

RARE BOOKS?

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED





INTRODUCTION



The University's Rare Books Collections are vast, varied, and full of the unexpected.

Today the collections incorporate anything in the Library printed before 1901. They also include modern books with special features such as first editions, books owned and annotated by distinguished individuals, and those produced by hand-press printing or in a limited edition.

While the Library's priority has always been to support the teaching and research of the University, current preoccupations have never limited the scope of the collections. They have absorbed treasures from around the world, books without obvious academic use, and those so specialised they seem unlikely to ever find a reader. This eclecticism gives the collections their breadth and depth, and presents endless possibilities for new research.

A recent development in scholarship is the study of books as objects. Bindings, annotations, and previous ownership are now rich sources for research. Books which have been here for centuries are yielding an abundant supply of previously undervalued information.

The collections continue to grow through donations and purchases which complement existing collection strengths and serve new research interests. Books are also transferred from the Library's modern collections as they pass out of everyday use, or are identified as needing special care. The Rare Books collections now form part of the Centre for Research Collections (CRC) on the 6th floor of the University's Main Library.

Detail from object 64, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

OUR READERS

The collections in the CRC are here to be used. Last year they were consulted by almost 27,000 people for both teaching and research. These include the University's students and staff, visiting researchers from institutions all over the world, and private individuals.

This semester, students from the *Illustration Theory and Practice* course at Edinburgh College of Art have been working on a project based on two recently acquired albums of German *Notgeld* (emergency money).

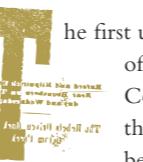
In the years immediately after World War I there was a shortage of metal in Germany and coins became scarce. To allow their local economies to keep functioning, many towns and cities issued their own *Notgeld* in low denomination paper currency. The notes were often beautiful examples of printed illustration, showing local history or industry. They were soon overtaken however, by the hyperinflation which hit Germany in 1922.



Note from Album of German Notgeld
Germany, about 1921
Special Collections: Coll-1861
© Jane Hyslop

THE EXPECTED WITH A TWIST

THE LIBRARY'S LONG AND [UN]PREDICTABLE HISTORY



The first unexpected feature of the Rare Books Collections is that they were founded before the University.

Clement Litill, an Edinburgh lawyer who died in 1580, bequeathed his books to "Edinburgh and Kirk of God" two years before the "Toun's College" (the University) was founded.

Litill's books are largely still here. Originally for everyday use, they long ago became the core of the Rare Books Collections. But there is another side to them: the story they tell of their history before either Clement Litill or the University, of an almost-forgotten Edinburgh.

The collection of sermons by **Juan de Torquemada** – a widely-read 15th-century theologian, and uncle to the better-known Tomás de Torquemada of the Spanish Inquisition – has moved less than half a mile in the past 500 years. It was given to the house of the Dominican friars in Edinburgh by William Scheves, Bishop of St. Andrews, in 1497, and was probably still there when the friary was looted in 1559. Litill must have acquired it shortly afterwards.

It still looks as it did then, in its 15th century binding, with the Dominicans' library label on the front under a panel of transparent horn. Inside it bears the Dominicans' library shelf mark: "ex primo ambone, gg" (item gg on the first lectern).

Between 1710 and 1837 the Library was entitled to receive one free copy of every British publication under the Copyright Act of 1710. Administered from Stationers' Hall, London, the scheme functioned erratically, delivering many publications the Library had no obvious use for. In the early 19th century this included a large number of popular novels. Seen through the lens of 21st-century research, these are a priceless collection of what was actually read at the time. It is full of works by neglected and forgotten authors, many of them women. Frances Trollope's *The Abbess* is typical. Her books were hugely popular in her lifetime, but forgotten until recently.

It is no surprise to find first editions of **Adam Smith's** *The Wealth of Nations* in the Library, given that Edinburgh was at the centre of the

Enlightenment. What is unexpected about both the Library's copies however, is that they are covered in student graffiti. Student culture in 18th-century Edinburgh was clearly lively and writing in library books was common. Some of the comments engage with the text, but quite a lot are uncomplimentary scrawls about previous annotators.

Many books arrive in the Library second hand bearing the marks of past owners. This includes a little textbook by **Philip Melanchthon**, one of the earliest Lutheran academics. It summarises the moral philosophy taught to 16th-century, Protestant undergraduates. Among a mess of scribbles and pen trials on the final page is the name "Joanis Carswell". This is the John Carswell or Séon Carsuel, Bishop of the Isles, who translated the first Scottish Protestant liturgy into Gaelic. *Foirm na n-Urrnuidheadh* (The Form of the Prayers) was the first book to be printed in this language.

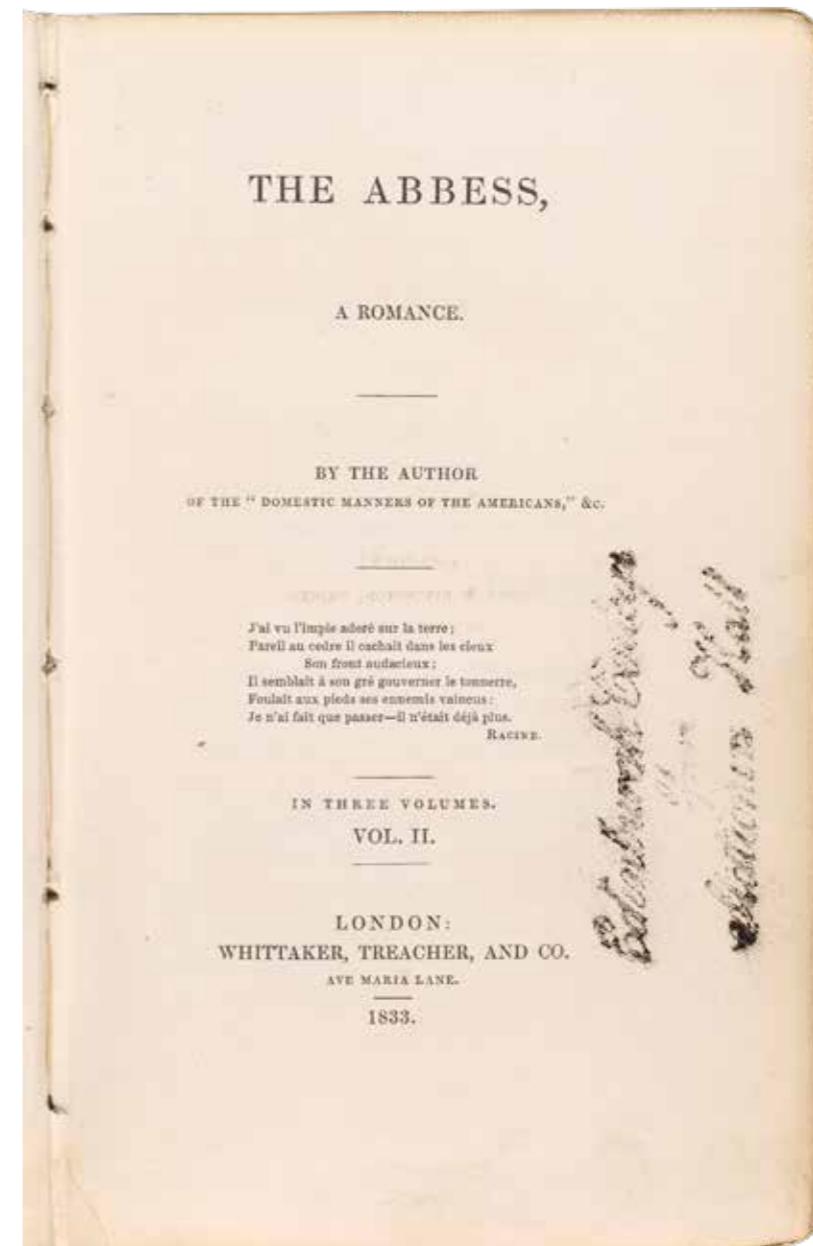


8

Juan de Torquemada

Questiones Euangelicorum tam de Tempore quam de Sanctis
[Commentary on the Gospels for both the Seasonal Calendar and the Holy Days]

