

6

NATURAL HISTORY

JANUARY 2023

a short list e-catalogue
DONALD A. HEALD | RARE BOOKS



NATURAL HISTORY JANUARY 2023

a short list e-catalogue

Additional illustrations of each item can be found on our **website** by clicking the linked descriptions.



AMUCHASTEGUI, Axel (1921-2002). *Some Birds and Mammals of North America ... text by Les Line.*

[London]: Tryon Gallery in association with George Rainbird, 1971. Folio (20 7/8 x 14 inches). Title printed in brown and black, half title. 16 coloured lithographic plates by the Curwen Press after Amuchastegui. Original morocco-backed cloth by Zaehnsdorf, the flat spine lettered in gilt, gilt edges, cloth slipcase.

An excellent copy of this limited edition featuring the work of one of the greatest wildlife artists of the 20th century, here highlighting his paintings of the birds and mammals of North America.

Limited edition of 505 copies, this number 109 of 500 copies signed by the publisher, and including images of eight birds (a wild turkey, wood duck, bald eagle, ivory-billed woodpecker, blue jay, mountain quail, boat-tailed grackle and cardinal), and eight mammals (a bighorn sheep, raccoon, white-tailed deer, eastern cottontail, pronghorn, kaibab squirrel, marten and a lynx).

Axel Amuchastegui was born in Cordoba, Argentina in 1921. He was self-taught and developed his own technique using Chinese inks and brushes. His work appeared in a number of publications including *Pajaros del Mundo* (Birds of the World, 1959), *Studies of Birds and Mammals of South America* (1967) and *Vida Amorosa de los Pajaros* (Love Life of the Birds, 1974) by Carlos Selva Andrade. He gained a worldwide reputation, aided by a number of beautifully produced large-format works published by the Tryon Gallery of London (the present work published in 1971, *Some Birds and Mammals of South America* [1971], *Some Birds and Mammals of Africa* [1979]) which were issued to coincide with a series of highly successful exhibitions held in London, New York, Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Santiago.

(#19067)

\$ 600.



AUDEBERT, Jean-Baptiste (1759-1800). *Flying lemur, an original watercolour sketch for a published print.*

Original pencil, bodycolour and watercolour by Audebert, with details of claws and teeth in pen, ink and wash and pencil above main figure, on laid paper. Fine condition. Sheet size: 21 1/4 x 14 inches.

A very fine original watercolour by Audebert: an original of an image that was published in his first great natural history book 'Histoire Naturelle des Singes' (Paris: 1797-1800).

Although the present drawing is unsigned, it is clearly by Audebert. This fine watercolour gives some insight into the working methods of one of the most highly respected pioneers of a golden era in natural history publications in France. Audebert, a painter by training, was born at Rochefort. His interest in natural history was stimulated by a commission to help with the preparation of the plates for G. A. Olivier's work on Coleoptera. This drawing is an original for Audebert's *Histoire Naturelle des Singes*, the only publication of his own work to be completed during his life-time, which was published in ten parts between 1797 and 1800. He died in 1800, in Paris, leaving notes and drawings for a number of other works which were published after his death

(#20779)

\$ 5,750.





AUDUBON, John James (1785-1851). *Ornithological Biography, or an account of the habits of the birds of the United States of America; accompanied by descriptions of the objects represented in the work entitled The Birds of America, and interspersed with delineations of American scenery and manners.*

Edinburgh & London: Printed by Neill & Co. (Edinburgh) for Adam & Charles Black (Edinburgh) and R. Havell Jun., and Longman, Rees, Brown and Green (London), and various others, 1831-1834-1835. Vols 1-3 (of 5), large 8vo (9 3/4 x 6 inches). Half-titles. Numerous woodcut text illustrations. Prospectus for the Birds of America bound into rear of vol. 1. Bound to style in half calf and period cloth covered boards, spines ruled in blind, black morocco lettering pieces. .

First edition of the first three volumes of the separately-issued text for the elephant folio Birds of America, complete with the rare Prospectus.

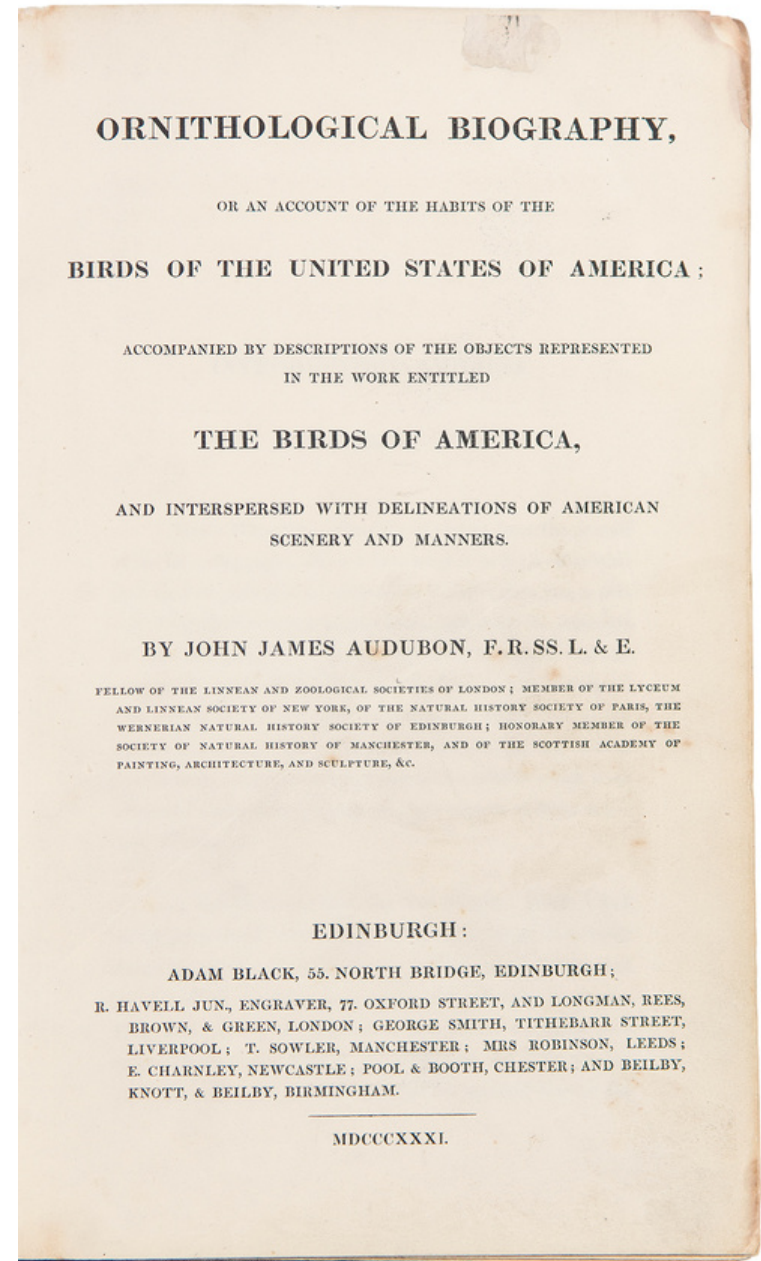
The genesis of the present work is interesting: as early as November 1826, Audubon had begun thinking about the text which should accompany his engraved illustrations of birds. He noted in his journal: "I shall publish the letterpress in a separate book, at the same time with the illustrations and shall accompany the descriptions of the birds with many anecdotes and accounts of localities connected with the birds themselves ..." (M.R. Audubon Audubon and his journals 1897, vol.I, p.163). Audubon had taken the decision to publish the letterpress separately (and give it free to the subscribers to the plate volumes) because, according to British copyright law, had the letterpress accompanied the engravings, Audubon would have been obliged to deposit a copy of the work in each of the nine copyright libraries in the United Kingdom. This would have placed a strain on the economics of the production of the book.

Work on the text did not begin in earnest until the end of 1830, just as Havell was nearing the completion of the engraving of the first 100 drawings. Between 1831 and 1837 Audubon and his family made three trips to America. Audubon was back in London between 1837 and 1839, where he completed the descriptions of the last two volumes of the Ornithological Biography. On 20 November 1838, Audubon wrote to Bachman: "My fourth Vol. is finished and in 10 days I will have 200 copies of it at London where I hope you will be and receive several Copies to take over with you, for yourselves and others as then directed" (quoted by Fries, p. 111).

This set with the separately-issued prospectus and list of subscribers for the elephant folio edition, bound into the rear of volume one.

(#31883)

\$ 3,000.



