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BOOKS PURCHASED: We are alway interested in purchasing fine single items or collections.

Photoplay edition. First published in 1924 in New York by H. K. Fly. Novel based on Douglas Fairbanks' Fantasy of the Arabian Nights by Elton Thomas and a short version by Lotta Woods. Gold lettering a bit tarnished, top edge a trifle dusty, else a near fine copy in about very good pictorial dust jacket (designed by Willy Pogany) with some wear along edges and several small shallow chips, mainly head of spine panel and upper front corner tip, and two closed tears, 12 mm at bottom edge of rear panel and 12 mm at bottom rear flap fold. Overall, a fairly attractive example of the colorful jacket. (#148059)


First edition. A romantic melodrama with dastardly doings and murder in eastern Georgia during Reconstruction after the American Civil War that features a strong female protagonist who survives being tossed about by a tornado, among other happenings. Not in Wright. Corner tips a bit rubbed, a couple of tiny white (paint?) flecks to rear cover, pulpy paper a bit tanned, a very good, bright copy. (#151647)

3. Akerman, John Yonge, writing as "J. Y. A." TALES OF OTHER DAYS ... London: Effingham Wilson, 1830. Octavo, pp. [1-2] [i-v] vi-vii [viii-x] [1] 2-250, engraved title and six inserted plates with illustrations engraved by J. Thompson and S. and T. Williams after drawings by George Cruickshank, early purple binder's cloth with leather title label affixed to spine panel, top edge untrimmed. $250

First edition. A collection of supernatural, folkloristic, and traditional tales, written or retold by Akerman, several from German sources. Cohn 22. Private owner's bookplate affixed to front paste-down. Cloth worn at spine ends, some patchy fading to cloth, some foxing to half title leaf, title leaf and frontispiece, a very good copy. (#152059)

4. Allen, Grant (Charles Grant Blairfindie Allen) and May Cotes. KALEE'S SHRINE ... Bristol and London: J. W. Arrowsmith ... Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 1886. Small octavo, pp. [1-4] [1] 2-196 + 12-page publisher's catalogue and single leaf advertising Rowlands' Articles, original brown cloth, front panel stamped in black, spine panel stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in blind, black coated endpapers. $650

First edition. Novel of an Anglo-Indian woman possessed by the goddess Kali. "The ideas are interesting and sophisticated, but the treatment is cheaply sensational and not up to Allen's better work elsewhere." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 16. Wolff 110. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, very faint circular spot on rear cover, a bright, very good copy. (#151763)

5. Allen, Grant (Charles Grant Blairfindie Allen). AN ARMY DOCTOR'S ROMANCE ... London, Paris & New York: Raphall Tuck & Sons, n.d. [1894]. Octavo, pp. [1-2] [1] 2-109 [110-112: ads], inserted frontispiece (uncredited portrait of Allen) and seven full page plates with illustrations (one a chromolithograph) by Harry Payne, original chromolithographic stiff card wrappers with cloth spine. $250


First edition. The author’s first collection of short fiction, sixteen stories, including fantasy and science fiction: “The Reverend John Creedy,” “My New Year’s Eve Among the Mummies,” “The Mysterious Occurrence in Piccadilly,” “Pausodyne,” “The Child of the Phalanstery” and “Our Scientific Observations on a Ghost.” Wolff 121a (1892 printing). Slight spine lean, cloth worn at spine ends and corner tips, cloth rubbed along outer joints, hairline cracks along inner hinges, endpapers foxed, frontispiece and tissue guard foxed with a bit of offset on title page, a few leaves of the inserted catalogue proud, still an about very good copy. A scarce book seldom found in decent condition. (#151795)

7. Allen, Grant (Charles Grant Blairfindie Allen). THE WHITE MAN’S FOOT ... London: Hatchards, 1888. Octavo, pp. [i-v] vi [vii-viii] [1] 2-216 + undated 32-page publisher’s catalogue inserted at rear, 17 illustrations by J. Finnemore, original pictorial green cloth, front panel stamped in brown, black and gold, spine panel stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in black, white endpapers with floral pattern printed in olive green. $250


First edition. Lost city of an ancient Chinese civilization discovered in Baja California. Early owner’s name and address in ink on front free endpaper. A bright, nearly fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with light wear at edges, mainly spine ends, soiling to rear panel, and a stain to front panel that is barely noticeable because it blends into the jacket art, which looks like the work of Mahlon Blaine. Quite scarce in jacket. (#147623)


First edition, first printing. “Heroic fantasy of antediluvian days which includes the discovery of a race of people called the Sarpis who are in advance of the rest of the world but who worship a pterodactyl.” - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 21 and A Spectrum of Fantasy Volume II, p. 131 (describing first and fourth printings). Hairline cracks along inner hinges, top edge of text block dusty, still a tight, bright, very good copy of an attractive book. Like most Digby, Long books, quite scarce. (#151877)


First collected edition. An omnibus volume combining UNCANNY STORIES (1916) and MORE UNCANNY STORIES (1918), which in turn were selected from PEARSON'S NOVEL MAGAZINE. Includes two early stories by noted mystery writer Roy Vickers; also a death premonition story by Theo. Douglas (Mrs. H. D. Everett). Routine commercial work of World War I-era. On the plus
side, it should be noted that these are stories seldom encountered elsewhere. "Mostly crude horror." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 690. Early owner's signature and date on the front paste-down and free endpaper respectively. A few fox marks to page edges, mostly top edge, a bright, nearly fine copy in a good pictorial dust jacket with wear and short tears at edges and some general dust soiling. A nice copy of a scarce book rarely found in jacket. (#148346)

11. Anonymously Edited Anthology. ATLANTIC TALES. A COLLECTION OF STORIES FROM THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1866. Octavo, pp. [1-4] [1] 2-479 [480: blank], flyleaves at front and rear, vignette title page, original bevel-edged green pebbled cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in blind, t.e.g., other edges trimmed, brown coated endpapers. $450

First edition. Includes the first book appearance of Fitz-James O'Brien's classic short story "The Diamond Lens." "... far and away O'Brien's most original, most influential, and best work." - Franklin, Future Perfect, p. 321. There are thirteen other stories, including several fantasies, by Edward Everett Hale (two contributions including his "The Man Without a Country"), Lucretia P. Hale ("The Queen of the Red Chessmen"), Rose Terry [Cook], Bayard Taylor and others. BAL 3775 (Cook); BAL 15174 (O'Brien); BAL 19697 (Taylor). Wright (II) 155. A bright, fine copy. Uncommon in this condition. (#148067)


First edition. A "collection of contemporary fiction based on the theme of false supernaturalism. In some cases the seemingly supernatural is an accidental event that is misinterpreted, in other cases it is fraud or imposture. The stories, most of which are short, sometimes narratives rather than formal short stories, are probably reprinted from various collections and periodical sources. Some are obviously of foreign origin. The publisher, Ackermann, is renowned for his beautiful books containing colored mezzotints, and the present volume is attractively illustrated with six colored plates ... This British edition does not seem to have been popular, probably because of its editorial position. In America, however, this book was soon reprinted, and it went through many editions, on up to the middle 1860's." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 689. Block, p. 83. Boards a bit rubbed at edges, some mild foxing and darkening to text block, narrow marginal loss to one leaf of text, a very good copy with fine, bright plates, in a handsome binding. Unlike the later American edition (popular, and reprinted many times), the British edition appears to have achieved little commercial success and is elusive. (#151806)


First edition. Issued as part of "Putnam's Railway Classics" series. The stories (with one exception) are reprinted from PUTNAM'S MONTHLY, a critically acclaimed but short-lived magazine (1853-1857) that showcased American rather than British writers (who dominated the industry-leading HARPER'S MONTHLY), though the present volume gives no author attributions, keeping up the old tradition of anonymous authorship in periodicals. A mixed collection that includes fantasy stories: "Found and Lost," a dream story set in 1824 of the discovery of the source of the Nile (faint echoes of Poe, as well as Howard's classic "Three Miles Up"); "My Three Conversations with Miss Chester," an occult romance about magnetism and controlled dreaming; "Tolliwotte's Ghost," a rationalized humorous ghost story; "The Legend of Goodman Poverty," a humble man outsprings Death; "The Double Vei," a macabre fantasy about cats, rationalized as a nightmare; "The Old Woman Who Died Up and Blew Away," in which a bitter old woman gives herself to the Devil; "Uncle Bernard's Story," an allegorical "fairy" story; there may be others. Most of these tales are "round the fire" stories and are religious and moral in tone, but imaginative and pleasantly written overall. The collection was reprinted the following year as FOUND AND LOST, AND OTHER MAGA STORIES. This first printing is quite scarce. With such a high proportion of fantastic material, this book should be better known within the genre. Wright (II) 1650. Small paper defect to lower margin of leaf <1>3, several leaves roughly opened with shallow loss to fore-edge margins, else a nearly fine, bright copy. A pretty copy of an uncommon book. (#149747)


First edition. Anonymous translations of German supernatural, ghost and fairy stories by many of the key figures of German Romanticism. Includes "Wake Not the Dead," an early female vampire story attributed to Tieck, plus "The Bottle-Imp" by de la Motte-Fouqué, "Auburn Egbert" and "Elfinland" by Tieck, "The Spectre Barber" by Musäus, "The Tale" by Goethe, and
many others. According to Morgan (A Critical Bibliography of German Literature in English Translation C456), these are the first translations of many of these stories. An important resource. Bound without the half title leaves. Upper front cover of volume one bumped, a very good, attractively bound copy. (#148121)

15. Anonymously Edited Anthology. TALES FOR THE PARLOUR; OR, RECORDS OF ROMANCE AND CHIVALRY ... New York: Published by J. P. Peaslee, 1834. Octavo, pp. [1-5] 6-430, contemporary nineteenth-century full leather, gold rules on spine and front and rear panels, black leather title piece. $750

First edition. A miscellany of articles, poetry and fiction, including supernatural stories. The fiction is mostly from unattributed British and Continental sources, Washington Irving and Miss Mitford being two exceptions. Short fiction collected here includes "The Three Swans" (a German fairy tale); "The Austrian Assassin" (a story of pretended alchemy); "Goldner" ("A Fairy Tale from the German of Korner"); "The Disinterment" (a story of premature burial); "The Rose of Jericho" (from the German of J. Baumann by G. G. Cunningham); "Sir Roger de Calverley's Ghost" (anonymous story of haunting, not recorded elsewhere); "A Fairy Tale" (ballad by Thomas Parnell); "The Metempschosis" (a popular tale by Robert MacNish first appearing in a 1826 issue of BLACKWOOD'S); "Hints to the Young Novel-Writer" (Gothic tale, possibly by the English novelist Horatio Smith); "Muzio - A Tale" (melodrama set in Italy, unattributed, but by Count Loeben); "The Count of Barcelona" (a romantic tale from the German of Caroline Pichler); "The Jew's Daughter" (a romantic tale set in the time of Richard the Lion-Hearted about the murder of some 1500 Jews); "The Modern Regulus" (a story from the German of de la Motte Fouqué). Owner's signature dated 1839 on fly leaf. Binding quite worn, outer joints partly cracked, text foxed, a solid reading copy of a very scarce book. OCLC reports 3 copies only; none reported by COPAC. (#151589)


First edition. Partially original anthology anonymously edited by Terence Ian Fytton Armstrong (a.k.a. "John Gavsworth"), collecting thirty crime and supernatural stories, seventeen of which appear here for the first time, by Arthur Machen, Richard Middleton, E. H. Visiak, M. P. Shiel, John Gavsworth, Frederick Carter, Hugh MacDiarmid, Nugent Barker, and others. Pulp paper text block lightly tanned, a fine copy in very good plus pictorial dust jacket with light wear at edges, mild dust soiling to spine and rear panels, and small stain on rear panel. A nice example of a rare jacket. (#149259)

17. Arnold, Edwin Lester. LIEUT. GULLIVAR JONES: HIS VACATION ... London: George Bell and Sons, 1905. Octavo, pp. [1-4] [1] 2-301 [302: blank] [303-316: ads], original red cloth, front panel stamped in black, spine panel stamped in gold. $850

First edition. Swashbuckling fantasy novel set on Mars that some researchers believe to be the inspiration for the Martian stories written by Edgar Rice Burroughs. "Even today -- but why the 'even,' when in the dream worlds of SF nothing changes? -- passages of Arnold's amazing book come over with force." - Aldiss and Wingrove, Trillion Year Spree, pp. 140-1. Large prize label dated 1913 affixed to the front paste-down. Cloth worn at spine ends and corner tips, cloth dusty, spine darkened, top edge of text block dusty, a good copy. (#152045)


First printing of the first British one-volume edition. Preceded by an 1891 three-volume edition that was not illustrated. Brown cover stamping a trifle dull, cloth worn at head and tail of spine panel and corners, some rubbing along outer joints, hairline cracks along inner hinges, else a very good copy. (#148809)


First edition. Collects four supernatural tales including Atherton's classic "The Striding Place." A fine copy in very good dust jacket with several tiny closed tears, touch of wear at top and bottom edges, and light dust soiling to spine and rear panels. An attractive copy. (#149579)

First publication of this story which appeared as a two-part serial in the issues for April and May 1884 with illustrations by Harry Furniss. This tale of an elderly female vampire who battens on a young woman was among the best known and most widely read vampire story of the 1880s. Baring-Gould, a scholar of antiquities, was well acquainted with the vampire motif and he makes good use of it here, well before DRACULA (1897). Leather worn at edges, cloth spotted, very occasional spotting to text, a good copy. (#147694)


First edition. Trant, an assistant in a psychological laboratory turned detective, uses psychological tests to solve crimes. "... a volume deserving more than passing attention. Based upon contemporaneous methods of the psychological laboratory, the episodes have suffered inevitably from the passage of time. But the writing was of a superior order, and at least one tale, 'The Man Higher Up,' is notable for the first appearance in fiction of the principle of the modern 'lie-detector.'" - Haycraft, Murder For Pleasure, p. 100. ... landmark of detective history ..." - QQ 46. The very delicate white enamel lettering on spine panel has perished, some dust soiling to top edge of text block, else a clean, tight, very good copy. An elusive book. (#147355)


First publication of this story which appeared as a two-part serial in the issues for April and May 1884 with illustrations by Harry Furniss. This tale of an elderly female vampire who battens on a young woman was among the best known and most widely read vampire story of the 1880s. Baring-Gould, a scholar of antiquities, was well acquainted with the vampire motif and he makes good use of it here, well before DRACULA (1897). Leather worn at edges, cloth spotted, very occasional spotting to text, a good copy. (#147694)
bevel-edged blue cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in blind, all edges untrimmed, brown coated endpapers. $750

First edition. Collection of traditional Scottish legends from the Lands-end district in the Western Highlands, including ghost stories. Told in a lively manner, with charming period illustrations by the author, a popular Victorian humorist in his day. Wolff 773. Private owner's book label affixed to front paste-down. A bright, very good copy. A lovely copy of a very scarce book. (#151667)


First edition. This binding is considered by some bibliographers to be a secondary binding (following copies in dark blue cloth stamped in gilt) although there is no evidence to substantiate this assignation. The most important point is that the full compliment of seven inserted plates is present, as here, since later issues (printings?) lack some or all of them. A well-known lost race novel, regarded by many to be a minor classic of the genre. A quartet of explorers in a hot-air balloon drift and crash in an unexplored part of the Arctic, where they find, in a sort of hollow earth, a Norse colony, a pit with fantastic creatures, a ghoulish system of human sacrifice, and adventures aplenty. The story also involves what one could call a lost-race-within-a-lost-race. An excellent recreation of the Nordic zeitgeist. "Bennet's description of an expedition's thrust northward from Franz Joseph Land in 1896 provided one of the most realistic passages in the genre ... THYRA pictured the full horror of Arctic exploration." - Clareson, The Emergence of American Science Fiction: 1880-1915, pp. 146-47. "One of the better early lost-race novels." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 171. Tiny church library stamp on page 25 (no other library marks), minor marginal stain on page 153/154, else a fine, bright copy. This is a very sharp copy and the book is scarce in nice condition. (#147609)


First edition. In a future England, as dominated by women as Victorian England was by men, the men finally revolt. "An amusing, well-written book ... a pleasant relief from the long-winded novels that Besant wrote with James Rice. The question has arisen whether THE REVOLT OF MAN is not a satire against Victorian male chauvinism, but the indications are that Besant meant the work literally." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 191. The novel was first published anonymously and languished until noticed by the SATURDAY REVIEW, after which the book quickly went through additional printings totaling 9000 copies. "When I say that the advanced woman has never ceased to abuse the book, and the author, its success will be understood." - Besant, Autobiography (1902), p. 212 (quoted in Wolff, XIX Century Fiction). Sadleir 201. Wolff 460. Early owner's name, address and date (1882) at upper right corner of the front free endpaper and his name and address again on the half title page within hand-drawn rules. A bit of mild soiling to front cover, a bright, tight, internally fine copy with an attractive, largely clean binding. A very nice copy. (#151637)


First edition. Classic collection of short fiction including "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge," Bierce's best known story. Wright (III) 525. BAL 1109 (binding variant A). Starrett 8. Touch of shelf wear at spine ends and corners, very faint stains to rear cover, some foxing to endpapers and flyleaf, a, bright very good copy. A nice copy of this book. (#147354)


First edition. A collection of twenty stories by Marjorie Bowen, J. Sheridan Le Fanu, Arthur Conan Doyle, Algernon Blackwood, Walter Scott, H. G. Wells, Gaston Leroux, Arthur Machen, G. P. R. James, and others. Bowen "produced two anthologies of note, GREAT TALES OF HORROR (1933) and MORE GREAT TALES OF HORROR (1935), featuring a selection of Victorian classics, both common and elusive, as well as several translations (by the editor) from early nineteenth-century French
and German sources." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 50. A fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with tears and fraying at spine ends and corner tips and 45x115 mm v-chip from lower edge of rear panel. An elusive book rarely found in jacket. (#149453)


First edition. A novel of possession. "In two late novels Braddon extended her supernaturalism to the psychology of ruthlessness ... THE CONFLICT (1903) is concerned with a rather ambitious revenge. A man of great vitality, killed in a duel, swears to have revenge as he lies dying. His spirit possesses the bodies of the other duelist's friends and causes much mischief." - Sullivan (ed), The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, pp. 51-2.