Published Strasbourg, 1485
Rare Books Collections: Dd.4.20



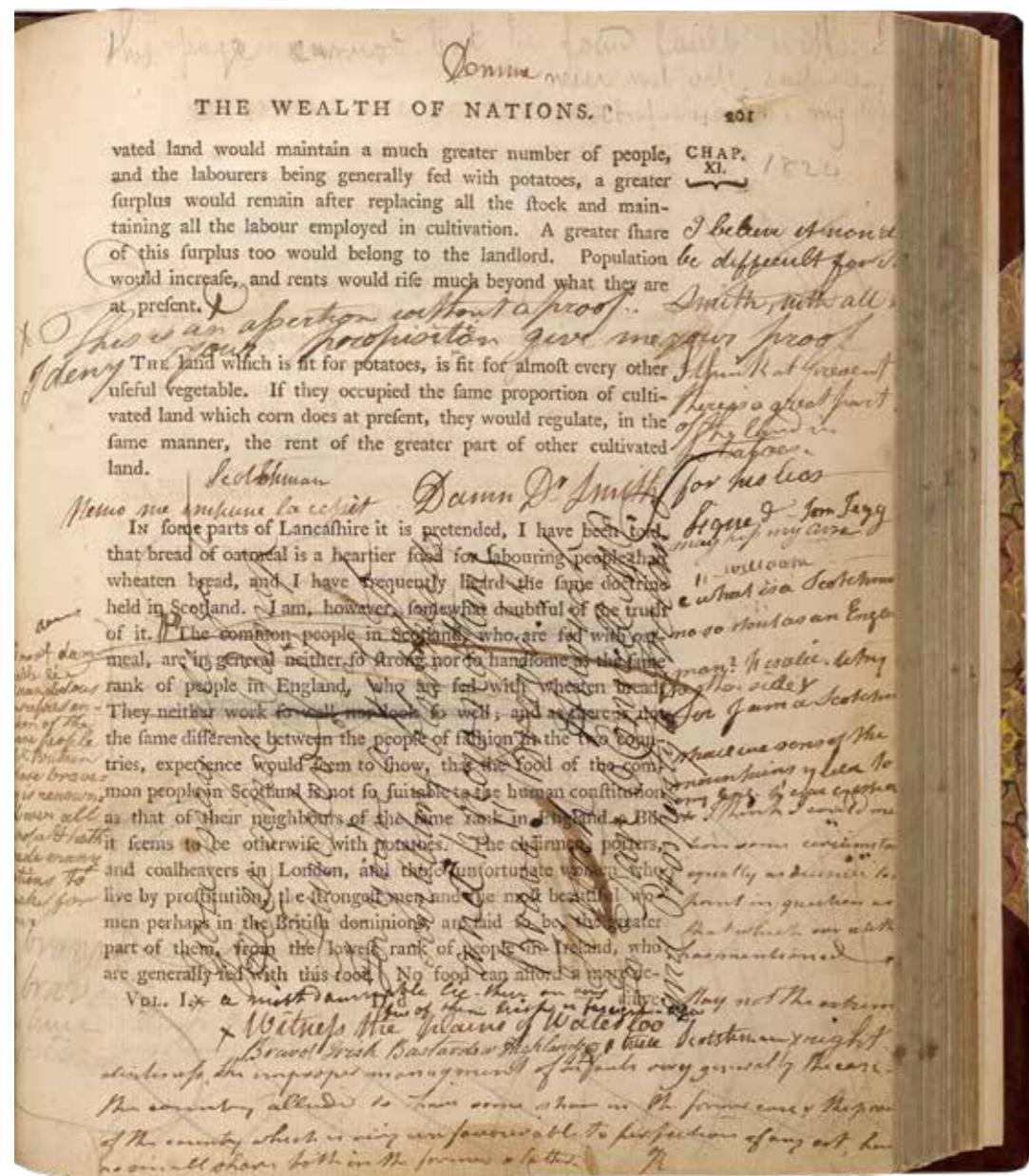
4

Frances Trollope

The Abbess

Published London, 1833
Rare Books Collections: SD 1426-8

9



5

Adam Smith

An Enquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations

Published London, 1776
Rare Books Collections: Dh.7.10



1

Signature of John Carswell in Philipp Melanchthon
Moralia Philanthropica Epitome [Summary of Moral Philosophy]

Published Strasbourg, 1539
B. B. Collection. D. 1/172



What is a book? As a means of packaging text and images, books have appeared in many different forms over the centuries. There were scrolls in the ancient world; there is the codex, the book we are familiar with today; while e-books and interactive digital resources push the boundaries of what is considered 'a book'.

Publishers and printers have always produced objects which are not quite books, but still convey information or entertain, and have all the features of a publication. Printing technology and commercial distribution networks are as effective for producing and selling games and educational aids as they are conventional books.

Hornbooks, for teaching children their letters, go back to the Middle Ages. A sheet printed with the alphabet and sometimes the *Lord's Prayer*, covered with a thin layer of transparent horn to protect it, was fastened to a board, or stiff leather. They might be read, but were probably more often played with, or chewed!

The value of games as educational tools has long been recognised. Mademoiselle Eugenie Lacaille, teaching at the Aberdeen High School for Girls at the turn of the 20th century, had her **French word game** published by a Glasgow educational publisher.

Semaphore, a signalling system using arm positions to represent the alphabet, was an essential part of military communications during World War I. These sets of cards were produced in various versions, to teach large numbers of soldiers.

Models were widely used by academic mathematicians in the 19th century, as tools to visualise and develop concepts in the geometry of solids and curves. In Germany they were integral to both teaching and research.

Alexander Brill, Professor at the Polytechnische Schule in Munich, devised a technique to produce flexible models of interlinked strips of card. These were the basis of a highly successful publishing venture which still exists today.

An unusual example of printing is the Library's 19th century **relief map** of Italy and the Alps. Technically it is a model, but as it is published, it resides within the Rare Books' map collections.

The **Forth Bridge** has appeared on many objects including bank notes and coins. When it opened in 1890, one of the commemorative items issued was a linen kerchief. It features images of the bridge, Sir William Arrol, contractor, Sir Benjamin Baker and Sir John Fowler, engineers, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who riveted the last bolt (which is made of gold).

Escape maps were provided for Allied servicemen during World War II, who might find themselves trapped behind enemy lines. These silk maps could be easily hidden, made no sound, and didn't disintegrate in the wet. They could also be used to signal for help, patch clothes, filter water or act as bandages. The board game maker Waddingtons, who already had the technology to print on cloth, stepped up to make these during the conflict. The Library's double-sided map, showing Central and Northern Burma, was donated by Jane Freshwater who found it in a charity shop box of scarves.

Peepshows are pocket-sized stage sets, complete with backdrops and paper cut-out scenes, which can be up to 2 metres deep. They were first engineered in the 1820s. The Library's peepshow, from about 1835, encompasses one of Edinburgh's best views. Gazing through the central hole you'll find yourself transported to the long vista of the West Port and the Castle, complete with trooping soldiers, boisterous youngsters, and strolling couples. The smaller holes on either side unveil more intimate scenes – a nun praying in the Trinity College Kirk on the left, and a ballroom on the right.

The **Fantoscope**, or **Phantasmoscope** is another form of Victorian entertainment found in the collections. Invented by Joseph Plateau in 1833, it is regarded as the first widely available form of moving image. Comprising illustrated discs and a handle with a spindle, the toy works by spinning it in front of a mirror and peering at the reflection through the slots. The movement animates the images – resulting in swimming frogs, pirouetting dancers, and even slithering snakes.



7

Hornbook

England, about 1780
Rare Books Collections: R.B.S.3080



g

W.J. Younger

*Semaphore Signalling in a Week: A Method of Self-instruction
and Practice in "Sending" and "Reading"*

Published Edinburgh, 1914-18
Rare Books Collections: R.B.P.2094



11

Roggero Giuseppe

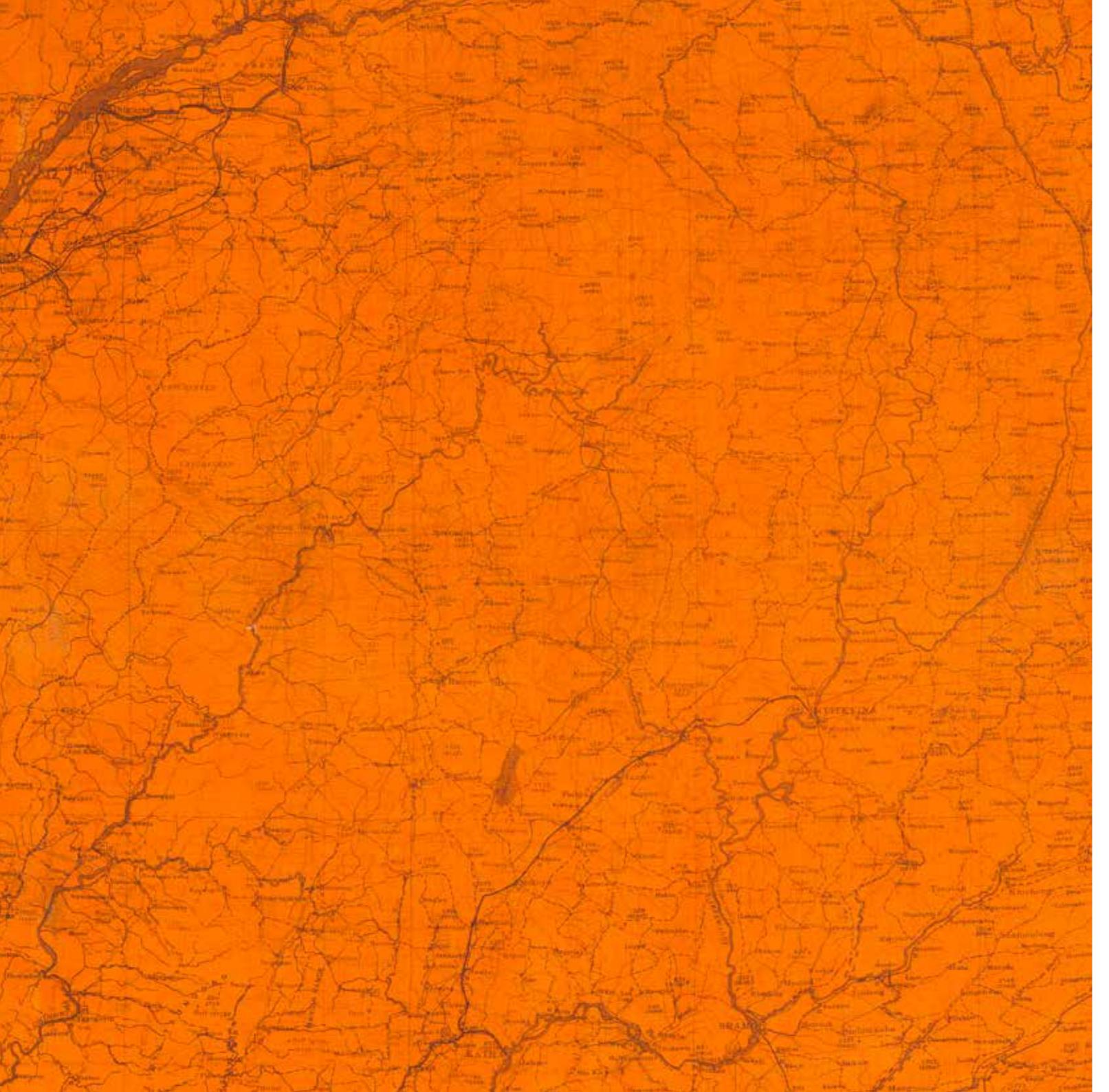
*Solid alto-relievo model of Italy and the Alps*Published Glasgow, 1800s
Rare Books Collections: Map.FE.2