ORNITHOLOGICAL BIOGRAPHY,

OR AN ACCOUNT OF THE HABITS OF THE

BIRDS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

ACCOMPANIED BY DESCRIPTIONS OF THE OBJECTS REPRESENTED
IN THE WORK ENTITLED

THE BIRDS OF AMERICA,

AND INTERSPERSED WITH DELINEATIONS OF AMERICAN
SCENERY AND MANNERS.

BY JOHN JAMES AUDUBON, F. R. S. S. L. & E.

FELLOW OF THE LINNEAN AND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF LONDON; MEMBER OF THE LYCEUM
AND LINNEAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, OF THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PARIS, THE
WERNERIAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH; HONORARY MEMBER OF THE
SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY OF MANCHESTER, AND OF THE SCOTTISH ACADEMY OF
PAINTING, ARCHITECTURE, AND SCULPTURE, &c.

EDINBURGH :

ADAM BLACK, 55. NORTH BRIDGE, EDINBURGH;

R. HAVELL JUN., ENGRAVER, 77. OXFORD STREET, AND LONGMAN, REES,
BROWN, & GREEN, LONDON; GEORGE SMITH, TITHEBARR STREET,
LIVERPOOL; T. SOWLER, MANCHESTER; MRS ROBINSON, LEEDS;
E. CHARNLEY, NEWCASTLE; POOL & BOOTH, CHESTER; AND BELLBY,
KNOTT, & BELLBY, BIRMINGHAM.

MDCCCXXXI.



BROWN, Captain Thomas (1785-1862).

Illustrations of the Recent Conchology of Great Britain and Ireland, with the description and localities of all the species, marine, land, and fresh water ... Second Edition, greatly enlarged.

London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 1844. Large quarto (12 1/16 x 9 5/8 inches). [15], 144pp. 62 hand-coloured plates. Publisher's red cloth, spine titled in gilt.

Second edition, "greatly enlarged," of this classic catalogue of mollusca with beautifully hand-colored plates.

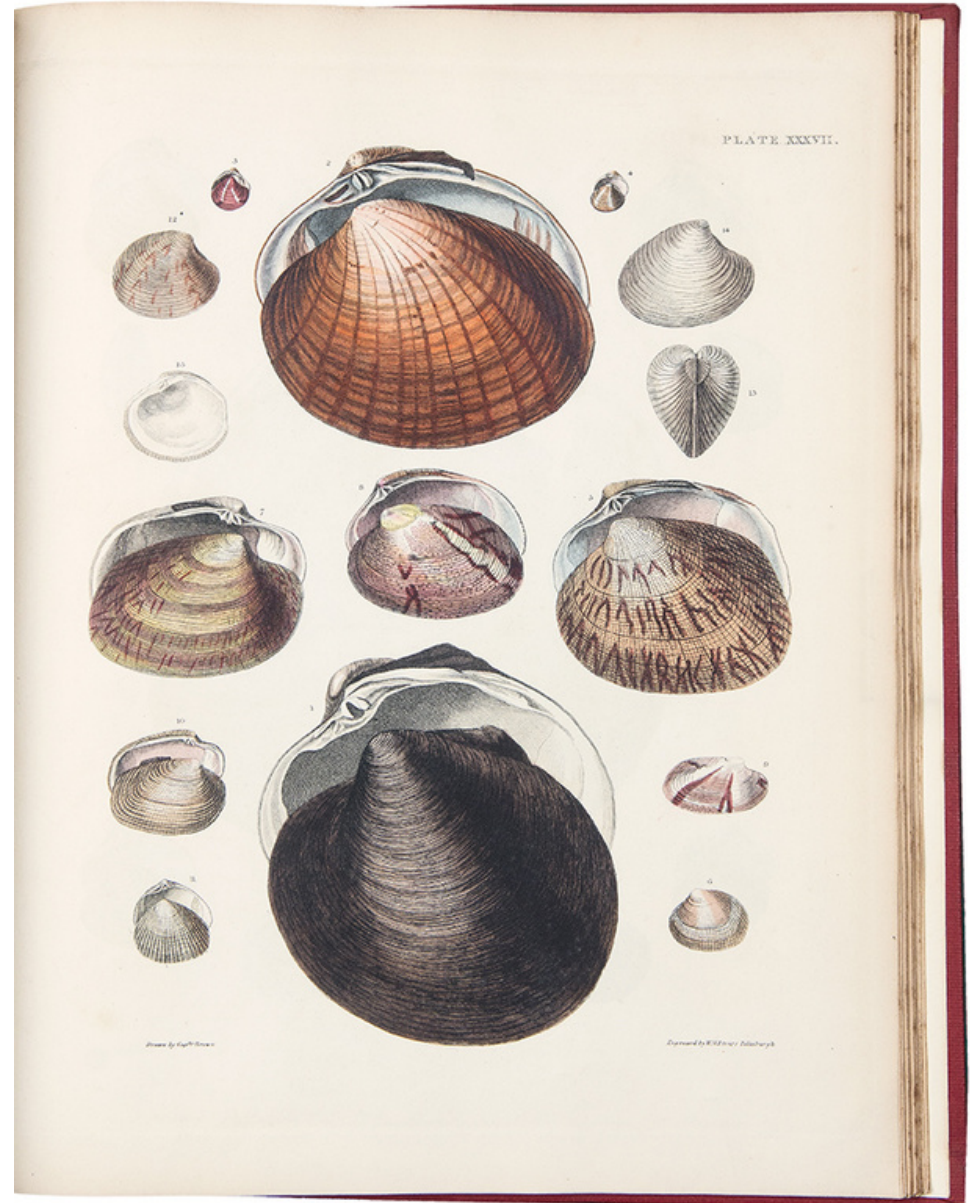
Thomas Brown was a British naturalist and malacologist. He gained the title of captain in 1811, after rising through the ranks of the Forfar and Kincardine Militia, which he joined at the age of 21. Brown created paintings for the first European edition of Wilson's American Ornithology and edited Oliver Goldsmith's History of the Earth and Animated Nature. In 1838, he became a curator of the Manchester Natural History Society's Museum and was later elected fellow of the Linnean Society and president of the Royal Physical Society. He wrote a number of natural history books which he also illustrated and coloured.

First published in 1827 (with only 53 plates), this enlarged edition of Brown's beautiful catalogue of mollusks of the British Isles contains 62 full-page plates of shells drawn by Brown and engraved by William Home Lizars, whose works, including those for Audubon's Birds of America and many editions of Sir Walter Scott, "rank among the finest of the early 19th century" (Greg Peters).

"Every shell, as far as possible, has been drawn from Nature, and generally from the largest and most beautiful specimens which the author could meet with" (Preface).

(#39436)

\$ 1,850.





BROWN, Peter (fl.1776). *New Illustrations of Zoology, Containing fifty coloured plates of new, curious, and non-descript birds, with a few quadrupeds, reptiles, and insects. Together with a short and scientific description of the same.* (French title: *Nouvelles Illustrations de Zoologie, Contenant Cinquante Planches Enluminées d'Oiseaux Curieux, Et Qui Non Étés Jamais Descrits, Et Quelques de Quadrupèdes, de Reptiles Et d'Insectes, Avec de Courtes Descriptions Systématiques*).

London:[William Bowyer and John Nichols] for Benjamin White, 1776. Quarto (11 3/4 x 9 inches). Titles and text in parallel French and English, 50 hand-coloured engraved plates, most signed 'P. Brown' or 'Peter Brown'; several plates carry dates between January and May 1775. Contemporary straight-grained green morocco, gilt edges.

First edition, a handsome copy with fine hand-colouring. Brown's interests extended beyond Great Britain to include birds and other zoological subjects from Africa, the West Indies, North and South America, and Southeast Asia.

Brown's *New Illustrations of Zoology*, modelled on *The Natural History of Uncommon Birds* by George Edwards, was based on specimens from the natural history collections of the Royal Museum and the Royal Society; it also includes 20 plates after drawings by Ceylonese artist Pieter Cornelis de Bevere from the collection of John Gideon Loten, Dutch East India administrator in Ceylon. The British naturalist and antiquarian Thomas Pennant supported Brown in the making of this book, not just by providing him with specimens from his private collection, but also by writing much of the text. Pennant had previously employed Brown to make two of the plates in the former's *British Zoology*.