Cloth worn at spine ends and corner tips and rubbed along outer joints, a couple of small spots on rear cover, hairline crack along inner rear hinge which is still holding tight, a very good copy. A very scarce book. (#151845)


First printing of the expanded edition. The first edition, published by Ward, Lock in 1862, collected eight stories, the expanded edition, published by Ward, Lock & Tyler circa 1867 added four stories. This undated later edition, published in 1869, adds a new story, "The Scene-Painter's Wife" (pages 342-350), not published in the earlier editions. This edition was published both in yellowback format and in cloth. The crown octavo clothbound issue was published at six shillings, and was listed in The Spectator on 12 December 1868. Wolff 680o. Topp II, p. 92. Outer joints, spine ends and corner tips rubbed, a very good copy. Scarce. (#151617)


First edition. Signed by Bullett on the title page. A man exchanges places with his fairy double and goes to Fairyland, which he finds in political turmoil, verging on revolution. "Like several other notable fantasies of the period, the novel pleads eloquently for a healthy reconciliation of reason and imagination, lest modern human life become utterly arid." - Clute and Grant, eds., The Encyclopedia of Fantasy (1997), p. 148. "A fine book, exploring the same moral territory as Mirlees's LUD-IN-THE-MIST and Irwin's THESE MORTALS, but in a more ironic vein." - Barron, ed., Fantasy Literature 3-55. Free endpapers tanned, mild foxing to text block, mostly to fore and bottom edges, else a nearly fine copy. (#149691)


First British edition. Sampson Low's edition was preceded by a two-volume Continental edition published by Tauchnitz in 1861. Bulwer-Lytton, "an assiduous student of occultism and the pseudo sciences, attended Levi's conjurations, and his novel A STRANGE STORY (1862) is based in great part on Levi's work. Bulwer-Lytton's Margrave is the first convincing capable practicing black magician in modern literature. A STRANGE STORY was widely read, and many fictional accounts of magical ceremonies have been derived from it." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 304. "In the field of supernatural literature Bulwer is enormously important ... A STRANGE STORY stands behind most more recent novels of magic or of personality change ..." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction, p. 87 (also described as entry 305). "The novel itself is a real triumph, in the end subordinating all the occult machinery, including a full-scale alchemical and Rosicrucian distillation of the elixir of life, to the strongly-based philosophical and religious arguments for the immortality of the human soul." - Wolff 960. "Despite serious flaws, this is one of the towering works of Victorian supernatural fiction, casting its shadow far and wide." - Robert Eldridge. Sadleir 444. Contemporary owner's signature dated 1862 on both title pages. Later owner's signature dated 1921 on both paste-downs. Cloth rubbed at edges, some soiling and several small stains to cloth, inner front hinge of volume 1 broken, otherwise, a good, fairly decent copy. (#151644)


34. Carlyle, Thomas (translator). GERMAN ROMANCE: SPECIMENS OF ITS CHIEF AUTHORS; WITH BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL NOTICES ... Edinburgh and London: William Tait ... Charles Tait, 1827. Octavo, four volumes: pp. [i-v] vi-xv [xvi] [1] 2-337 [338: blank]; [i-xiv] [1-3] 4-317 [318: printer’s imprint]; [i-xiv] [1-3] 4-309 [310: printer’s imprint] [311-312: blank]; [i-xiv] [1] 2-352, bound with the half title leaves, but without the additional engraved title leaves, near contemporary three-quarter calf and marbled boards, spines with five raised bands, leather title and number pieces affixed to spine panels, dates stamped in gold at lower edges, top edges stained brown, other edges speckled red, terra cotta endpapers. $1000

First edition. A pioneer anthology of German Romantic fiction comprising twelve novellas and stories by Johann August Musäus, Friedrich de la Motte Fouqué, Ludwig Tieck, E. T. W. Hoffmann, and Jean Paul Friedrich Richter. “A strong selection of material ... Carlyle’s translation — despite linguistic willfulness and Scottish locations — are still the best that have been done for these works. Outstanding stories are "The Fair-Haired Eckbert by J. L. Tieck, "The Runenberg" by Tieck, "The Elves" by Tieck, and "The Golden Pot" by E. T. A. Hoffmann.” - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 348. Tarr A4.2.I-I. Upper spine ends of three volumes lightly worn, some scattered foxing and soiling to text, a very good, attractive copy. (#147327)


First edition in this format. Handsome bind-up of publisher’s cloth of three works available separately in “sewed form,” here offered together “done up in elegant embossed cloth binding with gilt edges” at 3s. A bright, nearly fine copy of a charming little volume. These bind-ups are very uncommon in the publisher’s cloth. (#149892)


First edition. Cornerstone collection of modern detective fiction that introduced the still-popular adventures of priest-detective Father Brown. The twelve stories “offer a nice feeling of life in Edwardian England, and if Father Brown lacks the colorful eccentricities of Sherlock Holmes, if his solutions are often more intuition than deduction, this book is still a masterpiece, the single volume by which G. K. Chesterton is most likely to be remembered.” - Edward D. Hoch in Pronzini and Muller, 1001 Midnights, p. 133. “An important book: one of the finest volumes of detective short stories ever written.” - Queen, The Detective Short Story, p. 21. Queen’s Quorum 47. A very good, bright copy. (#148858)

page printed in red and black, original pictorial gray cloth, front panel stamped in black, red and yellow, spine panel stamped in black, all edges untrimmed. $750

First edition. Narrator shipwrecked in the Pacific is discovered by a race of intelligent mice whose civilization is based upon information gathered from secret expeditions to lands inhabited by men. Marginally utopian, mostly satire: not a children's book. A fine copy of a scarce book. (#151630)


First edition. First of the four novels in the "Adventures in the Unknown" series, a "series of first-rate juveniles." - Frederik Pohl in Reginald Bretnor, ed., Science Fiction Today, p. 22. Claudy wrote about twenty SF stories, "all for the magazine AMERICAN BOY. Four were revised and expanded into a series of juvenile novels with the general heading Adventures in the Unknown: THE MYSTERY MEN OF MARS (1933), A THOUSAND YEARS A MINUTE (1933), THE LAND OF NO SHADOW (1933) and THE BLUE GROTTO TERROR (1934). This was probably the most vigorous and imaginative juvenile SF book series up to that time." - Clute and Nicholls, eds., The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction (1993), p. 233. Claudy "represents one of the two authors writing before Heinlein (the other is Roy Rockwood) whose imagination and story telling ability still stand out." - Anatomy of Wonder (1987) 5-36. A fine copy in bright, very good plus two-color pictorial dust jacket with light shelf wear at edges and minor dust soiling to spine panel. A lovely copy. (#149570)


First U.S. edition. Collins' second full-length novel and his first to be set in contemporary times. "With BASIL ..., his first characteristic novel, Collins began his search for a cosmic viewpoint that would encompass fate and chance, and the workings of human character with respect to both. He did not fulfill his objective until sixteen years later in THE MOONSTONE, but even in BASIL there is an oppressive feeling of foreordained events forever threatening, a feeling in which the weather is made to play a part. Although much of BASIL is weak, the symbolic thunderstorm during which Basil confronts Mannion and the visions seen by Basil in delirium have been praised. The text of BASIL usually read by modern readers is that of the 1862 revision, in which Collins dropped much of the quasi-supernatural background. This editing may simply have been an attempt to restore balance to the story by removing padding, but it is more likely to have been an early instance of Collins' uncertainty (evidenced again in the appendix to ARMADALE) of how far to go in attributing to Providence a series of coincidences otherwise inexplicable." - Bleiler, ed., Supernatural Fiction Writers: Fantasy and Horror, p. 234. Light wear to cloth at edges, some spotting to cloth on front and rear covers, faint stain to upper right corners of front flyleaf and several text pages, a very good copy overall. (#147331)

41. Colomb, P[hilip Howard] and Others. THE GREAT WAR OF 189-: A FORECAST ... London: William Heinemann, 1893. Octavo, pp. [i-vii] viii [ix] x [xi-xii] [1] 2-308, three inserted folding plates, one inserted folding map, numerous other illustrations in the text, original pictorial olive-green cloth, front panel stamped in black and light brown, spine panel stamped in gold, fore and bottom edges untrimmed. $650

First edition. The first lavishly illustrated account of an imaginary war to appear in English "offers startling anticipations of World War I ... Competently prepared, apparently seriously intended, and more interesting than most members of the form." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 455. This seminal work, first published in 1892 as a serial in BLACK AND WHITE, a popular British illustrated weekly, as "The Great War of 1892," influenced subsequent accounts of imaginary war by George Griffith, Louis Tracy, M. P. Shiel and others. Early gift inscription dated 1893 on the front free endpaper. Spine lean, cloth rubbed along joints and edges of cloth, some scuffing and scratching to rear panel, free endpapers toned, but a very good, tight copy. This book rarely turns up in better condition. (#149646)


44. Costello, Dudley. HOLIDAYS WITH HOBGOBLINS: AND TALK OF STRANGE THINGS ... London: John Camden Hotten, 1861. Small octavo, pp. [1-4] [1] 2-332 + 8 pages of undated publisher's ads inserted at rear, printed slip concerning the Cruikshank frontispiece tipped in following the contents leaf, four inserted etched plates with drawings by George Cruikshank as well as several small woodcut illustrations (not by Cruikshank), original pictorial purple cloth, front panel stamped in gold and blind, spine panel stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in blind, all edges untrimmed, yellow coated endpapers. $150


47. Crommelin, May (Maria Henrietta de la Cherois-Crommelin). THE LUCK OF A LOWLAND LADDIE ... London: John Long, 1900. Octavo, pp. [i-vii] viii 9-319 [320] + 8-page publisher's catalogue for Autumn 1900 inserted at rear, title page printed in black and brown, original pictorial cloth, front panel stamped in yellow and black, spine panel stamped in black, fore and bottom edges rough trimmed. $250

First edition. "Adventure story set in South America, three chapters of which are devoted to an encounter with the Lamparagua, a mobile, carnivorous tree." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 61. The author, an Irishwoman, visited many far-flung parts of the world and wrote both travel literature and popular fiction, often using such places as settings. "Crommelin wrote voluminously, but her fiction is quite insubstantial and aimed at the indiscriminate female reader." - Sutherland, Victorian Fiction, p. 162. Gift inscription on the front free endpaper and owner's name and address on the rear free endpaper. Some scattered foxing early and late, a bright, very good copy in a clean, attractive binding. (#151893)
48. De la Mare, Walter. THE RIDDLE AND OTHER STORIES. London: Selwyn & Blount Limited, [1923]. Octavo, pp. [1-8] [1] 2-303 [304: blank] [305: printer's imprint] [306: blank] [307: ads] [308: blank] [309: ads] [310-312: blank], original blue cloth, front panel ruled in blind, spine panel stamped in gold, bottom edge rough-trimmed. $750


49. Dennis, Geoffrey [Pomeroy]. HARVEST IN POLAND. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1925. Octavo, pp. [1-10] 1-340 [341: blank] [342: colophon], title page printed in black and brown, original purple cloth, front and spine panels stamped in yellow, running Borzoi stamped in blind on rear panel, patterned endpapers, top edge stained yellow, fore and bottom edges rough-trimmed. $350


First edition, first issue. "After a disastrous world war what is left of mankind takes to caves, sewers and underground dwellings." - Clarke, Tale of the Future (1978), p. 53. "An extravagant future war story in which air fleets devastate the cities of the world using a combination of chemical and biological weapons and high explosives ... Desmond went on to produce the more modest CHAOS (1938) and BLACK DAWN (1944) when he had formed a clearer picture in his mind of what World War II would actually entail." - Anatomy of Wonder (2004) II-322. Spine panel sunned, top edge dusty, endpapers a bit tanned, a very good copy in nearly fine pictorial 7/6 dust jacket with faint vertical and horizontal creases where once folded to be laid into the book. Apparently Desmond's file copy with his name and address written on the front free endpaper and his extensive handwritten notes about the novel throughout the text. (#149476)

51. Dickens, Charles. BLEAK HOUSE ... New York: Harper & Brothers, Publishers, 1853. 12mo, two volumes: pp. [iii-iv] [vii] viii-x [xi] xii-xiv [xv] [xvi] [1] 2-480; [i-iv] [481] 482-936 [note: collates as per the Gimble copy, no dedication leaf in volume one; has the blank leaf preceding the title leaf in volume two], 38 inserted plates, 37 with illustrations by Hablot K. Browne and engraved portrait of Dickens from a painting by D. Maclise, nineteenth-century three-quarter black leather and marbled boards. $1000

First U.S. book edition, preceded by Harper's issue in parts. "Dickens was a significant figure in the development of the mystery novel ... In BLEAK HOUSE (1853), Dickens introduced the intrepid Inspector Bucket, a sort of nineteenth-century Columbo, who was the first fiction English police detective." - Pronzini and Muller, 1001 Midnights, p. 207. "The ponderousness of the Court of Chancery works to evil and terrifying ends, as numerous persons involved are ruined, go mad, and die because of its effects. The physical horrors of London slums are concrete phenomena that enhance the psychic and social horrors so pointedly unfolded in the story." - Tymn, ed., Horror Literature 2:30. "The court serves here as the oppressive house (castle, monastery, etc.) of Gothic romance -- labyrinth and minotaur in one -- that confines and confuses, then devours its victims. Dickens' innovation is to render the Gothic mood via a contemporary setting and mundane subject matter (what could be more mundane than the law?). The daunting, positively Russian, size of his cast of characters moves away from the claustrophobically small cast found in earlier Gothics, and this also echoes the labyrinthine complexity of the law. As England dominated the world in the nineteenth century, London dominated England, and Dickens, more than any other British author, showed the literary potential for the fantastic in such an ostensibly mundane setting (as Sue did for Paris and Lippard for Philadelphia), revealing the city as the new fairy-tale forest of mystery and danger." - Robert Eldridge. A Haycraft-Queen cornerstone. Podeschi A133. Contemporary ownership stamp of George L. Trendwell at the bottom edge of each title page and his signature in pencil at the top edge of the front free endpaper of each volume. Mild rubbing to binding extremities, frontispiece tissue guard foxed, a remarkably clean, very good copy. A nice copy of a scarce edition. (#148187)
52. Doyle, Arthur Conan. THE PARASITE. Westminster: A. Constable and Co., 1894. Small octavo, pp. [1-8] [1] 2-124 [125] [126: blank] [127-128: blank] [the first and last leaves are canceled blanks with stubs pasted to endpapers], original gray-green paper wrappers printed in dark green. $450

First edition, first issue. Issued as "The Acme Library," No. 1. Published 3 December 1894 as the first book of the ill-fated Acme Library series (their second title was THE WATTER'S MOU' by Bram Stoker). The series was not a success and in 1897 the publisher reissued THE PARASITE with new preliminary leaves that removed all mention of the Acme Library. "Novella in which a repulsive medium falls in love with a young man, and uses her powers in an attempt to destroy him when he rejects her." - Barron, ed., Horror Literature 2-21. Green and Gibson A17a. Short tear and associated wrinkle in rear wrapper, light wear to edges of spine panel, tiny nick to fore-edge of front wrapper, some light dust soiling to wrappers, a very good copy. A nice copy of a fragile book. (#147227)


First edition. "Miscellany of essays, verse and a long story: 'Kirton Priory, or the Burtons and Bellerdistons: a Tale of the Seventeenth Century.' This, simply, is a ghost story rationalized in terms of secret passages, etc. ... It does, however, qualify in no uncertain terms as a very early example of a ... detective story." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 72. 1834 gift inscription at upper edge of title page of volume 1. Boards worn at edges, a couple of short hairline cracks in outer joints, paper labels rubbed and darkened, binding thread broken between gatherings "n" and "o" of volume 1, still a very good copy. Uncommon the original boards. (#147260)

54. Du Maurier, Daphne. JAMAICA INN ... New York: The Sun Dial Press, Inc., [1939]. Octavo, pp. [1-10] [1] 2-332 [333-334: blank], inserted frontispiece, original green cloth, front panel stamped in blind, spine panel stamped in gold, top edge stained yellow, fore-edge untrimmed, cream endpapers. $100