Commemorative kerchief for the opening of the Forth Bridge

Published Edinburgh, 1890
Rare Books Collections: RB.FF.219

12

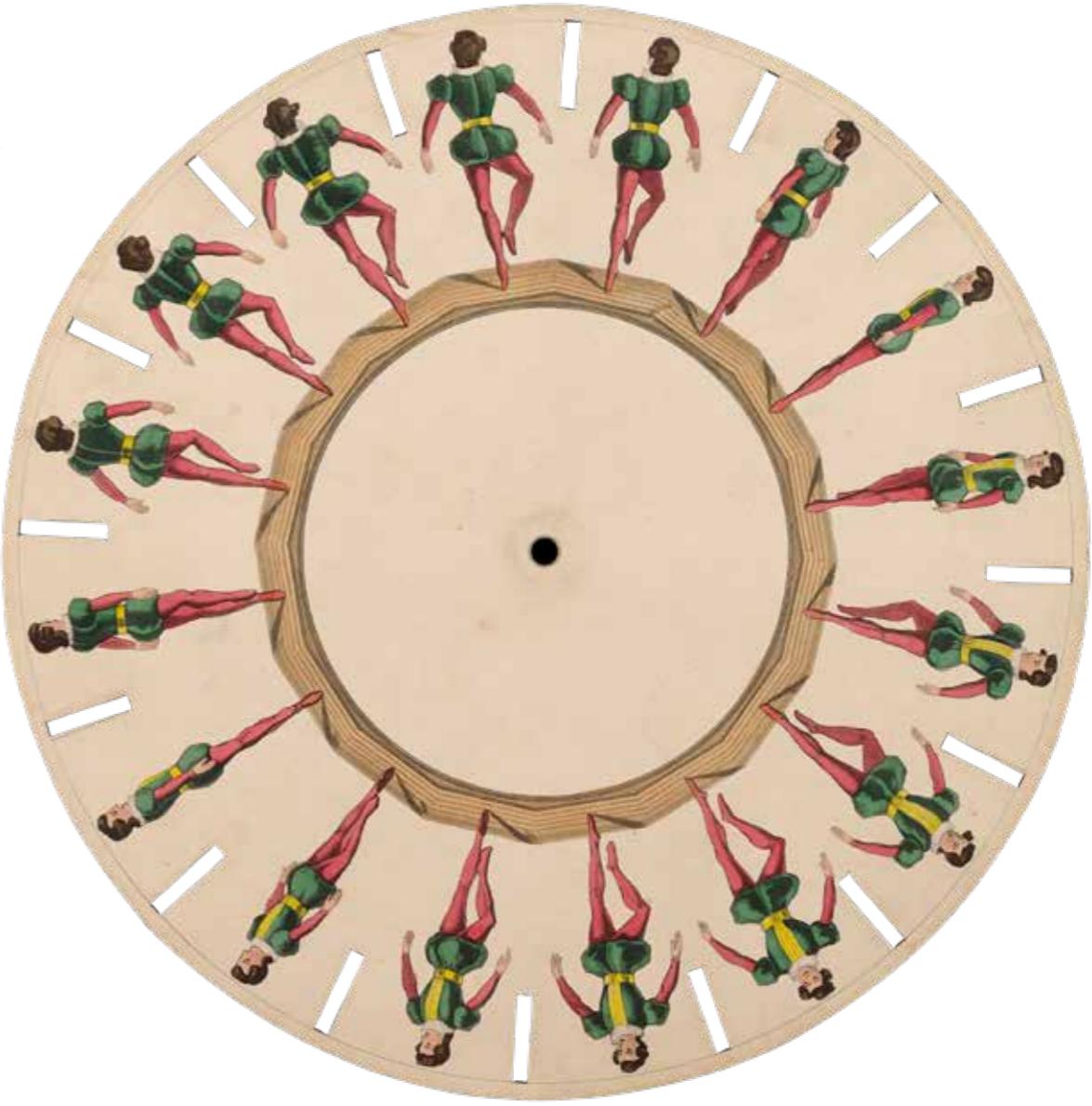




18

Detail from World War II escape map of Central and Northern Burma

Published New Delhi, 1943-5
Rare Books Collections: RB.FE.302



15

Ackermann & Co
Fantoscope, or Phantasmoscope

Published London, 1833
Rare Books Collections: RB.FE.338



The Rare Books Collections can boast material from all five continents, reflecting the University's internationalism.

Even in its earliest days the Library welcomed books and objects from outside Europe. It was the place to preserve them, even if no one could read them or knew what they were. The oldest printed book in the collections is Chinese. It was presented by a student in 1628 on the occasion of his graduation. Recent acquisitions reflect the wide-ranging research interests of the University's students, staff and alumni.

The Library has many contenders for representing North America, but in keeping with the theme, **comics** might be the most unexpected. In the late 1990s we received a large

donation of comics and graphic novels, the bulk of which were published by Marvel and DC. These reflect our aim to collect as many different types of literary genres and printed formats as possible. Illustrated material is also of value to Edinburgh College of Art.

The Maori of New Zealand have a rich oral culture of stories, myths and legends. These have survived the encroachment of western civilisation on their way of life. Maui Pomare (1867–1930) engaged with European settlers' culture in order to gain benefits for his own people. He supported himself through medical studies in the USA partly by lecturing on Maori culture. He later published a collection of stories, **Legends of the Maori**. His work in politics and public health in New Zealand earned him a knighthood. The

Library's collection of New Zealand material was presented by the Government of New Zealand in 1991, from their High Commission in London.

Chanted music is used in the religious services of many branches of Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

The Library's collections include many examples from western Christianity. Less expected, is a volume of **chant in Church Slavonic**, made for the branch of the Russian Orthodox Church called The Old Believers. They were a small and persecuted minority who refused to accept the religious reforms imposed on the Russian church in the mid-17th century.

The volume is handwritten and illuminated in exactly the same way as medieval manuscripts, although it actually dates to the late 19th century.



The first **photographs of China** were taken by Europeans and Americans living and working in East Asia. By the mid-1860s, western travellers in the region were able to buy photographs to bring home. The Rare Books from Edinburgh College of Art include an album of these pictures which possibly belonged to a businessman or diplomat based in Hong Kong. It includes spectacular panoramic views, images of major buildings, and portrait groups. Most significant are prints of photographs taken by Felice Beato, the world's first war photographer. He followed Lord Elgin's military campaign to modern Beijing, in 1858–60, the Second Opium War.

The Philippines is one of our less likely collection strengths. Nonetheless, the Library holds a collection of approximately 200

items about the islands. These were bequeathed by University alumnus Daniel Mackintosh Forbes in 1917, a merchant who ran a company in Manila. The islands were a Spanish colony from 1565 until 1898 and as such, many of the books are in Spanish, including a history of the Jesuits' work there by **Pedro Murillo Velarde (1696–1753)**.

