

# BOOKS THAT TELL STORIES

Fleet Prison  
For the use of  
the Inmates  
1834

**BORIS JARDINE** | **RARE BOOKS**

# BORIS | RARE JARDINE | BOOKS

Catalogue #1, January 2024, PDF

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NO. I PACKHORSE LIBRARY COPY

BJRB

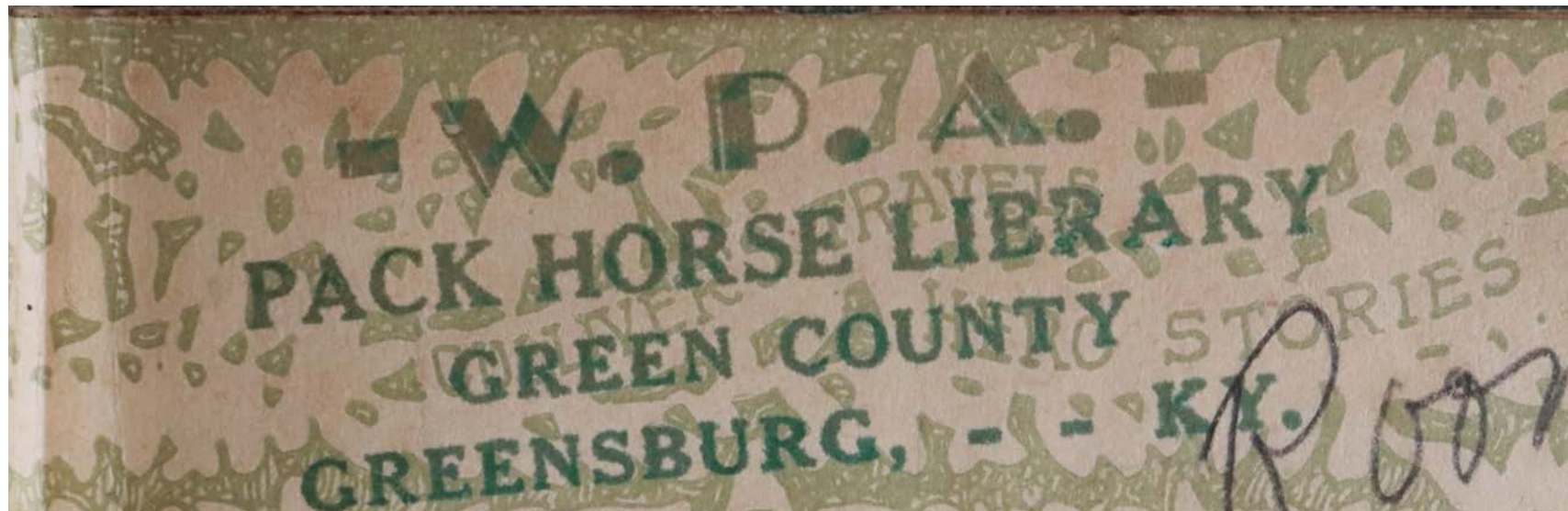
GREENWOOD, Grace, *Merrie England: Travels, Descriptions, Tales and Historical Sketches* (Ginn & Company, Boston), 1908

172 x 120mm; pp. xv, 207

Good condition: cover worn; library stamps and markings

[SOLD]

**S**TAMPED 'W.P.A. / PACK HORSE LIBRARY / GREEN COUNTY / GREENSBURG, KY', revealing that this volume was part of the Works Progress Administration project to send books to remote parts of the Appalachian Mountains between 1935 and 1943. The librarians were women, and they travelled on horseback with packs that could hold up to 100 books, raising the literacy level of an area beset with poverty and with almost no provision of books. The Packhorse Library project has itself been the subject of many historical treatments, notably Jojo Moyes 2019 novel *The Giver of Stars*.



## NO. 2 STEINBECK IN VIETNAM

QUỶNH, Nguyễn, [*Three essays*] (Saigon), 1966

199 x 158mm; pp. 24

Good condition: spine fragile and chipped; paper browned

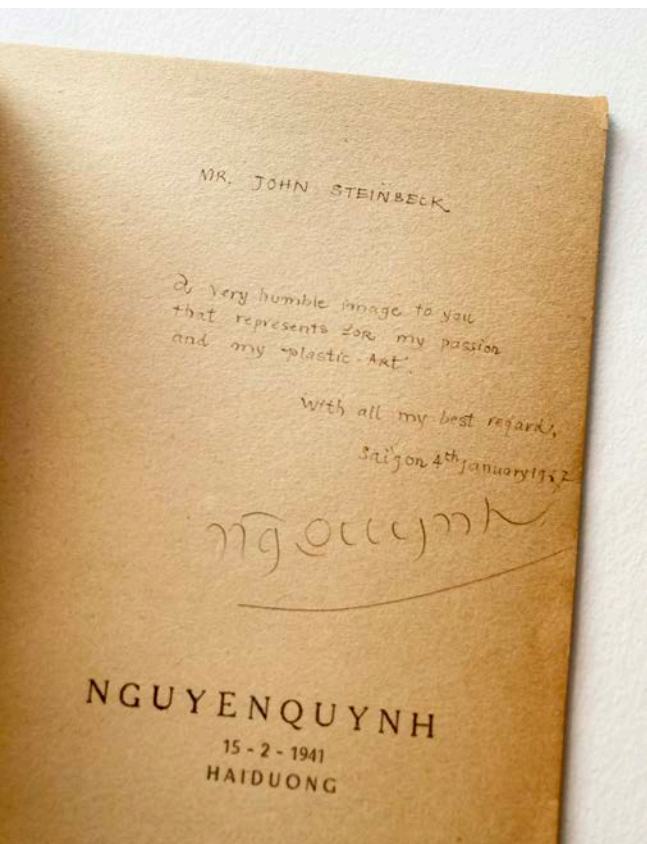
[WITH:]

HIỆN, Nguyễn Quang, *Gửi nhà văn John Steinbeck* ([Saigon]), 1966

220 x 149mm; [4 loose leaves on heavy stock, printed rectos only]

Good condition: top edge worn and frayed; slight discolouration

[SOLD]



**T**WO ITEMS FROM JOHN STEINBECK'S PERSONAL COLLECTION, from his visit to war-torn Vietnam. Quỳnh's pamphlet of essays (in Vietnamese, French and English) is warmly inscribed to Steinbeck, and dated 4th January 1967, Saigon. The other item is a poem by Nguyễn Quang Hiện – in loose proof sheets – addressing Steinbeck directly in print, and referred to and translated in a letter from Steinbeck to Alicia Patterson of 12 January 1967. Steinbeck writes: 'Here in Vietnam, people give me presents, small mementos left in the box at my hotel, letters I can't read nor easily have translated. [...] I have been given a poem addressed to me which even in translation I find so sharp and moving that I can't resist sending it to you. There is a fury in it and at the same time a trust. I hope you will find it as meaningful as I have.' No copies of either item located world-wide.

NO. 3 PRINTED IN PYONGYANG – VANISHINGLY RARE

KIM, Jong Il, *On the Art of the Cinema* (Foreign Languages Publishing House, Pyongyang), 1989

205 x 145mm; pp. 329, [3]

Very good condition: spine lightly sunned; covers a little warped; internally fine, noting only a small ownership inscription to the title-page and a few loosely inserted magazine articles

£440 [\[link\]](#)

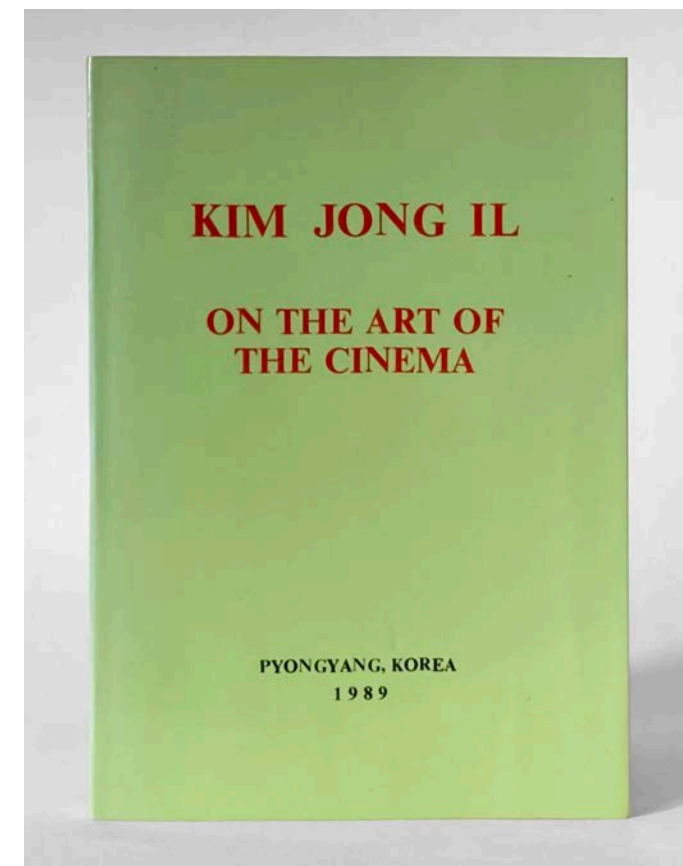
**F**IRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDITION, and very scarce, of Kim Jong Il's treatise on modern cinema – a product of his famous cinemania. The book develops one of Kim's best known cultural concepts: 'seed theory', in which his and his father's communist teachings should form the 'seed' of all creative endeavour.

Kim directly oversaw the production of many thousands of films, often appearing as 'Executive Director'. But Kim was no mere propagandist – in fact he had a lifelong obsession with Hollywood. Hence, *On the Art of the Cinema* is a surprisingly important title for understanding the development of the North Korean State, and the relationship between the most isolated state on the planet and modern Western culture.

Although the work has circulated widely, this Pyongyang-printed first English edition is rare, with only a single copy located at the National Library of Australia.

**BJRB**

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## NO. 4 PSALMS 'FOR THE USE OF THE INMATES'

WATTS, Isaac, *The Psalms of David* (Sunday School Union, London), 1837

Small 8vo; 108 x 72mm; pp. xxxi, 542

Fair condition: spine split but holding; front board and flyleaf replaced; rear flyleaf removed; title-page browned, otherwise good internally

[SOLD]

**A**N EXTRAORDINARY COPY, with a manuscript note to the rear endpaper: 'Fleet Prison | For the use of the Inmates | 1837'. Marked frequently 'Fleet Prison' to the margins, presumably to stop inmates excising parts of the book.

