBRE, Marin

“The most sustained argument for sensory-based animal intelligence.” (Enenkel & Smith) Later edition of this treatise on animal psychology. Written in response to the general academic opinion at the time that animals can only feel, the author asserts that animals have thoughts and the capability to reason and distinguish. He classifies animal relationships according to love and hate and describes animals’ ability to express emotions.

Marin Cureau de la Chambre (1594–1669) was a French physician. He served as royal physician to Louis XIII and Louis XIV and wrote numerous books on human and animal passions, light, digestion, and occult practice. Peter Bayle called him “one of the most illustrious 17th century followers of Aristotle. Despite his groundbreaking work in the field of psychology, he was basically forgotten to the history of medicine.

Enenkel & Smith, Early Modern Zoology 624; see Cioranescu 22660.

$750.00
PREDESTINATION AND FREE WILL

10. EDWARDS, Jonathan
A careful and strict enquiry into the modern prevailing notions of that freedom of will, which is supposed to be essential to moral agency, virtue and vice, reward and punishment, praise and blame. Boston printed; London, re-printed: Thomas Field, 1762. 8vo. [ii], ix, [v], 414, [8] pp., including index. Nineteenth century half-calf and marbled boards, later endpapers; interior excellent. 

First British edition, originally printed in 1754. This examination of predestination and free will is Edward's most enduring treatise, and is an important contribution to the literature pertaining to the freedom of will. The book takes a classic Calvinist viewpoint on total depravity and the need of humanity for God's grace in salvation. Edwards here addresses many of the concerns that have been raised today in debates over free will, and evolution in a much broader sense. This work is one of the most important expositions of Edwards' philosophy, based upon Romans 9:16, that any person is free to make a moral choice for the good, but those choices are guided by the preordination of God's will. Of special interest, Edwards was the grandfather of Vice-President Aaron Burr.

"[This] publication ... revealed him as the great philosophic intelligence in American history. Edwards created the first great religious revival of modern times; and initiated a New England Theology as a new chapter in the history of doctrine" (Dictionary of American Biography).

Evans 7187; Grolier American 11; Johnson, Edwards, 184; Sabin 21930 (all for the 1754 first ed.).

$ 3500.00

IS GENIUS PASSED DOWN IN FAMILIES?

11. GALTON, Francis

First edition of Galton's study of genius, in which he examines the families of great men and concludes that genius is hereditary. Galton's work had profound implications for the growing field of genetics. With the publication of his cousin Charles Darwin's Origin in 1859, Galton became a confirmed evolutionist.

Galton (1822-1911) is best known for his work in anthropology and mental inheritance. He founded the science of eugenics and devised a system of fingerprint identification.

Garrison & Morton, 226; Sturtevant, A History of Genetics, p. 126.

$ 1500.00
PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS ON MAGIC SPELLS

12. [GRIMOIRE]. ALBERTUS MAGNUS

A fine illustrated edition of this book of “natural magic and medicine.” (Davies) The text is divided into four parts: the first deals with pregnancy and how to choose fetal characteristics, the second addresses the virtues of precious stones and animals, the third provides instructions for using human and animal excrement, bones, and eggs as well as metals and fire in pharmaceutical and cosmetic recipes, and the final section is a treatise on physiognomy with additional medical recipes. Unlike other grimoires, this book incorporates naturally-occurring elements and practical instructions rather than incantations and spirits for improving health, curing illness, and manipulating nature.

Although this grimoire was attributed to St. Albert the Great in the Middle Ages, and the text probably incorporates some of his findings through mineral research, it is an amalgamation of numerous manuscripts and printed books of secrets by various authors over several hundred years. The publisher made the final call as to what would be included in his version, so few editions look the same.

Caillet 132 “édition rare de ce livre fort recherché.” $2500.00
KABALISTICAL MAGIC

13. [GRIMOIRE]


“Fountainhead and storehouse of Kabalistical Magic” (Waite). Attributed to the Biblical King Solomon, this book of Renaissance magic was likely written in the fourteenth or fifteenth century. It contains detailed instructions for summoning and controlling spirits and demons, making and using magical instruments, love spells, and alchemical recipes. The final chapter concerns the capture of so-called “green butterflies,” which can purportedly reveal the future and help their captors find treasure. The plates show the signatures of Satan and his demons; likewise, a woodcut signature of the demon Agaliarept appears on the title as the approbation from Hell for the publication of this text.