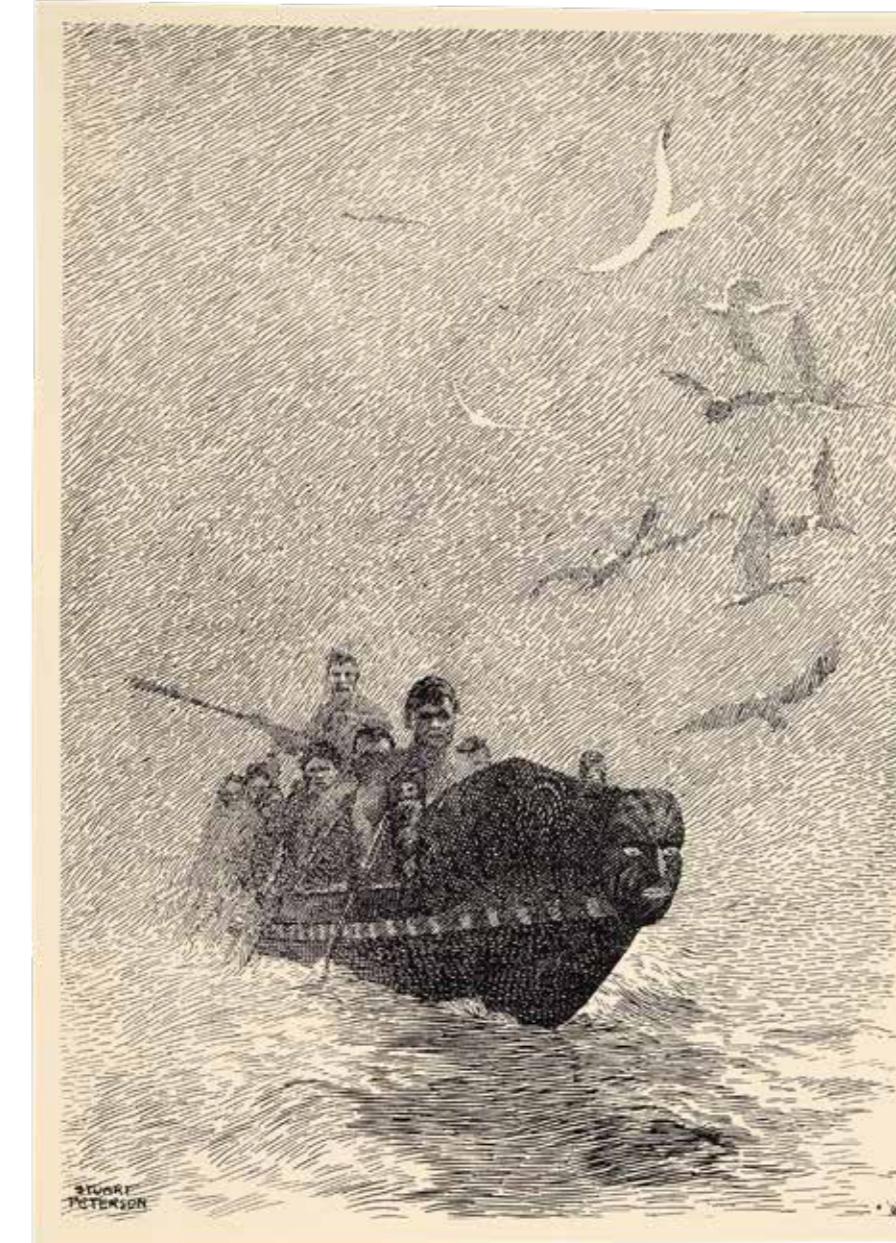
William Speirs Bruce organised and led the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition (SNAE) of 1902–4 aboard the "Scotia". It ran concurrently with Robert Falcon Scott's Discovery Expedition, but its priority was scientific discovery rather than pure exploration. Unlike Scott, Bruce was a naturalist, oceanographer and experienced Polar scientist. The SNAE established the first manned meteorological station in Antarctica and discovered new

land east of the Weddell Sea. Their work has been credited as laying the foundation of modern climate change studies.

Japan was closed to westerners until 1868 when the new Emperor instigated a programme of radical reform, modernisation and westernisation. This prompted the production of books intended to inform western readers about Japan.

Ancient and modern various usage of Tokyo, published in 1885, illustrates characters, children's games, clothing, hairstyles and scenery, with text in Japanese and short captions in English.

The traditions of book making in Africa are often overlooked in Europe, despite the continent's many ancient strands of literary culture. Yet a bundle of fragments, some possibly dating back to the 9th century, reached Edinburgh a thousand years later. They were given to the University by the antiquarian David Laing. The fragments came from the Mosque of Amr in Fustat, the first mosque in Egypt, and include pieces of a **Koran**.



20

Maui Pomare
Legends of the Maori
Published Wellington, 1930-4
Rare Books Collections: NZH.140



21

Russian Old Believers
Octoechos [Chant in Church Slavonic]
Late 1800s
Special Collections: Ms.Add.4