The Fleet Prison was located at the corner of Ludgate Hill and Farringdon Street, just to the east of the old Fleet River. It was notorious as a debtors prison, and was immortalised in Dickens' *Pickwick Papers*: 'There were many classes of people here, from the labouring man in his fustian jacket, to the broken-down spendthrift in his shawl dressing-gown, most appropriately out at elbows; but there was the same air about them all—a kind of listless, jail-bird, careless swagger, a vagabondish who's-afraid sort of bearing, which is wholly indescribable in words, but which any man can understand in one moment if he wish, by setting foot in the nearest debtors' prison, and looking at the very first group of people he sees there, with the same interest as Mr. Pickwick did.' Poignantly, some of the pages are intentionally dog-eared, presumably recording favourite psalms of pious or escapist prisoners.



NO. 5 THE EARLIEST ACCURATE PLAN OF AUSCHWITZ  
SELF-PUBLISHED BY A FORMER PRISONER

ROGERIE, André, *Vivre c'est Vaincre* ([self published], Paris), 1946

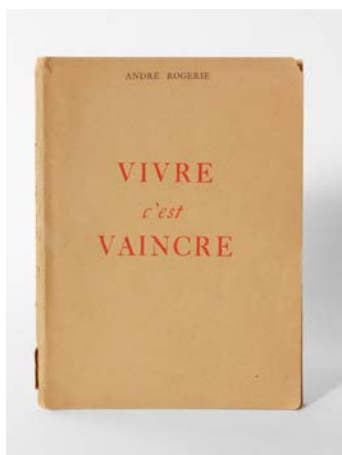
185 x 142mm; pp. 125

Good condition: spine worn at top and bottom, with some loss to the bottom;  
top-right corner of the cover nicked; internally very good; paper fragile

£2,200 [\[link\]](#)

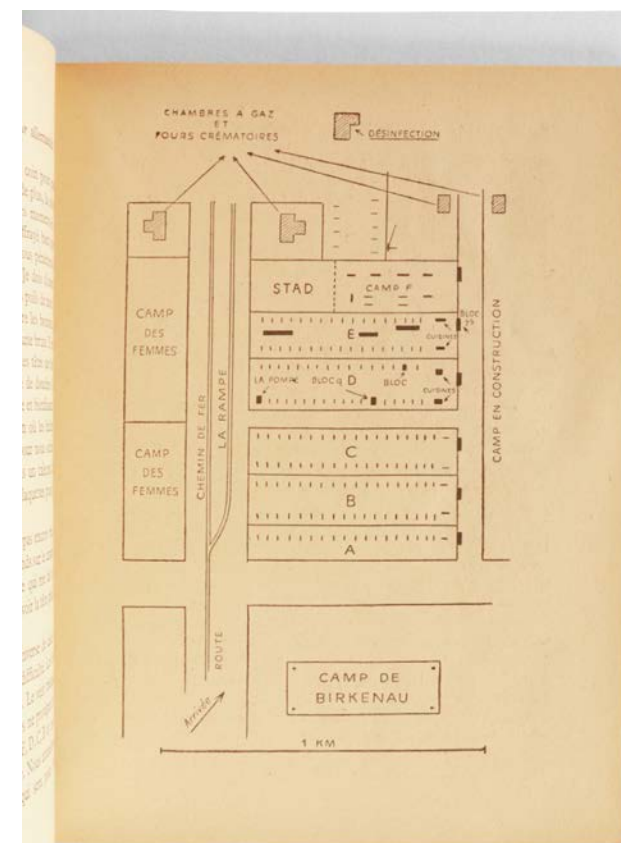
**E**XCEPTIONALLY SCARCE: no copies located worldwide. Like all survivors' stories, Rogerie's tale is extraordinary and tragic: he was a French resistance fighter, captured in 1943 and initially sent to prison camps in France. In November of that year he was transferred to Buchenwald, then moved to Dora, and then to a camp in Lublin. As the Soviets approached he was evacuated to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Here Rogerie was able to witness first hand many of the horrors of the camp, and committed everything to memory – especially

the layout and nature of the camp and its crematoria. After Auschwitz was liberated, Rogerie found his way to a German school and began to write his account of what he had seen in a schoolmaster's notebook. As soon as he returned to France he worked tirelessly, with his sister, to complete his manuscript. The resulting self-published work was neglected until the 1980s, when Georges Wellers identified Rogerie's drawings as the earliest accurate images of Auschwitz, and Rogerie himself began to speak out against Holocaust denial.

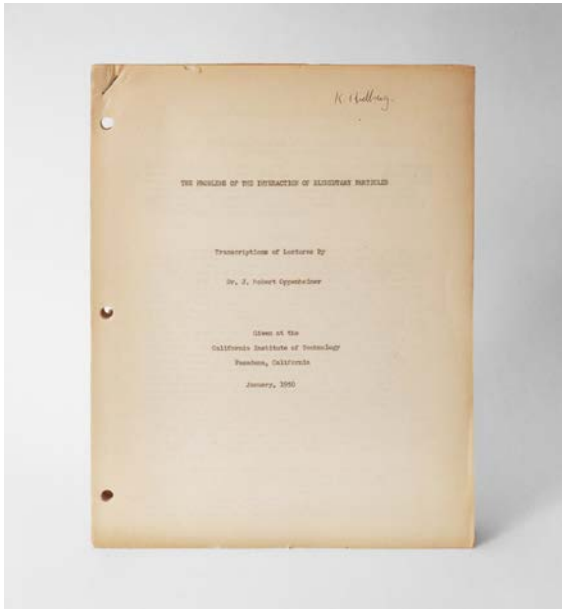


**BJRB**

**[Half the proceeds to be donated to the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum]**



## NO. 6 OPPENHEIMER'S UNPUBLISHED MASTERPIECE

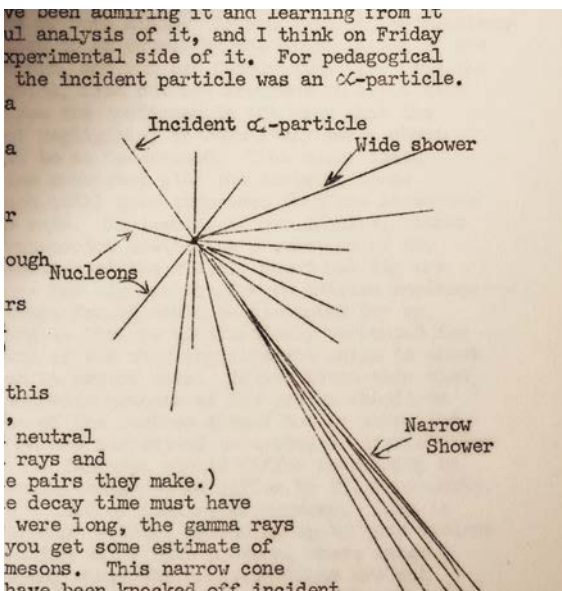


OPPENHEIMER, J. Robert, *The Problems of the Interaction Of Elementary Particles: Transcriptions of Lectures by Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, Given At The California Institute Of Technology* (California Institute of Technology, Pasadena), [1950]

280 x 216mm; pp. 87 leaves, printed on rectos only

Very good condition: stapled as issued, with three hole punches; top edge chipped; final leaf detached, browned to the verso

£1,800 [\[link\]](#)



OPPENHEIMER'S MASTERFUL SUMMARY of the astonishing progress made in Quantum Electrodynamics in the years leading up to 1950. Oppenheimer himself had presided over a series of landmark postwar conferences on quantum physics, 1947–1949 (at Shelter Island, Pocono and Oldstone), which had seen the convergence of research by Richard Feynman, Julius Schwinger, and Sin-Itiro Tomonaga. As Schweber points out in *QED and the Men Who Made It*, Oppenheimer's Caltech lectures stand at the pinnacle of this achievement (Introduction, xxviii). In spite of his fame for the development of the atomic bomb, it is the subject of elementary particle interaction that provides the leitmotif for Oppenheimer's whole career: his first major papers of the late 1920s were on this topic, and immediately after the war Oppenheimer sought to use his position as a 'statesman of science' to oversee a new research programme on quantum physics, culminating in the present work. Very scarce: only three copies located: Richard Latter Papers at the Hoover Institution Library and Archives; two copies at Caltech Library (one in the William A. Fowler Papers).



NO. 7 NIELS BOHR'S COPY OF AN IMPORTANT 1930 ISSUE  
OF ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR PHYSIK

**BJRB**

[BOHR, Niels – his copy], *Zeitschrift für Physik*, Vol. 63, Nos 5 and 6 (July, 1930)

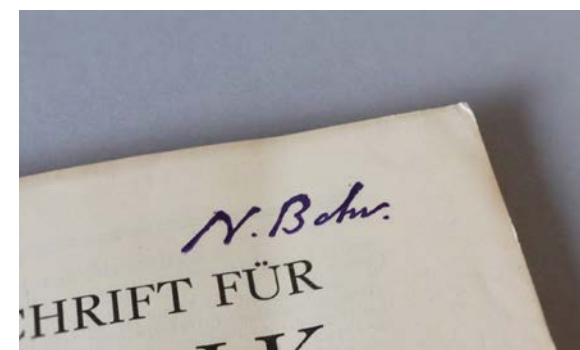
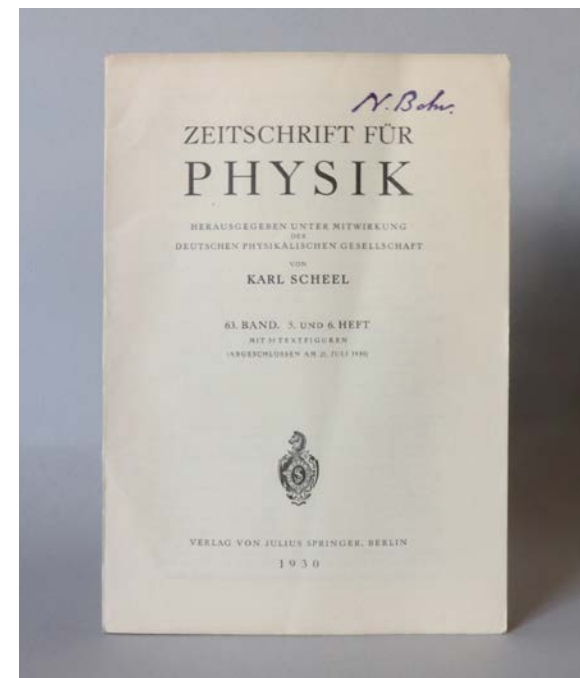
229 x 157mm; pp. 293–436

Very good condition: flattened crease to front cover

[SOLD]

A DOUBLY SIGNIFICANT COPY of the *Zeitschrift für Physik*, containing a pair of articles on the artificial disintegration of Boron, work that led directly to the discovery of the neutron and to Bohr's own theory of the 'compound nucleus', announced in 1935. This copy was Bohr's own, bearing his distinctive name stamp to the front cover. The standout articles in the issue, and the two that Bohr must have read most carefully, are those by Hans Fränzl and Walter Bothe, dealing with the bombardment of Boron by alpha-particles. These experiments initiated the search for gamma-radiation in such reactions – found by Bothe and Becker later in 1930. These were the results reinterpreted by James Chadwick two years later as the discovery of the neutron. (Bothe was to win the Nobel Prize in 1954, for the 'coincidence method' of experimental design in particle physics – the technique underlying the research published here, and incidentally one of the major challenges to Bohr's earlier work on wave-particle duality.)