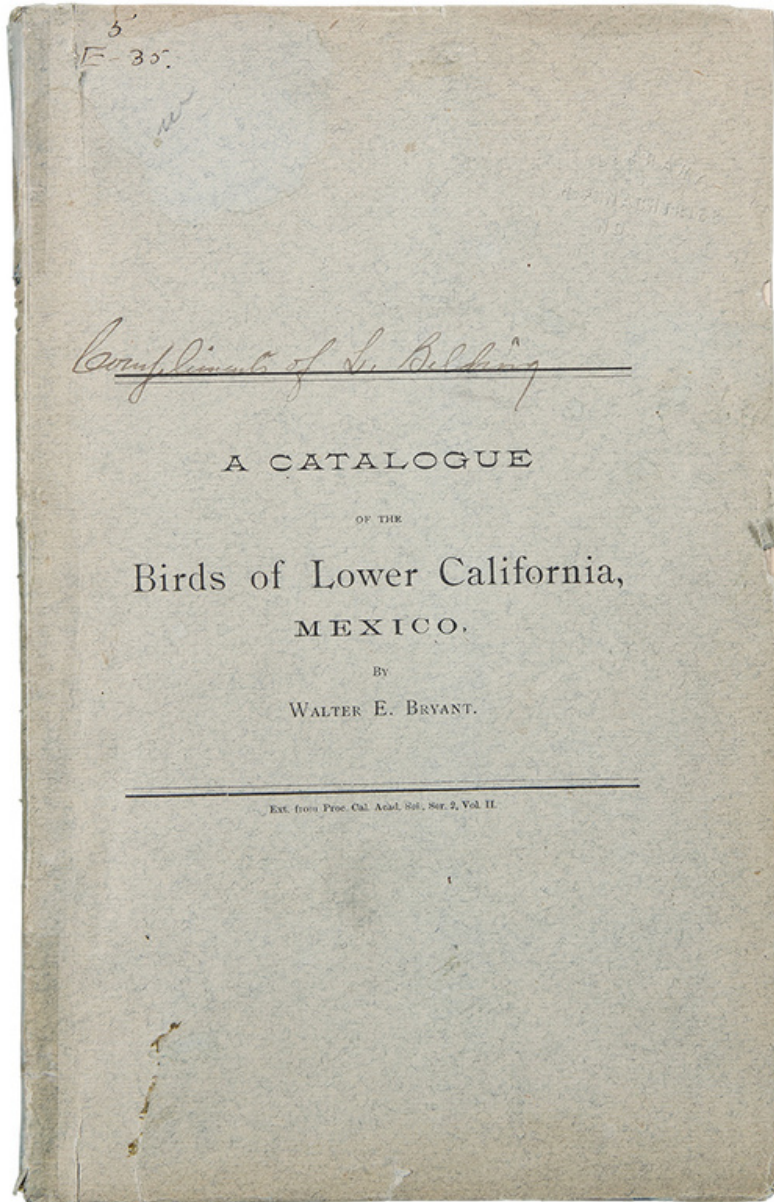
Peter Brown (fl. 1758-1799), thought to be Danish, was court painter to the Prince of Wales. It is not certain if he studied as a pupil of Georg Ehret (1708-1770), the famous botanical artist from Germany, but he was most certainly influenced by his work. Brown exhibited at the Royal Academy between 1770 and 1791, and was, in addition to his zoological studies, an accomplished flower painter.

42 of the delicately coloured plates in the *Zoology* depict birds (sometimes together with insects), 5 mammals, 2 insects and 1 reptile; The birds and animals come from places across the globe, ranging from South Carolina and Florida to Surinam, Brazil, Jamaica, and Angola, as well as Ceylon and Java.

(#40444)

\$ 9,500.





BRYANT, Walter E. (1861-1905). *A Catalogue of the Birds of Lower California, Mexico.*

[San Francisco: 1889]. 8vo. [237]-320pp. Folding map. Publisher's green wrappers, minor tears and tape repairs. Provenance: Lyman Belding (inscription on upper wrapper); early owner's blindstamp on wrapper and title.

Rare separately-issued extract from the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences.

"The present paper upon the birds of the peninsula of Baja (Lower) California, Mexico, originally written as a report upon a collection made by the writer in the vicinity of Magdalena Bay in 1888, and withheld from publication in order to include the results of his contemplated field work of 1889, covering a much greater extent of territory, has, through the aid of Mr. L. Belding and Mr. A. W. Anthony, been enlarged to embrace the known avi-fauna or the entire peninsula and adjacent islands" (p. 1). This copy inscribed and annotated by Belding, a noted authority on the avifauna of the region who contributed to the catalogue.

The author served as the curator of the California Academy of Sciences and made several expeditions to the Baja Peninsula. Scarce, with but three copies located in OCLC.

(#30648)

\$ 550.



CONRAD, Timothy Abbott (1803-1877). *New Fresh Water Shells of the United States, with Coloured Illustrations, and a Monograph of the Genus Anculotus of Say; Also a Synopsis of the American Naiades.*

Philadelphia: Judah Dobson, 1834. 8vo (7 1/2 x 4 3/8 inches). 76, [8]pp. 9 hand-colored plates. Index and appendix bound after the titlepage. Handwritten annotations on the margins of pages 8-11. Light foxing. Contemporary purple cloth, paper title label on cover, spine rebacked with cloth.

First edition.

Timothy Abbott Conrad was a New York geologist and malacologist who contributed to the New York Geological Survey in the 1830s. He was a frequent contributor to journals such as the "American Journal of Science" and "Journal of the Philadelphia Academy of Science," and also oversaw the posthumous publication of the last part of Thomas Say's "American Conchology."

In this work, Conrad writes about the large variety of freshwater shells throughout the Midwestern and Southern regions of the United States, including some new species he names. Each plate is accompanied by a description and Conrad's observations. The 8-page appendix, dated October 1835, contains "additions to, and corrections of, the Catalogue of Species of American Naiades, with descriptions of new species and varieties of Fresh Water Shells."

(#39387)

\$ 4,500.





DENTON, Sherman Foote (1856-1937). *Moths and butterflies of the United States East of the Rocky Mountains.*

Boston: Bradlee Whidden, 1900. 2 volumes, large octavo (9 5/8 x 6 3/4 inches). Half-titles. With 107 hand-coloured direct transfers of moths and butterflies on 56 plates, and approximately 400 additional photographic illustrations. Publisher's half red morocco and marbled paper covered boards, spines with raised bands, gilt tooled in with butterfly decorations in each compartment, gilt edges.

A fine copy of this remarkable, limited edition nature-printed work, numbered 3 of 500 numbered sets.

A sumptuous colour-plate book on the butterflies of the United States east of the Rockies. The colour plates in this work are quite remarkable, as, whilst the bodies are hand-coloured engravings, the wings are impressions from the actual insects' wings pressed onto the paper.

In the preface Denton describes his labours as he travelled widely in search of specimens: "The colored plates, or Nature Prints, used in the work, are direct transfers from the insects themselves; that is to say, the scales of the wings of the insects are transferred to paper while the bodies are printed from engravings and afterward colored by hand... I have had to make over fifty thousand of these transfers for the entire edition, not being able to get anyone to help me who would do the work as I desired it done... I will say, however, that there was never a laborer more in love with his work."



EDWARDS, George (1694-1773). *The Bustard Cock [and] The Hen Bustard...* [Pair of ornithological watercolours signed, depicting a male and female Great Bustard]

London: 1746. Watercolour and gouache on laid paper, signed and dated within the images and with pen-and-ink inscriptions concerning the sizes of the birds. Sheet sizes: approx. 16 3/4 x 13 3/8 inches. Matted.

A lovely pair of original watercolours by George Edwards.

"Through the influence of Sir Hans Sloane, [Edwards] was chosen Librarian to the Royal College of Physicians ... Almost immediately after he was appointed ... Edwards commenced the preparation of a series of coloured drawings of animals and birds, used later to illustrate [his *Natural History of Uncommon Birds*]; for these he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Society and subsequently elected a Fellow" (Lisney p.127).

Edwards' would use these images within his *Natural History of Uncommon Birds* (part II, plates 73 and 74), with the background of Stonehenge as depicted on the present male Bustard as the background of the Hen Bustard. His description of the Hen Bustard makes special note of the difference in size between the male and female, and corresponds to the manuscript notations on the present watercolours. The watercolours were both drawn "from life" from specimens purchased in London in May 1746, "presented to me fresh and in fine order by Mr. Daniel Gwilt." The Great Bustard would become extinct in Great Britain in the 19th century. In 1760, Edwards sold his portfolio of watercolours used to illustrate his work, presumably including the present pair, to the Earl of Bute.

Edwards "has been well described as an unscientific but very accurate describer and painter of animal life, and his writings will always remain of paramount authority, from the faithfulness of his description of many new birds, subsequently incorporated in the Linnaean System. He had, says Swainson, the simplicity and piety of Izaak Walton, and may be looked upon as one of our greatest worthies. He retired about 1764 to Plaistow, died July 23, 1773" (Mullens and Swann p.194).

(#33072)

\$ 12,000.