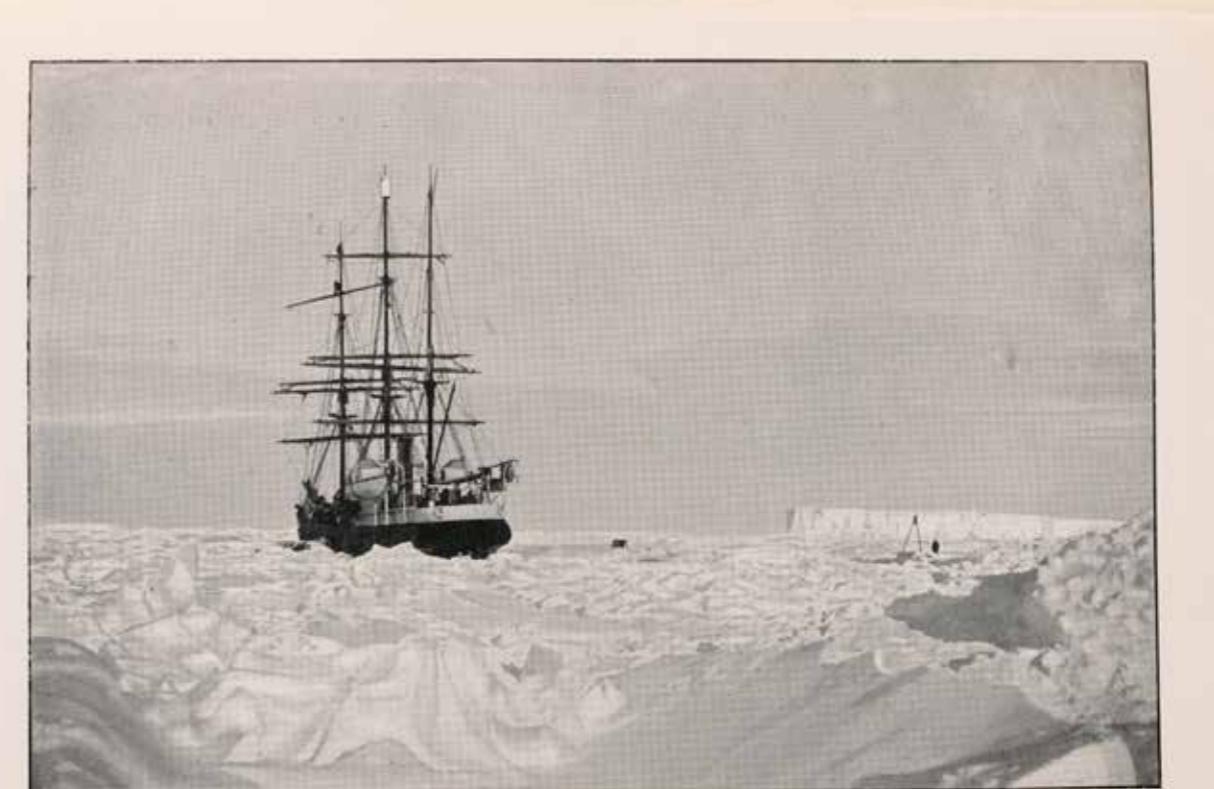
22

Chinese Ladies

Photographs of China, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Macao

1858-60s

Rare Books Collections: RECA.MS.8



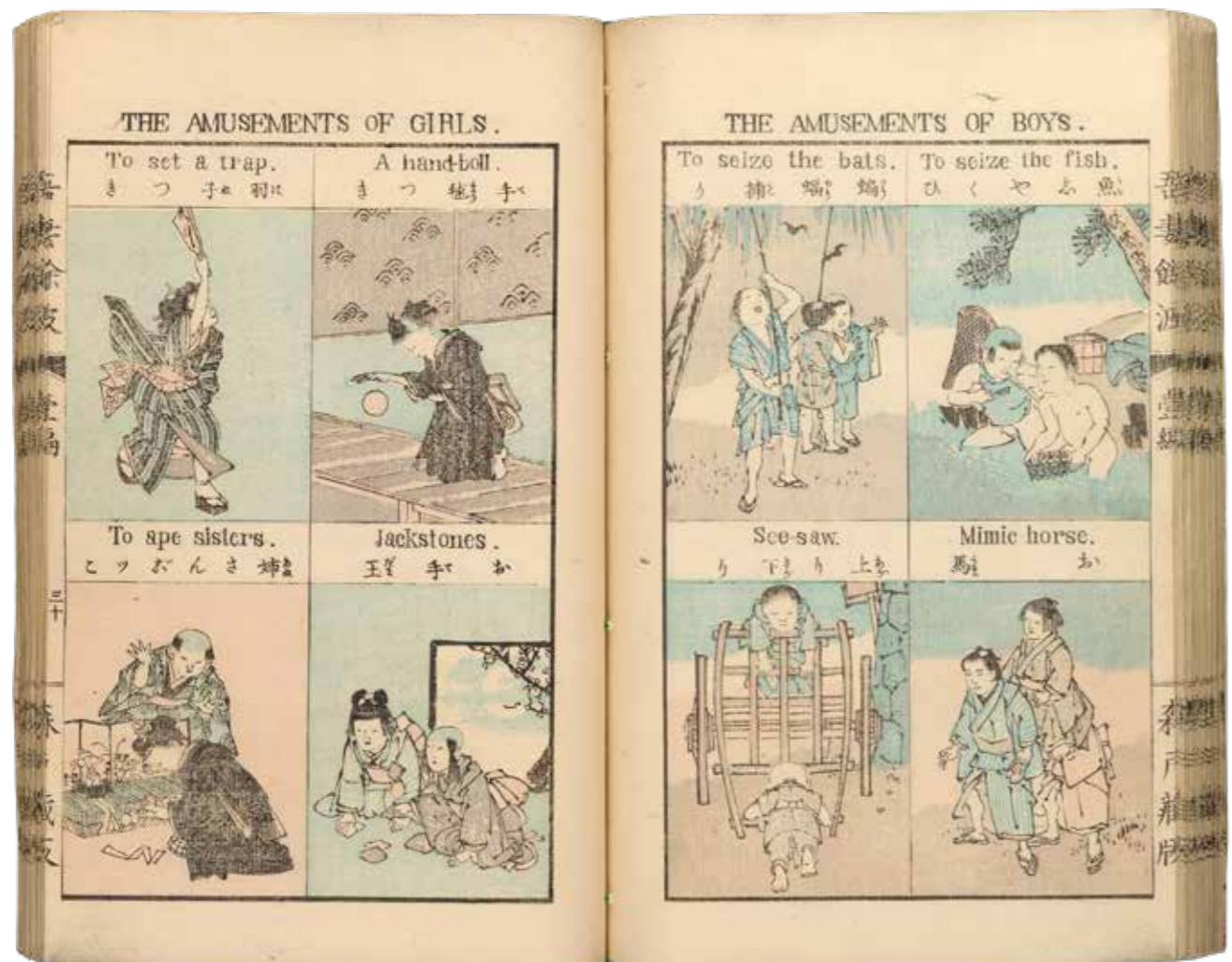
THE "SCOTIA" BESET IN HEAVY ICE OFF COATS' LAND, 71° 01' S.

24

*The Voyage of the "Scotia": Being the Record
of a Voyage of Exploration in Antarctic Seas*

Published Edinburgh, 1906

Rare Books Collections: Dh.6.1



26

Konseki S. Okamoto

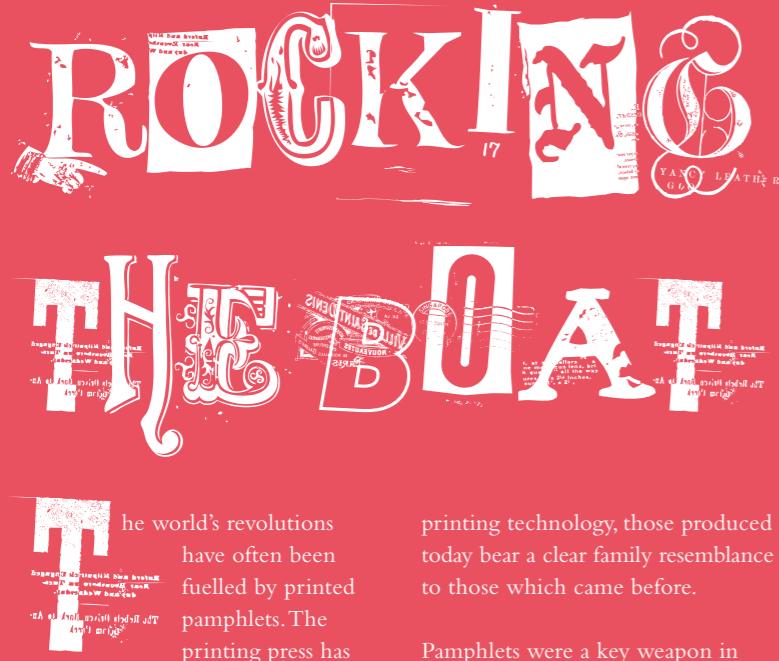
*Kokon hyakufū Azuma nagori / Ancient
and modern various usages of Tokyo Japan*Published Tokyo, 1885
Rare Books Collections: S.B. 39(52) OKA

27

Koran fragment

North Africa, about 1000 AD
Special Collections: Or.Ms.175

27



The world's revolutions have often been fuelled by printed pamphlets. The printing press has proved a powerful tool for spreading new and sometimes dangerous ideas, and defending old ones. Pamphlets were intended for the streets and not for libraries. Small, flimsy, ephemeral, and quick and cheap to produce, they were easy to distribute, easy to read – and easy to hide. They mostly reached the University long after they were printed. The appearance of pamphlets has changed remarkably little over the centuries. Even allowing for developments in

printing technology, those produced today bear a clear family resemblance to those which came before.

Pamphlets were a key weapon in spreading the Protestant Reformation in the early 16th century. **Martin Luther** ensured the widest possible exposure of his ideas by publishing his sermons in attractive pamphlets which were often illustrated.

Another popular method of presenting information in the 16th century was in the form of a dialogue or series of questions. By 1918 this had not changed. *The Revolution*, a cheaply-produced but attractively-presented magazine,

intended to woo young people to the cause of Socialism, used exactly the same technique.

Not all revolutions required popular promotion. The 1843 **Great Disruption of the Church of Scotland**, when nearly a third of the clergy left to start the Free Church of Scotland, had consequences here as far-reaching as the Reformation itself. The Disruption was the result of years of division amongst serious-minded theologians who exchanged dense arguments in small print. When the Disruption occurred, events were dramatic and fast moving. However they were reported in the same serious detail.

Scottish sovereignty was a recurring source of debate even before the **Act of Union** was passed in 1707. Many of the issues are still very much alive today. In the 1930s, *Scotland's Dilemma* was concerned with the effects of economic crises, immigration and emigration.

Independence in Europe: Make it Happen Now, is topical today, but also the title of the 1992 Scottish National Party manifesto.

In the 18th century, the first large-scale consumer campaign fought to

inform the public about the horrors of the slave trade. Pamphlets such as **Houldbrooke's** were a vital means of gaining support from the ordinary consumers of sugar and other plantation crops. It should not be forgotten that this was a hotly-debated topic. Defence of the slave trade was equally vocal and, as in **Harris' Scriptural Researches**, often called on the Bible to justify its position.

By the end of the 19th century there were campaigns for workers' rights with a very contemporary feel. **White Slaves** exposed the poor treatment of employees in the retail giant Army & Navy Stores, whilst **Yellow Labour** unearthed a complicated scandal involving the exploitation of labour, race, immigration and politics in South Africa. **Britain's Colour Bar in Africa** warned readers against the adoption of apartheid in British colonies.

University of Edinburgh graduates were at the forefront of the struggle for women's suffrage in Britain. Chrystal Macmillan was the first woman to plead a case in person in the House of Lords. The Library has a collection of pamphlets presented

executions. By the time "**The Popish Plot**" had run its course, at least 22 people were dead.

A century earlier, in the aftermath of the Spanish Armada, the English authorities had every reason to be afraid of genuine Catholic attempts to overthrow the Crown. A Royal Proclamation placing restrictions on Catholics was met with an orchestrated campaign of satirical pamphlets by English Catholic exiles in Europe. The Jesuit **Robert Parsons'** pamphlet was supported by the Spanish and published in Latin across Europe to ensure the widest possible readership.