The discovery of the neutron was the centrepiece of a period of rapid transformation in nuclear physics, culminating in Bohr's revolutionary theory of the compound nucleus, published in *Nature* in 1935.



## NO. 8 BARNES WALLIS RECORDS HIS FAMOUS MEETING WITH BEAVERBROOK [SOLE COPY]

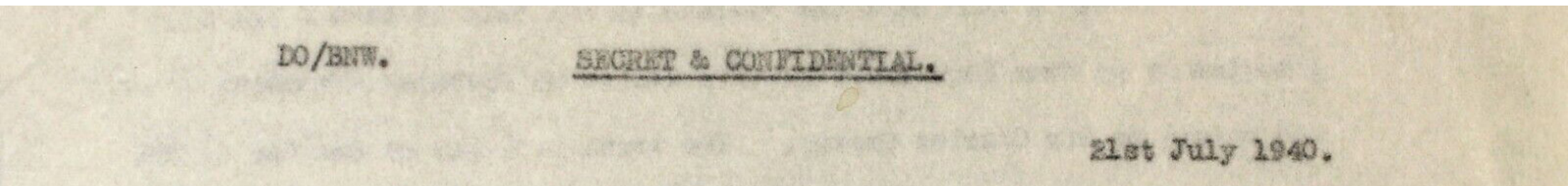
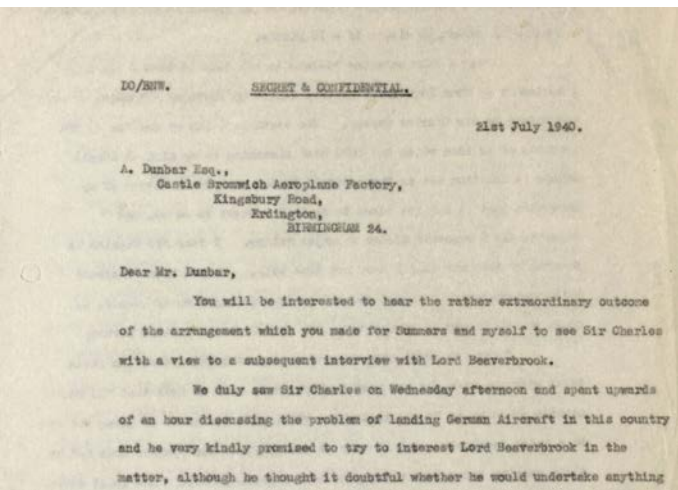
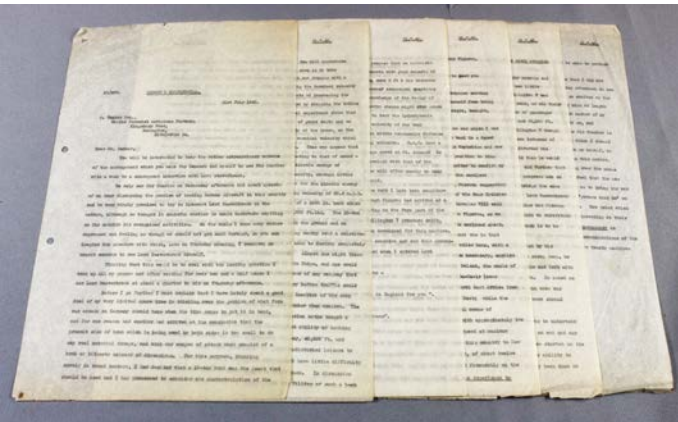
WALLIS, Barnes, typed letter [retained carbon copy] to Alex Dunbar, dated 21 July 1940

329 x 201mm; 6 leaves, printed on one side only

Good condition: fragile carbon paper; edges chipped not affecting text; hole punches to left edge

£2,400+VAT [\[link\]](#)

**T**HE ORIGIN OF THE ‘DAMBUSTERS RAID’: a highly significant record of one of the most important moments in the Second World War. This letter, which comes directly from Barnes Wallis’ own personal files, is the sole record of Wallis’ crucial meeting with Lord Beaverbrook in July 1940, during which Beaverbrook heard the first details of Wallis’ idea for the ‘Dambusters’ raid and gave his qualified assent for work to begin. The letter, addressed to the managing director of Vickers-Armstrongs, is exceptionally rich – digressive, chatty and full of technical detail. The text remains unpublished, though it forms a crucial part of Brickhill’s classic *The Dam Busters* (1951), and Jack Morpugo’s landmark 1972 biography of Wallis. Both Brickhill and Wallis must have had access to this specific copy, as we have been unable to locate the assent letter or any other copies of the carbon.



NO. 9 CHURCHILL'S CAREER RECORDED BY HIS COUSIN

**BJRB**

SPENCER-CHURCHILL E.G., [album of newspaper clippings], 1906/7

172 x 120mm; pp. [8, index], [129 numbered leaves, filled] rear endpapers used  
Good condition: binding a little shaken; cover with partially removed label

£240 [\[link\]](#)

A REVEALING VOLUME OF NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS, mainly from 1906–8, put together by Edward G. Spencer-Churchill, Winston's cousin and an aspiring politician himself. At this early point there are close parallels between the two men's careers. Spencer-Churchill was studying all the major 1906 General Election issues, which were also Winston's concerns at the time – Chinese labour in the colonies, and education reform at home. Some of the clippings are of Spencer-Churchill's own published letters to newspapers, but he also records the activities of his more famous cousin, at one point noting in manuscript 'Winston in H of C' alongside a clipping. There is some pencil highlighting to the clippings, and the volume ends with a series of typed and manuscript pages concerning tariffs and investments – including a signed letter from an employee of the Tariff Commission. Tariff reform was the major issue within the Conservative Party in the period leading up to the 1906 General Election.



Winston in H of C Feb 20, 1908.

I will now pro  
shoulders of the  
this contention,

for salarized



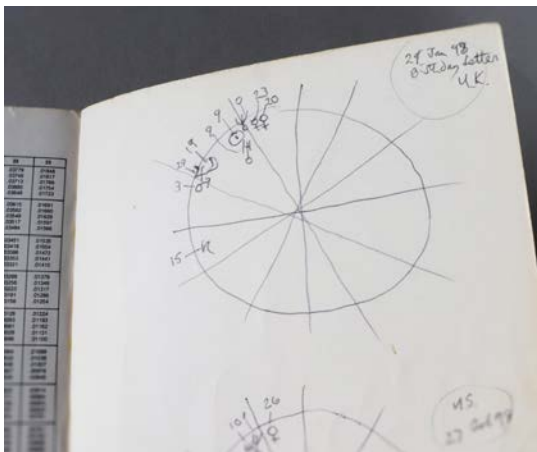
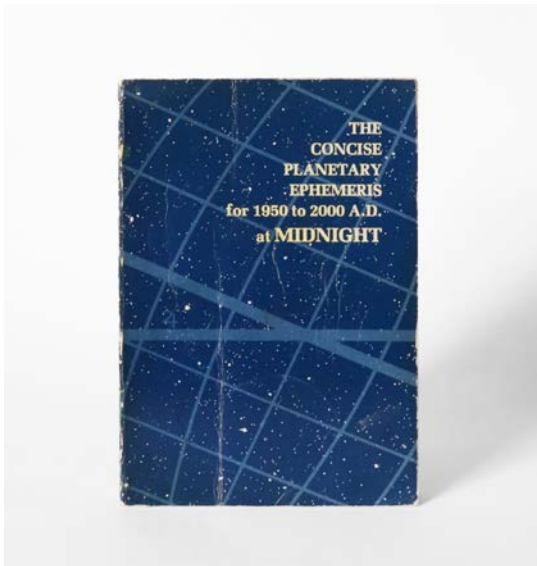
NO. 10 'DISASTROUS EXPENSE / ACCORDING TO THAT BOOK.  
ESPECIALLY FOR ME.'

HUGHES, Ted (his copy), *The Concise Planetary Ephemeris for 1950 to 2000 A.D.*  
(The Hieratic Publishing Co., Medford, MA), 1977

£1,750 [\[link\]](#)

152 x 226mm; unpaginated [approx. 250 pp.]

Good condition: cover and spine worn; quite heavily thumbed



TED HUGHES' EPHEMERIS, with astrological data for the period of his adult life, used by him to cast horoscopes – including two that have been drawn by him inside the rear cover of the book. These are for January 29th and February 27th, 1998: the UK and US publication dates for *Birthday Letters*, revealing that these dates were carefully studied by Hughes' for their astrological significance.

Hughes' astrology is poorly understood. It is typically associated with his early life and the influence of his sister Olwyn. But the evidence of this book is that astrology was significant throughout Hughes' life, not just 'giving order to the chaos of life' (Jonathan Bate), but in planning his actions, interpreting his past and even composing his poems.

For example, the well known poem about Plath, 'St Botolph's' was likely composed with this book in hand, as Hughes makes extensive use in the poem of the horoscope for the pair's famous meeting, on February 25th, 1956. Apparently of even greater significance was April 13th of that year – when Plath stayed with Hughes at his Rugby Street flat. Hughes has underlined this, the night of his 'epiphany'. A number of other dates are also underlined, awaiting interpretation.