A bestseller across early modern Europe, versions of this text were translated into Latin, Italian, French, English, and German. It was supposedly originally written in Hebrew, but the oldest surviving manuscript is Latin. Its widespread appeal led to quick and dirty dissemination and publication, so few extant copies of the Clavicule look alike. However, its title is often found among condemning evidence in documents for witchcraft trials.

The late eighteenth and early nineteenth century in post-Revolutionary France saw a dramatic de-Christianization and rise of superstition and occultism. Printers and booksellers began making inexpensive magic books en masse to meet middle class demand, and France became the epicenter of grimoire production. These proletariat spellbooks came to be known as Bibliothèque bleue, comparable to the English chapbook. Like that offered here, most were published with a false, early imprint date, most likely give credence to these relatively new texts that purport to be based on ancient wisdom.

Caillet 9859; Davies 54–55; Waite, Book of Ceremonial Magic 58–64.

$ 4500.00

A complete course in 20 lessons on curing illness through magnetism. Couched in Mesmer's theory of vital magnetism and purporting to "quickly qualify the student to be a successful magnetic healer," this booklet instructs the reader to harness magnetism in the hands and eyes and direct it to the areas of another's body that are ailing. With copious illustrations the text describes methods for hypnosis, pressure point manipulation, and energy stimulation intended to relieve pain and dissipate disease.

OCLC locates 2 copies in America (Michigan, Rochester Medical Library). $ 750.00
FORMATION OF THE UNIVERSE

16. LAPLACE, Pierre-Simon
The system of the world. London: Richard Phillips, 1809. Two volumes. 8vo. [iv], viii, 379; [iv], iii, [i], 375 pp., including half-titles. Contemporary half-polished calf and marbled boards, gilt spine, marbled edges; a wonderful, exceptionally clean copy with the bookplate of A.P. Thompson on each paste-down.

First English edition, originally printed in Paris, 1796, here translated by John Pond (1767–1836), sixth Astronomer Royal of England. A remarkable work which presents the author’s explanation of the origin and formation of the solar planetary system. Laplace’s celebrated nebular hypothesis as well as his discoveries on the rotation of the moon, its elliptic path, etc., are included.

The work is divided into five books. The last book contains the author’s brilliant history of astronomy, which was considered a masterpiece of French literature, and procured his admission to the French Academy.

DSB, XV, pp. 278–403; see Printing & the Mind of Man, 252. $ 1500.00

ONE OF THE MOST CITED ACADEMIC WORKS OF ALL TIME

15. KUHN, Thomas S.

First edition, first printing, of Kuhn’s acclaimed history of science, one of the most cited academic books of all time. Kuhn’s contribution marked not only a break with several key positivist doctrines, but also inaugurated a new style of philosophy of science that brought it closer to the history of science. His account of the development of science held that science enjoys periods of stable growth punctuated by revisionary revolutions wherein new paradigms are created and old data is then re-evaluated in accordance with the new paradigms. “The functions of a paradigm are to supply puzzles for scientists to solve and to provide the tools for their solution. A crisis in science arises when confidence is lost in the ability of the paradigm to solve particularly worrying puzzles called ‘anomalies’. Crisis is followed by a scientific revolution if the existing paradigm is supersed-ed by a rival” (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy). $ 1650.00
17. LEDERMÜLLER, Martin Frobenius

*Amusement microscopique tant pour l'esprit, que pour les yeux.* Nuremberg: A.W. Winterschmidt, 1764; 1766; 1768; 1775. Four volumes in one. Large 4to. [viii], 126, [4]; 138, [2]; [viii], 118, [2]; 23, [1] pp. With engraved frontispiece and 158 plates (many folding), all in excellent hand-coloring. Beautiful contemporary calf, rebacked with the original backstrip laid down, spine with gilt decorations and spine label. An exquisite copy with all edges marbled.