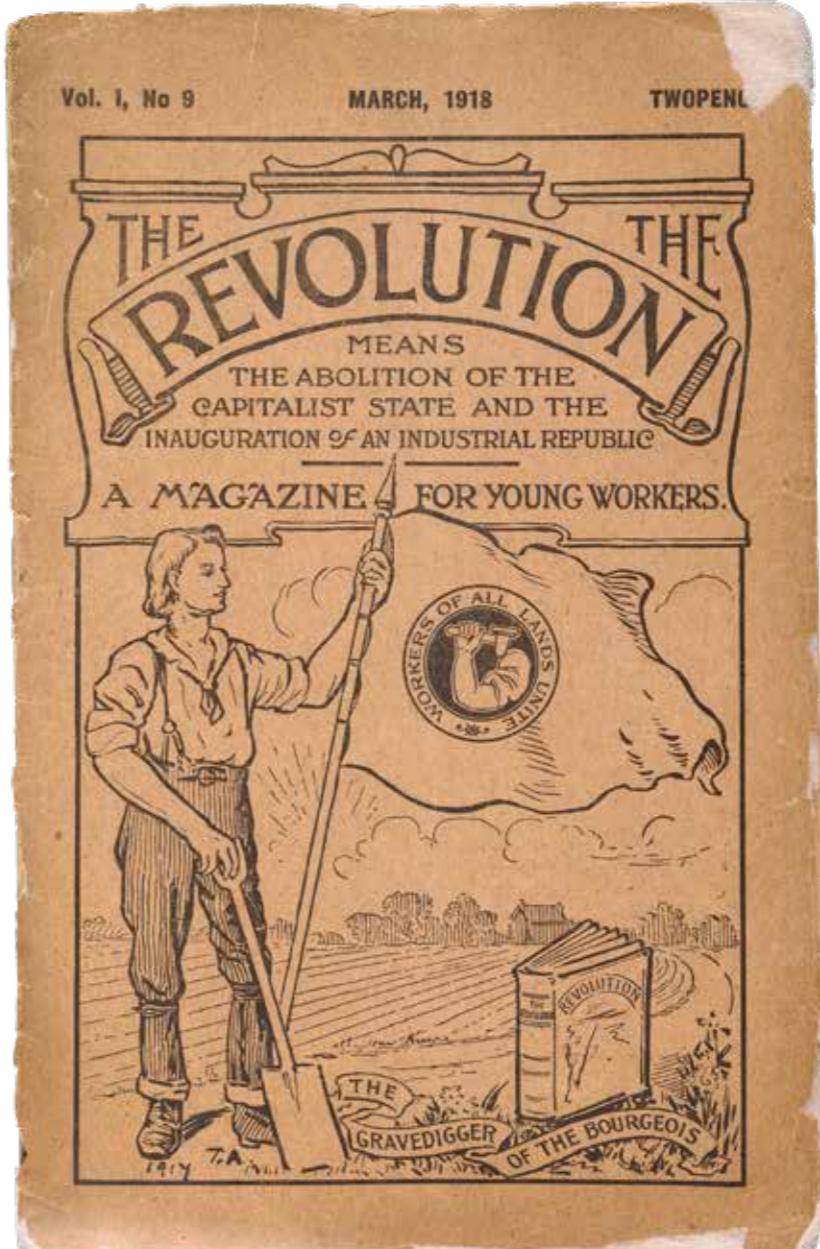
In the 1930s, the Communist Party of Great Britain accused the circle of Nancy and Waldorf Astor, whom they nicknamed **The Cliveden Set**, of being determined to achieve appeasement with Hitler in order to preserve their own social privileges. Even now historians are debating whether this was in any way true.



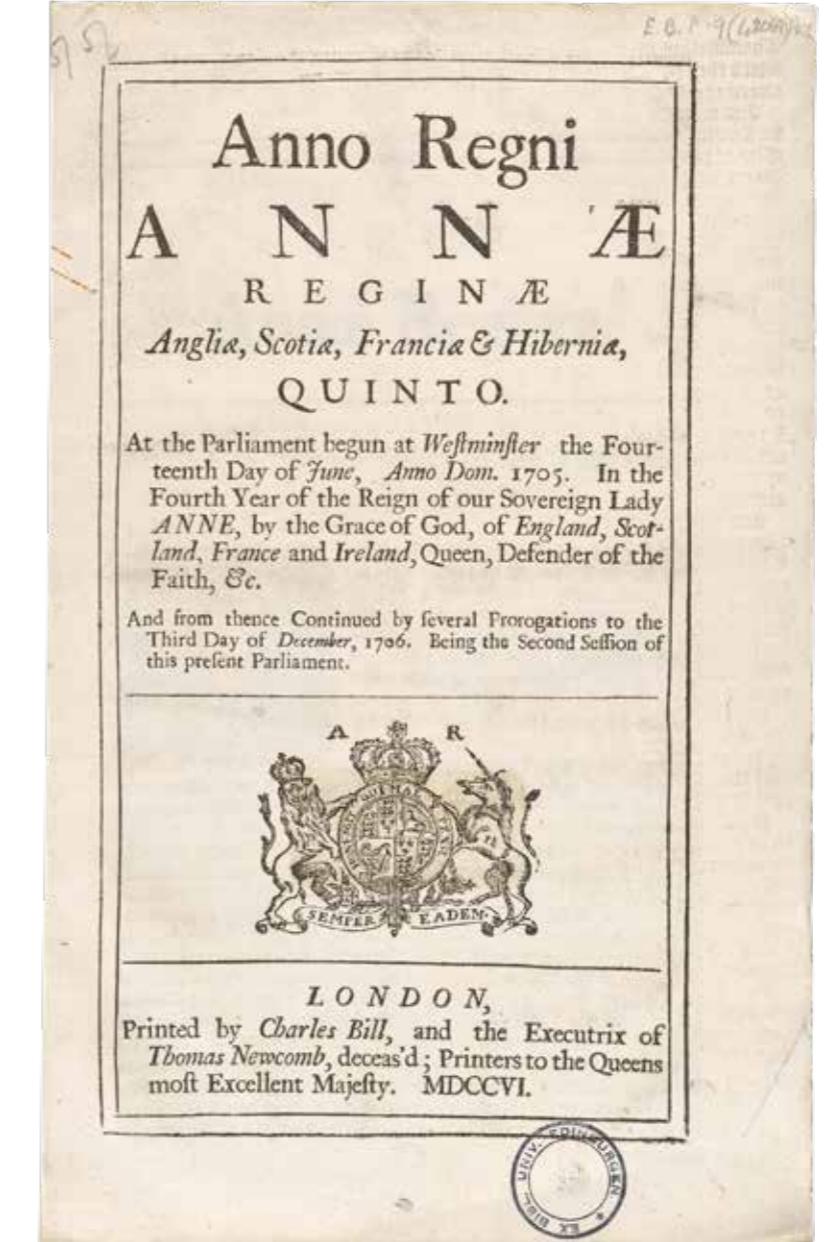
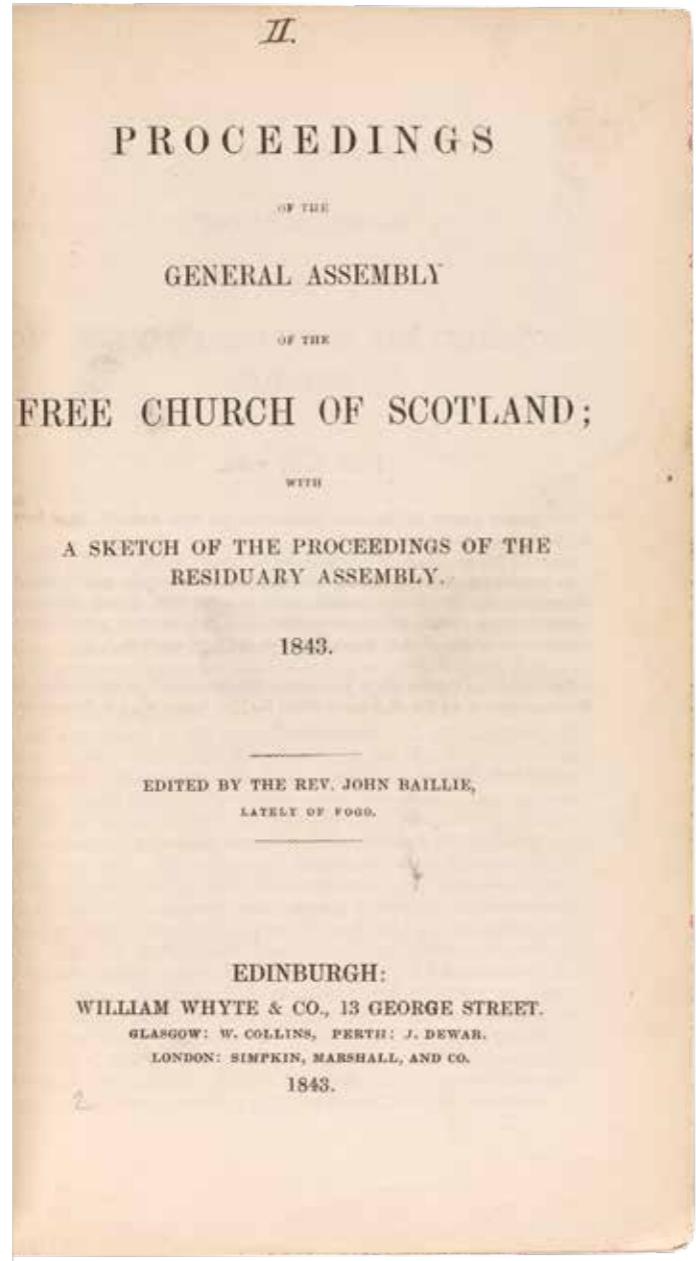
Martin Luther

Ain Gütte Trostliche Predig von der Wirdigen Berayttung zü dem Hochwürdigen Sacrament
[A good and comforting sermon on the dignified preparation for the Holy Sacrament]