## NO. II 'THE WASTELAND' AS AN ARCHIVE

ELIOT, Thomas Stearns, *Collected Poems* (Faber and Faber, London), 1939 [third impression]

£80 [\[link\]](#)

8vo; pp. 191

Poor condition: spine repaired with strong tape; countless inserts and annotations

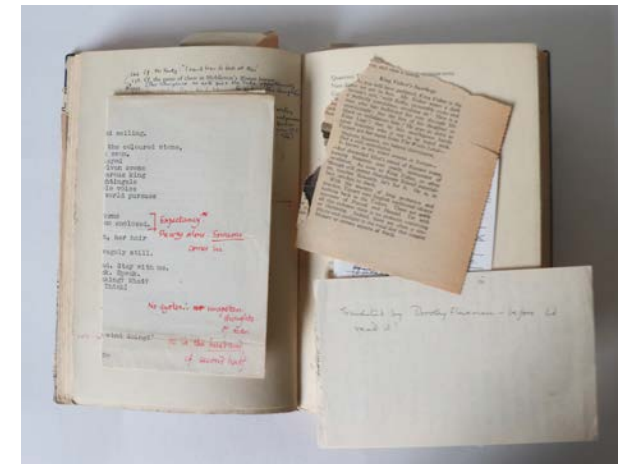
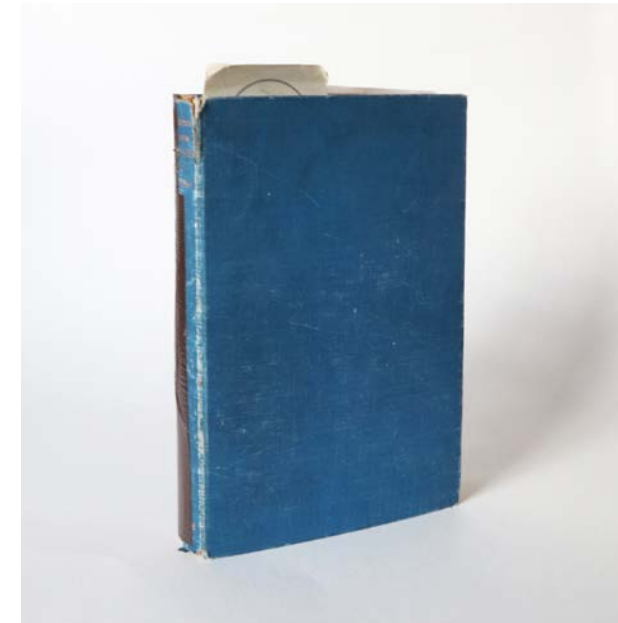
An extraordinary object: a copy of Eliot's *Collected Poems* that has been used as an archive over a period of nearly 70 years, from its first acquisition in 1939 (inscribed as such to the front endpaper) into the early years of the 21st century (dates on some inserts).

The book is prefaced with a card note, dated May 2006, which reads 'Please note that this book must be kept in bag as it contains so many loose bits and is falling apart. Acquired by J.O. in 1938 or '9, probably 9. Handle with care! The most read book in the house apart from dictionaries + similar reference books.'

J.O. is John Olmsted, who apparently studied the text at a University of London Institute of Education course in 1955 – Neatly annotated handouts for this course are inserted throughout the book. Many further readings and periods of annotation are in evidence: cross referencing with T.S.E.'s biography, adding footnotes and comments...

A true archive in book form, and a record of continuous reading for c.70 years.

# BJRB



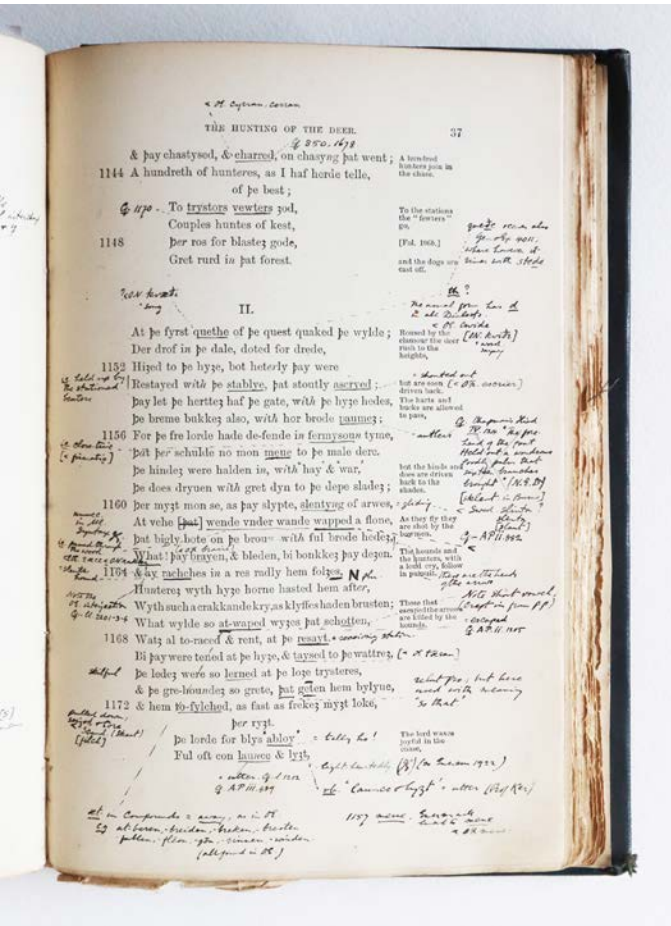
## NO. 12 TOLKIEN'S REVIEWER READS GAWAIN: COPIOUS MARGINALIA & REFS TO J.R.R.T.

[GRATTAN, J.H.G. – his copy], MORRIS, Richard (ed.), *Early English Alliterative Poems* [BOUND WITH:] *Sir Gawayne and the Green Knight* (Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., London), 1896 and 1897

£550 [\[link\]](#)

8vo; pp. xliii, [I], 216; [I, manuscript illustration], xx, 124

Good condition: blue cloth binding with gilt spine titles; manuscript annotations throughout; Grattan's ownership signature and bookplate; internally very good; binding a little shaken and one page splashed; 4 loose sheets loosely inserted, one with notes on (later) poetry



**A**N EXCEPTIONAL COPY of 'The Pearl', 'Gawain', and other mediaeval English poetry, copiously annotated by the philologist J.H.G Grattan (1878–1951). The context of this volume is of great significance: Grattan favourably reviewed J.R.R. Tolkien's 1925 edition of 'Gawain', and here we can see him directly engaging with Tolkien's edition, which is mentioned frequently in the marginalia.

A delightful feature is Grattan's own in illustration of a monumental brass, tipped in at the title-page of 'Gawain', marked with names for parts of the armour. In his review Grattan compliments Tolkien for comments 'on the dress and armour of the period.

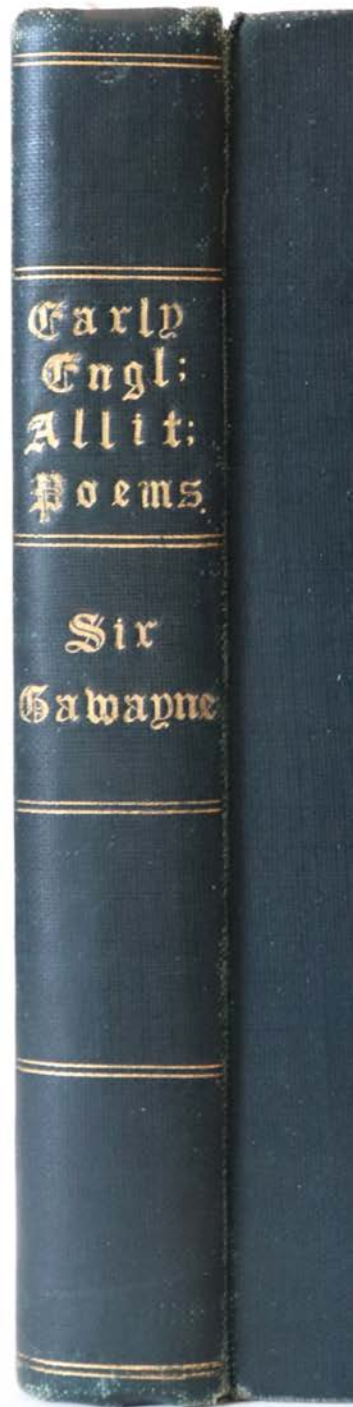
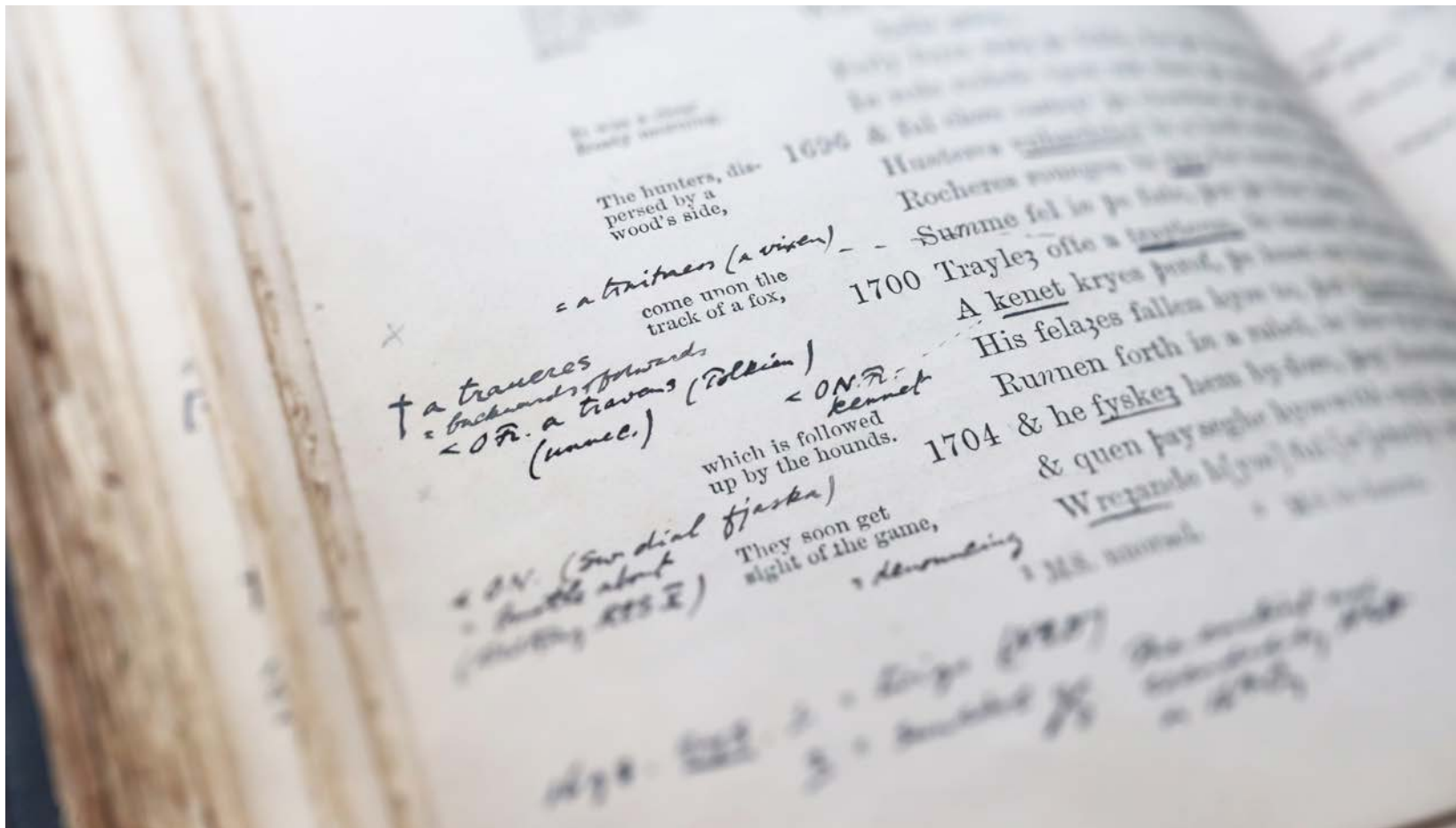
The engagement with Tolkien is only one aspect of this volume, however. Grattan takes aim at the editor Richard Morris, writing 'rubbish!' next to a comment

(continued overleaf)



about the impossibility of translating one dialect into another. The text of the poems is very finely and thoroughly annotated, with glosses, corrections and many cross-references.