**First edition** in French of *Mikroskopische Gemüths- und Augenergötzungen*, the author’s beautifully-illustrated work on magnification presenting a wide range of microscopic observations including insects, animals, plants, fungi, shells and crystals. Ledermuller also discusses and compares a number of microscopes of his time in fine detail. Our copy includes the supplement with two additional plates which is the author’s defense against some remarks by Gleichen-Russworm.

Ledermuller (1719-1769) was a German naturalist who, in the early period of microscopic analysis, applied the new scientific tool to the study of botany and zoology and produced works which rank among the most impressive illustrated microscopical books of the eighteenth century.

Blake, p. 261; Clay & Court, *The history of the microscope*, p. 182; Cole, 1695; Nissen, 1156; Roper, p. 56; Wellcome, I, p. 472.

$12,500.00
18. MAGEN, Hypolite

*Prostitutions, debauches et crimes de la Famille Buonaparte.* London: Bridges, 1871. 8vo. vii, 64 pp. Contemporary gilt red morocco-backed marbled boards; paper very slightly toned. An excellent copy.

**Only edition,** an exposition of the sins of the Bonaparte family. Beginning with Napoleon’s mother, Letitia, who purportedly owned several brothels, and concluding with his bastard son, Louis-Napoleon, who supposedly engaged in incest, the author lists the crimes and debauched activities committed by twelve members of the royal family. Magen’s intent, as stated in the preface, was to remind the French people of the atrocities and injustices they survived under imperial control so that they would never again accept tyranny.

OCLC locates 4 copies worldwide, all in Europe. $1200.00
19. MAYNARD, Nettie Colburn


First edition, written by a female psychic employed by Abraham Lincoln's widow to contact the dead President. Here she recounts her séances at the White House wherein she spoke with Lincoln about the Civil War and its aftermath, and he offered advice on the plight of freedmen. In her narrative, Lincoln sends her missives to be communicated to politicians and military authorities in order to continue his mission from the spirit realm. Maynard also provides a thorough physical description of the late President and a series of "spirit poems," verses transcribed through her by spirits while in a trance state.

Maynard (1841-1892), a young medium conducted seances for Mary Todd Lincoln as well as other prominent politicians and celebrities of the time.

See https://www.mrlincolnswhitehouse.org/residents-visitors/marys-charlatans/marys-charlatans-nettie-colburn-1841-1892. $ 850.00

20. NECKER, [Jacques]

De l'administration des finances de la France. [n.p.: n.p.], 1784. Three volumes. 8vo. iv, ciii, [i], 234; [iv], 374, including errata on verso of table of contents (p. iv); [iv], 332, including errata at bottom of final text leaf. Contemporary calf-backed boards, gilt spines; an excellent set.

First edition, possibly the first printing, of Necker's famous work on the financial health of France. A very interesting and possibly unique copy, bibliographically. The collation differs from every copy we have examined. These volumes were printed from a smaller set of type and thus contains fewer leaves though the text is exactly the same in virtually all other copies of the first edition found. It is also an earlier printing as many of the other copies we looked at have the few errata items corrected.

Necker (1732-1804) was opposed to raising taxes and instituted loans at high interest rates to help with the French debt. At the time of the American revolution, which was very popular with nearly all the French population, Necker warned against the consequences of use of government bonds to fund its assistance to the Colonies, a very unpopular position. Nevertheless he was blamed for France's high debt. With the massive amounts spent by the royal family, Necker asked to be brought into the royal council, but was rebuffed because of his Calvinist leanings. It was in 1781 that he published the country's budget, unheard of at the time, especially under a monarchy. He was then dismissed as minister of finance, which upset a large segment of the people because of his popularity.

Goldsmith, 12732; Kress, B752. $ 2500.00
THE MOON AS NEVER BEFORE SEEN

21. NASMYTH, James & CARPENTER, James
The moon: considered as a planet, a world, and a satellite. London: John Murray, 1874. 4to. xvi, 189 pp., plus 2 pages of publisher’s advertisements. With 23 plates, including 6 photogravures, 4 heliotypes, 2 lithographs and 1 chromolithograph after drawings or photographs by Nasmyth, and 12 mounted photographs on 11 leaves with printed captions. Original publisher’s blue cloth.

Second edition of this remarkable work on the moon. The detailed images of craters and volcanos had never been seen by the public before. Because the art of photography had not as yet been perfected to the point of being able to take such close-up images of the moon, the authors constructed models based upon their own observations, and took photographs of the models. They are incredibly life-like.