EDWARDS, George (1694-1773). *A Natural History of Uncommon Birds, and of Some Other Rare and Undescribed Animals.*

London: printed by C. Rickaby "for the author" [i.e. William Gardiner and Messrs. Robinson], "1743-1751" [watermarked text 1801-1805, plates 1794-1804]. 4 parts bound in 2 volumes. Titles and text printed on wove or laid paper, two general titles (one in French and one in English) at the front of vol.I with engraved vignettes by Johann Sebastian Müller. 1 hand-coloured etched emblematic frontispiece, 211 etched plates (printed on wove or laid paper, 210 finely hand-coloured, 1 uncoloured etched plate of the Samoyed) all by and after Edwards, woodcut head- and tailpieces and initials.

A spectacular set of "one of the most important of all bird books, both as a fine bird book and a work of ornithology" (Fine Bird Books).

[With:]

EDWARDS, George (1694-1773). *Gleanings of Natural History, Exhibiting Figures of Quadrupeds, Birds, Insects, Plants, &c.*

London: printed by C. Rickaby for "the author" [i.e. William Gardiner and Messrs. Robinson], "1758-1760" [plates watermarked 1803-1805]. 3 parts bound in 2 volumes. Titles and text printed on wove or laid paper, one general title at the front of vol.I with engraved vignettes by Johann Sebastian Müller, letterpress English and French general title and part-titles, text in English and French in double columns, translated by J. du Plessis and Edmond Barker. 1 uncoloured engraved portrait of the author by Miller after "Dandridg," 152 etched plates (printed on wove or laid paper) all finely hand-coloured, by and after Edwards and others.

Together 4 volumes. Quarto (11 1/2 x 9 1/4 inches). Uniform contemporary red straight-grained morocco, covers with border of a triple gilt fillet, spines in six compartments with double raised bands, the bands highlighted with gilt fillets and roll tools, lettered in the second and fourth compartments, gilt turn-ins, gilt edges. Provenance: George Savile Foljambe (1800-1869, Osberton Hall, Nottinghamshire, England, armorial bookplate).

A spectacular set of "one of the most important of all bird books, both as a fine bird book and a work of ornithology" (Fine Bird Books).

This issue, bound circa 1815, benefits greatly from being published at a time when two book-arts were at a high point: the art of hand-colouring was at its most sophisticated and the design and execution of bindings was equally exceptional. The colouring in this issue has the clear jewel-like quality that is a feature of the work of the best colourists of the Regency period. The same period also produced some of the best binders since the 17th-century Restoration masters and the present set is a delightfully-understated example of the kind of craftsmanship of which they were capable.





ELLIOT, Daniel Giraud (1835-1915). *A Monograph of the Pittidae, or, Family of Ant Thrushes.*

New York: D.Appleton & Co, [1861-]1863. Folio (21 7/16 x 13 5/8 inches). 1p. dedication to Philip Lutley Sclater, 1p. list of subscribers. 31 fine hand-coloured lithographic plates, heightened with gum arabic, after Elliot (24), Paul Louis Oudart (4), E. Maubert (1), A.Mesnel (1) and one unsigned, drawn on stone by C. P.Tholey and others, printed and coloured by Bowen & Co. of Philadelphia. (Occasional light spotting, small skillfully-repaired tear to blank margin of title). Contemporary green half morocco gilt by W.S. Hiltz, spine gilt in six compartments with raised bands, lettered in the second and fourth compartments, repeat decoration in the others, marbled endpapers, gilt edges (expert repairs to spine).

A fine copy of the first edition. A rare and spectacular ornithological work, the first book by Elliot with his own illustrations, and the scarcest of his major monographs.

'Elliot was not his own painter, except among the Pittas. Early in his career, in 1863, he had brought out his book on the Pittidae, or Ant-Thrushes with plates of a delightful... character, after his own drawings.' (Fine Bird Books). Elliot's chosen illustrator, Paul Louis Oudart, died after completing only 3 or 4 plates, and rather than risk a hurried instruction to another artist, Elliot 'felt compelled to turn draughtsman myself' (Preface) and executed all of the other drawings, bar one each by Maubert and Mesnel. The illustrations and indeed the birds themselves represent the pinnacle of Elliot's pictorial work. When a second edition of this work was issued, most of the plates were redrawn by John Gould's artist, William Hart, and the text was completely rewritten. The Pittidae described are native to Borneo, Nepal, Ceylon, the Philippines, New Guinea, and Cambodia amongst other places. Their plumage is rendered in vibrant shades of blues, greens and reds, and the birds (many of whom are shown feeding their young) are placed against beautifully drawn landscapes. Elliot was also careful to ensure that the flowers and foliage shown in detail with the birds were appropriate for the species shown.

(#17290)

\$ 18,000.





FRIES, Bengt Fredrik (1799-1839), Carl Ulrich EKSTRÖM (1781-1859) and Carl Jacob SUNDEVALL (1801-1875). - Wilhelm von WRIGHT (1810-1887, illustrator). [*Skandinaviens Fiskar, målade efter lefvande exemplar och ritade på sten af Wil. von Wright, med text af B. Fr. Fries [and others].*]

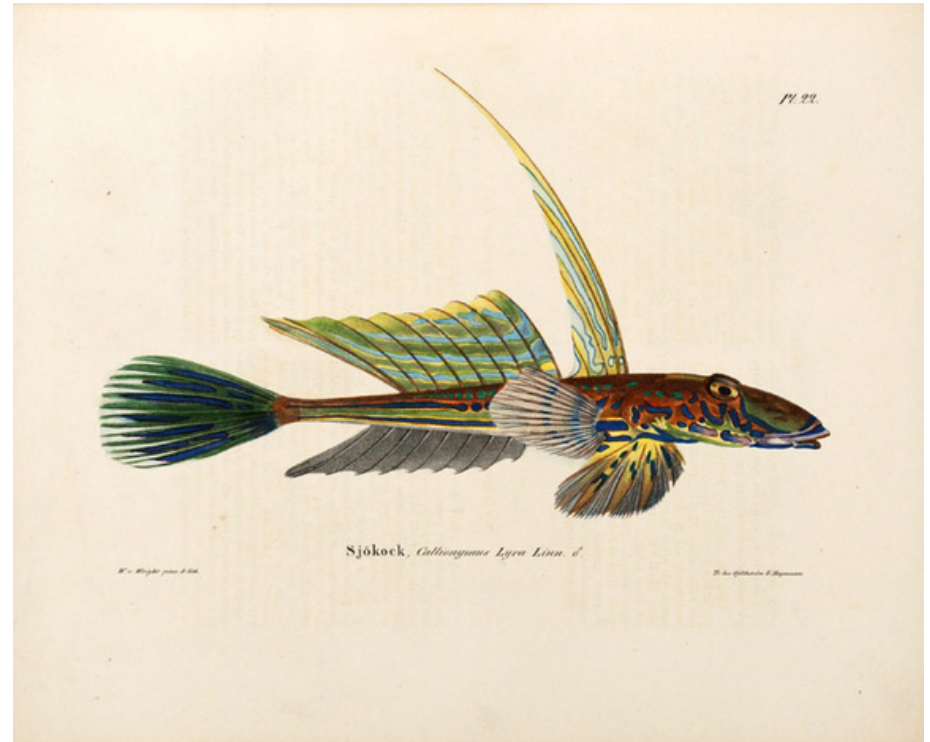
Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner, 1836-1857]. 1 volume (bound from the 10 original parts), quarto (11 1/2 x 9 5/8 inches). Upper wrapper to part I bound as title. 63 plates (60 lithographed by Wilhelm von Wright [59 of these hand-coloured], 3 uncoloured engraved plates at the end lettered A-C). Modern green morocco gilt by Hedberg of Stockholm, covers with double-fillet gilt borders and small cornerpieces with fish motifs (these are repeated on dentelles), spine in six compartments with raised bands, lettered in gilt in the second, the other compartments with repeat tooling in gilt, gilt turn-ins, marbled endpapers, original yellow, orange or light blue paper wrappers bound in (the upper wrapper to part one bound as a title, the others bound at the back, top edges gilt, others uncut, slipcase. Provenance: Emil H. Küsel (etched bookplate).

Very rare work on the fish of Scandinavia: there is only one other copy listed as having sold at auction in the past thirty years.

The chief glory of this work is the series of excellent finely hand-coloured lithographs, the work of Wilhelm von Wright (1810-1887). He was a Finnish-born natural history painter, illustrator and lithographer of rare talent. The middle of three brothers who made their living as painters, illustrators or naturalists, he moved to Stockholm in 1828 to assist his eldest brother Magnus with his work on his Svenska Foglar. The publication of the present work (Wilhelm's masterpiece) began in 1836 and was completed with the help of his younger brother Ferdinand in 1857. One of the great early works on the ichthyology of northern Europe, it was issued in ten parts (including the supplement) with the plates either uncoloured or finely hand-coloured (as here). Wilhelm von Wright, who had taken Swedish nationality in 1834, married in 1845, settled in Marieberg in Bohuslän, and spent the rest of his working life in Sweden. The text was started by the director of the Natural History Museum in Stockholm Professor Fries and, after his early death, was completed by C.U. Ekström and Fries' successor at the Natural History Museum Dr. Sundevall.