John Henry Grafton Grattan (1878–1951) was a Lecturer in English at UCL from 1912–1930, and Professor at Liverpool from 1930–1943. He was the author of a 1916 study of 'Piers Plowman' and an edition of 'The Owl and the Nightingale', as well as a study on English grammar and a posthumously published collaboration with Charles Singer entitled *Anglo-Saxon Magic and Medicine*. The present volume records his close reading of some of the most important early English texts – this exceptional scholarship apparently remained unpublished, outside of the review of Tolkien.



## NO. 13 SHERLOCK HOLMES' OWN COPY?

ALLEN, Grant, *The Attis of Caius Valerius Catullus: Translated into English Verse, with Dissertations on the Myth of Attis, on the Origin of Tree-Worship, and on the Gallambic Metre* (D. Nutt, London), 1892

£240 [\[link\]](#)

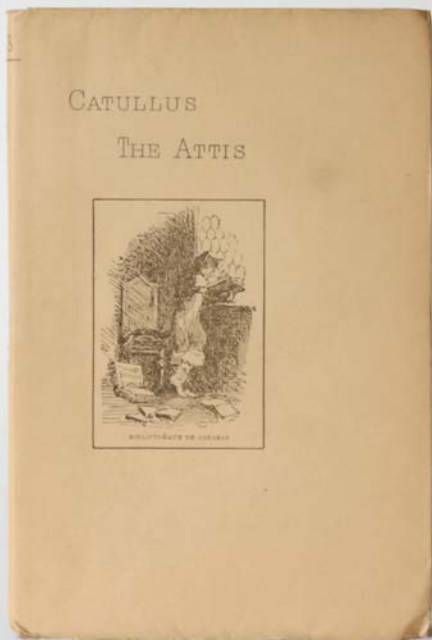
8vo; pp. xvi, 154, 2

Very good condition: paper-covered thin card covers a bumped

**T**HE MOST ESOTERIC OF ALL HOLMESIANA – in every sense. A volume that is obliquely described in ‘The Empty House’. That story describes Holmes’ return from Reichenbach in the guise of a shabby bookseller. As Watson recounts:

I struck against an elderly deformed man, who had been behind me, and I knocked down several books which he was carrying. I remember that as I picked them up I observed the title of one of them, *The Origin of Tree Worship*.

Soon the ‘poor bibliophile’ offers to sell Watson the same volume, calling it a ‘Catullus’. Recalling that ‘The Empty House’ is set in 1894, we can apply Holmes’ deductive method, and identify the present volume as precisely the work that Arthur Conan Doyle had in mind when writing this famous continuation of the Holmes stories – a fitting tribute to Conan Doyle’s friend and neighbour Grant Allen, who had died in 1899, four years before ‘The Empty House’ was published.



## NO. 14 THE INVENTIVE MIND OF GUSTAVE TROUVÉ

**BJRB**

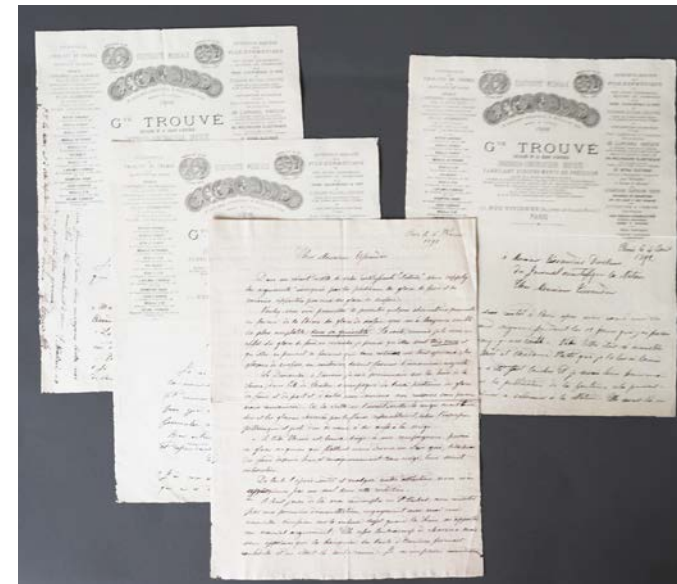
TROUVÉ, Gustave; TISSANDIER, Gaston, [a group of four autograph letters, an illustrated note and a signed card], 1891–2

£1,500+VAT [\[link\]](#)

Very good condition: paper uniformly aged; flattened folds minor abrasion without loss to the verso of one letter

**A**N IMPORTANT GROUP OF LETTERS from the inventor and polymath Gustav Trouvé, whose work Alexander Graham Bell called ‘the highest expression of the perfection and the ingenuity of the electric science in France’. Amongst devices invented or improved by Trouvé we can count the outboard motor, ophthalmoscope, sealed battery, portable electric telegraph, Universal AC/DC electric motor – and on and on. Wikipedia lists no fewer than 71 inventions!

Trouvé was playful in his inventiveness, a quality especially on display in these letters to Tissandier (founding editor of *La Nature*). Here Trouvé discusses the formation of surface or submerged ice, the luminous fountain made for the famous singer Adelina Patti (a prototype of the fountains he installed at the 1900 Paris exposition), and – with delightful illustrations, La Fontaine’s story ‘King Frog’ (see photograph). The letters are long and digressive and will reward further study, a task made all the more significant by the fact that Trouvé’s own archive was destroyed by fire.





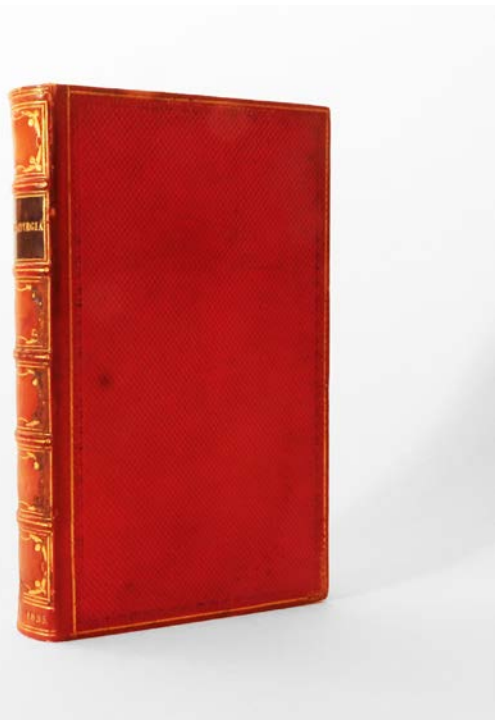
## NO. 15 DEMONOLOGY IN OXFORD

[ANON. – ‘An Oxonian’], *Thaumaturgia, or Elucidations of the Marvellous* (Edward Churton, London), 1835

£500 [\[link\]](#)

Small 8vo; pp. vii, 362

Good condition: binding worn along one edge of the spine; internally very good, noting only some ink marks to the contents page



ONE OF THE MOST EXTENSIVE 19th century collections of esoterica. This unusual and often amusing book collects an exceptional range of beliefs, practices, quotations and anecdotes on subjects as diverse as dreams, oracles, witchcraft, druids, astrology, divination, talismans, and demonology.

The identity of the author has evaded historical research. The title-page states that the author is ‘An Oxonian’ (the attribution sometimes made to Samuel Reynolds Hole is spurious). The nature of the work is also in question. As a reviewer in the *Monthly Review* pointed out, the tone is often satirical – but the extent of the research does surely show sympathy with ‘the Marvellous’. In later chapters the author shows how modern inventions and medical techniques have developed from illusions and daring experiments.

Scarce in commerce: no auction records since 1917. This copy is particularly pleasing: bound in contemporary coral coloured diced calf, with raised bands and gilt decoration and black label to the spine. All edges and endpapers marbled.

## NO. 16 TEMPORAL MATTERS IN OXFORD

**BJRB**

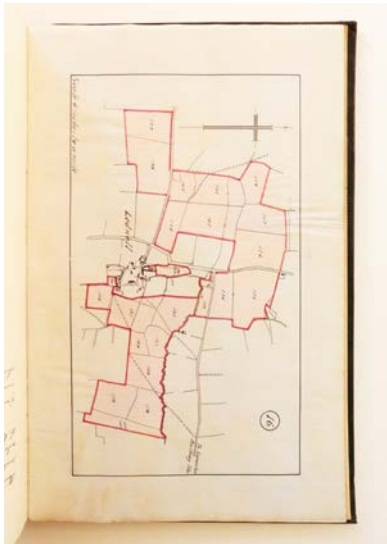
BELLAMY, Reverend James, Manuscript ledger: assessment of 16 properties mortgaged by James Bellamy, 1910

£200+VAT [\[link\]](#)

Folio; 37 leaves, 17 hand-coloured plans.