Photoplay edition. A young woman gets involved with a gang of criminals who lure ships to their doom on the coast of Cornwall. A 1939 film directed by Alfred Hitchcock, starring Charles Laughton, Maureen O'Hara and Robert Newton, was based on this novel. Small rubber-stamped private owner's name at top edge of front paste-down and front free endpaper recto and verso, else a fine copy in good film tie-in dust jacket (two film stills on the rear panel) with wear and tape reinforcement along top and bottom edges. (#148754)


First edition. Fantastic adventure novel "set on an unknown island in the South Seas that is inhabited by the last of the Lemurians." - Stuart Teitler, Eureka!, catalogue 29. Top edge of text block slightly dusty, gilt on spine panel just a bit tarnished, a nearly fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with light wear at edges and shallow chipping at upper spine end. A very nice copy. An uncommon book in jacket. (#147313)


First edition. Signed by Dunsany on the front panel of the dust jacket. "In many ways this volume alone justifies Dunsany's important place in the history of fantasy." – Tymn, ed., Fantasy Literature, pp. 79-80. Anderson I.44.a.1. A fine copy in nearly fine decorated dust jacket with light wear at spine ends and corner tips. The light yellow jacket is largely free of the usual dust soiling and overall, is quite attractive. A superior copy of this book. (#147260)

First edition. "In a way, his best collection, with the whimsy of his earlier material tempered by the heartbeat of war into wistfulness. There's a hint of irony here that foreshadows the later Jorkens material yet retains the gorgeous yearning of the old world-building imagination. Here is the pivot point of Dunsany's work, with the comic and tragic visions held in that rare balance that is so characteristic of the Irish genius." - Robert Eldridge. "Excellent stories ... With wonderful Sime illustrations." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 579. Anderson I.10.a.1. Lower corner tips lightly rubbed, free endpapers tanned, a nearly fine, bright copy. (#147213)

58. England, George Allan. DARKNESS AND DAWN ... Boston: Small, Maynard and Company Publishers, [1914]. Octavo, pp. [i-vi] vii-x [xi-xii] [1-2] 3-672 [673-676: blank], four inserted plates (including color frontispiece) by P. J. Monahan, original red cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold and blind, pictorial endpapers. $850


First edition in English. "Their best known work in translation is LE JUIF POLONAIS (1871; translated as THE POLISH JEW), describing the psychological decline of a murderer; in its long-running stage version, THE BELLS, this became Henry Irving's most celebrated role ... They wrote many supernatural and fantasy short stories ... These were much admired -- in their original French texts -- by M. R. James and other connoisseurs of French romantic Gothic fiction." - Clute and Grant, eds., The Encyclopedia of Fantasy (1997), pp. 319-20. "Erckmann-Chatrian stand apart from most of their contemporaries on the Continent who wrote in this vein. They did not essay the conte cruel, nor go in for paranoid fantasies, such as those of Maupassant. Their tales are simple and straightforward, with all the effects up front. By rights they should have dated severely. The pleasant surprise awaiting those who dig out their tales is that they haven't." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, pp. 144-5. Topp III, p. 29. Issued as a one shilling paperback, this copy was trimmed and bound in an attractive three-quarter leather binding for William Garnett, whose armorial bookplate is affixed to the front paste-down. A very good copy of a scarce book. (#148197)


First edition. A novella-length ghost story exploring the different reactions of the guests of a weekend house party to the sight of a despiring ghost. "... an exceptional ghost novel for the period." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 148. "Hawker, a forgotten Scottish writer, was known during the Victorian period as a writer of considerable refinement and intelligence. CECILIA DE NOEL, her popular spook novel, was highly regarded in its day ..." - Tynm, ed., Horror Literature 3-91. Slight spine lean, small private owner's book label affixed to front paste-down with faint ghost of same on free endpaper, else a near fine copy. A very attractive copy. (#148387)


First U.S. edition. "Sensational murder mystery with strong supernatural episodes; ghosts of victim and hideously decayed cat haunt murder site, arousing suspicion. Author was father of J. Jefferson and Eleanor Farjeon." - Robert Knowlton. Spine lean, cloth worn at spine ends and corner tips, cloth soiled (mostly dark brown), fore-edge dark brown, top and fore-edge untrimmed, bottom edge trimmed. (#150765)

untrimmed, bottom edge rough trimmed, light green endpapers. $750

First edition in English. Translation of LES CONDAMNES A MORT (1920). A fine novel of an automated nightmare world of the future. "Told on an almost surrealist level; cerebral, but imaginative; far superior to the similar METROPOLIS by Thea von Harbou." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 701. A fine copy in bright, very good pictorial dust jacket with small chip at tail of spine panel (not affecting image or type), short closed tear at top edge of front panel with small internal tape mend, and touch of dust soiling. Overall, a very attractive, well above average example of this striking jacket. (#149791)


First edition of this translation by J. Robertson. Didactic romance, a precursor of the political tales of Marmontel and Voltaire, first published surreptitiously in France in 1699 and first published in English translation (part one only) by Isaac Littlebury later the same year. Fenelon relates the imaginary adventures of Telemaque, son of Ulysses, who leaves Ithaca to search for his father who has been long delayed on his return from Troy. Telemaque, accompanied by the goddess Minerva in the guise of the wise old man Mentor, meets with adventures that have no relation to the Odyssey, but rather resemble those of a knight-errant, amid Greek surroundings charmingly described. With this story Fenelon combines precepts of physical and intellectual education, political utopias, and moral dissertations. Fortunati and Trousson (eds), Dictionary of Literary Utopias, pp. 71-3. Howgego F-7. Minor foxing to several leaves, bindings rubbed, a very good copy. (#149784)

64. Finney, Charles G[randison]. THE CIRCUS OF DR. LAO ... New York: Published by the Viking Press, 1935. Octavo, pp. [1-2] [1-8] 9-154 [155-158: blank], six inserted plates with eight illustrations by Boris Artzybasheff, one folded with three illustrations, last a tail piece following page 154 not noted in list of illustrations, original red cloth, pictorial paper label affixed to front panel, printed paper label affixed to spine panel, pictorial endpapers by Artzybasheff. $350

First edition. The author’s first fantasy book. A "classic novella ..." - Barron, ed., Fantasy Literature 3-137. A fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket (designed by Artzybasheff) with wear at edges, shallow chipping at upper spine end and along top edge of front panel, and some tanning, mostly to spine panel and along flap folds. A much better copy than usually seen. (#152463)

65. Flammarion, Camille. STORIES OF INFINITY: LUMEN -- HISTORY OF A COMET -- IN INFINITY ... Translated from the French by S. R. Crocker. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1873. 12mo, pp. [i-ii] iii-iv 5-287 [288: blank], flyleaves at front and rear, original terra cotta cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold and blind, brown coated endpapers. $450

First edition in English. LUMEN first appeared in French as RECITS DE L'INFINI in 1873; an enlarged edition followed in 1887 as LUMEN. The revised text of LUMEN was translated into English and published in New York in 1892 by Cassell (apparently an unauthorized edition) and in London in 1897 by Heinemann (apparently an authorized edition with further revisions by Flammarion). The earlier Roberts Brothers text follows Flammarion's original 1873 text. LUMEN is a story, in a series of dialogues, "of a being who has undergone a number of incarnations on other worlds, including planets round Capella, Gamma Virgo, Sirius and in the constellation Orion." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 84. LUMEN is "perhaps the single most innovative work in the entire literature of the scientific imagination. It is the first work to offer any real idea of the scale of the universe; the first to investigate the implications of the finite speed of light (and thus to toy with the notion of the relativity of space and time); and the first to examine the implications of evolutionary theory in the modeling of alien life systems. In all these endeavors it was ahead of its time ... It is in Flammarion's work that we find the fountainhead of the mythology of alien beings ... Flammarion originated the mode of thought which is effective in modern science fiction's dealings with the category alien. LUMEN's affinity with modern science fiction goes further than this, because it is a work expressly directed to the cultivation of the sense of wonder (in whose cultivation, according to many readers, the prime virtue of modern science fiction lies)." - Survey of Science Fiction Literature III, pp. 1294-98. The two other stories, "History of a Comet" and "In Infinity," the first a panoramic history of the solar system narrated by a passing comet, the second a spirit description of the universe, do not appear to have been reprinted in English after their initial appearance here. Gift inscription on the front flyleaf and another to a different recipient at the top edge.
of the title page. Slight spine lean, light wear to cloth at lower front corner tip, hairline crack along inner rear hinge which is still holding tight, a bright, tight, very good copy. (#151875)


First edition. A collection of six stories, including the science fiction classic, "The Machine Stops" (1909). "... the first full-scale emergence of the twentieth-century anti-utopia." - Hillegas, The Future as Nightmare, pp. 82-94. "Machinery controls the world, the individuals live underground and are almost completely isolated. The son who wants to see his mother is a freak. Finally the vast machinery breaks down, a new, more natural life begins again on the surface of the earth." - Gerber, Utopian Fantasy (1973), p. 150. "... must be judged the first full-fledged dystopian view of the effects of technology." - Anatomy of Wonder (1995) 1-35. Four of the remaining five stories have supernatural motifs and are "excellent," according to Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 646. A fine copy in very good printed dust jacket with light chipping at spine ends, more so to bottom edge with loss of several letters of the publisher's imprint, spine and rear panel separated along spine fold, and mild tanning to spine. An attractive example of this delicate jacket. (#149582)


First edition. "Supernatural romance set in eighteenth century Cornwall. A child conceived by witchcraft is in rapport with the sea-folk who dwell down among the black weeds. Strangely evocative imagery within a fairly conventional plot of a maiden seduced and abandoned." - Robert Knowlton. 1912 Christmas gift inscription on the front free endpaper. Cloth a bit spotted, some wear along outer front joint, scattered foxing to text block, a very good copy. A very scarce book. (#151869)

68. [Freeman], Mary E. Wilkins. THE WIND IN THE ROSE-BUSH AND OTHER STORIES OF THE SUPERNATURAL ... New York: Doubleday, Page & Company, 1903. Octavo, pp. [1-8] [1-2] 3-237 [238-240], eight inserted plates with illustrations by Peter Newell, original pictorial light green cloth, front panel stamped in dark green, red, white and gold, spine panel stamped in dark green and gold. $1000

First edition. "New England regionalist writer, highly regarded for cameo like, naturalistic pictures of domestic life and for supernatural stories ... THE WIND IN THE ROSE-BUSH (1903), Freeman's only supernatural collection, is of greater critical and historical importance than its uniqueness might suggest. It is one of the very few bodies of work that combine domestic realism with supernaturalism, and it has been the founding document of a minor school within supernatural fiction (notably August Derleth and his followers). The individual stories are also excellent." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 163. BAL 6371. Cloth just a bit dusty, a bright, nearly fine copy of this lovely book. (#149536)


First edition. "Yellow peril" thriller concerning the activities of a fiendish Oriental criminal who plans to destroy the white races by addicting them to drugs supplied through his international distribution system. According to the publisher’s promotional blurb, “a particular element of his plan is to mate a beautiful white girl with a half human monster” (an ape-man) as well as subjecting “a Chinese girl” to “obscene, inhuman tortures.” The story is largely set in San Francisco where John Farley, an agent of the Narcotic Council of the League of Nations, while searching for his kidnapped fiancee, encounters the shadowy villain Shan Lo, “archangel of Hell,” who he has been tracking for several years. First published in ILLUSTRATED DETECTIVE MAGAZINE, November 1930. Slight spine lean, glue stain from removed bookplate on front paste-down, mild tanning to endpapers, a very good copy in very good dust jacket (illustrated by Mulink) with wear along top and bottom edges and red ink on spine panel faded. (#148047)

71. Gibbons, Floyd. THE RED NAPOLEON. New York: Jonathan Cape & Harrison Smith, [1929]. Octavo, pp. [1-8] 1-475 [476: blank], several battle diagrams in the text as well as a fold-out plate opposite page [464] with diagram of decisive battle in Caribbean, original orange cloth, front and spine panels stamped in red, top edge stained orange. $650

First edition. A yellow/red peril future war novel whose main action is set in the U.S.S.R., London and Mexico during the period of 1932-1936 as a communist Tartar-Mongol nearly succeeds in subjugating the world, only to be defeated at the Battle of Jamaica. “Because of the writer’s intimate knowledge of war reportage, one of the best imaginary war novels, despite wooden characters and an unconvincing American victory.” - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 879. Early gift inscription on recto of half-title leaf, a fine copy in near fine pictorial dust jacket with light dust-soiling, mainly on rear panel, and touch of wear at edges. A sharp copy. In a custom black cloth open face slipcase. (#149810)


First edition. Boys’ lost race adventure novel of the discovery of the Asmalians, descendants of ancient Egyptians inhabiting an unknown region in North Africa. Prize label dated 1914 affixed to front paste-down, several small abrasions and tape ghosts to front free endpaper (something pasted here removed some time in the past), otherwise a bright, near fine copy of a very attractive book. Quite uncommon in this condition. (#147131)

inserted folded map, original pictorial blue cloth, front panel stamped in brown, white and black, spine panel stamped in brown, white, black and gold, all edges stained black. $200

First edition. Boys' fantastic adventure novel. Inventions; advanced aircraft, flight around the world. Captain Charles James Louis Gilson (1878-1943), UK writer, largely of historical and adventure fiction for young readers, published a number of novels with science fiction elements, including boys' lost race adventure novels THE LOST ISLAND (1910) and THE PIRATE AEROPLANE (1913), and others. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, partial hairline cracks along inner hinges, still a sound, bright, very good copy of a very attractive book. Quite uncommon. (#147138)


First edition. Presentation copy with signed inscription by Gorman to fellow author Herbert Ashbury on the front free endpaper: "For Herbert Ashbury, / a past-master on witches, / with old friendship, Herbert Gorman." In an isolated western Massachusetts community descendants of the Salem witches follow the rituals of their elders. "Highly effective." - H. P. Lovecraft, Supernatural Horror in Literature, pp. 73-4. "This tale of witchcraft and ancestral memory in backwoods Massachusetts owes much to Nathaniel Hawthorne ... portions of THE PLACE CALLED DAGON may have served as a model for the Dunwich milieu in Lovecraft's fiction." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 178. Cloth rubbed at edges, spine panel lettering quite dull, a sound, good copy in good or better dust jacket with wear along upper and lower edges, some mild rubbing to spine panel and front panel, and clipped price. Presents fairly well overall. A very nice association copy. Asbury is perhaps best-known today for his popular books on American history, especially THE GANGS OF NEW YORK (1928). (#149257)

75. Greenough, Mrs. Richard S[altonstall] (Sarah Dana Loring). ARABESQUES: MONARE. DOMITIA. APOLLYONA. OMBRA. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1872. Octavo, pp. [1-8] [1-3] 4-213 [214: blank] [215-216: ads], four illustrations in the text, original bevel-edged green cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold and black, t.e.g., brown coated endpapers. $650

First edition. "Literary fables after the manner of the German Romantics, with a melange of Classical, Medieval and Oriental motifs, well-blended. First adventure 'Monare' probably influenced by Fouque's THE MAGIC RING; in one episode young knight slays evil de Maupre, brigand and werewolf, gathers blood in silver flagon to raise his victims from the dead. Other adventures involve witchcraft, visit to the Underworld (a la Tannhauser), magical charms, and a doppelganger." - Robert Knowlton. "Well-sustained, imaginative; among the best late 19th century fantasies." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 714. Wright (II) 1025. Spine ends and corner tips rubbed, a bright, nearly fine copy. A superior copy of a scarce book that does not age gracefully. (#151844)


First edition. "... an extraordinary novel of a man doomed to wander deathless through the ages, who several times meets the Wandering Jew, and in the end invents long-range guns with explosive shells in a 'world of if,' long before anybody else." - Sam Moskowitz, "George Griffith-Warrior of If" in George Locke, ed.,
The Raid of 'Le Vengeur' and Other Stories by George Griffith (1974), p. 44. "One of Griffith's rarest books ..." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 97. Binding just slightly leaned, short insect track on front cover, early owner's name dated "October, 1902" on front paste-down with a bit of ghosting of same on front free endpaper, free endpapers a bit age-darkened (a fault common to this book and here, less than usual), a tight, bright, very good copy. An excellent copy of a scarce book rarely found in nice condition. (#149857)


First edition. "Fantasy of intrigue, treasure and some Tibetan jewels which have curious properties, including that of infallibly determining whether a murderer is guilty or not." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 98. Early owner's name and 1910 date in ink on front paste-down. Inner hinges strengthened, a clean, tight, very good copy with bright cover stamping. Perhaps Griffith's scarcest fantasy book. (#149860)


First edition, second binding. The U.S. edition preceded the British edition by about six weeks. "An interweaving of two popular story chains, the adventures of Allan Quatermain ... and She-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed. It is set chronologically a short time before the Vinceny-Holly expedition described in SHE ... an imaginative, entertaining adventure story." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 740. Scott 76A. Whatmore F50.6.a. Edges of text block just a bit tanned and foxed, a bit of minor foxing to front endpapers, a near fine copy in near fine four-color pictorial dust jacket (reproducing the frontispiece painting by Enos B. Comstock) with very light wear and a bit of minor dust soiling. Overall, a very attractive example of the dust jacket. (#149553)