(#20715)

\$ 9,000.





GOULD, John (1804-1881). *A Monograph of the Odontophorinae, or Partridges of America.*

London: Richard & John E. Taylor for the Author, [November 1844 - March 1846 - November] 1850. Folio (21 1/2 x 14 1/2 inches). 1p. list of subscribers. 32 fine hand-coloured lithographed plates after Gould and H. C. Richter. Contemporary green morocco gilt by Clyde, covers with wide decorative border tooled in gilt and blind with fillets and decorative rolls, spine in six compartments with raised bands, lettered in the second and third, the others with repeat decoration in gilt made up from various small tools, stylized foliage tools and a large central rococco tool, gilt turn-ins, cream/yellow glazed endpapers, gilt edges, expert repairs to spine and extremities.

A fine copy of the first edition of Gould's fourth monograph, in which he considerably enlarged the number of recorded species of the American partridge family.

Besides the spectacular plates of American birds, this work is interesting for the light it throws on the all encompassing nature of science before specialization: Gould was inspired by the gift of an English Arctic explorer, received much useful information from a Scottish botanist and finally dedicated the work to the French ornithologist Prince Charles Lucien Bonaparte (1803-1857) the author of *American Ornithology*. In this, Gould's fourth monograph, he considerably enlarged the number of recorded species of the American partridge family. Gould was persuaded to undertake this project "by the sight of the beautiful *Callipepla Californica*, presented to the Zoological Society of London by Captain Beechey, in 1830. The graceful actions and elegant deportment of these birds inspired me with a desire to become thoroughly acquainted with the entire group of which they form a part; this desire was even strengthened by the details furnished to me by the late celebrated traveller and botanist, Mr. David Douglas, respecting species seen by him in California, of the existence of which we had until then no idea ... In the course of my researches I have several times visited most of the public and many of the private collections of Europe, and have besides corresponded with various persons in America: the result is that I have had the pleasure of extending our knowledge of the group from eleven to no less than thirty-five species" (Preface).

(#33110)

\$ 20,000.





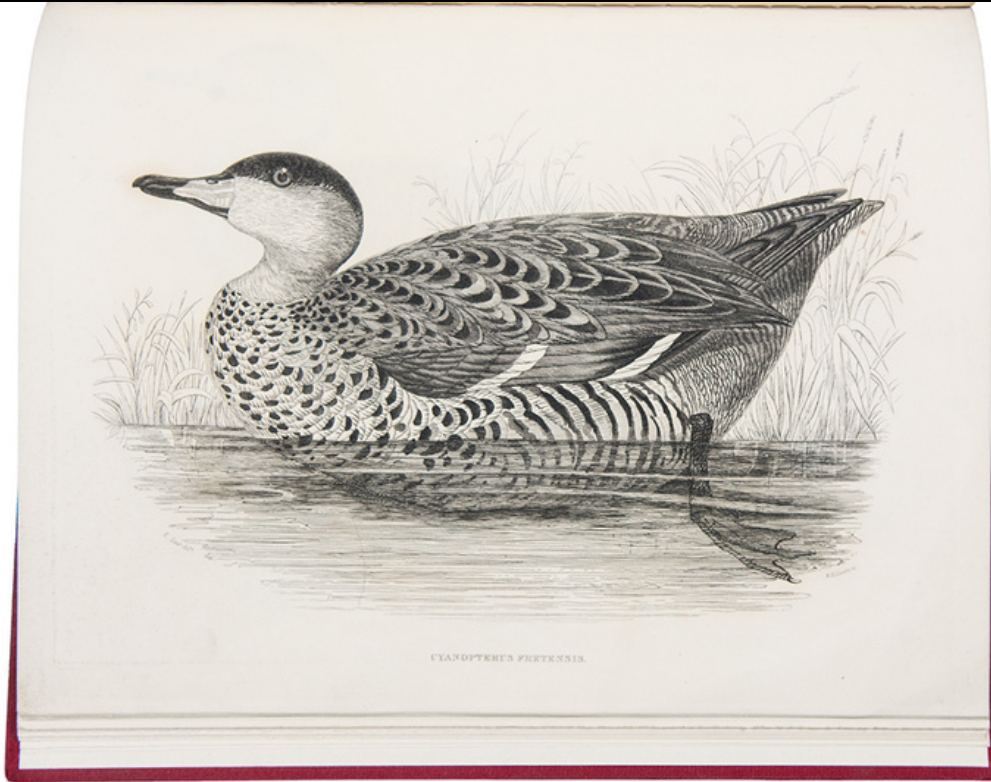
HARRIS, William C. *The Fishes of North America that are captured on Hook and Line. With eighty colored plates made from oil portraits of living fishes before their color tints had faded.*

New York: the Fishes of North America Publishing Co., 1898. Vol.I (all published), folio (18 3/4 x 12 inches). 40 chromolithographic plates by Armstrong & Co (24), Geo. H. Walker (4) and others after John L. Petrie (4 plates mounted, as issued), one full-page uncoloured illustration, numerous uncoloured illustrations of fish within the text. (Old repairs to three text leaves and 1 plate: "Spanish Mackerel"). Bound to style in green half morocco over contemporary green cloth-covered boards, the covers ruled in gilt and stamped with the gilt arms of a British Ducal family, spine in six compartments with raised bands, ruled and lettered in gilt.

A very rare work with forty "very beautifully drawn and color-printed plates of fishes" (Bennett).

The original intention was that this work should be complete in two volumes with a total of 80 plates: only this first volume was ever published, yet it ranks along with Kilbourne and Goode's Game Fishes of the United States (New York, 1879) as one of the two greatest illustrated ichthyological works of the 19th century. The plates are printed by at least two firms: the majority are by Armstrong & Co. (The Riverside Press) of Cambridge, Mass., a few others are signed by Geo. H. Walker & Co of Boston. Twelve are without an imprint.

As the preface makes clear this work was a labour of love for both the author and artist: "I have been engaged nearly a quarter of a century in gathering the notes from which the text of this book has been written, and twelve years in procuring the oil portraits of living fish, caught from their native waters, that I might obtain lithographic facsimiles ... The aggregate distance travelled was 28,558 miles, and the days occupied in transit and in catching and painting the fishes numbered nine hundred and seventy-two, or eighty-one working days of each angling season during twelve years. Mr. John L. Petrie, the artist, has been my steadfast companion during this protracted but pleasant task. He has painted the portraits of each fish represented ... from living specimens caught on my own rod, with the exception of the Pacific Salmon, which were taken alive in traps."



JARDINE, Sir William (1800-1874). *Sir William Jardine's Illustrations of the Duck Tribe.*

Jardine Hall, Lockerby, Dumfries: Privately printed at the Expense of the Author, [1839]. Quarto. Title, plate list, nine engraved plates (three by Edward Lear, four by Selby, one by Jardine and one by James Stewart). Original green wrappers bound in, repairs to rear wrapper. Modern red morocco backed cloth.

Rare privately-printed work on ducks by Jardine.

According to Wood, the images include eight plates from Jardine and Selby's *Illustrations of Ornithology* (Original series: 62, 95, 137, 138, 146, 147; New Series: xxiii and xxix). Privately printed and evidently disseminated by Jardine, the work is very rare.

(#38988)

\$ 650.



JONSTON, John (1603-1675). *Historiae Naturalis de Arboribus et Plantis. Libri X.*

Heilbronn: Franciscus Josephus Ekebrecht, 1768-1769. 2 volumes, folio (13 5/8 x 8 1/4 inches). 2 letterpress titles in red and black, text in double columns. Engraved allegorical frontispiece by Melchior Küsell after Matthaeus Merian, 137 engraved plates after Matthaeus Merian. (Gathering 3F in vol.I misbound after 3H. Expertly bound to style in half 18th century russia over contemporary paper boards, spine in six compartments with raised bands, red morocco lettering piece in the second, the others with a repeat decoration in gilt, red stained edges.

A fine set of the second edition of this important 17th-century survey of the known botanical world.

Jonston was a "Polish physician of Scottish extraction who wrote numerous works on medicine, natural history, and more miscellaneous subjects" (Johnston). The original edition of this work was first published in Frankfurt in 1662 under the title *Dendrographiae sive Historiae Naturalis de Arboribus et Fructibus*. The present edition was published by Ekebrecht after he had acquired the complete set of the original printing plates for that 1662 edition. These he reprinted and added the second edition of the text.