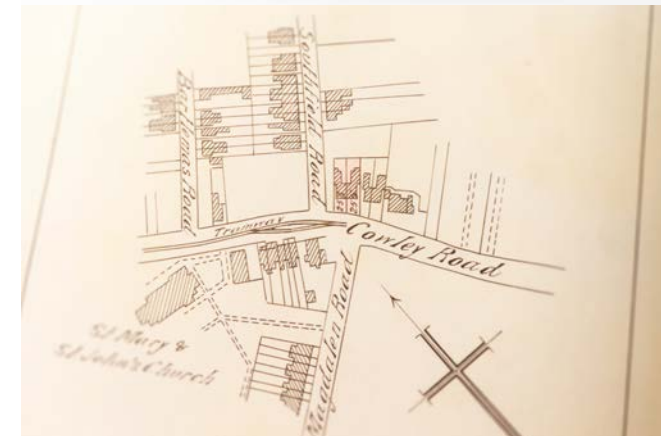
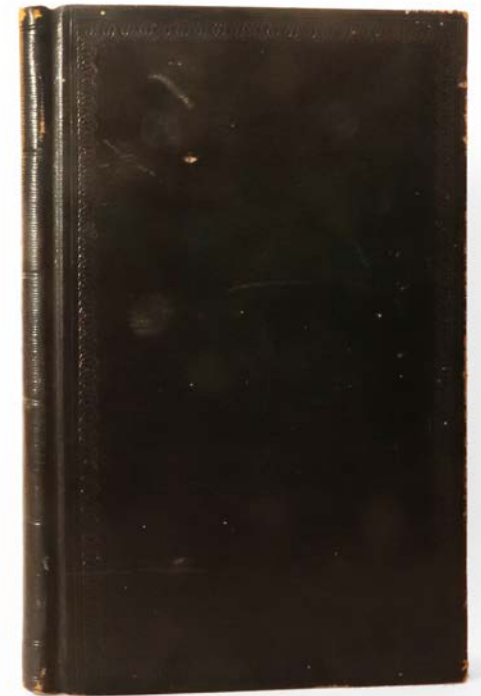
Very good condition: black leather binding a little scuffed; internally clean and bright, occasional faint spotting to the plans, which are on different paper-stock; neat and legible copperplate hand throughout

**A**N ELEGANT LEDGER, well illustrated with manuscript survey plans, containing details of 16 properties, including a number in the City of Oxford. These properties were all mortgaged by the Reverend James Bellamy (1819–1909), and the ledger therefore illustrates the extent of his holdings at the time of his death.



The Oxford properties include Denver Lodge on the Woodstock Road, plots on the Banbury and Iffley Roads, houses in Leckford Place and Walton Crescent, and Fieldgarth on Woodstock Road.

Bellamy was one of the central figures of late 19th century Oxford: he was leader of the Oxford Conservatives and president of St John's College, and his estate was valued at £300,000 at the time of his death. See Matthew Ford, *Intellectual Capital Money and Mind at St John's College, Oxford* (2023).



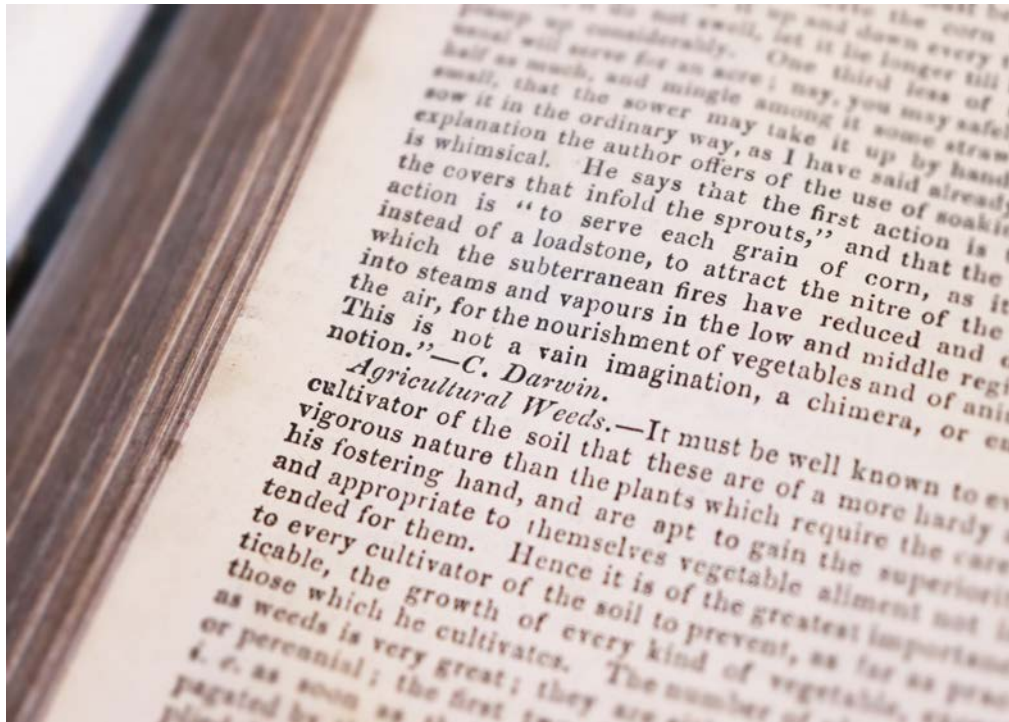
## NO. 17 THE 'TRANSMUTATION LETTER': DARWIN'S FIRST PUBLISHED MENTION OF EVOLUTION

DARWIN, Charles, [letter on the transmutation of corn], in: *Gardeners' Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette* (23 November 1844), p. 779

£1,200 [\[link\]](#)

Folio; pp. viii, 880 [with:] approximately 300 pages of *The Newspaper*

Very good condition; elegant quarter leather binding with marbled boards by John Mylrea (label inside front cover); pages a little age-darkened but overall in excellent condition; title-page and index erroneously inserted from the 1843 volume of the *Gardeners Chronicle*



THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE FOR 1844, containing Darwin's significant letter on the 'transmutation' of corn – his first public statement on evolution. The volume also includes four longer contributions by Darwin, one bearing on the question of heredity, as well as responses by Henslow and another naturalist, and an editorial by John Lindley on the 'origin' of plant species.

Through the first half of 1844 Darwin composed his famous 'sketch' of a theory of evolution by natural selection – a 230 page manuscript first published in 1909 and now known as the 'foundation' of *On the Origin of Species*. Shortly after finishing the sketch, Darwin was surprised to read John Lindley's 17 August editorial in *The Gar-*

(continued overleaf)

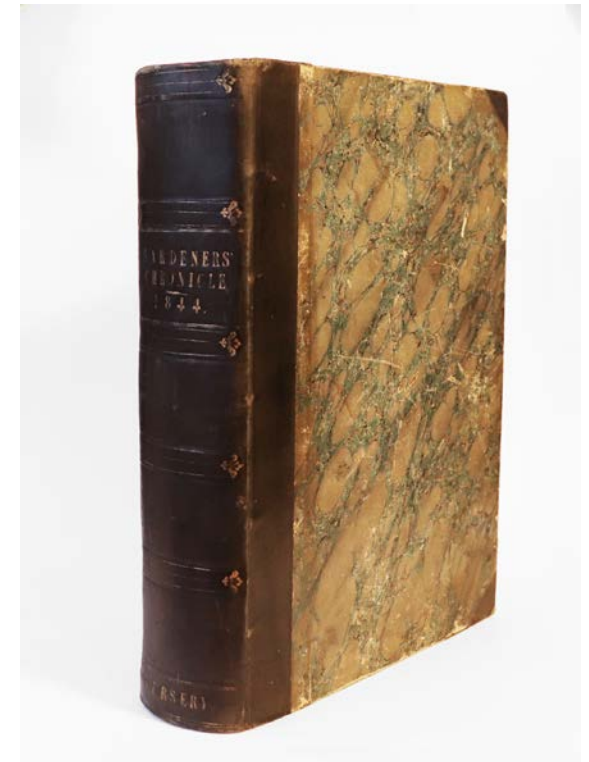


*deners' Chronicle* (p. 555 here), concerning 'transmutation'. Lindley gave historical examples in which seeds had germinated as unexpected species, and went on to explore the deeper question of the 'origin' of plant species. Lindley concluded that 'a good many persons' should 'try the experiment' of transmuting wheat, rye, oats and barley, which he thought might be 'accidental offsets from some unsuspected species' (p. 555).

Darwin soon wrote to Lindley, and, though the letter itself is now lost, Lindley quoted from it in his editorial notes of 23 November (p. 779 here). Significantly, Darwin agreed 'that so curious a subject is well worth investigation,' adding 'even if it should prove to be only a history of error'. Darwin went on to quote examples similar to Lindley's from James Anderson's *Recreations in Agriculture* of 1800. Natural selection was clearly on Darwin's mind, as he suggested that if transmutation was not in play, perhaps from a range of seeds only the 'hardier plant' would grow.

In addition to Lindley's provocative August editorial, and Darwin's November letter, the volume contains three more contributions by Darwin: on manure and drainage (with a response by another naturalist); on 'the origin of mould'; and on white-tipped leaves. Here Darwin makes another suggestive comment:

*These facts may appear trivial; but I think the first appearance, even if not permanent, of any peculiarity which tends to become hereditary [...] deserves being recorded.*



LORENTZ, Hendrik Anton, *Das Relativitätsprinzip* (B.G. Teubner, Leipzig and Berlin), 1914

£340 [\[link\]](#)

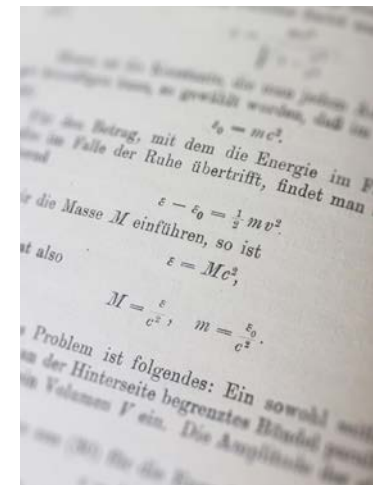
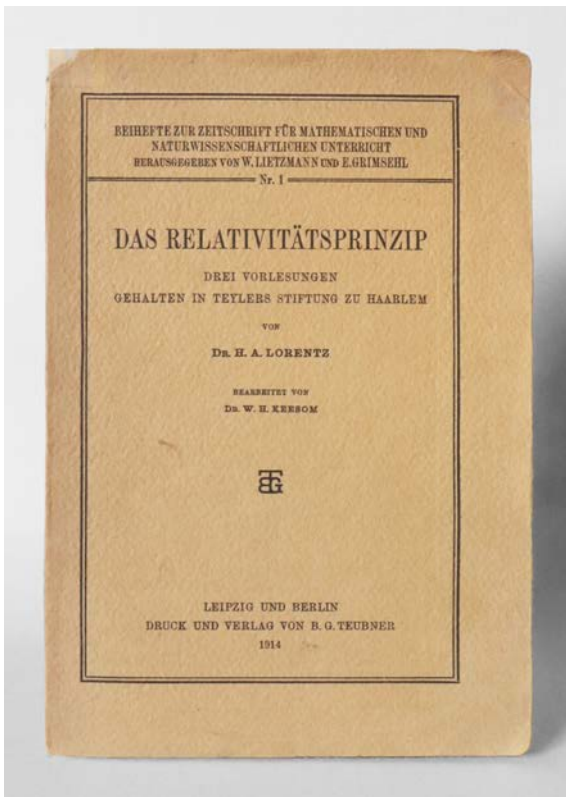
169 x 253mm; pp. 52

Good condition: spine neatly repaired; library stamps and markings

**T**HE TRUE FIRST APPEARANCE of the most famous equation in the history of science.

Einstein's 'annus mirabilis' papers on the equivalence of mass and energy were published in the *Annalen der Physik* in 1905. However, Einstein did not write  $E=MC^2$  in 1905, stating only the mass-energy relation in terms of changes in each. Of all the many physicists who discussed and analyzed Einstein's work in the years after 1905, Hendrik Lorentz was perhaps the most imaginative, and certainly the best qualified. It was Lorentz who first stated ' $E=MC^2$ ' in the present volume (on p. 24; see photograph). Since the early years of the 20th century Lorentz had been seeking equations for 'electromagnetic mass'.