First U.S. edition. A fantasy novel of the discovery and awakening of
two Atlanteans who have been in a state of suspended animation for 250,000 years. "On a small island the 'Sons of Wisdom' have discovered all the mechanical knowledge long ago, but were defeated by barbarism. Satirical allegory." - Gerber, Utopian Fantasy (1973), p. 147. Wolff 2891. Scott 72. Whatmore F47. Top edge of text block dusty, else a fine copy in very good four-color pictorial dust jacket with restoration along folds, several nicks to spine panel repaired, and several tape mends to inner surface. The jacket presents well overall. (#147174)


First edition. Contains the first book publication of "The Brick Moon," an early, perhaps the first, story to describe the construction and launching of an artificial satellite. "The Brick Moon" was first published as a serial in THE ATLANTIC, October -- December 1869 and a sequel, "Life in the Brick Moon," appeared in the February 1870 issue. The text presented here is an edited, combined version of the two stories. Among the other stories collected here are "A Tale of a Salamander," a supernatural story, and "The Queen of California," a medieval lost race story of the discovery of the Island of California, translated from the Spanish by Hale. Wright (II) 1052. Spine lean, cloth rubbed at edges, insect tracking on spine panel and along top and bottom edges of rear cover, small hole in front free endpaper and short hairline crack along inner front hinge, a sound, good copy. A small card signed by Hale is pasted to the front free endpaper. (#147991)


First U.S. edition. One of the more important scientific romances of the 1920s, being a rewritten and retitled version of THEODORE SAVAGE: A STORY OF THE PAST OR THE FUTURE (1922). This catastrophe novel "... bitterly depicts a future war in whose aftermath the people of the UK, driven out of the cities, revert to superstitious barbarism. The ironically named protagonist lives to a great age in a small village full of savages who think of pre-collapse artifacts as obscene. Hamilton is one of the first -- and among the darkest -- of those UK novelists whose vision of things was shaped by WWI, which they saw as foretelling the end of civilization." - Clute and Nicholls, eds., The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction (1993), pp. 537-38. "A particularly effective and chilling version of the theme that dominates British speculative fiction between the wars." - Anatomy of Wonder (1995) 2-48. A fine copy in near fine pictorial dust jacket with touch of wear at upper spine end and upper corner tips and some general dust soiling. All editions of this book are uncommon and seldom found in dust jackets. (#149466)


First edition. A resourceful collection of twenty-one horror stories, including H. P. Lovecraft's "The Call of Cthulhu," his second story to be published in a hardbound book. In his introduction Harre praises Lovecraft's story which, "in its cumulative awesomeness and building of effect to its appalling finale, is reminiscent of Poe." Lovecraft sent Harre a copy of the typescript of "The Call of Cthulhu," hence the text printed here is far superior to that published in the February 1928 issue of WEIRD TALES. In addition to Lovecraft's tale, the anthology includes stories by E. F. Benson, Gouverner Morris, Irvin S. Cobb, Ellen Glasgow, Leonid Andreyeff, M. P. Shiel, Beatrice Grimshaw, Gertrude Atherton and others, as well as Edmond Hamilton's "The Monster-God of Mamurth," which appears here for the first time in a book. Bookplate of William F. Kemp on the front paste-down and his signature on same and on the front free endpaper. A nearly fine copy in good pictorial dust jacket (designed by Politzer) with wear at edges, general dust soiling, and a long tear in the rear panel with a 70x25 mm associated chip with loss of some descriptive text for one of the
books advertised there. An important anthology seldom found in jacket. (#149474)


First edition. An anthology of twenty-two stories, including many sensational, criminous and weird tales, that first appeared in THE ARGONAUT, a San Francisco periodical that frequently published fantastic fiction. Contributors include Jack London (first book appearance of "Moon-Face"), Frank Norris (first book appearance of "A Caged Lion"), William C. Morrow ("The Rajah's Nemesis"), C. W. Doyle ("The Seats of Judgment"), Stewart Edward White ("A Double Shot"), Robert Duncan Milne ("Ten Thousand Years in Ice"), and others. All copies known to us, save this copy, bear the imprint "San Francisco: Payot, Upham & Company, agents for Pacific Coast, 1906." We speculate that this issue with Argonaut's own imprint is the earliest (if, indeed, there is any priority). The anthology is uncommon. According to Merle Johnson (1942), "most of edition destroyed by San Francisco earthquake and fire." BAL 11893 (London); BAL 15041 (Norris). Smith A-298. Signature of W. Brooks and rubber-stamped date "Apr 9 1906" on title page; his signature and rubber-stamped date "Apr 11 1906" on rear cover. Light wear to edges of cover with slight loss at spine ends and corner tips, several light creases to cover, still a very good copy of a very fragile book. (#147711)


First U.S. edition. "Begun in 1916, first published in 1924, this is an almost poetic utopian work. About one hundred women and a twelve-year-old boy shipwrecked from a luxury liner on an unknown South Sea island establish a matriarchal society, a paradise of natural existence. In this society children are regarded as of divine origin, and there is a taboo on even considering who the father of any given child may be. The island religion resembles ancient Greek mythology but with Hindu and Buddhist aspects. As the male children grow up, they are exiled to the other side of the island where they develop a different kind of society and even establish contact with the outside world. Eventually, the matriarchal rule is ended by a revolt of the men, who bring society back to the more usual 'civilized' aspects and end this temporary, utopian, ideal world." - Lewis, Utopian Literature, pp. 83-4. A fine copy in fine decorated dust jacket with the inevitable mild tanning to the spine panel. (#148223)


First edition. Published simultaneously in paper wrappers as Funk & Wagnalls' "Standard Library" number 140 at 15¢ or in cloth and boards (as here) at 75¢. Two short stories, the first a fantasy set in the Middle East, the second a sensational detective story. The first story concerns the discovery of a manuscript that tells, "in a style that Hawthorne makes drearily sententious, a story of the ancient city of Nebo and the cause of its destruction by flood waters." - Bassan, Hawthorne's Son, p. 158. The second combines Gothic, mystery, supernatural (a prophetic dream) and society novel elements, and features "a scene of genuine horror, one of the best Hawthorne ever contrived and comparable to the discovery scene in ARCHIBALD MALMAISON ..." - ibid., p. 157. Wright (III) 2605. Cloth lightly worn at spine ends and corner tips, boards rubbed along top and bottom edges, a couple of small spots on front board, tiny chip from upper right corner of front free endpaper, a very good copy. A fairly uncommon book which seldom turns up in nice shape. (#151551)

First edition. Published for private circulation in an edition of 2025 numbered copies, of which 2000 were for sale. A notorious book that was rigidly suppressed when first published and its illustrator imprisoned on charges of obscenity. "... it is a remarkable volume ... an amazing study of the real and unreal in human sex desire, the actual and the imaginary becoming weirdly entangled." - Bennett, A Practical Guide to American Book Collecting, p. 222. "A brilliant novella." - Barron, ed., Fantasy Literature 3-170. The illustrations are no less remarkable than the text. Together, they present a vivid exploration of madness, horror and ecstasy. A fine copy in a bright, fine pictorial dust jacket with just a touch of fading to spine panel. Scarce in this condition. (#149824)


First edition. A humorous novel about a malevolent, very possessive diamond that brings bad luck to all who possess it. This appears to be the author's first book. A very good copy. A very scarce book. (#151757)


First edition. A romantic comedy about a new woman who is courted by all men she meets as the result of an impetuous wish that is granted by supernatural means. The


First edition. First published as a three part serial in WONDER STORIES in 1935 as "The Perfect World." "Interplanetary adventure story of the future when an alien planet enters the solar system ... A hard book to come by on the open market ..." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 111 and A Spectrum of Fantasy Volume II, p. 141. Bookplate of collector and small press publisher Oswald Train affixed to front paste-down. Spine lean, cloth a bit marked and spotted, endpapers a bit darkened, a very good copy in bright, fine pictorial dust jacket (depicting a fiery comet about to strike earth) with wear at spine ends and corner tips and some dust soiling to white unprinted rear panel. A very nice example of the jacket, which may have married to this copy of the book some time in the past. (#148370)


First edition. A man's ego is trapped in its interior world of fantasy as the result of a scientific experiment. The protagonist, Francis Ayrault, moves to an isolated farmhouse in a New England
country village to conduct dream research, the object being to cause his dreams to recur by conscious thought and "render himself what no human being had ever yet been, -- the ruler of his own dreams." His experiment is successful, but his ego is ultimately enslaved by the dream world he has created. He neglects the world of everyday external life with tragic results and descends into madness. H. Bruce Franklin calls this novelette "extraordinary" in Future Science-Fiction (see pages 251-52). BAL 8346. Wright (iii) 2670. Two tiny black ink stains to cloth on rear cover, some rubbing to cloth at spine ends and corner tips, several inked numbers on front endpapers, faint old private library stamp on recto of first blank, still a bright, very good copy. An elusive book. (#149897)

92. Hoffmann, E[rnst] T[heodor] A[madeus]. HOFFMANN’S STRANGE STORIES. From the German ... Boston: Burnham Brothers, 1855. 12mo, pp. [1-5] 6-444, fyleaves at front and rear, original decorated dark green cloth, front and rear panels stamped in blind, spine panel stamped in gold. $1000

First edition. The first collection of Hoffmann’s tales to be published in America, including many stories printed here for the first time in English. "While the publisher does not reveal sources, the probabilities are that this collection, like HOFFMANN’S FAIRY TALES (1857), was translated through a French intermediary version. This is the first English appearance in book form for many of these stories and the only appearance for a couple. The translation, however, is very bad. Several of the stories have been rewritten and do not represent Hoffmann’s work." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 825. Light wear at spine ends, a very good copy. A scarce book seldom found in better condition. (#148266)


First edition. Hood’s first book, a miscellany of essays and short stories interspersed with poems. Tom Hood (1835–1874), English humorist and artist, was the son of the poet and author Thomas Hood (1799-1845). He became editor of FUN in 1865, which he made a rival of PUNCH, and in 1867 he founded TOM HOOD’S COMIC ANNUAL, a successful publication that continued after his death. Not in Sadleir or Wolff. Cloth rubbed at corners and along outer joints, inner hinges just a bit tender, a very good copy. A scarce book seldom found in better condition. (#150766)


First edition. Howitt’s first work of fiction. "Collection of seven novellas and short stories using material from the Old Testament to tell stories in a highly elevated, somber tone. The epic struggles in some cases involve angels and demons. A cosmic struggle in outer space unfolds in 'Nichar, the Exile of Heaven.' The author defends the use of exotic settings in his eight-page preface. It seems appropriate that this collection of tales of war and conflict should have belonged, as the ownership inscription attests, to a member of the British Army (9th Lancers)." - Robert Eldridge. Block, p. 115. Not in Wolff, who had several other works by Howitt. Ownership signature dated 1860 on the front paste-downs of both volumes. Minor rubbing to boards and leather, a very good set externally, nearly fine internally. ($148266)


First edition. Collects twenty-eight stories by this important member of the English Romantic movement. The material includes literary fairy tales and Gothic romances, and tends to be informed by the good-natured vitality that made Hunt such a valued friend. Part of the "Treasure House of Tales" series, whose other volumes gathered material by Mary Shelley, Douglas Jerrold and Benjamin Disraeli. The biographical essay by Knight is about thirty pages long. Lower corner tips lightly bumped, a bright, nearly fine copy. (#150855)


First edition. "Hyne's most famous fantastic novel ... the best of several novels published in the wake of Ignatius Donnelly's ATLANTIS: THE ANTEDILUVIAN WORLD (1882), which popularized the mythology of the sunken continent for Victorian readers. With tongue slightly in cheek, Hyne treated the myth as it really
deserved to be treated: as a grandiose exercise in imaginative sensationalism.” - Stableford, Scientific Romance in Britain

1890-1950, p. 129. A bright, nearly fine copy. Very scarce in this condition. (#148373)


First British edition. The British edition was printed in the UK by William Clowes & Sons from the plates of Dodd, Mead's U.S. edition which preceded by 25 days. This mixed collection includes two supernatural tales, "The Well" and "The Monkey's Paw," the latter being Jacobs' most famous supernatural story and one of the modern classics of horror. Jacobs' supernatural stories "seem absolutely original. They are always terrible, and they are wonderful examples of the art, which I commend at the outset, of leaving a loophole for a rationalistic explanation, which is, after all, not quite practicable. You are sure that the ghost did intervene, but sometimes you will find it quite difficult to put your finger on the moment when it did so.” - M. R. James, "Introduction," V. H. Collins, ed. Ghosts and Marvels ... (1924). Slight spine lean, cloth a bit rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, spine a bit darkened, but a bright, tight, very good copy. (#149610)


First edition. "Miraculous revival of religious life all over England." - Gerber, Utopian Fantasy (1973), p. 151. Binding considerably spotted, fore-edge of sheets foxed, but a very good copy in very good pictorial dust jacket which is foxed and tanned, but quite attractive. The jacket is rarely encountered. (#152002)


First edition. "Miraculous revival of religious life all over England." - Gerber, Utopian Fantasy (1973), p. 151. Binding considerably spotted, fore-edge of sheets foxed, but a very good copy in very good pictorial dust jacket which is foxed and tanned, but quite attractive. The jacket is rarely encountered. (#152002)

realism in American literature, one contemporary reviewer wrote,
The best-remembered collector of ghost stories was Catherine Crowe, with her highly influential THE NIGHT SIDE OF NATURE (1848), LIGHT AND DARKNESS (1850) and GHOSTS AND FAMILY LEGENDS (1858). These set the trend for 'real' ghost stories related in fictional narrative form, an approach that became very popular in the 1890s - Clute and Grant, eds., The Encyclopedia of Fantasy (1997), p. 403. Private owner's bookplate affixed to front paste-down. Bound without the half title leaf and the final advertising leaf, light rubbing to leather al spine ends and corner tips and along outer joints, a very good copy. (#151810)


First edition. According to Miller and Matthews, only about 1000 copies were printed, and some were for the American market. This copy has an inserted publisher’s catalogue dated May 1885 (the earliest catalogue is dated March 1885). This unjustly neglected novel by a popular late nineteenth century English naturalist combines Jefferies’ remarkable power of observation and his application of these observations into a philosophy based loosely on the Darwinian theory of evolution. Brian Aldiss (in Trillion Year Spree) observed that AFTER LONDON gave "memorable expression" to "the theme of nature reasserting its dominance. "AFTER LONDON stands with the works of Hudson and William Morris in rejecting modern, scientific times long before any disillusionment caused by the First World War set in." - Clareson, Science Fiction in America, 1870s-1930s 450. "AFTER LONDON is a first-class example of Victorian sf and proved very popular at the time; its influence can be traced through W. H. Hudson’s A CRYSTAL AGE (1887) to John Collier’s TOM’S A-COLD (1933) ..." - Clute and Nicholls, eds., The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction (1993), p. 642. "Unequal, but still a minor masterpiece." - Suvin, Victorian Science Fiction in the UK, p. 27, "... a remarkable book that deserves reading." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 1184. Cloth lightly worn at spine ends, some rubbing at corner tips, and along outer joints, a bit of soiling to cloth, small stain to rear cover, inner rear hinge partially cracked but still holding tight, a sound, about very good copy. (#151640)

104. Johnson, Rossiter (editor). LITTLE CLASSICS ... MYSTERY ... Boston: James R. Osgood and Company, Late Ticknor & Fields, and Fields, Osgood, & Co., 1875. 12mo, pp. [1-7] 8-231 [232: blank], flyleaves at front and rear, title page printed in red and black, original decorated green cloth, front panel stamped in black, spine panel stamped in black and gold, rear panel stamped in blind, slate coated endpapers, all edges stained red. $225


First British edition. This collection contains all the stories in MINE OWN PEOPLE, 1891, with the exception of "A Conference of the Powers," together with sixteen additional stories and one poem. A mixed collection including six weird and supernatural tales; "Bubbling Well Road," "The Dream of Duncan Parrenness," "The Courting of Dinah Shadd," "At the End of the Passage," "The Mark of the Beast," and "The Return of Imray." Stewart 100. Early gift inscription at head of the first page of Kipling’s "preface." Cloth rubbed at spine ends, corner tips and along outer joints, a clean, tight, very good copy. A nice copy overall and better than average for copies of this edition. (#150981)


and corners, short hairline crack at bottom edge of inner rear hinge, still a very tight, bright, nearly fine copy. (#151022)


First edition. Medical horror thriller featuring Jerry Scant, a “charming poacher,” set on the edge of the great moor on remote St. David’s Headland in Wales. A brilliant but ruthless scientist (a German doctor of course), frustrated by his failure to find a cure for cancer, turns to experiments performed on healthy young people, preferably women. A touch of mild foxing to page edges, else a fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with light wear at edges, mainly spine ends, mild sunning to spine panel, and 7/6 price clipped and “5/- NET overprinted at right. A nice example of a scarce book. (#149481)