NELSON, Edward W. (1883-1923) . *Report upon Natural History Collections Made in Alaska between the Years 1877 and 1881...Edited by Henry W. Henshaw...*

Washington: Government Printing Office, 1887. Quarto (11 1/2 x 9 inches). 337pp. 21 plates (including 9 black and white plates of fish and 12 chromolithographed ornithological plates after Ridgway). Original blindstamped cloth.

With 12 chromolithographed plates of birds after Ridgway.

Number 3 of the Arctic series of publications issued in connection with Signal Services, U.S. Army, this is the result of Nelson's field work in Alaska. The text is divided into four parts: Birds of Alaska, by Nelson; Mammals of Northern Alaska, by Nelson and F.W. True; Field-Notes on Alaskan Fishes, by Nelson and Tarleton H. Bean; and Insects: Report on the Diurnal Lepidoptera, by Edwards and Nelson.

"His published reports on this work became classics in their respective fields" (DAB XXII, p. 572).

(#33120)

\$ 250.





PULTENEY, Richard (1730-1801); and Thomas RACKETT (1757-1841).
Catalogues of the birds, shells, and some of the more rare plants, of Dorsetshire. From the new and enlarged edition of Mr. Hutchins's history of that county ... With additions; and a brief memoir of the author.

[London: Printed by and for J. Nichols, Son, and Bentley, 1813]. Folio (19 1/2 x 12 inches). Text in two columns. iv, 110pp. Engraved portrait, 24 engraved plates on 13 sheets. Uncut. Some foxing. Later cloth-backed grey paper boards.

Large-paper issue of the first illustrated edition of a rare catalogue of British birds, plants and shells.

Richard Pulteney received his doctorate in medicine from the University of Edinburgh in 1764, before serving as the personal physician to the Earl of Bath. Following the Earl's death, he resided and practiced in Blandford, Dorset. Besides membership in a host of medical societies, Pulteney was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, as well as a Fellow of the Linnean Society. Indeed, he was an early promoter of Linnaean taxonomy, and authored the first English biography of Linnaeus in 1781. His cabinet of specimens, noted particularly for its shells, was donated to the Linnean Society following his death in 1801.

The first edition of 1799 was privately-published by Pulteney with few copies printed. An inscription in an extant copy by the editor of this new edition reveals that copies of the first edition were further destroyed by fire: "The first Impression of Dr. Pulteney's Catalogues was printed in 1801 [i.e. 1799], but never published, the whole having been destroyed by the fire, at Mr. Nichols's printing office [in 1808]. I have been enabled to make considerable additions in this second impression, from communication by various scientific friends, and from my own observations."

Rackett's revised edition was the first to be illustrated, containing a portrait of Pulteney, a plate depicting 17 shells titled Melbury Fossils (engraved by J. Cary after Mary Foster), and 23 engraved plates of shells on 12 sheets. The plates numbered I-XXIII are new engravings of those by De Costa in his *Historia Naturalis Testaeorum Britanniae*, with several additions, depicting over 200 species.

The present copy is a very rare large-paper issue, printed on wove paper (the 1799 and regular issue of 1813 being on laid paper), with a variant title without imprint. This large-paper issue is not recorded by the usual bibliographies.

(#33764)

\$ 3,750.



RAY, John (1628-1705); and François SALERNE (1705-1760). *L'Histoire Naturelle éclaircie dans une de ses parties principales l'ornithologie, qui traite des oiseaux de terre, de mer et de riviere.*

Paris: Debure Pere, 1767. Quarto (11 1/4 x 8 1/2 inches). Half-title. xii, [4], 464pp. 31 engraved plates, engraved by and after Martinet, including the allegorical frontispiece. Contemporary mottled calf, covers bordered in blind, spine with raised bands in six compartments, red morocco lettering piece in the second, the others with a repeat decoration in gilt.

The first French edition of the ornithological portions of Ray's Synopsis methodica avium & piscium (London, 1713).

A translation of John Ray's posthumous work in Latin, Synopsis Avium (1713), this edition greatly augmented by François Salerne with his own observations and others taken from Belon, Aldrovanus, Willughby, Gesner and Linnaeus. "The whole constitutes a work on ornithology of considerable value, furnishing a description of many species of birds, their habits, physical characters, vulgar names," (Wood) and other information. Of further note are the illustrations, engraved by and after Martinet.

(#35236)

\$ 2,500.





REEVE, Lovell Augustus (1814-1865). *Conchologia Systematica, or Complete System of Conchology: In which the Lepades and Conchiferous Mollusca are described and classified according to their natural organization and habits.*

London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans, 1841-1842. 2 volumes, quarto (10 5/8 x 8 inches). vi, 195; [2], 337, [1]pp. Folding letterpress table in volume 1. and 300 hand-coloured engraved plates (plates 158 and 171 duplicated). Bookseller's descriptions (of different examples) tipped to front free endpaper. 19th century full diced calf, rebaked with spines in six compartments with raised bands, spine titled in gilt with repeat gilt decoration of shells, marbled endpapers, marbled edges. Provenance: Richard I. Johnson (1925-2020) (stamps on front free endpapers and titlepages).

First edition of this famous conchological work, with beautiful illustrations of shells.

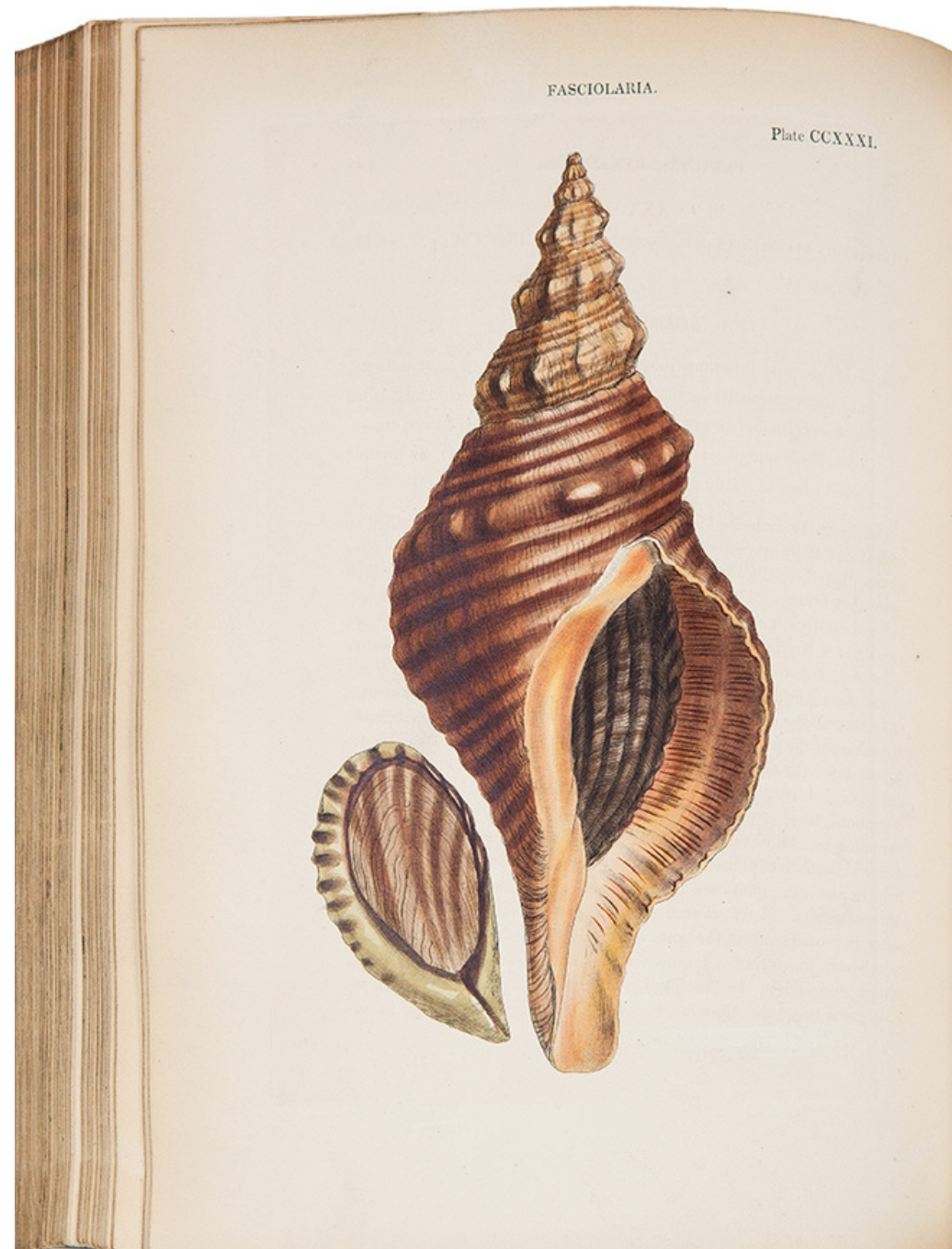
Lovell Augustus Reeve was an English publisher, conchologist and natural history dealer who wrote extensively on the topic of mollusc shells. Reeve apprenticed as a grocer, but developed his interest in conchology as a young man, and eventually established himself as a dealer in natural history specimens.