Einstein himself first used  $E=MC^2$  in 1946, in the title of an article in *Science Illustrated*.



NO. 19 INSCRIBED TO STEPHEN HAWKING  
BY HIS RUSSIAN COUNTERPART

[HAWKING, Stephen – his copy], NOVIKOV, Igor, *Black Holes and the Universe* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge), 1995

£1,150 [\[link\]](#)

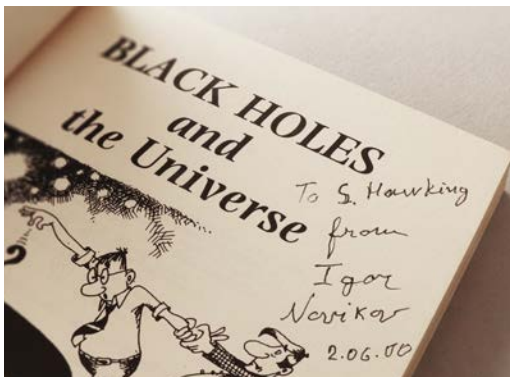
172 x 120mm; pp. viii, [2], 176

Near fine condition; card covers clean and crisp; rear top outer corner a little bumped; internally fine

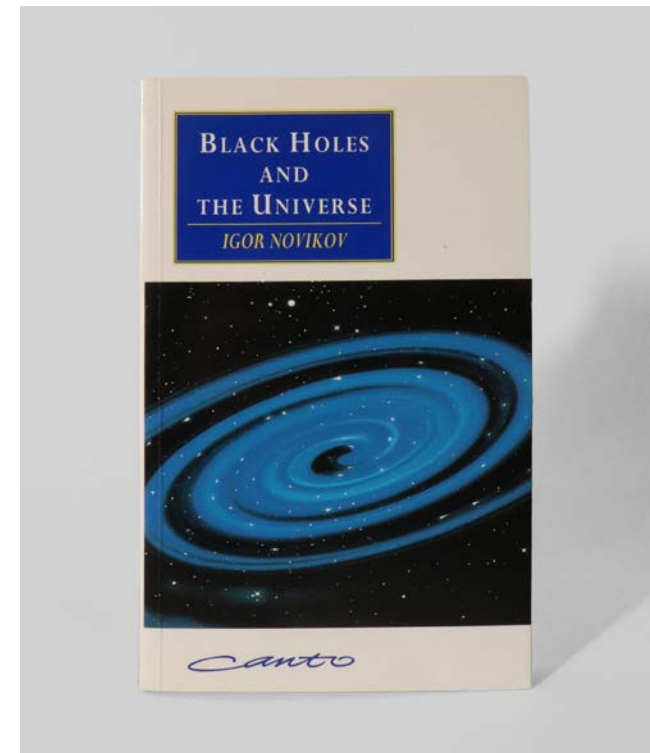
INSCRIBED BY NOVIKOV ‘To S. HAWKING from Igor Novikov’ and dated 2 June 2000. A wonderful association. Novikov is sometimes called ‘the Russian Stephen Hawking’, owing to his long interest in Black Holes, and in particular his formulation in 1964 of the idea of a ‘White Hole’.

Like Hawking, Novikov also has an interest in time travel. In the 1980s he developed the ‘Novikov self-consistency principle’, in which the probability of any event that causes a ‘change’ in the physical state of the past is zero.

This book was part of Hawking’s personal collection, kept at his house on Wordsworth Grove, Cambridge.



**BJRB**





## NO. 20 'THE GREATEST GIFT THAT MODERN ASTROPHYSICS HAS GIVEN CIVILIZATION'

BURBIDGE, E. Margaret, et al., 'Synthesis of the Elements in Stars', in: *Reviews of Modern Physics*, Vol. 29, No. 4, pp. 548–651 (American Physical Society, Lancaster PA and New York), 1957

£1,200 [\[link\]](#)

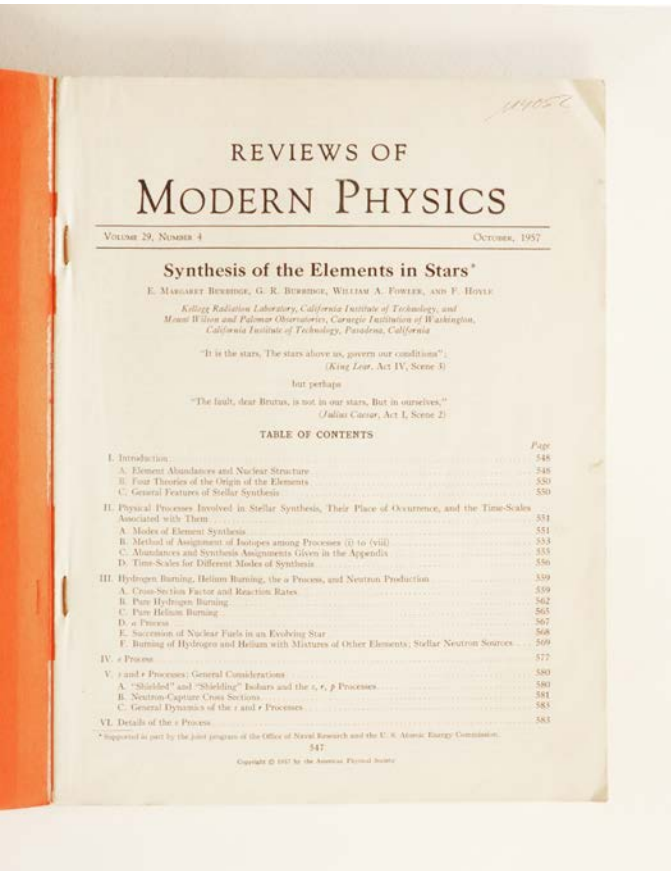
267 x 200mm; pp. [1], 548–836, [2]

Very good condition: light fraying to spine ends; cancelled library blindstamp to cover but otherwise unmarked

ONE OF THE LANDMARK PAPERS in 20th century astrophysics. The discovery that all elements in the universe heavier than hydrogen and helium are forged by stars. Hence the phrase 'we are all made of stardust'.

Burbidge conducted foundational research in a number of areas, and held prestigious posts at many institutions. She was also a campaigner against sexist discrimination in science. The paper is co-authored with G.R. Burbidge (her husband), William Fowler and Fred Hoyle, and is often called simply B2FH.

When asked 'What's the most important thing that most of us don't know about the universe that we should?' Neil DeGrasse Tyson cited this very paper, saying 'for me, it's the greatest gift that modern astrophysics has given civilization'. As he pointed out, Burbidge awaits her biographer (see also No. 21).



## NO. 21 ASTRONOMER MARGARET BURBIDGE'S COPY

**BJRB**

[BURBIDGE, Margaret – her copy], MAXWELL, E.A., *Geometry for Advanced Pupils* (The Clarendon Press, Oxford), 1949

£450 [\[link\]](#)

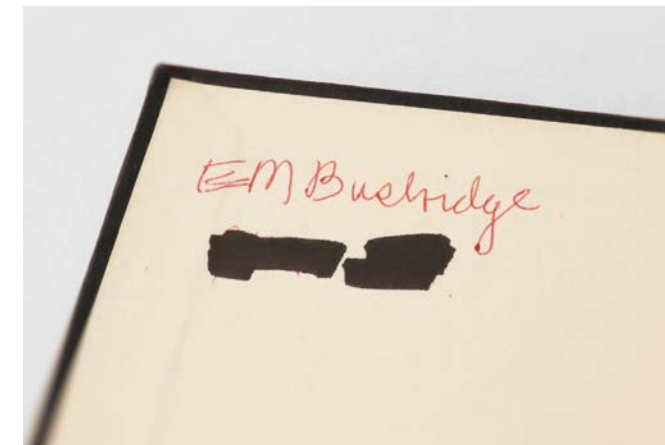
8vo; pp. 176

Very good condition

**M**ARGARET BURBIDGE'S COPY of this scarce and important work on pure geometry. For Burbidge's breakthrough paper see No. 20 (stellar nucleosynthesis).

This volume was probably acquired by Burbidge after her return to England. She had trained and then taught at UCL, and then from 1951 spent two years at the Yerkes Observatory, Wisconsin, before returning to the University of Cambridge to conduct research with her husband Geoffrey Burbidge, William Fowler and Fred Hoyle. This resulted in the monumental B2FH paper of 1957.

From 1959 her research turned towards the geometry of distant galaxies – over a period of many years Burbidge and her collaborators analyzed the 'rotation curves' of many galaxies, developing key insights and techniques, and adding crucial evidence to the Big Bang theory of the origin of the universe. This work therefore helped shape the work of one of the greats of 20th-century astrophysics.