Published Augsburg, 1518
Rare Books Collections: Dh.2.48



The Revolution
Published Glasgow, 1918
Rare Books Collections: Rad.P.221



2g

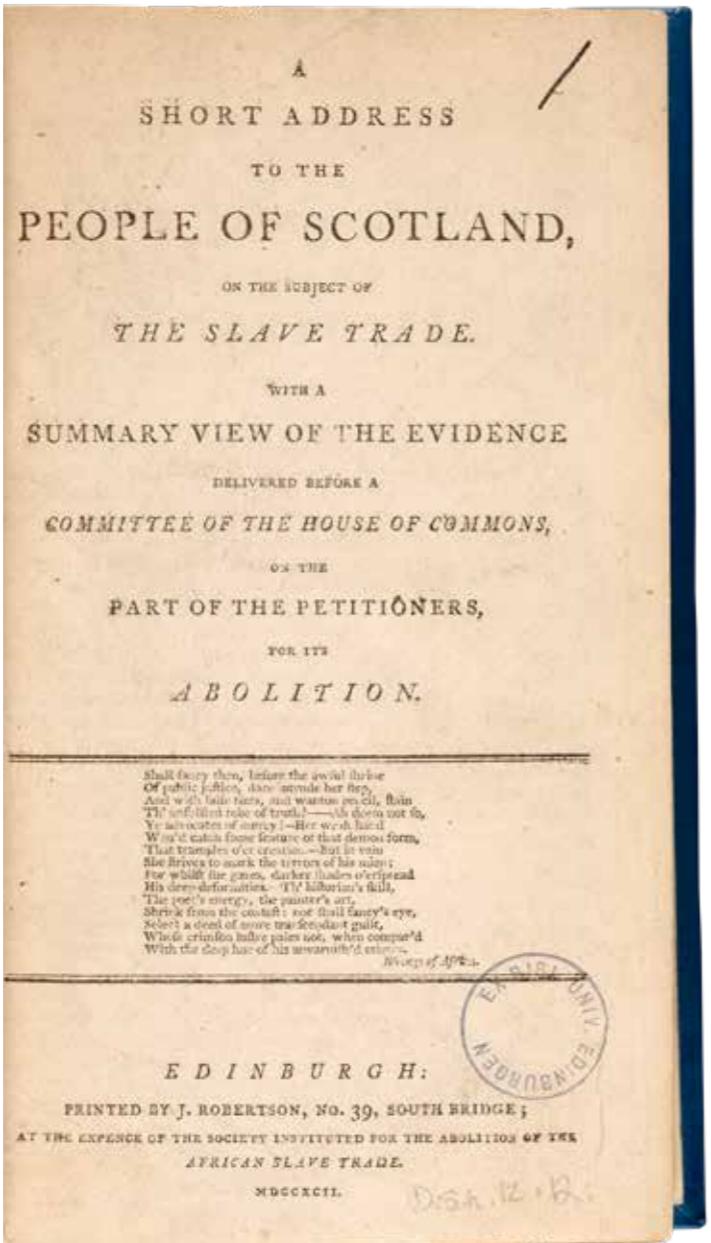
Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland

Published Edinburgh, 1843
Rare Books Collections: P.121/40

20

Act of Union

Published London, 1706
Rare Books Collections: EB.P.9 (42069)