The text treats everything from the cosmological origins of the moon and other planets to the weight and density of the lunar globe, general aspects and topography of the lunar surface, and a discussion of whether the moon is a planet or satellite. It is the most in-depth study of the moon up to the date of its publication.

This second edition was published the same year as the first, with identical pagination and number of plates, with the only minor differences. Nasmyth (1808-1890) was a Scottish engineer and inventor. He is best known for developing steam engines and as inventor of the steam hammer.

$ 2500.00
NEWTON EXPLAINED IN SIMPLE ENGLISH

22. NEWTON, Sir Isaac

First edition. Pemberton’s ability in mathematical problems impressed Newton and consequently he asked him to edited the third and definitive edition of his Principia mathematica, 1726. The preface contains Pemberton’s recollections of Newton, especially in his old age. However, this work is most notable for its explanation of Newton’s philosophy. Pemberton (1694-1771) studied under Boerhaave at Leiden and was attached to St. Thomas’ Hospital in London.

Babson, 98; Gray, 132. $ 2500.00

ILLUSTRATED 17TH CENTURY BOOK OF MAGIC EXPLAINING HOW IT ALL WORKS

23. NICERON, Jean François

First edition of this textbook of smoke-and-mirror magic: the first descriptions of anamorphosis and trompe l’oeil. Couché in geometry and optics, this book explains how to subvert geometric regularity using lenses, mirrors, and projections to create visual illusions in the form of a practical handbook for practitioners. Though it was written before the Age of Enlightenment, it contains groundbreaking principles on light and perspective that would not be hashed out for decades; Niceron’s work predated Newton’s Opticks by nearly 70 years. Thus, it “is not merely a text about the performance of natural magic and anamorphic depictions, but also a vehicle for the transmission of changing theories on optics” (Fletcher and Melion).

Divided into four parts, the first book establishes the geometric principles that make optical illusions possible. It describes the creation of images on irregular surfaces like convex and concave mirrors and how their proportions can be manipulated, distortion by reflection, and refraction. The text provides instructions for such illusions as making a figure appear to dance within a cone of light, to make a line look like a cube, to flip an image upside down on a mirror, and making the figures in a painting fade away. Copious illustrations at the end of the text elucidate these experiments.

Niceron (1613-1646) was a French mathematician and a friar in the Order of Minims. Despite the importance of this book, only 8 copies are extant in American institutions.

Andersen, The Geometry of an Art 452-455; Harries, Infinity and Perspective 108; Fletcher and Melion, Customised Books in Early Modern Europe 472; Partner, Poetry and Vision in Early Modern England 135. $ 4200.00
GERMAN EXPATRIATE LITERATURE

#22 OF 150 COPIES OF THE SUBSCRIBER’S EDITIONS

25. PAZIFISCHE PRESSE

Seven volumes. Each bound in the original publisher’s cloth-backed boards, author and title in gilt on spine; uncut. Set number 22 of the 150 Subscriber’s editions printed and signed by the author on the colophon. Each volume is a superb copy, like new.

Original editions of the first seven books published by the Pazifische Presse, the only publisher who settled on the west coast after emigrating from Nazi Germany. Each of the first seven volumes (of a total of eleven books ultimately released) were printed at Saul and Lillian Marks’ Plantin Press in Los Angeles. All of the authors lived in the Los Angeles area, many working for the major film studios. Thomas Mann received the 1929 Nobel Prize in literature. The books include: 1. MANN, Thomas. Thamar (1942); 2. WERFEL, Franz. Die wahre Geschichte vom wiederhergestellten Kreuz (1942); 3. FRANK, Bruno. Sechzehntausend Francs (1943); 4. FRANK, Leonard. Mathilde (1943); 5. NEUMANN, Alfred. Giterwerk des Lebens (1943); 6. TORBERG, Friedrich. Mein is die Rache (1943); and 7. DÖBLIN, Alfred. Nocturno (1944)

“Defying troubled times, the publishers of the Pazifische Presse made a modest yet significant statement for humanity. On the shores of the Pacific Ocean, they provided a forum for exiled German authors in the belief that their voices deserved, in fact needed, to be heard.”