First U.S. edition. Biological SF about the work a cold-blooded, self-centered scientist who conducts experiments in "the Barn" to perfect a new race of insect-like creatures to replace humans. "A Bildungsroman much in the manner of Dickens, using science-fiction motifs as symbols for human flaws, together with a Christian allegory ... Many interesting passages, some annoying vagueness. The Dickensian microcosmic world seems very anachronistic in the twentieth century. Still, praiseworthy for its vision" - Bleiler, Science Fiction: The Early Years 1255. A fine in bright, nearly fine pictorial dust jacket (front panel illustration by Politzer) with light rubbing along front flap fold. Uncommon in jacket. (#152414)

109. Landon, Percival. RAW EDGES: STUDIES AND STORIES OF THESE DAYS ... London: Published by William Heinemann, 1908. Octavo, pp. [1-8] [1] 2-312, four inserted plates with illustrations by Alberto Martini, original pictorial black cloth, front panel stamped in red and white, spine panel stamped in red, bottom edge untrimmed. $1000

First edition. Collects thirteen stories. "Mixed collection, including the classic ghost story 'Thurnley Abbey,' also psychological suspense stories 'Railhead' and 'The Gyroscope,' the latter about a horrifying juggernaut which runs amok in a crowded auditorium. Superb lithographs by Alberto Martini." - Robert Knowlton. "Although Landon published only one collection of short stories with supernatural content, RAW EDGES (1908), the unusual quality of one particular story makes it worthy of note. This is the frequently anthologized tale, 'Thurnley Abbey,' which is ranked by some as one of the greatest ghost stories ever written. Landon's achievement is all the more impressive because of his use of well-worn subject matter. The tale's masterful development of atmosphere is a model of how even clichéd material can be given a new lease of life in the hands of a skilled writer." - Wilson, Shadows in the Attic, p. 309. Touch of wear to cloth at spine ends, a bit of loss to white enamel rule on front cover, free endpapers tanned, a very good copy. (#148794)

First edition. Spy novel in which French secret agent acquires plans for British coastal defenses. In addition to his formal career as a journalist Le Queux "claimed to have been employed as a secret agent, and to have been involved in vital espionage work for anything up to thirty years before the Great War. Whatever his exploits in real life, he was certainly the great pioneer of spy fiction, from the publication of his novel GUILTY BONDS (1890) onwards. In his thrillers he turned away from the description of imaginary future conflicts on a large scale to the description of action behind the scenes in the contemporary world, where German plots were forever being thwarted by British agents, who thus prevented the enemy from achieving advantages that would make actual hostilities profitable. ENGLAND'S PERIL (1899) set the pattern for this kind of work." - Stableford, Science Fiction in Britain 1890-1950, p. 110. Slight spine lean, cloth lightly rubbed at upper corner tips and along bottom edges, early owner's signature on front free endpaper, a bright, tight, very good copy. (#148804)

111. Le Queux, William [Tufnell]. THE GREAT WAR IN ENGLAND IN 1897 ... London: Tower Publishing Company Limited, 1894. Octavo, pp. [1-3] 4-11 [12] 13-330 [331-332: ads], twenty full-page illustrations by Cyril Field and T. S. C. Crowther of which eight are inserted and twelve are integral to text leaves, one facsimile, numerous maps, several full-page, original pictorial olive-green cloth, front panel and spine panels stamped in orange and black. $750

First edition. French and Russian troops invade England and are defeated. Le Queux was a "tireless exploiter of any scare or anxiety that would 'make a story.' Most of the war fiction he produced was extraordinarily successful, partly because he chose to write on matters of great national concern and partly because his handling of his themes never rose above the level set by the new mass newspapers. A notable example is to be found in the history of his first really profitable venture, THE GREAT WAR IN ENGLAND IN 1897, which first appeared as a serial in ANSWERS during the war scare of 1893. Then, having helped to increase the circulation of ANSWERS, it came out as a book in 1894 with a preface by Lord Roberts. It sold five editions in the first four weeks of publication; and it drew letters of commendation from the Duke of Connaught, Lord Wolseley, and other eminent personages. By 1899 it had gone through sixteen editions and had been acceded leading articles in the Paris Figaro, the Rome Opinione, and the Secolo of Milan." - Clarke, Voices (1992), p. 58. Armorial bookplate of Donald Watson affixed to front paste-down. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends, corner tips and along rear joint, some soiling and faint scratching to rear panel, several small spots on spine panel, a bright, tight, very good copy with a very clean and attractive front panel. A superior copy of this handsome book. The first edition is very uncommon. (#149726)


First edition. Britain develops a ray-gun to destroy German Zeppelins during the Great War. Light spotting to endpapers, text block a bit tanned, a nearly fine copy in pictorial dust jacket with wear along top and bottom edges with shallow loss at lower spine end and corner tips, chip from upper spine end with loss of upper half of "THE" in title, and small closed tear at lower fore-edge of rear panel. Uncommon in the jacket. (#147342)


First edition. Long adventure novel concerning the exploits of a woman warrior-priestess of North Africa. Employment of occult arts lead to the discovery of a fabulous treasure. "It is packed full of incident, fighting, loving, plotting, dark crime, treasure-finding, and around all is the mysterious air of the desert. There are right readers and wrong readers for ZORAIDA. Under appropriate conditions, it should be pronounced an entrancing story." - The Bookman, vol. 2, p. 231. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, endpapers and edges of text block lightly foxed, a bright, very good copy. This first printing is scarce. (#152103)
114. Le Sage, Alain Rene. ASMODEUS, OR THE DEVIL ON TWO STICKS ... London: Willoughby and Co., 1840. Octavo, pp. [i-v] vi-xvii [xviii] xix-xiii [xxiv] [3] 4-274, eight inserted plates (each with tissue guard) with engravings (signed "GD") after illustrations by Tony Johannot, numerous other vignette illustrations by Johannot throughout the text, original pictorial plum cloth, front and spine panels stamped in blind, spine panel stamped in gold, a.e.g., yellow coated endpapers. $450

First printing of the Willoughby edition. The preferred (anonymous) English translation and the best illustrated edition of LE DIABLE BOITEUX, a classic French fantasy first published in Paris in 1707, and first published in English (as LE DIABLE BOITEUX; OR, THE DEVIL UPON TWO STICKS) in 1708. The Willoughby edition is the first edition in English with the Johannot illustrations. Le Sage's novel "imitated in framework and title from DIABLO COJUELO of Guevara (1641)" Asmodee, the "diable boiteux" is "released by Don Cleophas Zambullo from a bottle in which he has been imprisoned by an astrologer. To divert his benefactor, Asmodee lifts the roofs off the houses of Madrid and shows him what is passing within. This provides the author with an opportunity for a satirical picture of the Parisian society of the day in all its perversity." - Harvey and Heseltine (eds), The Oxford Companion to French Literature, p. 201. "Light, entertaining material that has served as the ultimate model for many diabolic tours for purposes of satire and amusement." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1009. "Less a novel than a sequence of highly entertaining satirical episodes, ASMODEUS became the model for numerous narratives in which a demon gives a human being a magical tour of contemporary life and vice." - Barron, ed., Fantasy Literature 1-45. Tony Johannot (1803-1852) "was the foremost illustrator of the 1840's in France, following the romantic tradition and introducing vignette work into his books" [Houfe, p. 354]. A bit of sunning to the cloth, largely to the spine panel, else a fine copy. A pretty copy of this attractive book. (#149647)


First U.S. edition. "Of Lee's best fiction, only two stories are set outside of Italy. In its quiet way, the earlier of these -- first published in booklet form as A PHANTOM LOVER (1886) and subsequently in HAUNTINGS (1890) as 'Oke of Okehurst' -- is as much a tour de force as her flamboyant Don Juan fantasy 'The Virgin of the Seven Daggers' (written 1889; published in FOR MAURICE, 1927). Perhaps somewhat undervalued because of its drenched, tepid English setting, and because its protagonists are at least superficially routine creations, 'Oke of Okehurst' nevertheless demonstrates that its author, in 1886, breathed the same literary atmosphere as Henry James and was capable of anticipating some of his explorations into the relationship between the narrator and what he narrates ... If the contemporary reader detects an adumbration here of Henry James's 'The Turn of the Screw' (1898), he is unlikely to be misguided. 'Oke of Okehurst' depicts a folie a trois, and the reader is left as ambivalent about what truly happened as he is clearly meant to be in the later tale. Lee's novella can only gain by being read as an early tour de force in the presentation of an unreliable narrator. In this light, a quiet, overextended anecdote can be seen as a tale of genuine horror" - John Clute, Bleiler, ed., Supernatural Fiction Writers: Fantasy and Horror, pp. 331-32. "Her first important supernatural fiction ... Along with the later 'The Turn of the Screw' (1898) by her friend Henry James, A PHANTOM LOVER fits remarkably well into Tsetvan Todorov's definition of the fantastic. A painter becomes obsessed with the similarity (almost certainly a matter of his own perception) between the woman he is painting and her ancestor, who was involved in a family tragedy. By the end of the tale, he has generated an uncanny further tragedy." - Clute and Grant, eds., The Encyclopedia of Fantasy (1997), p. 570. "The tale is very subtly told and is by no means clear. Is it a story of marital discord, petty sadism, and madness? Is there really a ghostly lover? Is Mrs. Oke possessed? What share does the artist have in the events? Lee is not easily pinned down." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 256. Private owner's bookplate affixed to front paste-down. Cloth rubbed at spine ends, corner tips, and along outer joints, spine a bit soiled, a very good copy. This edition is as elusive as its British counterpart. (#148124)


First edition. The first of the eight issues of this literary annual. Includes the first appearance in a book (there were at least two earlier printings, both in newspapers in 1833) of Edgar Allan Poe's ""Manuscript Found in a Bottle." This was Poe's first appearance in an anthology and his first fiction published in a book. "With this story Poe won a first prize of $50 in a story contest and effectively established himself as a professional writer" (Bleiler). Other contributors include Catherine Maria Sedgwick, Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, James Kirke Paulding, William L. Stone, Washington Irving, S. G. Goodrich and William Gilmore Simms. Faxon 301. Thompson, p. 126. Heartman and Canny, pp. 36-7. Leather rubbed at edges, inner front hinge repaired, several plates darkened, several with ghosting or foxing to adjacent text pages, a good copy. Presents fairly well. (#148807)

117. Machen, Arthur. THE THREE IMPOSTORS OR THE TRANSMUTATIONS ... London: John Lane ... Boston: Roberts Bros., 1895. Octavo, pp. [1-8] [1] 2-290 + 14-page and 16-page publisher's catalogues inserted at rear, first advertising volumes in the "Keynotes" series, second a general catalogue dated 1895, cover and title page design by Aubrey Beardsley, title page printed in orange and black, original pictorial blue cloth, front panel stamped in white, spine panel stamped in white and gold, publisher's device stamped in white on rear panel, all edges untrimmed. $850

First edition. Episodic mystery thriller incorporating four weird tales, including "Novel of the Black Seal" and "Novel of the
White Powder," considered by Bleiler (1983) to be “among the classics of supernatural literature, beautifully narrated, highly imaginative, thought-provoking, even with a note of humor that is seldom encountered.” Goldstone & Sweetser 7a. Hint of rubbing to cloth at head and tail of spine panel and corner tips, gift inscription lightly penciled on front free endpaper, else a fine copy. A sharp copy of an attractive book. (#147303)


First edition. Science fiction with a utopian theme. A pioneer treatment of the superman theme, wherein a youth grows in size and intellect to gigantic proportions. He contributes much to the welfare of the world before he mysteriously disappears. Boobig is a sort of folkloric proto-Paul Bunyan-type character. Wright (III) 3614. Cloth lightly rubbed along outer joints, a bright, nearly fine copy. (#151884)

120. Masefield, John [Edward]. A MAINSAIL HAUL ... London: Elkin Mathews, 1905. Small octavo, pp. [1-13] 14-128 [129-130: blank], frontispiece illustration by Jack B. Yeats, title page printed in red and black, original green cloth, front and spine panels stamped in white, all edges untrimmed. $650

First edition. A mixed collection of short fiction including fantastic sailor’s yarns of the “tall tale” variety, a lively assortment of ghosts and devils, drawn from traditional sources. “Excellent material. The folk tales have an air of authenticity, and the more formal stories ... are imaginative and nicely handled.” – Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1121. A cornerstone of Edwardian supernatural fiction. Some loss of the delicate white enamel stamping on the spine panel, else a fine copy. An uncommon book. (#149917)


First edition. The author’s first novel, an exotic romance of the high seas and African exploration. The discovery of Framazugda, a country in central Africa whose inhabitants are descended from a white race that had settled there hundreds, or
perhaps thousands of years ago. This early American lost race novel is "... an important predecessor of the kind of story that Rider Haggard made famous." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 154. "The success of his first novel or tale was astonishing, even to the author. KALOOLAH ... went through not less than nine editions, of which the latest bears the date 1900." - DAB. "Mayo's romance was a tremendous success, utterly obscuring Herman Melville's MARDI, which was published the same year." - Hamilton 603a. Wright (I) 1852. Cloth rubbed at spine ends and corners, partial hairline cracks along inner front hinge, signature 12 partially sprung, a very good, bright copy. A nice copy of a scarce book seldom found in superior condition. (#149772)


First edition. A presentation copy inscribed by McCarthy to William Archibald on the front free endpaper. Victorian shilling shocker issued in both pictorial blue gray wrappers and in cloth at 1/6, this being one of the latter. Flavian Hope, a wealthy, well-educated, idealistic young Englishman with an ambition to some day enter Parliament travels to Russia where he falls in love with Nathalie Sarovsky, a lovely young Nihilist. Hope joins the revolutionists but his devotion to their cause is a sham as he participates in their activities only to be near the woman he loves. An operation goes awry when Hope fails to carry out his part of the mission, and Nathalie and several members of her cell are apprehended and executed for their plot against the Czar. Hope, fool, rogue and now coward, returns to England in disguise but is not happy there. He changes his name and emigrates to America to start a new life. Aboard the steamship Atlantis he falls in love with a wealthy American girl who agrees to become his wife, despite his dark past. Hope believes his past is now behind him and his future appears bright. But when the ship docks in New York, Hope's body is discovered in his cabin along with the knife used to kill him and a scrap of paper with a few words written in Russian, which translated read, "By order of the Third Section. Remember Nathalie." McCarthy co-authored with his wife OUR SENSATION NOVEL, a pastiche of the shilling shocker, also published in 1886 by Chatto and Windus. Topp III, p. 144. Not in Wolff (who had a good selection of McCarthy's books). Spine lean, just a bit of foxing to endpapers, a very good copy. An uncommon book. (#151864)

124. McIvor, Allan. THE MECHANIC. New York: William Ritchie, [1906]. Octavo, pp. [i-v] v [vi] 7-300 [301-304: blank], title page printed in red and black, original red cloth, front panel stamped in gold and ruled in blind, spine panel stamped in gold. $450

First edition. Although it has science-fictional elements in the form of amazing inventions and discoveries, this is really a business novel, a genre whose outlines and constituent parts has not yet been properly mapped by bibliographers or critics. If it had been, this would surely count as one of its more significant examples. This can also be read simply as a drama played out on a field of finance and manufacturing between characters of titanic proportions. The hero, John Worth, is the mechanic of the title, a man of the people who knows how to work with his hands but also with his mind. He is more of what we would today call a mechanical (and chemical) engineer, from a family that has proudly pursued this calling, but he has also studied law at Columbia. Growing up in New Jersey and Manhattan's East End, he has earned the respect of that neighborhood's rough and tumble immigrants, but he is also a gentleman in the best sense of that term and mixes on easy terms with the city's richest and most powerful members. Orphaned at an early age when gangsters controlled by an industrial trust murder his father and mother, Worth is brought up by his uncle, who, later in life, is also murdered by the same men. Revenge is Worth's controlling motive in this story, but a disinterested thirst for justice also drives him to break up the country's web of industrial trusts and corrupt government officials. We also see in him the curiosity of the inventor, the political wisdom of the manager, and, not least of all, the passion of a lover, when he becomes romantically involved with the beautiful daughter of one of his chief enemies. This is no simplistic screed about capital vs. labor. "Twenty years ago labor and capital got on fairly well. Then began to come in the giant amalgamations ..." Acting on this equanimity, Worth forms a key alliance and friendship with Wall Street's most notorious stock manipulator. The style of the writing in THE MECHANIC is direct, even naturalistic at points, especially in describing violent scenes. It handles its love scenes with a pleasing degree of romance and wit, without descending into sentiment. The writing could be taken as an epitome of American popular fiction, embodying the virtues of its hero: direct, vigorous, clever, democratic, mixing the idealistic and the realistic into a new alloy stronger than either one by itself. In an amusing dig at the pretensions and weakness of the old world, an English aristocrat who comes to court Worth's wealthy girlfriend is simply named "Title." Worth is a natural mechanical genius, inheriting his father's discovery of a streamlined way to make steel; he goes on to discover a way to harden copper; to invent a new typesetting machine that, with a tenth of the weight and moving parts of the existing model, uses the principles of the stock ticker and electromagnetism; to discover, in an abandoned mining pit of the mound builders, an amber fluid that deodorizes oil and increases its potency fivefold; and, finally, to invent a fluid that decomposes iron and steel, used in the story's climax. At several points, it is hinted that there is something a little uncanny about the hero. Impressively for a century-old work of science-fiction, none of its fantastic premises obtrude themselves on the reader as ridiculous or obviously impossible. The story develops along unpredictable lines and holds one's interest from start to finish.
An obscure but first-rate novel that deserves to be better known. Smith M-130. Hanna, A Mirror for the Nation 2319. Slight spine lean, else a bright, near fine copy. A scarce book. (#149918)