In this work, his first book, Reeve presents comprehensive and detailed observations on the science and history of conchology. For each shell, he describes its qualities and classification. This was an exceedingly handsomely illustrated book on conchology, the publication costs of which "used up all the moneys left to him by his father" (ODNB).

"The work had a limited scientific success but is still important because some species new to science were first described in it" (Dance & Heppell, p. 72).

(#39396)

\$ 8,750.





Butterflies of New England.

Plate 4



SCUDDER, Samuel Hubbard (1837-1911). *The Butterflies of the Eastern United States and Canada with Special Reference to New England.*

Cambridge, Mass.: published by the author [printed by W.H. Wheeler], [November 1888 - October] 1889. 3 volumes, quarto (10 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches). 2pp. list of subscribers. 3 portrait frontispieces (1 chromolithographed, 1 printed in three colours, 1 uncoloured), 1 folding uncoloured map, 3 maps printed in three colours (2 folding), 89 maps and plates (21 chromolithographs [10 of butterflies and moths, 4 of eggs, 4 of caterpillars and 3 of pupa], 15 distribution maps printed in two colours, 53 uncoloured). Later blue cloth, spines lettered in gilt, blue and gold floral-patterned endpapers.

An important 19th-century colour plate book and American natural history work

Samuel Scudder's work, one of the most important books about butterflies published in America in the 19th century, was an elaborate publication employing the latest production methods for the plates. The work exemplifies the rapidly changing late 19th-century world of illustration technology, with the finely executed chromolithographs by Thomas Sinclair & Son and Julius Bien & Co. of Philadelphia being complemented by the more scientifically precise images in black and white. These were produced using gelatin-process photographs, photogravures, and electrotypes.

Most sets of Scudder's work are found bound in three volumes, each with its own titlepage dated 1889 (as here). It is known that the work was issued by Scudder in monthly parts over the course of a year, from November 1888 to October 1889. Particularly full information is given about the origins and production of each plate: it is interesting to note that the artists of the original drawings used in the compilation of the coloured plates of butterflies and moths (all printed by Sinclair) included J.H. Blake, S.L. Smith, G.A. Poujade and Louis Trouvelot (best known now for his astronomical drawings).

(#39447)

\$ 2,400.



SELBY, Prideaux John (1788-1867). [Plate XLIX] 1. Pied Wagtail M. 2. Grey Wagtail M. 3. Yellow Wagtail M. 4. Meadow Pipit 5. Tree Pipit 6. Rock Pipit. (1821-)1834(-1839). An original etched copper printing plate, from Illustrations of British Ornithology

[Edinburgh and London: (1821-)1834(-1839)], Plate-maker's stamp on verso "Willm. Pontifex Son & Co./ No 46/ Shoe Lane London." [With:] An uncoloured proof print from the plate.

A fine original copper printing plate from "the finest and largest book about British Birds" (Jackson).

The plate was used to print plate 49 from Selby's major work, *Illustrations of British Ornithology*. Christine Jackson writes of the prints: "The copper plates were superbly executed and the monochrome printed plates have an austere beauty unmatched in other bird books illustrated by line. Every feather is clearly visible, with all the details of the large flight feathers and the softer plumage standing out in immaculate precision. Tone, shade, and texture were all exploited to the fullest extent and demonstrate the best of which copper etching and engraving were capable" (*Bird Etchings* 1985, p.204).

Prideaux John Selby was a versatile gentleman naturalist, born on 23 July 1788 in Alnwick, Northumberland, he inherited Twizell House and its estate in 1804, and throughout his life did not neglect his duties as a landowner, magistrate, High Sheriff, and then Deputy Lieutenant of Northumberland. He married Lewis Tabitha Mitford, the daughter of Bertram Mitford of Mitford Castle, Northumberland, in 1810, and by 1817 had a happy marriage, three daughters, and a house that had become a sort of upmarket 'staging-post' for naturalists heading North and South along the nearby Great North Road. Visitors were to include John James Audubon (who gave Selby and his brother-in-law Robert Mitford lessons in drawing), Sir William Jardine (one of Selby's closest friends and a collaborator on various later works), John Gould, William Yarrell, H.E.Strickland, to name but a few.

Natural History and Ornithology had been Selby's passion from youth, and Christine Jackson notes, in her excellent introduction to the Sotheby catalogue of the Bradley Martin collection of Selby watercolours, that, besides "collecting and preserving birds, Selby had observed them in the field, making careful notes of their habitat and habits. At his leisure, he also sensitively colored drawings of them. With this accumulation of practical knowledge, specimens, and some drawings, Selby embarked in 1819 on an ambitious project to publish the most up-to-date, life-size illustrations of British birds.

Since he had an incomplete pictorial record of his birds, many remained to be drawn while publication of the parts of the work proceeded. The aim was to issue each part comprising twelve plates at regular intervals of six months. The size of the paper chosen was elephant folio (27" x 21½") in order that most of the birds might be represented life-size. For each plate, Selby made watercolor paintings of the species."

"Selby etched his drawings on copper plates and then either took or sent the plates to William Home Lizars in Edinburgh. Either Lizars or one of his workmen took a pull [proof impression] from Selby's plate and worked on any parts necessary to bring the plate to a very fine state of completion. Selby and Sir William Jardine both purchased their copper plates and etching ground from Pontifex of London, and their letters refer to the progress made in drawing and 'biting' or etching their plates. If they made a mistake or accidentally over-etched a plate, they relied on Lizars to correct by burnishing to lighten it" (Jackson *Bird Etchings* pp.202-204).





SOWERBY, George Brettingham (1788-1854). *Marine Shells of South Africa: A Catalogue of All the Known Species with References to Figures in Various Works, Descriptions of New Species and Figures of Such as are New, Little Known, or Hitherto Unfigured.*

London: Sowerby, 121 Fulham Road, 1892. 4to (10 5/8 x 7 3/8 inches). iv, 89pp. 5 lithographic plates of shells. 1 page of advertisements for shells, bids, eggs, etc. at the end. Includes a photo facsimile of the 1897 appendix. Blue publisher's cloth, stamped in gilt. Some wear to spine.

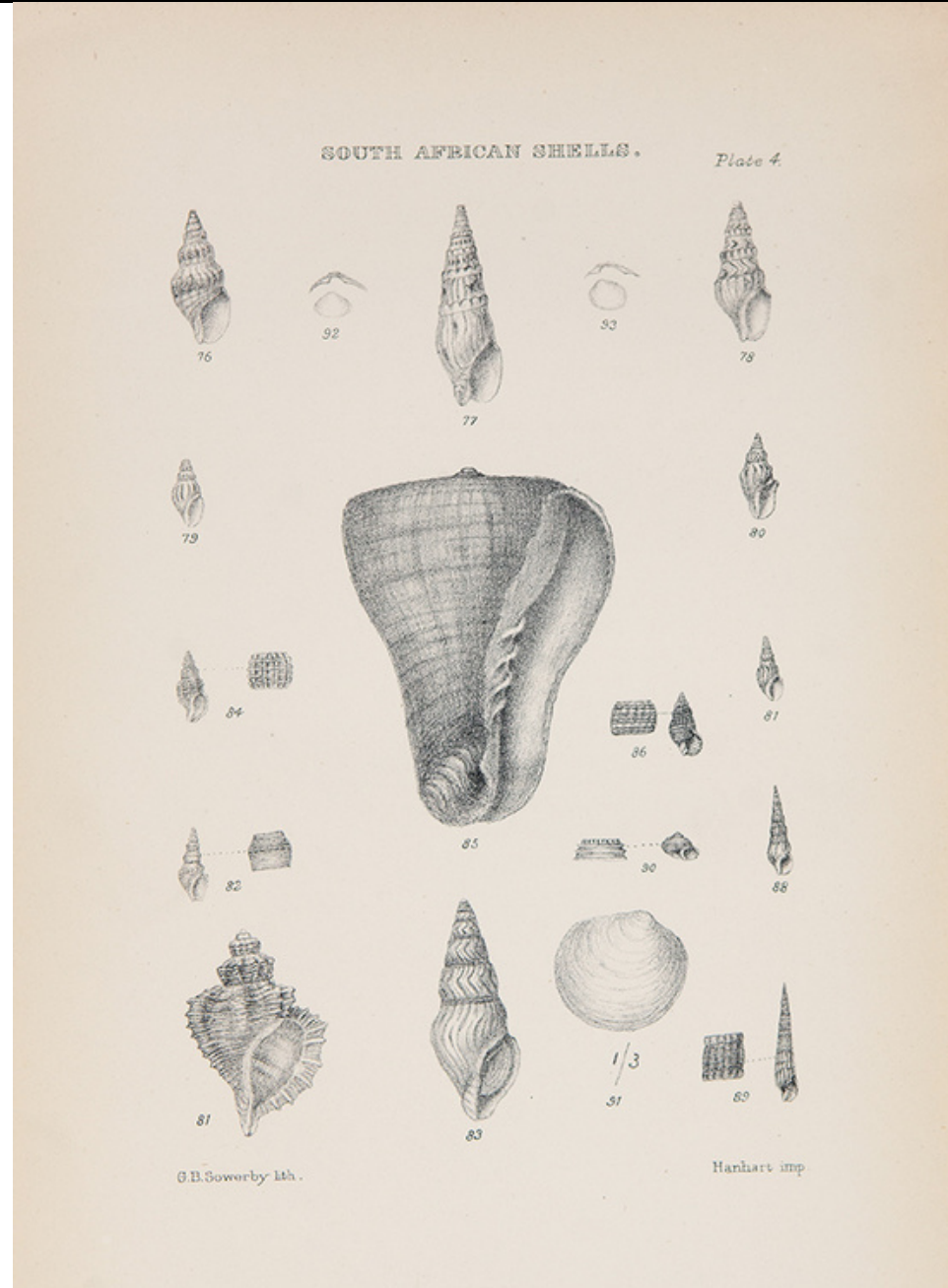
A reference work on shells in South Africa by a noted naturalist.