See Daily,”The Pazifische Presse And German Exile Publishing In Los Angeles 1942-1948.”

http://victoriadailey.com/articles/the-pazifische-presse-and-german-exile-publishing-in-los-angeles-1942-1948/ $ 12,000.00

JESUIT EXPLANATION OF MAGNETISM

24. PAILLOUX, Xavier, S.J.


First edition, an inquiry into the diabolical nature of magnetism and spiritualism written in the form of a conversation among a cleric, a lawyer, a philosopher, and a physician. They question the origins of table rapping, sleepwalking, hallucination, hypnotism, and magic; are these situations of demonic intervention in our world, or simply the work of physics and nature? While there are many other contemporaneous religious texts that denounce spiritualism and animal magnetism as satanic, this author takes a Jesuit stance and attempts to explain the phenomena scientifically. He provides case studies and eyewitness accounts to narrate the arguments.

Sommervogel-de Backer X: 928; Caillet III: 8259. $ 650.00

JESUIT EXPLANATION OF MAGNETISM

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Sommervogel-de Backer X: 928; Caillet III: 8259. $ 650.00
26. [PHRENOLOGY]
Bound collection of 20 pamphlets in contemporary half-calf over marbled boards. Ex-libris bookplate of Thomas Symes Prideaux, manuscript list of contents on the front flyleaf.

CHENEVIX, Richard

ENGLEDUE, W.C.
*Cerebral Physiology and Materialism, with the result of the application of animal magnetism to the cerebral organs*. London: H. Ballière 1842. 38 pp.


STANILAND, S.

PRIDEAUX, Thomas Symes

FORBES, John

MACNEILE, Hugh

COQUHOUN, John C.

MONTGOMERY, James

An illuminating witness to British society's reception of the Phrenological Movement in the wake of Gall and Spurzheim's publication of the theory. Twelve English phrenological pamphlets, all in their first edition, bound together in one volume previously owned by the renowned British phrenologist Thomas Symes Prideaux. Representing both sides of an active clinical debate, these texts outline the reasons some researchers believed in the truth of phrenology while others did not. Most of the pamphlets include conflicting correspondence among clinicians embroiled in the phrenology debate. At the core of their conflict is the question of the physical material of the brain: it had been demonstrated that spinal matter and brain tissue are virtually identical, so why is the brain responsible for all thinking and action? Is there a tangible function in the brain that produces thought and behavior?

Of particular interest is the article on cerebral physiology by Engledue, in which the author advocates for the efficacy of "Mesmeric phrenology," or the capability of controlling an individual's actions by magnetizing specific parts of the skull. This address includes case studies of successful attempts. The article by Forbes on Mesmerism also questions the phenomenon of "phreno-magnetism" but takes a pessimistic approach, and Colquhoun's address denies its legitimacy altogether. In his extremely troubling essay on the phrenology of "Hindoos and Negroes," Montgomery asserts that Gall and Spurzheim's principles should not be applied to all humans, because the phrenological profiles of people from Africa and the Indian subcontinent do not represent the reality of their behaviors.

Eight additional unrelated pamphlets are also bound in. $3500.00
COORDINATING METAPHYSICAL EFFORTS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

27. REGNAULT, Jules, pres.  
   First edition, the official report of the International Congress of Radiotellurists and Dowsers held in Avignon April 24-27, 1932. The goal of the conference was to centralize, control, and coordinate metaphysical efforts to explore the subterranean earth for agricultural applications. The dowsers engaged in “séances” in which they employed different methods to search for underground water and mineral resources, including divining rods, magnets, pendulums, and hydrosopes. In one fantastically failed experiment, they were given maps and encouraged to use their power to identify promising spots; none of them agreed on where to look for the resources.  
   OCLC locates 3 copies in America (Columbia, NY Public, Michigan).  $ 500.00
**GAMES THEY PLAYED OVER 150 YEARS AGO**

28. SAUSSINE, Léon

*Jeu des poules et du renard.* Paris: Basset for Saussine, ca. 1860. Board game, Complete with stiff board (532 x 415 mm.) folded twice, chromolithographed game above printed rules for play, 15 lead animal figurines, 2 bone dice, and a molded dice bowl, all housed in the original box with chromolithographed lid. Minor wear to the folds of the board, but otherwise in excellent condition.