First edition in English. A classic German novel of witchcraft. Meinhold "retains a place in the history of supernatural fiction largely because he was a pioneer of the genre. His THE AMBER WITCH (1843) and SIDONIA THE SORCERESS (1847-1848) are generally considered two of the earliest and finest witch novels of the nineteenth century. He was also one of the first to adopt the form, language, and documentary style of the chronicle. He wrote with such finesse that some of his contemporaries were convinced that the chronicles were authentic." - Bleiler (ed), Supernatural Fiction Writers: Fantasy and Horror, p. 121. This edition comprises volumes 29 and 30 of the Parlour Library, original series. Sadleir 3755a. Spine panels tanned, some spotting and staining to cloth of volume two, probably lacking half title leaves, a very good copy with clean interior. (#151685)

126. Merland, Oliver, writing as "Colin Collins." THE BLINDING LIGHT: A TALE ... London: Greening & Co., Ltd., 1910. Octavo, pp. [1-5] 6-319 [320: ad], four inserted plates with illustrations by Jasper Weird, original pictorial blue cloth, front panel stamped in white and black, spine panel stamped in gold, publisher's device stamped in black on rear panel. $375

First edition. "Science fiction invention thriller about the use and misuse of a light so bright that it blinds, but which can, by the use of special goggles, be used to see through opaque materials." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, pp. 55-6. Mild tanning and foxing, mostly last few leaves, else a near fine copy with clean and bright binding. Scarce. (#147603)


First edition, first printing. Posthumous collection of short fiction that includes the title story, one of the most successful humorous ghost stories. "One of the most interesting stylists in British ghostly fiction, Middleton is rich and exuberant in his more traditional ghost stories (especially the humorous ones), lean and concise in his more original psychological tales. He was a sad, neglected figure, and is still not well known. He was also a tragic figure: he killed himself at the age of 29." - Tymn, ed., Horror Literature 3-170. "The basic collection of Middleton's fiction ... excellent stories." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1174. Offset on free endpapers from jacket flaps, top edge of text block dusty, else a bright, fine copy in very good decorated dust jacket with chip from upper spine end affecting a few letters of the book title, light wear at edges, some general tanning, and long split along front flap fold. The fragile jacket is seldom encountered and this is a better example than most extant examples. (#147211)


First edition, probable later binding. Lost race thriller concerning the hidden city of "Krao" in Central Africa which has slept for hundreds of years. In their stronghold the ruling class, descended from ancient Chaldeans, have laid careful plans for world conquest. Their scientists have bred a race of zombie-like ape-men (newborn monkeys are injected with human blood mixed with certain chemicals) and created a sophisticated plague bacilli (which brings quick death, spreads rapidly, and loses it potency within 30 minutes). With their bacilli perfected and their army of 750,000 synthetic men, hidden underground in hollowed-out mountains, their leader, M'Bon (a Fu-Manchu-like character) is making final preparations to launch his war of world conquest. M'Bon wishes to marry an English woman and make her the white queen of his empire, and this proves to be his undoing ... despite his electric stun gun. One of the more imaginative lost race novels of the period. A clean, nearly fine copy. A scarce book. (#148838)


First edition. The heroine is projected into a terrifying Britain of the far future where man has reverted to barbarism and strange mutations, the product of past nuclear wars, roam the land. "... one of the most impressive post-holocaust stories written between the wars ..." - Stableford, Scientific Romance in Britain 1890-1950, p. 245. Mild rubbing to spine ends, tiny, faint water spot on front cover, faint glass ring on rear cover, page edges tanned, a very good copy with bright gold stamping on spine panel. Scarce. (#150989)


First U.S. edition. An excellent novel combining time travel and prehistoric life motifs. Three survivors of an airship disaster find themselves 25,000 years in the past on the island of Atlantis where they join a Cro-Magnon tribe. This novel was reprinted in FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, December 1943.
A fine copy in fine pictorial dust jacket. There are two dust jacket states for this edition, one pictorial, the other with Christopher Morley quote on front panel, priority unknown. Example here is the former and it is the more common of the two. A stunning copy. (#147377)

131. Musaeus, Johann Karl August. LEGENDS OF NUMBER NIP. By [i.e. adapted by] Mark Lemon ... London: Macmillan and Co., 1864. Octavo, pp. [i-vii] viii-xi [xii] [1] 2-140, six inserted plates with illustrations by Charles Keene, original decorated brown cloth, front and spine panels stamped in gold, rear panel stamped in blind, all edges untrimmed, slate coated endpapers. $850

First printing of this adaptation. Five tales about the Rubezahl, a mischievous nature demon, taken from POPULAR TALES OF THE GERMANS (1791), an anonymous translation often attributed to William Beckford, but actually by Thomas Beddoes, of Musaeus' VOLKSMÄRCHEN DER DEUTSCHEN, 5 volumes (1782-1787). In his introduction Lemon claims that the 1791 translation "had introduced much that was extraneous, and more that was very objectionable" and that "those errors have been carefully avoided in the present volume." However, Morgan says "only the slightest verbal revision was actually made." J. K. A. Musaeus (1736-1787) was "probably the first important German author to make use of folkloristic fairy tales for fictional purposes. An Enlightenment writer rather than a Romantic, his work was very popular and widely diffused; it undoubtedly set off many imitations in German and English. Several of his stories (by chance not included in Beckford's [i.e. Beddoes] translation) were often anthologized in 19th century English-language anthologies. Not a great writer, but a very good story teller. Unlucky in being surpassed as a folklorist by the Grimms and as a writer of fantastic fiction by Hoffmann." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1227. Probably lacks a half title leaf. Binding rubbed at edges, a very good copy. (#151582)


First edition of this translation. The stories are from VOLKSMÄRCHEN DER DEUTSCHEN (1782-1787). Not in Morgan. COPAC reports one copy, held by the British Library, which dates the book 1848 and identifies the anonymous translator, Adolphus Zytogorski. OCLC locates 3 copies, all dated 1851. Just a bit of rubbing and soiling to cloth, a very good copy. Very scarce. (#151631)


First edition. A collection of essays, poetry and tales, posthumously published after the author's suicide at the age of 30. Contains at least six fantastic tales, "Totteridge Priory" (a ghost story), "The Shakespearean Elysium" (a Bangsian fantasy of a world populated by Shakespeare's characters), "The Dinner of the Months" and "Every Day at Breakfast" (slight allegorical whimsies), "The Comet" (concerning the devil and astrology), "The Magician's Visitor" (in which the alchemist Cornelius Agrippa encounters the Wandering Jew, and "The Houri, a Persian Tale" (concerning a magic mirror and a death prophecy). "The Magician's Visitor" has been anthologized and is "much the best story in the collection. The other stories are negligible." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1227. Probably lacks a half title leaf. Binding rubbed at edges, a very good copy. (#151582)


First edition. This copy is part of the "Autograph
Edition" with printed leaf inserted before the frontispiece with a photographic portrait of Nelson and his signature below it. First published as a serial in ADVENTURE, January-April 1915. A lost colony of Vikings are discovered in Africa. "Well-written pulp adventure, but clichéd and disorganized in structure and incident." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 1600. Smith N-40. A fine copy in very good four-color pictorial dust jacket (reproducing the color frontispiece illustration by Gage on the front panel) with some short closed tears and shallow chipping at edges and internal tape mends at spine ends. A very presentable example of the rare jacket. (#147243)


First edition, later state with later publisher's catalogue. Includes the title story, which is supernatural, and "The Pavilion," a horror story featuring a vampire plant. The nineteen stories are part of the fiction-for-adults output of an author famous -- then and now -- for her children's stories. Owner's signature at top edge of front free endpaper. 7 mm closed tear in cloth at upper spine end, a tight, clean, very good copy. A nice copy of a scarce book. (#152060)


First printing of this edition. This edition collects four fine ghostly tales, "The Open Door," "Old Lady Mary," "The Portrait" and "The Library Window," The 1902 Blackwood edition is the earliest located edition collecting "The Library Window," generally considered to be Oliphant's best supernatural story. "The Open Door," was praised by M. R. James who considered it to be one of the "really good ghost stories I know wherein the elements of beauty and pity dominate terror." A fine copy. A lovely copy of a very scarce edition of this book, especially in this condition. (#148943)


First edition. An occult novel which presents the adventures of Zailm Numinos, a resident of Atlantis who becomes its emperor. During a visit to Atlantean colonies (the present United States), he meets a group of magi who have preserved the wisdom of the ages in their headquarters on Mount Shasta, in California, who send him on a spirit journey to Venus where he learns of his previous incarnations, one as Phylos, the author of this book. A popular work which remains in print today. A fine copy. (#151883)


First edition. Issued in both cloth and paper bindings, this is one of the former. Science fiction mystery novel. The third, and most fantastic, of Ottolengui's four sensational detective novels, involving hypnosis, morphine, glandular experiments, deliberately induced insanity, and an Aztec temple underneath New York City. "Crime and the Napoleonic scientist, also fantastic history ... A curious work. At times melodramatic in the worst way, yet at other times intellectually rigorous." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 1734. Wright (Ill) 4055. Early owner's signature and date on front paste-down. Light soiling to cloth, a tight, internally clean, very good copy. A nice copy of a scarce book. (#149607)


First edition. An early anthology of German Romantic tales by E. T. A. Hoffmann, Heinrich von Kleist, Ludwig Tieck, Wilhelm Hauf, among others. Many are fantastic, including such classics as Hauff's "The Cold Heart," Hoffmann's "The Sandman" and Kleist's "Michael Kohlhaas." Also includes Hoffmann's "Elementary Spirit," the only translation to date of this long tale of an alchemist's invocation of a fire-elemental. Also "Libussa" by J. C. A. Musæus.
Translations are cited by Morgan C441 as above-average and appear here for the first time in English. "Good material." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1272. One of the handful of key English-language anthologies in the early nineteenth century that propagated German Romanticism throughout the English-speaking world. Block, p. 177. Cloth rubbed, spine ends and corner tips worn, several closed splits along outer joints not too skillfully repaired, inner front hinge cracked but holding, text block clean, a sound, good copy. (#151590)


First edition of this translation. The first publication in English of an extensive selection of stories from the classic collection of Chinese stories of the supernatural. Translations of 164 stories from the LIAO-CHAI CHIH-YI based on the Chinese text published by Tan Ming-lun in 1842, collated with the edition of Yu Chi published in 1766. The LIAO-CHAI could be called, in terms of scope and influence, though not style, the 1001 Nights of China. P'u Sung-ling (1640-1715) collected about 500 supernatural tales throughout China during his lifetime. P'u is believed to have completed the majority of the tales about 1679, though he may have added stories as late as 1707. He was too poor to publish his work, but it was circulated in manuscript before it was published posthumously. Sources differ in their account of the year of publication. One source claims the LIAO-CHAI was published by P'u's grandson in 1740. However, the earliest surviving print version was printed in 1766 in Hangzhou. One of the best original-language editions was that of Tan Ming-lun, published in 1842 in sixteen small octavo volumes of about 160 pages each. Before Giles's collection only fifteen of these stories had been published in English versions. Giles (1845-1935) served as a British diplomat in China during most of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, then took a post as professor of Chinese at Cambridge. He was an eminent Sinologist and his translations are careful and copiously annotated, though sometimes a little dry. The stories are often wildly imaginative, with motifs and themes distinctively Oriental. What is perhaps most remarkable is that, although generally very short, the stories never feel abbreviated or sketchy. Modern selections and translations in English have appeared under many different titles. Critics have called Giles's Victorian era translations "prudish" and they have been dismissed as "orientalist bowdlerizations." (These same criticisms apply to more modern translations as well.) Historically, a very important pioneer work. See John Minford and Tong Man, "Whose Strange Stories? P'u Sung-ling (1640-1715), Herbert Giles (1845-1935), and the Liao-chai chih-yi," East Asian History, June/December 1999, numbers 17/18, pp. 1-48. A very good copy. A rare book. (#150886)


First edition. An allegory of modern life. A man and a woman "meet and fall in love; in their mating they seem to acquire full angel status, and they disappear into the sky on transcendental wings." - Clute and Grant, eds., The Encyclopedia of Fantasy (1997), p. 742. One of Pain's more interesting fantasy stories. Small area of fading at fore-edge of front cover, a very good copy. (#151705)

142. Pain, Barry [Eric Odell]. ONE KIND AND ANOTHER. London: Martin Secker, [1914]. Octavo, pp. [1-6] 11-308 + 16-page publisher's catalogue dated "January 1914" inserted at rear, original red cloth, front panel stamped in white and ruled in blind, spine panel stamped in white, rear panel ruled in blind, top edge stained red, bottom edge untrimmed. $750

First edition. "A representative group of sketches and stories by this witty and prolific writer now unjustly neglected. It contains the four stories 'Detection Without Crime' ... presented as 'From the Notebook of the Late Horace Fish,' a retired gentleman of insatiable curiosity." - Barzun and Taylor, A Catalogue of Crime 2698. Mild bruise to lower rear corner tip, a bright, nearly fine copy. One of Pain's most elusive collections of short fiction. (#149596)

First U.S. edition. A rare collection of criminous stories that features one of the first teams of crooks in literature, anticipating A. J. Raffles and Bunny by three years. Slight spine lean, a bright, nearly fine copy. (#148830)


First U.S. edition. Probably the author’s strongest collection of short fiction, fifteen stories including weird and criminous tales. "Of these fifteen tales the best (and best-known) are: 'The Three Dead Men,' 'The Iron Pineapple,' [and] 'My First Murder.' All deserve their fame, and the rest are not to be sneezed at. EP is a born storyteller, especially in his Devon dialect pieces. Worth anybody's attention, but not detection in the active voice." - Barzun and Taylor, A Catalogue of Crime 2717. A bright, nearly fine copy in good printed dust jacket with wear at edges, small chip from lower edge of front panel near spine fold, narrow chip along lower edge of front flap fold, and several internal tape mends. (#148785)

145. Potter, Martin H. LIFE -- THE JADE ... London: Everett & Co., Ltd., 1912. Octavo, pp. [1-9] 10-319 [320: printer’s imprint], original plum cloth, front panel stamped in white, spine panel stamped in gold, bottom edge untrimmed. $350

First edition. Presentation copy with signed inscription by Potter to English author Edwin Arnold. A very good scientific thriller about the discovery of an underground world replete with monsters from earth’s prehistory, others, such as giant spiders, and a race of vicious subhuman creatures, the wolf-men.” - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 178. Faint damp-staining to rear cover, some foxing, mostly to preliminary and terminal leaves, but a bright, very good copy. A nice copy of this scarce, attractive Edwardian juvenile. (#147351)


First edition. "Imaginative boys' lost race adventure novel about the discovery of an underground world replete with monsters from earth's prehistory, others, such as giant spiders, and a race of vicious subhuman creatures, the wolf-men." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 178. Faint damp-staining to rear cover, some foxing, mostly to preliminary and terminal leaves, but a bright, very good copy. A nice copy of this scarce, attractive Edwardian juvenile. (#147351)


First edition. A priest falls in love with the spirit of ancient Egyptian and learns they will travel the Earth together in a future reincarnation. Signature of Mabel Schweitzer at top edge of front free endpaper. A couple of fox marks to top edge of pages, a fine copy in very good four-color pictorial dust jacket (reproducing the frontispiece illustration by A. C. Michael) with wear and shallow loss at upper spine end and front corner tips and 25x32
mm v-chip from bottom edge of front panel. This book is scarce in superior condition and rarely found in jacket. (#151816)


First edition. The exploits, mostly criminous, of a vain man who uses disguises and crafty schemes to get revenge on his enemies and to help those he would befriend. In one adventure he thwarts the plan of an American millionaire who tries to corner the market in wheat and raise the price of bread; the English working class riots, after much starvation, before Daunt saves the day. Socialistic satire with some marginally fantastic aspects, but not technically supernatural or science-fictional. The "Doings" of Daunt first appeared as a series of linked stories in THE HARMSWORTH LONDON MAGAZINE in 1902. A prolific Australian journalist and novelist, Pratt also published a fantastic crime novel, THE LIVING MUMMY (1910). Front endpaper replaced, small chip from lower margin of first leaf (a leaf of ads preceding the half title leaf), small stain to plate facing page 54, last plate reattached and a bit proud, a very good copy in a clean, very attractive binding. A scarce book. (#151643)


151. Renard, Maurice. NEW BODIES FOR OLD. New York: The Macaulay Company, [1923]. Octavo, pp. [i-iv] v-vi [vii-viii] [vii (a)-viii (a)] 9-308 [309-310: blank], original olive green cloth, front and spine panels stamped in black, all edges stained green. $750