In this work, the author aimed to "give in a small compass a list, as complete as possible, of all the known Marine Shells of South Africa, with references to figures in well-known works, descriptions of new species, and figures not only of these, but of some that have been described from time to time by other authors without figures" (iii). He sorted and identified 740 species, 323 of which he believed were only found in South Africa.

George Brettingham Sowerby was the second son of James Sowerby, the noted English naturalist and illustrator, who he assisted with illustrated works. After his father's death, Sowerby and his brother completed his work on fossil shells and published the later parts of the "Mineral Conchology of Great Britain." G. B. Sowerby became a notable conchologist and zoologist in his own right, publishing about 50 papers on molluscs. He published several comprehensive, illustrated books on the subject, the most important being the "Thesaurus Conchyliorum." He also dealt in shells and natural history objects.

(#39597)

\$ 450.



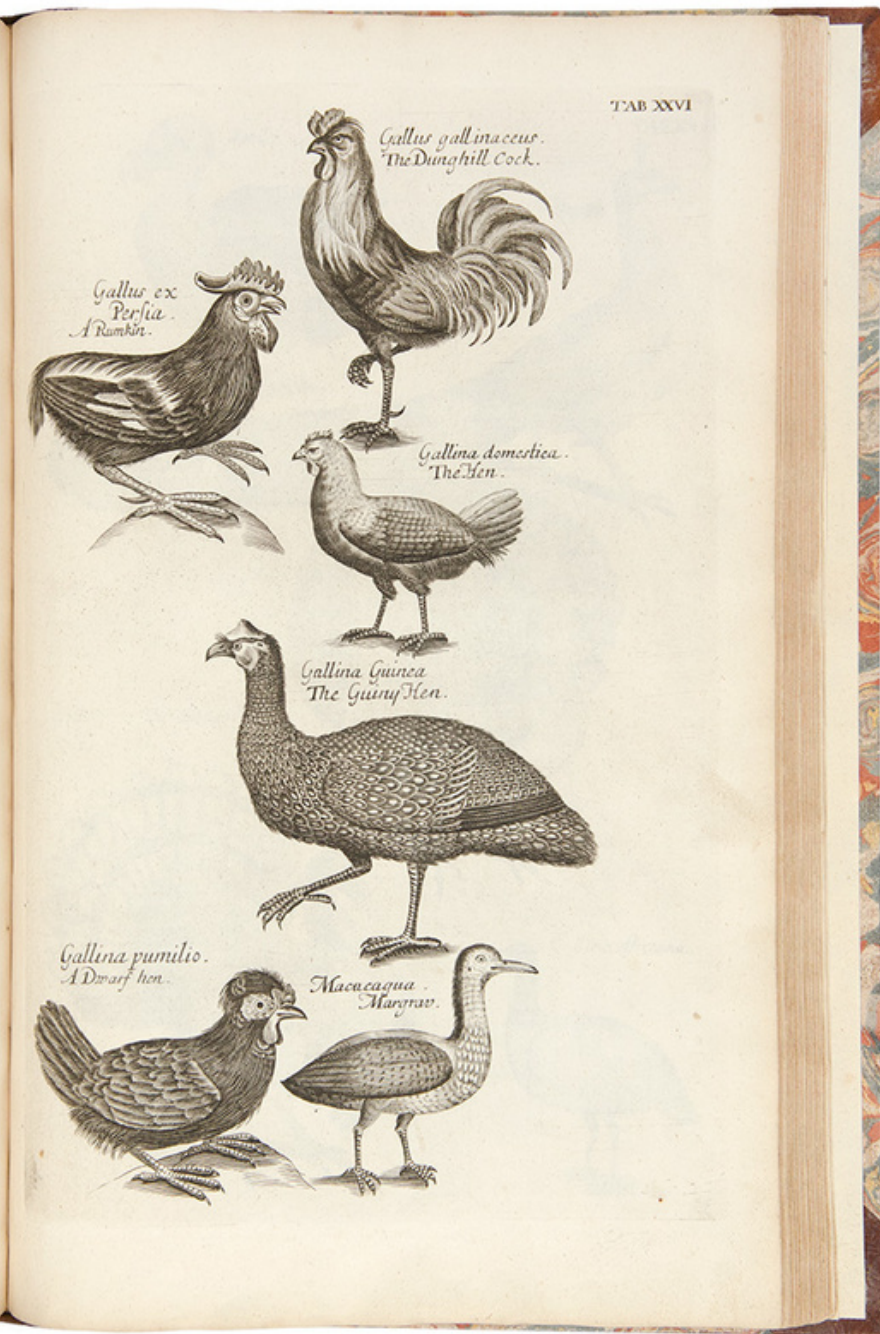


SOWERBY, James (1757-1822). *The British Miscellany: or Colored Figures of New, Rare, or Little Known Animal Subjects; many not before ascertained to be inhabitants of the British Isles.*

London: R. Taylor, 1804-1806. 12 parts in one vol. 8vo. vi, 138 pp. 76 hand-colored plates (two folding). Uncut. Original blue paper lettered parts wrappers bound in the rear. Modern half calf and marbled paper covered boards.

With beautifully hand colored plates of unusual British birds, insects and animals.

A rare work by Sowerby, illustrating and describing unusual specimens found in Great Britain from his own collection, including birds, fish, butterflies, insects, mollusc, shells, snakes and more. Among the more unusual is an image of a narwhal, found on the coast at Friestone. Published in 12 parts, each containing 8 plates, at 5s. per number, the work was issued in part to promote Sowerby's collecting interests, with advertisements on the wrappers to send notice of unusual specimens.



WILLUGHBY, Francis (1635-1672); and John RAY. *The Ornithology of Francis Willughby ... In three books. Wherein all the birds hitherto known ... are accurately described. Translated into English, with many additions. To which are added three considerable discourses, I. Of the art of fowling ... II. Of the ordering of singing birds. III. Of falconry. By John Ray.*

London: John Martyn, 1678. 3 parts in one volume, folio. Title printed in red & black. 80 engraved plates (2 unnumbered, plus plates numbered 1-78), 2 letterpress tables. . Expertly bound to style in half eighteenth century russia and marbled paper covered boards.

First edition in English of "one of the most important treatises on ornithology of all time, being the first systematic classification of the birds of the world" (Wood).

John Ray and his pupil and friend Francis Willughby toured Europe gathering material for their planned complete classification of the vegetable and animal kingdoms. After Willughby's early death in 1672 Ray took over his notes, and having edited the incomplete manuscript and added his own observations published his friend's work in 1676 as *Francisci Willughbeii ornithologiae libri tres; totum opus recognovit, digressit, supplevit Joannes Raius*. The present work, a translation by Ray, was published two years later and includes three more plates than the Latin edition, and an expanded text including three additional sections by Ray on fowling, falconry and song-birds.

(#32389)

\$ 4,250.