A 19th-century riff on a medieval strategy game: the chickens and the fox, complete with all game pieces and dice. The game is played by placing the chicken figures on their 13 places at the bottom of the game board, and the fox in his place at the top. Players roll dice to determine how many places they can move a chicken, which are able to travel right, left, and across, but not backwards. The player then moves a chicken towards the top of the board. However, players must try to keep chickens close together, because if a chicken is left alone in the fox’s territory, the fox will eat it. The player who gets the most chickens to the top of the board wins.

The creator, Léon Saussine (d.1896), produced educational games and puzzles for children; he exhibited at the World’s Fair in 1878.

$ 2900.00

**BIRTH OF INFORMATION THEORY**

29. SHANNON, Claude Elwood

*The mathematical theory of communication.* Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1949. 8vo. viii, 117 pp. Text diagrams. Original publisher’s cloth, dust jacket in near-fine condition with only a couple of very small nicks on the edges. First edition in book form, originally printed the prior year in the *Bell Telephone Technical Journal*. Shannon’s paper marks the birth of information theory, including the study of the rate and reliability with which information an be transmitted in the presence of noise. Shannon gives precise mathematical definitions to fundamental notions such as quantity of information, information source, mutual information, communication channel, communication codes, etc. He shows that even noisy channels can support essentially error-free transmission by properly coding the information to fit the channel characteristics. Moreover, regardless of how clever the code, it is not possible to transmit information at a rate higher than some limit, called the channel capacity, which can be determined in advance from the characteristics of the noise. On the first page of the paper is the first appearance of the term “bit” for “binary digit.”

These concepts and results serve as the guiding principles of today’s communications technology. “Shannon’s major precept that all communication is essentially digital is now commonplace among the modern digitalia, even to the point where many wonder why Shannon needed to state such an obvious axiom” (Blahut & Hajek). Few other works of the twentieth century have had a greater impact; Shannon altered most profoundly all aspects of communication theory and practice.

*Origins of Cyberspace,* 880; Tomash & Williams, S94-9P5 (both first printings).

$ 2500.00
THE NATURE OF DREAMS AND DREAMING

30. TRYON, Thomas
A treatise of dreams & visions. Wherein the causes natures and uses of nocturnal representations, and the communications both of good and evil angels, as also departed souls, to mankind, are theosophically unfolded … To which is added, A discourse of the causes, natures and cure of phrensic, madness or distraction … By Philotheos Physiologus. [London: n.p., 1689]. 8vo. [xvi], 299, [1], iii pp., including an advertisement for other works by the author. Modern bonded leather; title page trimmed or repaired at top. Note in pen at bottom of title indicating the name of the author and dated 1695, engraved label of Samuel Hirst, watchmaker of Leeds, pasted on verso of title with his ownership inscription to title.

First edition. The first of two parts treats the meaning and significance of dreams, initially dealing with the nature of sleep (including those who walk and talk therein), the causes of dreams specified, the meanings of certain types of dreams and how people communicate with angels through dreaming. The second part is an appendix “shewing the cause of madness, and several observables relating thereunto.” He makes an analogy between dreams and madness, and thereby approaches a description of psychosis. In this period, physicians still held strongly to the concepts of humors and religious beliefs, yet the text definitely indicates a more modern understanding of and respect for people suffering from mental illness.

Tryon (1634-1703), an English merchant, was self-taught in medicine and astrology. He wrote a number of popular self-help books, as well as works on slavery, education, and temperance. He was convinced that pacifism and benevolence to animals were keys in leading a spiritual and long life.

Wing, T-3197. $450.00

PRISON REFORM WAY AHEAD OF THE TIME

31. VINGTRINIER, Arthus Barthélemy

First edition of this groundbreaking plan for an overhaul of the French penal system. Here Vingtrinier, a prison physician in Rouen, details his ideas for making prisons humane, hygienic, and efficacious in order to produce reformed society members and reduce criminal recidivism. His plans include apprenticeships through patronage for prisoners, a comprehensive healthcare program, and separation of prisoners based on age, health, mental capacity, and severity of crimes. He frequently references prison codes in other cities and countries and their effectiveness and describes how penal systems changed over time. He vehemently opposes agricultural penal colonies in favor of teaching prisoners trade skills.