First edition in English. The author's first and best novel, first published in 1908 as LE DOCTEUR LERNE. Renard "... stands out as one of the most original authors to emerge at the beginning of the twentieth century ... LE DOCTEUR LERNE impresses the reader with its up-to-date flavor and topicality. In his best pages, Maurice Renard comes across as someone far ahead of his time, someone who could be called a science fiction visionary." - Survey of Science Fiction Literature II, pp. 560-63. "... a major step toward a recognizable, modern science fiction ..." - Anatomy of Wonder (1981), p. 13. "... generally regarded in France as the most important native SF writer for the

First edition. The author's posthumous first and only book. Most of the stories are science fiction and fantasy, including the author's genre classic "The Case of Summerfield." Anthony Boucher reprinted this story in the summer 1950 issue of the MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, terming Rhodes "in this and other stories one of the great pioneers of modern science fiction." Wright (III) 4525. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, a bright, very good copy. (#147621)

153. Roberts, Morley. KING BILLY OF BALLARAT AND OTHER STORIES ... London: Lawrence & Bullen, 1892. Octavo, pp. [1-4] [1] 2-270 [271: printer's imprint] [272: blank], original maroon cloth, front panel stamped in blind, spine panel stamped in gold, all edges untrimmed. $350

First edition. Mixed collection of fourteen stories, including "Father and Son," a tale with supernatural elements. Roberts' second book of fiction and first short story collection. Many of the stories are set in the United States, several of them in the American West. Cloth a bit rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, a very good copy. (#151892)

154. Robertson, Morgan. "WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD" AND OTHER TALES OF THE SEA. New York: Published by The Century Co., 1899. Octavo, pp. [1-12] 1-302, original pictorial dark blue cloth, front panel stamped in light blue and white, spine panel stamped in white, t.e.g., other edges rough trimmed. $350


First edition. A gang of international criminals with advanced technology (mind control, cell phones, poison gas, electronic map, etc.) secretly expand their control of America from vast caverns under New York City and vicinity. A fine copy in fine pictorial dust jacket. (#152356)

156. Roscoe, Thomas (editor and translator). THE GERMAN NOVELISTS: TALES SELECTED FROM ANCIENT AND MODERN AUTHORS IN THAT LANGUAGE: FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD DOWN TO THE CLOSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ... With Critical and Biographical Notices ... London: Henry Colburn, 1826. 12mo, four volumes: pp. [i-v] vii-x [xii-xiii] xiv-xxv [1-3] 414-463 [414: printer's imprint]; [i-v] iv [misnumbered "vi"] [1-3] 4-405 [406: blank] [407-408: publisher ads]; [i-v] [1-3] 4-347; [i-v] [1-3] 4-374, half title in volume one only; none called for in other volumes, nineteenth-century three-quarter leather and marbled boards, spine panels richly tooled in gold, leather title and volume number pieces affixed to spine panels, marbled endpapers. $450

First edition. "One of the handful of important anthologies of German fiction, emphasizing the supernatural, that appeared in the early part of the nineteenth century, reflecting and reinforcing the influence of this material on the Romantic movements in Britain and America. This collection of more than 1600 pages includes early legends (Reynard the Fox, Thyl Owlglass, the Merry Jester and Doctor Faustus [an abridgment of a 1599 work by G. R. Widman]), folk tales and popular traditions recorded by Otmar, Gottschalck, Eberhardt, Büsching, the Brothers Grimm and La Motte Fouqué, and stories by Musaeus, Schiller, Tieck, Langbein and Engel, including first appearances of English-language versions of weird tales by Tieck, as well as an obscure story by la Motte Fouqué. This collection preceded Carlyle's similar, and better known, four-volume anthology by a year." - Robert Eldridge. Block, p. 201. Wolff 5960. Half title for volume one missing, lacks the leaf of ads at rear of volume two. Armorial bookplate of Francis Frederick Fox affixed to front paste-down of all volumes. Leather a bit scuffed along outer joints, mild wear to several corner tips, leather spine and volume number pieces missing from volume 2. A tightly bound, internally clean copy. (#147759)

inserted plates (one double page) with illustrations by F. R. Harper, full page map on page [8], pictorial blue-gray cloth, front panel stamped in white and black, spine and rear panels stamped in white. $100

First edition. The first of the eight published volumes in this series. Intrepid young American adventurers use an advanced balloon to locate treasure in the Aztec's "Turquoise Temple" hidden in the American southwest. Two small stains to rear cover, a nearly fine copy. (#148208)


First edition. Includes "The Two Drovers," one of Scott's most popular supernatural stories, long regarded as one of the finest examples of the short story form to be published in the nineteenth century. Also present is the borderline supernatural tale "The Highland Widow" which is shaped around the traditional themes of the fatal curse and the warning spirit. Block, p. 209. Garside, Raven and Schöwerling 1827: 63. Wolff 6231. Armorial bookplates of George Sowerby affixed to front paste-downs. Some chipping to paper backing on spine panels, more so to first volume with loss of lower third and smaller chip from upper edge, several vertical cracks along spines and outer joints, some damp staining to front and rear panels of volume one, still a very good set. This book is uncommon in its fragile original board binding. (#151891)


First edition. Seventeen stories, some fantasy, including "Transformation" and "The Mortal Immortal," many appearing in this collection for the first time in a book. Issued as the second volume of Paterson's "Treasure House of Tales" series which is used as the binder's title. Merest hint of rubbing to cloth at spine ends and corner tips, a bright, nearly fine copy. A nice copy of a book usually found in lesser condition. (#150698)


largely to fore-edges, light age-darkening to endpapers, mostly along gutter margins, a very good copy in very good printed dust jacket with some wear at edges and tanning to spine panel and along flap folds. (#152093)


First edition. A notable tale "emphasizing the vulnerability of modern civilization by following the imagined consequences of a 'plague' that destroys all metals. As the new barbarians gather to sack the last enclaves of rural harmony, a young genius tries to save the world by making an alloy that can resist the corrosion." - Anatomy of Wonder (1995) 2-116. Reprinted in FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, March 1945. Private owner's embossed stamp on front free endpaper. Shallow stains to cloth along upper edges of front and rear covers, a bit of foxing to fore-edges of a few leaves, mostly at rear, still a clean, tight, very good copy. A very scarce book. (#149565)


First edition. A macabre adventure novel of madness and ultimate death of an alcoholic and unprincipled British plantation owner in the Borneo jungle. In the tradition of Conrad's "Heart of Darkness." A bit of mild foxing to page edges, else a fine copy in a good pictorial dust jacket (illustration by Liffey) with wear along top and bottom edges, several short closed tears at edges, and a chip from the upper spine end the extends onto the front panel and a chip from the bottom edge of the rear panel with loss to part of the publisher's address. An uncommon book, especially in jacket. (#147590)


First edition in English. The first book "of a monumental weird trilogy, THE CREATED LEGEND (1914), a deeply flawed work that is nonetheless one of the most ambitious, bizarre, and fascinating achievements of fantastic literature. Whereas THE LITTLE DEMON devastatingly condemned the poshlost' of this world, THE CREATED LEGEND triumphantly asserts the transforming power of art, embodied in the Satanist mage-poet Tirodov (the author's thinly disguised surrogate). A extraordinary mélange of occult romance and political melodrama, Sadean horror show, and spiritual quest, this novel anticipates magic realism by two generations, audaciously melding reality and fantasy in highly colored prose. As an exercise in wish fulfillment, THE CREATED LEGEND ranks with Baron Corvo's HADRIAN VII, in its sheer outrageousness and improbability is often transformed into a vision of compelling power by Sologub's literary genius." - Sullivan, ed., The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 394. The second and third books of the trilogy were not published in English until 1979 when Ardis brought out their edition, the whole translated by Samuel D. Cioran, with the first book titled DROPS OF BLOOD. Owner's signature dated November 1916 on front free endpaper. Cloth lightly rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, a very good copy. (#147387)


First edition. A very early American romance set in prehistoric America. It was written by Spaulding sometime prior to his death in 1816, but not published until 1885. The discovery of "tablets" recording the lost history of the Americas proves that native American Indians are the descendants of the ten lost tribes of Israel. It was claimed that Joseph Smith plagiarized Spaulding's manuscript while writing the BOOK OF MORMON.
A controversial work. Flake 8309. Not in Wright. Three wrinkles in cloth on rear cover (a minor manufacturing defect), a bright, nearly fine copy. (#151813)


First edition, variant binding with "THE MORAY / PRESS" at foot of spine. A presentation copy with inscription by Spence dated "Xmas 1943" signed "Lewis" on the front free endpaper. Collection of supernatural fiction by noted Scottish folklorist and authority on occultism. Ghosts, witchcraft, lycanthropy, and a stone gargoyle that comes to life. "The Red Flasket" holds an elixir distilled from virgin's blood and is used to extend the life of a dissolute nobleman. Edges of the text block foxed, a tight, otherwise clean, very good plus copy. (#151862)


First edition. Appears to be the author's third work of fiction, preceded by THE INTENDED: A NOVEL (1894) and PIERROT! A STORY (1896). "Excellent supernatural novella concerning gender, curses, reincarnation and fate. A curse hangs over the Wilder family, springing from a crime of passion committed centuries earlier when Gerald Wilder murdered his beloved Beatrice Sinclair, then himself. The fulfillment of the curse, the accidental killing of every male Wilder heir by a Sinclair, is always presaged by the sound of a spectral trumpet. Now, behind the walled-in massive Yorkshire estate, current family head James is determined to break the curse by uniting in marriage his eldest son, Gerald, with the last remaining Sinclair female, Beatrice. He finds her, down on her luck and walking the streets, rescues her and sends her up to the estate. Ancestral memories stir in her as she approaches it, but they are the memories of a man. Another wrinkle in the fabric of prospective matrimonial bliss is that, in another effort to break the curse, James has dressed, named and raised his son Gerald, 16, as a girl. Only he and the old butler know the truth about his identity. The other staff know him as Geraldine. Geraldine has never been outside the walls of the estate and, in fact, is quite hazy on the whole concept of 'male' and 'female.' Into this world Beatrice arrives and promptly falls in love with Geraldine. It becomes evident that 'Geraldine' is the reincarnation of the original Beatrice Sinclair, while the current Beatrice is the reincarnation of the original Gerald Wilder. In these reversed roles, they fall in love again. Beatrice, falling increasingly under the spell of the original Gerald Wilder, comes to see that she should leave immediately, breaking her and Geraldine's heart, in order to expiate the crime. Then she decides that the only way to end the curse is to re-enact (or, technically, reverse) the original crime. Wandering in the attic one day, she finds the original Gerald's costume, with sword and trumpet. Seized by a kind of battle lust, she puts these on and sounds the trumpet. Going downstairs, she finds Geraldine, weak with passion for her. She goes to get some wine to revive her but mistakenly brings back the opium drink to which Geraldine has become addicted. He drinks this and dies, and, a few months later, the broken-hearted, tubercular Beatrice dies. The curse has triumphed again. Stacpoole gets across the feeling of youthful passion. By pairing the idea of reincarnation with that of the ancestral curse, he makes the former more believable for a Western reader, and offsets the danger of predictability by means of the double gender reversal. A first-rate tale." - Robert T.

170. Sterling, John. THE ONYX RING ... With a Biographical Preface, by Charles Hale ... Boston: Whittemore, Niles, and Hall, 1856. Octavo, pp. [i-iii] iv-xxii [xxiii-xxiv] [1] 2-263 [264: blank], fly leaves at front and rear, original decorated brown cloth, front and rear panels stamped in

First edition. "Twelve members of a society based clearly on the Illuminati plan to become Secret Masters of the world, coming very close to success as the tale moves more distinctly into the near future; civilization almost falls at the hands of these Bolsheviks." - SFE (online). Nesta Helen Webster was a controversial author, popular among the right wing, who believed in conspiracies and plots against the British Empire and civilization. She was anticommunist, anti-Semitic and pro-fascist. In conspiracies and plots against the British Empire and controversial author, popular among the right wing, who believed 

172. Stevenson, Robert Louis. THE MERRY MEN AND OTHER TALES AND FABLES. London: Chatto & Windus, 1887. Octavo, pp. [1-10] [1-3] 4-296 + 32-page publisher's catalogue dated "September 1886" inserted at rear, original decorated blue cloth, front panel stamped in black and silver, spine panel stamped in black, light brown and gold, publisher's device stamped in black on rear panel, white endpapers with floral pattern printed in olive green. $500

First edition in English. Translation of FRAGMENT D'HISTOIRE FUTURE (1904). Catastrophe novel set in the future. The Sun is cooling and humanity moves underground to survive, creating a new world and a new society. The novel "depicts first a world society on the surface of the Earth, then, with the exhaustion of the Sun's energy, a sanitary underground utopia. The author seems to evince satirical doubts about the value of the latter as a model for human conduct." - Clute and Nicholls, eds., The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction (1993), p. 1201. "Worth reading, especially for the fluent, well-imagined ideal

First edition. A collection of credulous ghost stories based on UK legends and folklore, an early forerunner of similar compilations of "true" ghost stories by Catherine Crowe, Elliott O'Donnell, and others. See under Jarvis in this catalogue for a reading note. Block, p. 234 (listing the 1815 enlarged second edition). Wolff 6671 (listing the 1815 edition). Frontispiece foxed with some offset on title page, some mild scattered foxing in the text, a very good copy. Bound with a copy of the enlarged (242 pages) 1815 second edition in an attractive modern period binding. (#148267)


First edition. Weird yellow peril mystery thriller, sequel to SHADOW OF CHU-SHENG (1933). A society of Chinese adepts use ancient powers to thwart the evil ambitions of a renegade member, Chu-Sheng, the Accursed One. Chu-Sheng, a deaf mute magician uses mind control to enslave his zombie army, "The Company of the Living Dead." Some discoloration to endpapers along gutter margins, a nearly fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with wear at edges, several closed tears, and a narrow chip from the front panel. The Chu-Sheng books are scarce and are seldom found in jacket. (#149301)


First edition in German. A translation from the original French of LA FAMILLE DU VOURDELAK (1847) written by a cousin of Leo Tolstoy. This is one of the three follow-ups Tolstoi wrote (in French) to his Russian-language vampire novella of 1841. The present story is set in Serbia, makes good use of local folklore and is "by far the best of the three, and a classic of vampire literature." - Robert Knowlton in Sullivan (ed), The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, p. 426. The illustrations are superb and bring out the material horror of the subject. Bloch (2002) 3130. Cloth just a bit faded, else a fine copy. (#149679)

179. Torrens, J. M. (writing as "J. M. T.") A TRIP TO MARS: AN "AWFUL VENTURE." A CURIOUS MESSAGE. BEING A COPY OF A CIRCULAR ADDRESSED TO THE INHABITANTS OF THIS WORLD, BY MR. H[OMO] V. MUNDO [pseudonym], THE LATE VISITOR TO THE PLANET MARS. Reprinted from the Wellington A1 and New Zealand Tit-Bits ... Auckland ... Auckland: Wilson and Horton, Printers, 1901. Octavo, pp. [1-5] 6-49 [50: blank], original red wrappers printed in gold, stapled. $875

Second edition, enlarged, the first to print "A Trip to Mars" (pages [5]-24). The remainder of the book is devoted to "A Song of Auckland and Other Verses." While the story of the trip to Mars is fairly short (20 pages), it is densely packed with ideas and imagination; an early notion of a black hole or something like it, travel through space by explosive atoms and antigravity. Mars is a utopian world. The Martians live by the
golden rule and were either without original sin or eradicated it (this is not quite clear). When the astronaut from Earth lands on Mars he is fumigated to kill "sin-germs." The author's premise appears to be that humans have the technology and tools to create a paradise on Earth. Mankind's advance to perfection "would have been infinitely greater if [religion's] advocates and professors had proved unanimously true and faithful to their cause." There is nothing standing in the way of creating a utopian world except mankind's lack of a universal "faithful, heroic, and disinterested religion." "A science fiction story in the style of a newspaper report which describes how the protagonist was launched Verne-wise from a gun into space and, in his spacecraft, arrived on a scientifically advanced Mars, whose achievements include telepathy and easy access by means of airships to their two small moons, which are used as resorts. A piece which compresses more ideas within its small dimensions than do many full-length contemporaries." - Locke, A Spectrum of Fantasy, p. 210. Like Locke's copy, the front wrapper of this copy states "Second Edition." This refers to prior publication of "A Song of Auckland," not this enlarged edition that adds the author's "A Trip to Mars." Some creasing and soiling to covers, some light scattered foxing to text, else a very good copy. Rare. Among the earliest interplanetary stories published in New Zealand. (#153373)


First edition. An early atomic war novel, originally published as a serial in the SATURDAY EVENING POST, 14-28 November 1914. "The near future course of WWI is interrupted by messages from a mysterious PAX threatening super scientific punishments if war is not stopped. After some demonstrations, featuring rays, a flying ship and atomic energy, the nations obey." - Clute and Nicholls, eds., The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction (1993), p. 1236. "Unusual in early science-fiction in paying heed to correct science. Many of Wood's scientific details are still valid, although the extrapolations from them are, of course, fantastic." - Bleiler, Science-Fiction: The Early Years 2199. "Indebted to Wells's THE WORLD SET FREE of a year earlier, to which [the novel] explicitly refers." - Brians, Nuclear Holocausts: Atomic War in Fiction, 1895-1984, p. 326. A fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket (reproducing the color frontispiece on front panel) with shelf wear at edges, shallow chips from tail of spine panel and bottom edge of front panel, and dust soiling, mainly to spine and rear panels. A nice example of this scarce jacket. (#147208)

181. Twain, Mark (pseudonym of Samuel Langhorne Clemens). EXTRACT FROM CAPTAIN STORMFIELD'S VISIT TO HEAVEN by Mark Twain [pseudonym]. New York and London: Harper & Brothers, 1909. Octavo, pp. [1-6] 1-120 [121] [122: blank], inserted frontispiece with illustration by Albert Levering, original pictorial red cloth, front panel stamped in black, blue and white, spine panel stamped in white. $150

First edition. "Satirical fantasy of the afterlife which mocks the follies of religious fundamentalism and the absurdities which figure in popular images of paradise." - Barron, ed., Fantasy Literature 3-343. An expanded version was published in REPORT FROM PARADISE (1952). BAL 3511. Smith T-433. Slight spine lean, a clean, tight, very good copy. (#150767)

182. Vaughan, Arthur Owen. A SCOUT'S STORY ... London: Duckworth & Co., 1908. Octavo, pp. [i-iv] v-ix [x] 1-294 + 32-page publisher's catalogue dated "July 1908" inserted at rear, three inserted plates, one signed Monsell, original pictorial pink cloth, front panel stamped in black, gray and white, spine panel stamped in black and gold, publisher's device stamped in black on rear panel, t.e.g. $650

First edition. Boys' lost race adventure novel set in the Andes of Argentina where a band of avaricious cowboy
adventurers seeking "the treasure of the lost race of the mummy men of the Rio Negro" find a secret city inhabited by an ancient race of giant Indians, "pagans who pray to Andes Aloro." The "Pagans" attack the Europeans who are looting their "Treasure of the Sun." They capture several members of the company and take them to their city to be sacrificed to the Sun people's gods. The Europeans massacre hundreds of the Indians and invade the city, much of which is destroyed by fire. Most of the gold, melted by the intense heat, flows into a deep lake near the temple. The adventurers escape and return to civilization where they make plans to return with machine guns and equipment needed to recover the gold. An honest man "never steals anything that he can't carry away." Among the most jingoistic, racist, and blood-minded lost race stories. The later American edition (using the UK sheets) was attributed to "Owen Rhoscomyl," the bardic name of this once-popular English-born Welsh nationalist. Teitler 1030. 