COUCH ADAMS, John; GRAHAM, Andrew [University of Cambridge Observatory], a small archive of original manuscript observations from the University of Cambridge Observatory, 1866-1867

£250+VAT [\[link\]](#)

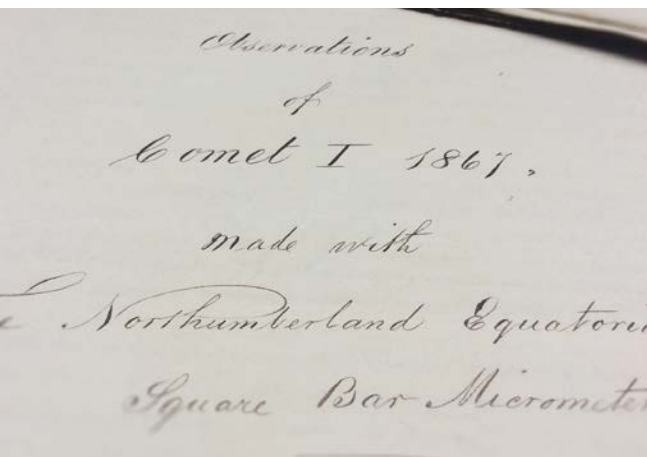
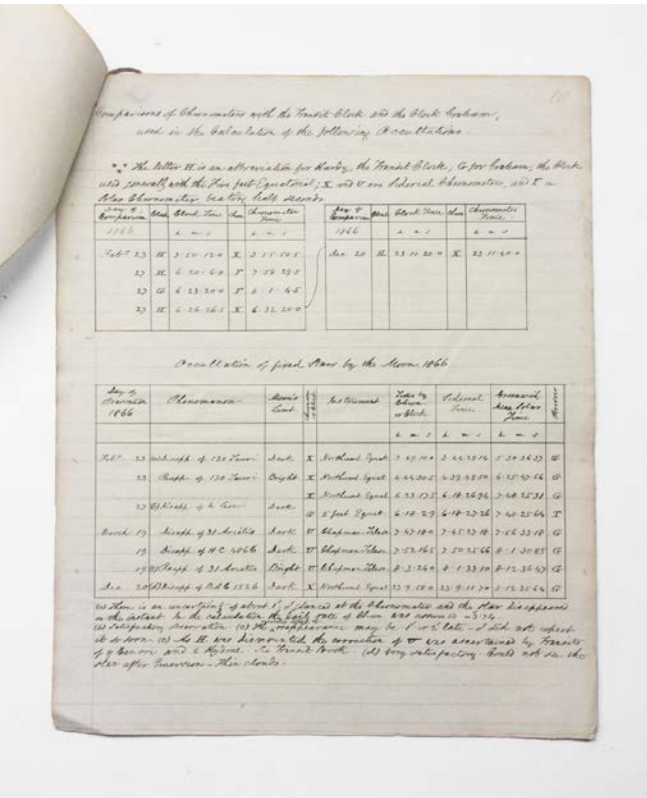
Various paginations; three sets of observations

Very good condition, with only minor age-toning to the paper

**A** SET OF ORIGINAL OBSERVATIONS taken at the University of Cambridge Observatory in 1866/7, under the superintendence of John Couch Adams.

Including observations of stellar occultation, the diameter of the Sun and Jupiter, and the position of various planets, notably including Neptune, of which Adams was co-discoverer in 1846. Another set of observations of a comet uses the famous Northumberland Equatorial telescope, which is still installed at the Observatory, and was at the time of its construction one of the largest refracting telescopes in the world, with lenses constructed by the French optician Robert-Aglaé Cauchoix.

These observations were largely made under Adams' direction by the Irish astronomer Andrew Graham, and formed part of the Cambridge Zone Catalogue, itself a small part of the monumental catalogue of stars ('Astronomische Gesellschaft Katalog'), the third part of which was published as recently as 1975.





NO. 23 WITH UNPUBLISHED NOTES ON VENUS BY  
PAT RICK MOORE

**BJRB**

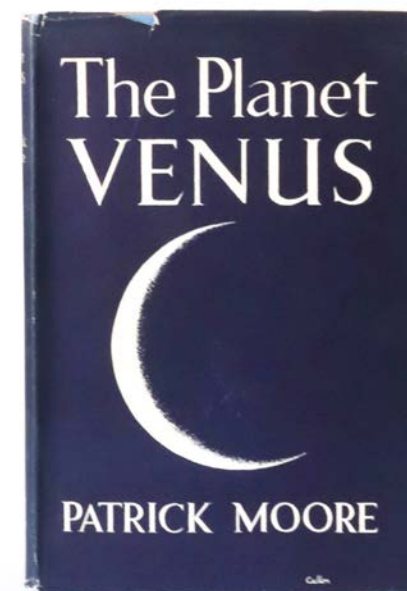
MOORE, Patrick, *The Planet Venus* (Faber & Faber, London), 1959 [second edition, revised and enlarged]

£250 [\[link\]](#)

8vo; pp. 151

Very good condition: jacket chipped along the top edge; blue cloth binding very good; internally fine

**A**N ATTRACTIVE COPY OF MOORE'S EARLY BOOK on Venus, with two loose sheets laid in. The first is a letter to Moore from A.V. Butkevitch dated 5 March 1972, referring to the book and giving an anecdote about naked-eye perception of phases of Venus. The second is a short essay by Moore, apparently unpublished, on the same topic (after 1969). Moore explains an experiment he conducted on the phenomenon, concluding that it is indeed possible to see the phase without a telescope (the same conclusion is reached in the book itself).



VENUS WITH THE NAKED EYE

Patrick Moore

There has always been considerable discussion as to whether it possible to see the phase of Venus with the naked eye. Certainly this could be done only when the planet is in crescent form - if then. However, it might possibly explain the many old references

## NO. 24 MAX NEWMAN'S COPY OF THE SEARCH: SOWING THE SEED FOR BLETCHLEY?

NEWMAN, Max (his copy); SNOW, C.P., *The Search* (Victor Gollancz, London), 1934 [second impression]

[SOLD]

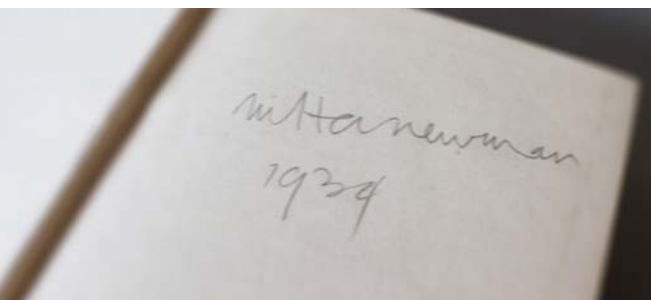
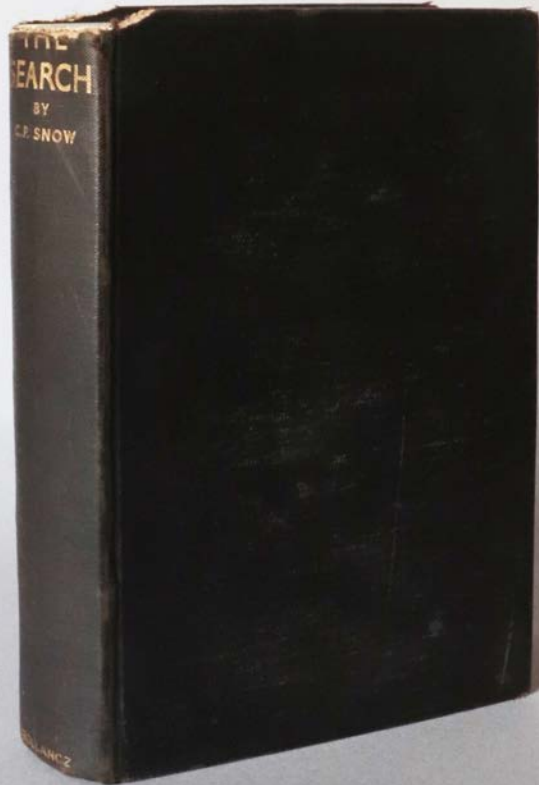
8vo; pp. 429

Fair condition: lean to spine; top 5mm of spine chipped away; internally very good

**M**ATHEMATICIAN AND COMPUTER PIONEER Max Newman's copy of Snow's classic account of a scientist on the make, attractively inscribed and dated by Newman to the front flyleaf (a further pencil inscription reveals that he paid 8/6 for the book in October of that year).

A significant association, given the involvement of both Snow and Newman in recruitment for Bletchley Park, and the depiction in *The Search* of an ideal research institute in which scientists have the freedom to structure their research while solving the most urgent problems.

Newman was a hugely important mathematician in his own right, as well as being Alan Turing's mentor, and playing an important role in Turing's foundational work on the 'entscheidungsproblem' (see No. 25). At Bletchley Park Newman pioneered computing methods of codebreaking, and after WWII he founded the Computing Machine Laboratory at Manchester University.



## NO. 25 ALAN TURING'S FINAL PAPER

TURING, Alan, 'Solvable and Unsolvable Problems', in *Science News* 31, pp. [7]-24 (Penguin Books, Harmondsworth), 1954

[SOLD]

112 x 180mm; pp. 137 [1, index of authors for nos 28-31].

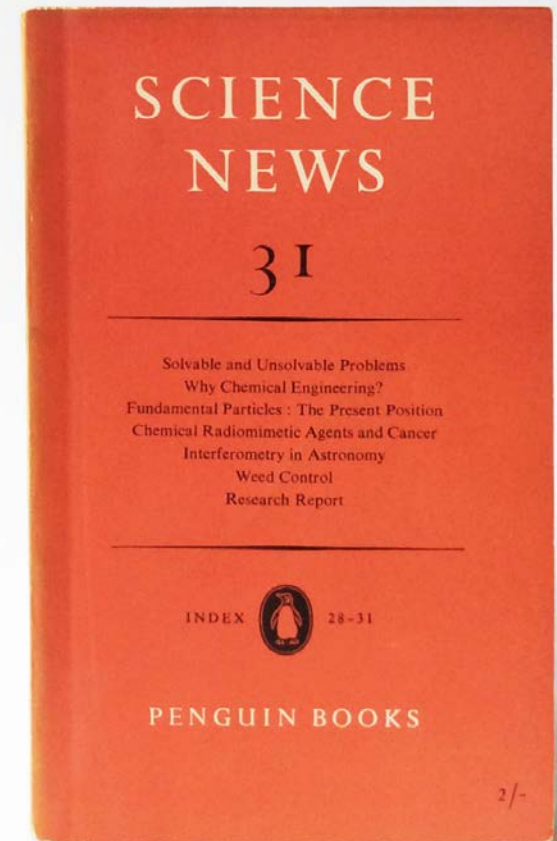
Very good condition: pages age-toned; spine slightly faded as always

**A** MASTERPIECE OF SCIENCE WRITING: Turing explains his breakthrough 1936 work in lay terms. Considered to be one of the 'Five Turing Classics' (*Alan Turing: His Work and Impact*, p. 339).

This deceptively simple paper contains profound insights into the nature of calculability. Owing to the ambiguous philosophical status of what is known as the 'Church-Turing Thesis' (briefly, 'given any systematic method, we can find a corresponding Turing machine that is equivalent to it'), Turing's discursive comments in the present paper are, in the words of Turing's editor Jack Copeland, 'of outstanding interest'. Here Turing manages to cover his own (and Church's) thesis on computability, the relationship between the latter and Gödel's incompleteness theorem, and much else concerning the nature of puzzles and mathematical proofs, all in his typical playful and admirably clear prose.

This is Turing's final completed essay before his death in June 1954. Turing's short career was one of the most brilliant in the whole history of science.

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**BORIS** | RARE  
**JARDINE** | BOOKS