Vingtrinier’s work helped to expose the cruelty and filth of French prisons in the early 19th century, and as a result encouraged the largest reform of a penal system to date.

Brunet VI: 4096. $950.00
32. WIRDIG, Sebastian


**First edition** (also published the same year in Frankfurt) of this mystical medical guide. The author attributes the causes of diseases to spirits that live in the body and air and offers esoteric treatment advice couched in magnetism, alchemy, and ritual. His theory adds to the principles of humoral medicine; he claims that heat and cold are spirits that invade the body, and bodily spirits live in the blood. Insanity and mental illness feature heavily, and, despite the strange nature of the text, Wirdig suggests rather modern therapeutic psychiatric interventions. He also develops a theory of magnetism wherein attraction between spirits inside and outside of the body results in illness. The final part of the text provides recipes and recommendations for tinctures and talismans to protect the body.

Wirdig (1613–1687) was a German physician and professor who taught at the University of Tartu in Estonia.

Duveen 662; Caillet 11448; Krivatsy 13062; VD 17 1:068856H.

$ 1800.00
STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS

33. WRIGHT, Thomas
The use of the globes: or, the general doctrine of the sphere: explaining and demonstrating the most natural propositions relating to astronomy, geography, and dialing. To which is added, a synopsis of the doctrine of eclipses. London: John Senex, 1740. 8vo. iv, 160 pp. With frontispiece and 29 additional engraved plates (all but 3 folding). Title in red and black. Later full speckled calf, spine in compartments; contemporary annotations. A fine clean copy.

First edition. The author, an English astronomer, mathematician, instrument maker, architect and garden designer, explains astronomy through the use of globes. He includes both celestial and terrestrial instruments in detailing geography, eclipses, transits and occultations, and makes an effort to ensure an understanding of how to use the globe to decipher astronomical events.

Wright (1711-1786) built an observatory at Westerton in Durham County. Ten years after this work he published an explanation of the appearance of the Milky Way as “an optical effect due to our immersion in what locally approximates to a flat layer of stars,” a theory later supported by Immanuel Kant and William Herschel. Wright also proposed that many faint nebulae are actually incredibly distant galaxies, anticipating Hubble. Both here and in his later works, Wright claimed the enormity of the universe.

The publisher John Senex was “above all ... esteemed for his globes” (see DNB, XXVII, p. 1182), wares which he permitted himself to advertise in the present work, using two of the plates (including the frontispiece) to depict terrestrial and celestial examples from his own stock.

DNB, XXI, pp. 1043-1044; Houzeau & Lancaster 9756; Taylor, Mathematical Practitioners of Hanoverian England 1714-1840, 321. $ 1850.00
THE ZODIAC AND CELESTIAL PHILOSOPHY

34. ZURIEL [WHEELER, J.]
A series of lectures on the science of celestial philosophy, or the language of the stars, Part I, containing the fundamental principles. London: Sherwood, Gilbert, and Piper, 1835. 4to. [iii], 80 pp., plus 16 pages of publisher’s advertisements and a final leaf advertising Saffell’s convulsion drops for infants. With 1 folding plate. Original green cloth, remnants of paper spine label, binding a bit worn; interior excellent, with ownership signature on title page.

First and only edition, all published. This fascinating treatise provides the reader with the general principles of celestial philosophy as well as the nature of zodiac signs. In six “lectures” the author seeks to explain the construct of the universe and its effect on all aspects of human lives, especially with respect to one’s date of birth and the planetary alignments at the time. This includes one’s personality as well as habits of the body. A number of celebrated people are used as reference, including Samuel Johnson, Lord Byron, various members of royalty, historical figures such as Nero, Alexander the Great, various kings and queens of England, etc. The folding plate is entitled “Synoptical Table of the System of Celestial Philosophy.”

This was the first of a projected series of lectures from the astrologer who wrote under the pseudonym Zuriel. Following the title page, a leaf indicates that all communication to Zuriel be address to J. Wheeler, "Teacher of Astronomy and the Use of the Globes." No additional information about the author is available.

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