Attractive bookplate of Louis Coues Page affixed to the front paste-down. Small dent in cloth near lower spine end, cloth just a bit dusty, but a bright, very good copy. (#151642)


First edition. Vernede's posthumously published only collection of short fiction. Mildly satirical stories about provincial culture hunters, spiced with several tales of weird horror. "The Finless Death" is a macabre fishing story. "On the Raft" concerns a battle between two men on a raft with a Red Sea skate. "The Maze" is a grim story about the French Revolution. Small, faint stain to lower front corner tip and lower fore-edges of endpapers and text leaves, a very good copy in very good printed dust jacket with light wear and several closed tears at edges and tanning to spine panel. (#150945)


First complete one-volume edition? No holdings for this edition can be found in any of the libraries of COPAC, leaving some uncertainty about its exact bibliographic status. What is known and what seems likely are as follows: the first English translation of this work was issued in four volumes by Hunt and Clarke in 1828-1829. (Oxford also records another edition in 4 volumes in 1829 from Whittaker, Treacher and Arnet.) A one-volume edition appeared in 1859 in the Bohn Library and also from T. B. Peterson in the U.S., the latter running to 562 pages, the same page count as the present edition and, one may reasonably suspect, of the Bohn Library edition as well. That would place this Chidley edition somewhere between 1829 and 1859 (confirmed by a gift inscription dated July 1847 on the front free endpaper). Chidley brought out an earlier undated edition (circa 1840) titled THE LIFE AND EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF VIDOCQ. This edition consisted of only 206 pages and, therefore, may have been the first of a projected multi-volume edition. What seems likely is that this is the first complete one-volume edition of VIDOCQ -- an important probable influence on Poe's creation of Dupin. See Queen's Quorum, pp.
papers in New York and San Francisco. All but one of the nine "Fibs" are sensational, fantastic or criminous stories; "The Protoplasmic Misadventures of Hans Jorgensen," a science fiction horror story of the discovery of jelly-like living prehistoric organic matter preserved on an uncharted volcanic island in the North Pacific near the Aleutian Islands; "Down to the Medulla," a vivisectionist experimenting with the human brain turns a condemned criminal into a living vegetable; "Taken Under Advisement," a clever tale of a killer who almost outwits the law; "Old Lick's Ghost: A California Christmas Story," a rationalized ghost story; "If Thine Enemy Thirst," a horrific revenge story set in a lifeboat at sea after a shipwreck; "He Kept the Engagement," a romantic courtship story; "The Magic Mirror," a sailor gives his sweetheart an ancient Persian mirror in which she sees his fatal love affair with another man's wife; "How I Had 'Em! A Blue Ribbon Romance," a hallucinating drunk is tormented by the Devil and his Imps; "To Freeze Out England," a humorous tall tale in which the Fenians plot to change the climate in England by blocking the Gulf Stream; the project is staled due to lack of money to buy bricks. Stories and sketches in the style of Bierce, Morrow and Milne, although not as polished. Vivian "had a fondness for the fanciful and could make the seemingly impossible appear very probable ... Vivian was gifted with a vivid imagination, which enabled him to conceive the impossible and describe it as an actuality in a convincing manner. He wrote many special articles for the SUNDAY CHRONICLE, and struck a novel note as often as any writer for the American press." - Young, Journalism in California, pp. 103 and 132. Wright (II) 5701 (citing a 1900 Fenno edition). Just a touch of rubbing to cloth at spine ends and corner tips, a bright, nearly fine copy. This Neely first edition is quite scarce. (#151802)


First U.S. edition. First printing with code "(1)" at base of text on page [275]. Published earlier in Britain as OLD MAN'S BEARD (1929). Collects fifteen stories. "... features several fine studies of supernatural malevolence, two of the best being 'The Cairn' and 'Blind Man's Buff.'" - Barron, ed., Horror Literature 3-200. Some light dust soiling to cloth, a tight, very good copy. Formerly fantasy author A. Merritt's copy with his signature on front free endpaper and a note in his hand on blank page facing first page of text: "Personal property / of A. Merritt / cherished for reasons / known to himself. / (Do not steal, / lose or forget if / loaned or I borrowed.) / A. Merritt." A nice association copy. (#147328)


First edition. A major collection of thirty-three tales of science fiction, fantasy and the supernatural, five of which appear here for the first time in book form. According to Wells's introduction these constitute "all the short stories by me that I care for any one to read again." Wells 42. Signed and dated 1912 by an early owner on the front paste-down. Tiny book of collector John Ruyle affixed to same. A fine copy. (#149946)


First edition. A presentation copy from one ghost story writer to another with signed inscription by Wells on the half title page to Irish writer Elizabeth Bowen (1899-1973) who lived in Regent's Park from 1935 until after the end of World War II: "To Elizabeth Bowen / with warmest regards / H. G." This story is a satire written in the
form of an allegory. In its symbolism it has close affinities with THE ISLAND OF DOCTOR MOREAU (1896) and MR. BLETTSWORTHY ON RAMPOLE ISLAND (1928)." - Hammond, p. 44. "In some ways a more mature telling and redirection of 'The Red Room,' or hauntings as due to mental fragments that have assumed a power beyond their immediate origin. It is also a symbolic statement of the psychosis emergent within Western culture just before World War II. 'A sickness in the very ground of our lives, breaking out here and there and filling men's minds with a paralyzing irrational fear.' The ghost story as a statement of the spiritual breakdown of society ... One of Wells's better late works." - Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1683. Hammond B18. Small chip to paper spine label, minor offsetting to endpapers, a very good copy in good pictorial dust jacket with tanning to spine panel, internal tape mends at spine ends, and some general dust soiling, mostly to rear panel. A nice association copy. (#149947)

191. Wells, Herbert George. MR. BLETTSWORTHY ON RAMPOLE ISLAND ... London: Ernest Benn Limited, 1928. Octavo, pp. [1-6] 7-287 [288], original brown cloth, spine panel stamped in gold. $1000


192. Wells, Herbert George. TALES OF SPACE AND TIME ... London and New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1900 [i.e. 1899]. Octavo, pp. [1-8] 1-358 1-2 [ads], original decorated tan cloth, front panel stamped in dark brown and gold, spine panel stamped in dark brown, fore and bottom edges untrimmed. $350


193. Wells, Herbert George. THIRTY STRANGE STORIES ... New York: Edward Arnold, 1897. Octavo, pp. [i-v] vi 1-504 [505-506: blank], original pictorial medium green cloth, front panel stamped in black and gold, spine panel stamped in black, t.e.g., other edges untrimmed. $1000

First edition. Collects thirty stories, three of which appear here for the first time in book form. Most of the others were published earlier in THE STOLEN BACILLUS (1895) and THE PLATTNER STORY (1897). This was Wells’s first short story collection published in America and there was no equivalent printing in Britain. Wells 13. Owner’s signature on front free endpaper. Cloth rubbed at spine ends and corner tips, hairline crack along part of inner rear hinge which is still holding tight, a good copy which is outwardly attractive. One of the more elusive Wells first editions. (#149936)


First edition. Boys' lost race adventure novel. During an international boundary dispute, Britain, France and Germany dispatch advanced airships to the contested Central African region rumored to have vast oil reserves where they encounter a fierce ancient race possibly descended from the Lost Legion. Not in Teitler-Locke (2013). Early owner's signature dated April 1932 on the front free endpaper. A very good copy in very good pictorial dust jacket (with four-color illustration by W. Edward Wigfull) with several closed tears along top edge. (#152122)


First edition. "Metaphysical fantasy in which the worlds of the dead and the living overlap as in ALL HALLOW'S EVE (1945) ... Remarkable for its
intensity, derived from strong convictions at which the author, by courtesy of the philosophical exploration conducted in his earlier novels, had at last arrived." - Barron, ed., Fantasy and Horror (1999) 5-323. Slight spine lean, a bright, nearly fine copy in about very good printed dust jacket with wear at edges, fraying at spine ends with shallow loss at bottom, narrow vertical red stain to front panel, and general dust soiling. A superior copy of an uncommon book, especially in dust jacket. (#148756)


First British edition, first printing. Sequel to DELUGE (1927). Top edge of text block a bit dusty, minor foxing to fore-edge, else a nearly fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket with dust soiling, some sunning to spine panel, and neat internal reinforcements at spine ends and corners with brown paper tape. Unlike the U.S. edition, the UK first printing is a very uncommon book, especially in jacket. (#149806)


First edition. Sequel to PRELUDE IN PRAGUE: A STORY OF THE WAR OF 1938 (1935). "PRELUDE IN PRAGUE ends with the delivery of a German ultimatum to Britain, and its sequel ... takes up the story with its rejection. The book goes on to describe the devastation of Britain by bombers which carry not only explosives but chemical and biological weapons. The war becomes a world war -- and eventually takes on the semblance of a Holy War, with the Christian nations (led by America) arrayed against the forces of a new paganism, symbolized by Germany’s new military dictator, Prince von Teufel. Fowler Wright had intended (in 1933) to call his future war story THE SPLENDID CURSE, and there are fragments of dialogue in FOUR DAYS WAR which concentrate on the degeneracy of contemporary society and the possibility of its corruption being cleansed by the war. The horror of the vision of destruction, though, overwhelms this cynical thread of argument, and it has quite disappeared by the time the story extends into the third volume of the trilogy, MEGIDDO’S RIDGE (1937)." - Stableford, Scientific Romance in Britain 1890-1950, pp. 195-96. A bright, nearly fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket (designed by Ward Stone) with wear at lower spine end and corner tips, shallow chip from upper spine end, some wrinkling at lower front corner tip, and dust soiling to spine and rear panels.

Nevertheless, a nice example of this rare jacket. Formerly science fiction author / editor / publisher Donald A. Wollheim’s copy with his name stamped in ink on rear free endpaper. (#149808)


First edition. Published later in the U.S. as THE WAR OF 1938 (1936). The first book of a future war trilogy, followed by FOUR DAYS WAR (1936) and MEGIDDO’S RIDGE (1937). PRELUDE IN PRAGUE begins prophetically with the proposition that Germany would embark on the road to war by manufacturing an excuse to invade Czechoslovakia in order to reclaim part of her "traditional territory." It rapidly develops, though, into a horror story which put the actual events of 1938 (and even those of 1939) in the shade. The final chapters present a clinically horrific catalogue of atrocities, imagining the effects of devastating aerial bombing and the use of a new chemical weapon -- a ‘freezing gas.’ PRELUDE IN PRAGUE ends with the delivery of a German ultimatum to Britain, and its sequel, FOUR DAYS WAR (1936), takes up the story with its rejection." - Stableford, Scientific Romance in Britain 1890-1950, p. 195. Stamped "Colonial Edition" on half title page and jacket spine. Tiny early owner’s signature dated April 1936 on half title page. A fine copy in very good pictorial dust jacket (designed by J. M. Pollock) with some wear and shallow chipping at spine ends and corner tips, several closed tears along folds with internal tape mends (one with a bit
of show though on rear panel), and some light dust soiling, mainly
to rear panel. An attractive example of the rare jacket with the
striking illustration on front panel intact and bright. (#149809)

199. Wright, S[ydney] Fowler. THE WORLD BELOW ... New
York, Toronto: Longmans, Green and Co., 1930. Octavo,
pp. [i-iv] v-viii 1-344, original gray cloth, front and spine
panels stamped in black. $850

First U.S. edition. This edition adds a preface by Wright
dated "New York, January 15, 1930" that did not appear in the
1929 Collins edition. A superior novel in which Wright explores
human evolution based on degeneration of the race due primarily
to continual destruction of past civilizations through the misuse
of scientific discoveries. Comprises "The Amphibians," first
Below," first published here. A third book was planned but never
written. The story is "set in the far future, when humans are
extinct and forgotten ... the time traveling protagonist
accidentally precipitates a crisis in the affairs of a race of
telepathic Amphibians who coexist with the giant humanoid
Dwellers ... the first part [is] an imaginative tour de force." -
Anatomy of Wonder (1981) 2-128. THE AMPHIBIANS is "a work
comparable in its scope only to [Wells's ] THE TIME MACHINE and
[Hodgson's] THE NIGHT LAND." - Stableford, Scientific Romance
in Britain 1890-1950, pp. 183-85. Bookplate of noted collector
William Harry Hopkins affixed to front paste-down. A fine copy in
very good pictorial dust jacket (designed by Hermann Post) with
light wear at edges and two closed tears, each with internal tape
mend. A bright, attractive example of an uncommon jacket.
(#149734)

200. Wynne, Madeline Yale. THE LITTLE ROOM AND OTHER
STORIES. Chicago: Way & Williams, 1895. Small octavo,
pp. [1-7] 8-145 [146: blank], inserted frontispiece,
tailpieces, and binding design by Wynne, title page printed
in red and black, original decorated blue gray cloth, front
and spine panels stamped in black, t.e.g., other edges
trimmed. $450

First edition. Collects the title story, its sequel, and four
other fantasy shorts, "My Ghost of a Chance," "In Granada," "The
Voice," and "The Scarf." Madeline Yale Wynne (1847-1918) "was
an American artist, poet, and short story writer ... remembered
for her early contributions to the arts-and-crafts movement,
especially in jewelry and enameling long before the crafts
movement became fashionable ... Her writing, however, has been
substantially forgotten. Although apparently 'The Little Room'
received much praise and attention upon its original appearance
in HARPER'S MAGAZINE (August 1895), no mention of it or her
appears in most standard reference books. Her collection, THE
LITTLE ROOM AND OTHER STORIES (1895), is a little known book.
But in fact 'The Little Room' is a minor masterpiece, on a par with
Charlotte Perkins Gilman's 'The Yellow Wall Paper,' which it
predates. It is not only a subtle feminist work but also a
mysterious meditation upon the nature of reality, the more
powerful for its ambiguity. A unique haunted house story, it
achieves considerable psychological depth through attention to
nuance and detail, and careful use of allusion to events outside
the story in the past. One wonders how many other stories of
this quality have been forgotten." - David G. Hartwell. New
England regionalism and a lost room ... Nicely handled." - Bleiler,
The Guide to Supernatural Fiction 1673 h-i. "Wynne's work,
subtle and evocative, deserves greater recognition." - Robert
Knowlton. Not in Wright. Some offsetting to endpapers from
former homemade dust jacket, a bit of shelf lean, a bright, very
good copy of an attractive book. A very scarce American ghost
story classic. (#149271)
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March 9-12 the New York Antiquarian Book Fair, The Park Avenue Armory, New York City.

April 21-23 the Windy City Pulp and Paper Con, Westin Lombard, Lombard, IL (Chicago suburbs)

July 27-30 Pulpfest, Doubletree Pittsburgh-Cranberry

November 10-12 the Boston International Book Fair

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