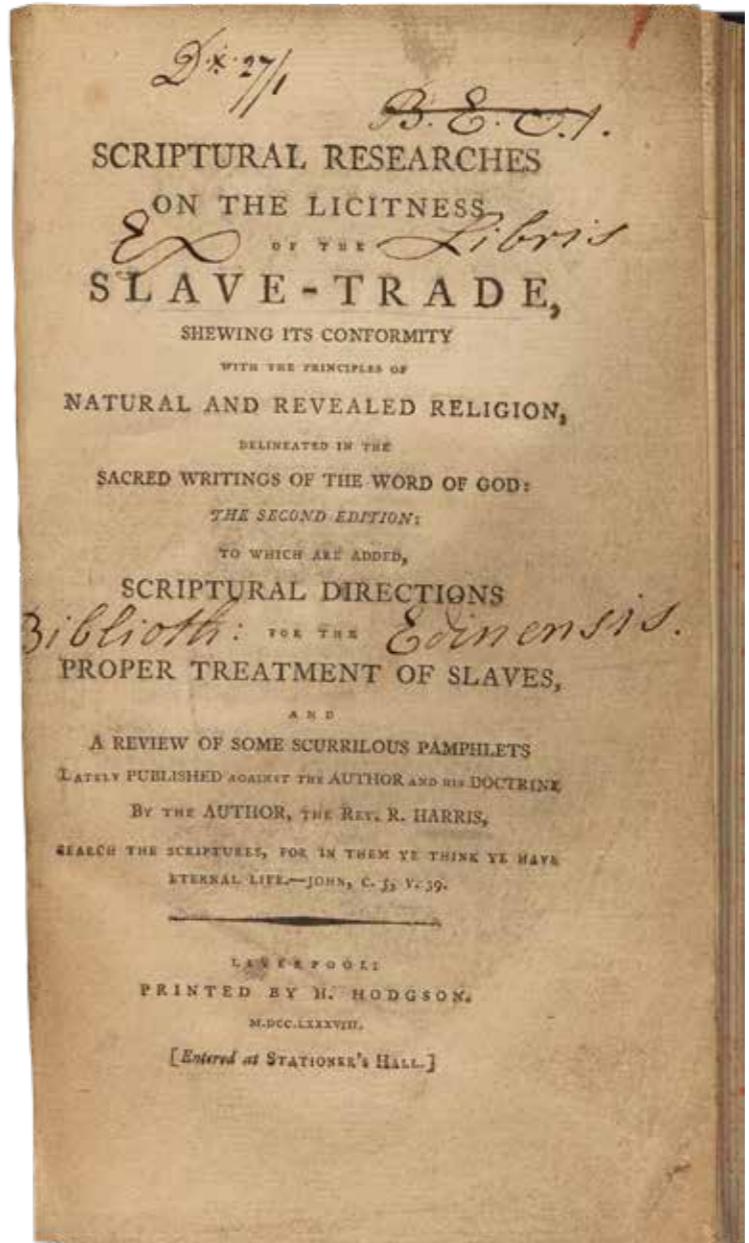
BB

Houldbrooke

A Short Address to the People of Scotland, On the Subject of the Slave Trade

Published Edinburgh, 1792

Rare Books Collections: D.S.H.12.12/1



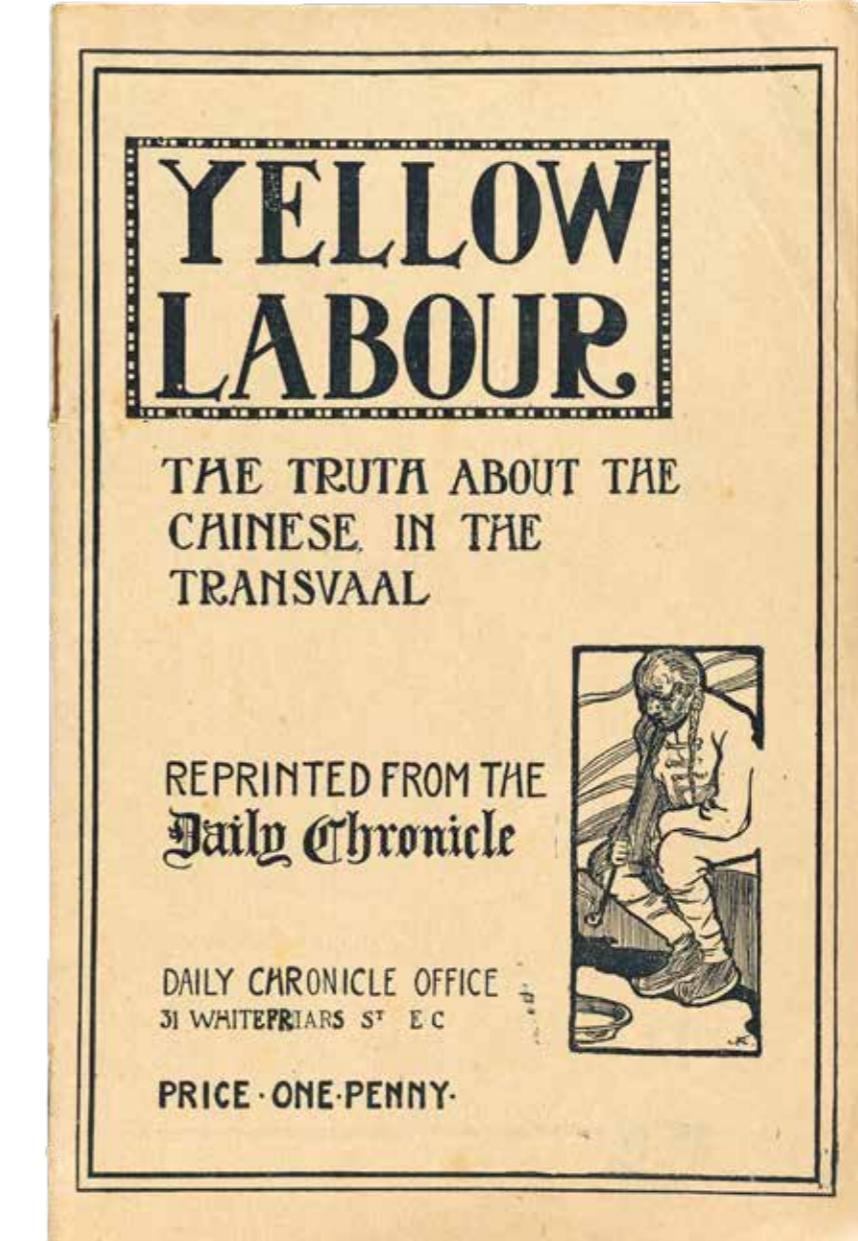
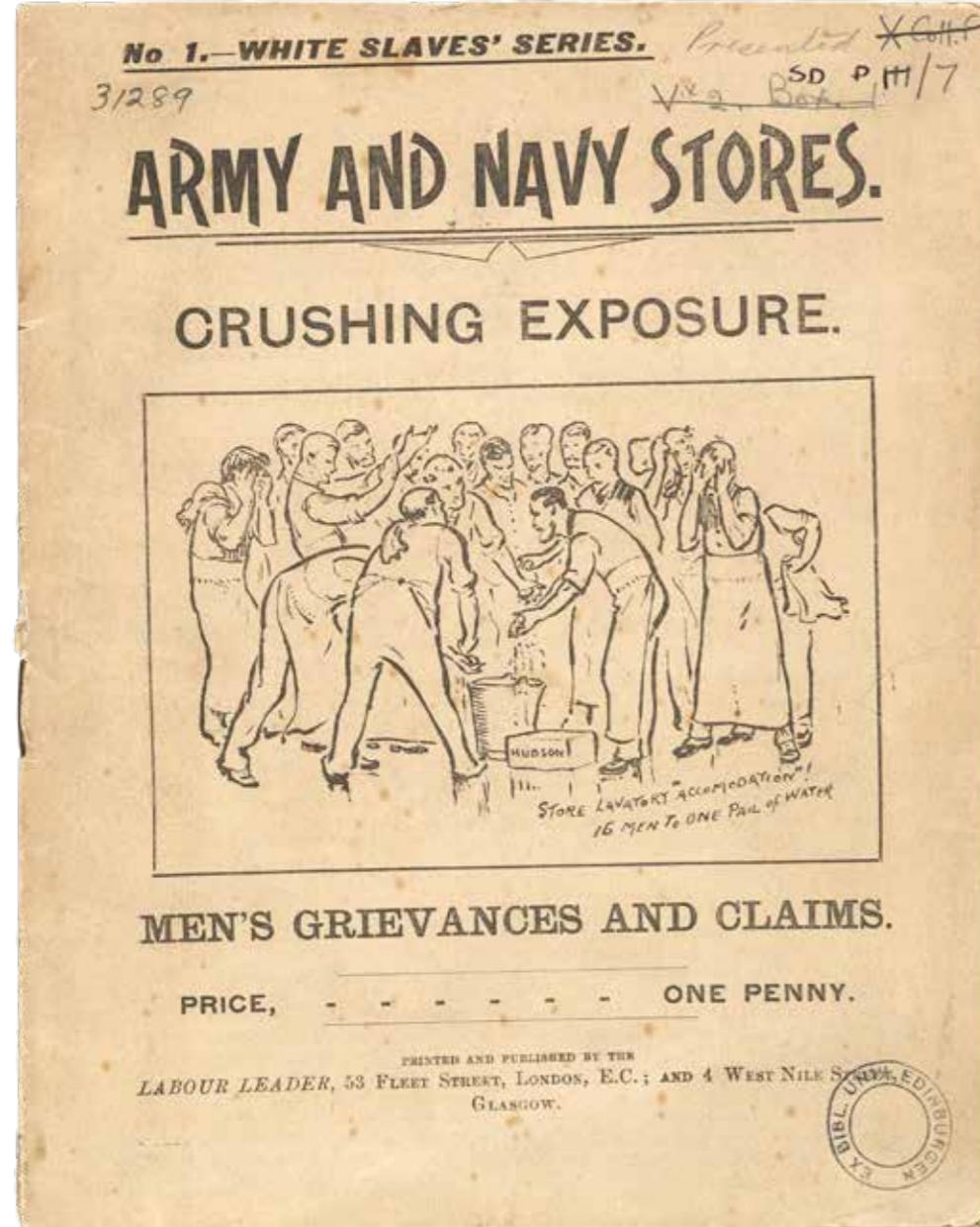
BB⁴

R. Harris

Scriptural Researches on the Licitness of the Slave Trade

Published Liverpool

Rare Books Collections: D*.27.1



35

Army and Navy Stores: Crushing Exposure

Published London, 1889

Rare Books Collections: SD P 1/7

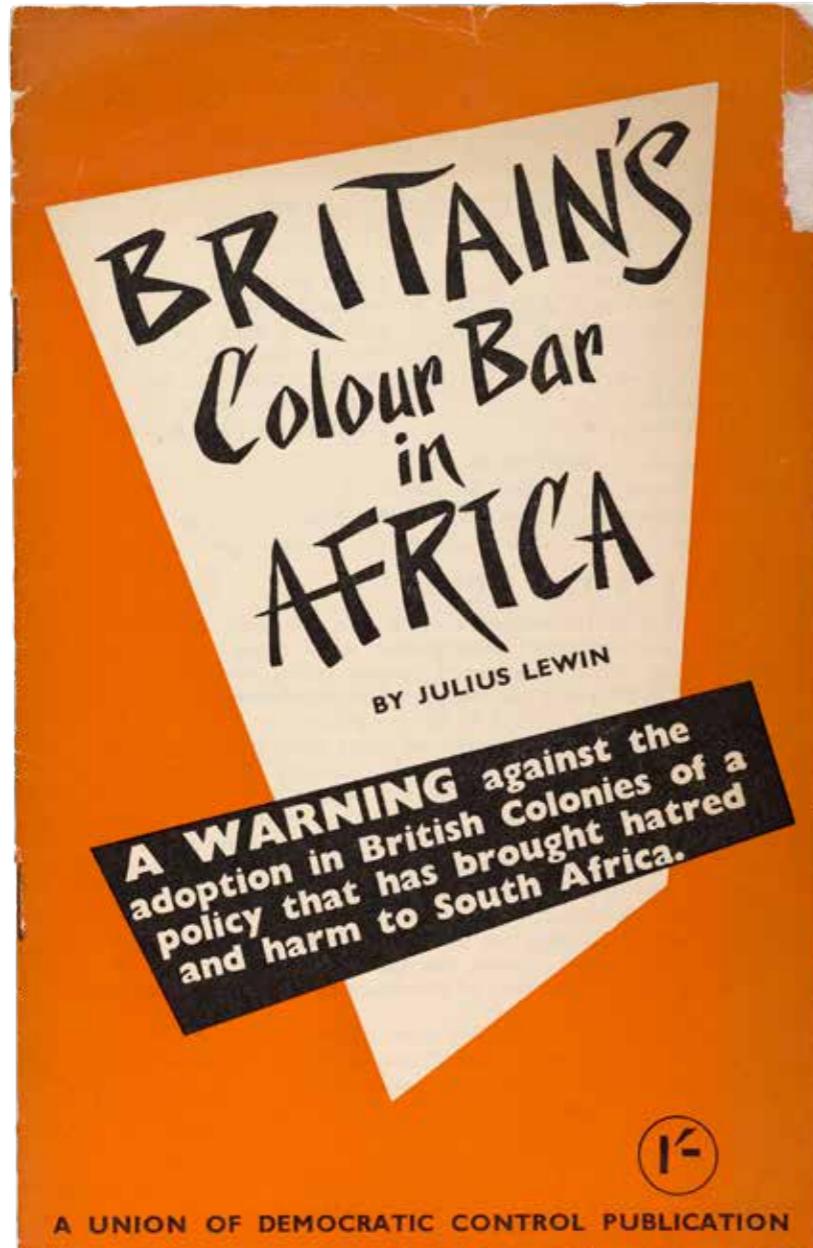
36

Yellow labour: The Truth about the Chinese in the Transvaal

Published London, 1904

Rare Books Collections: Rad.P94

37



87

Julius Lewin

Britain's Colour Bar in Africa

Published London, 1952

Rare Books Collections: Rad.P.88

HOME AND POLITICS.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED AT
TOYNBEE HALL AND ELSEWHERE

BY

MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

SEVENTH REPRINT.

NATIONAL UNION
LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

58 VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER.

of WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.
NON MILITANT and CONSTITUTIONAL.

Price, 1d. each; 1s. per 25; 1/11 per 50; 3/6 per 100.

40, SHANDWICK PLACE,

EDINBURGH.



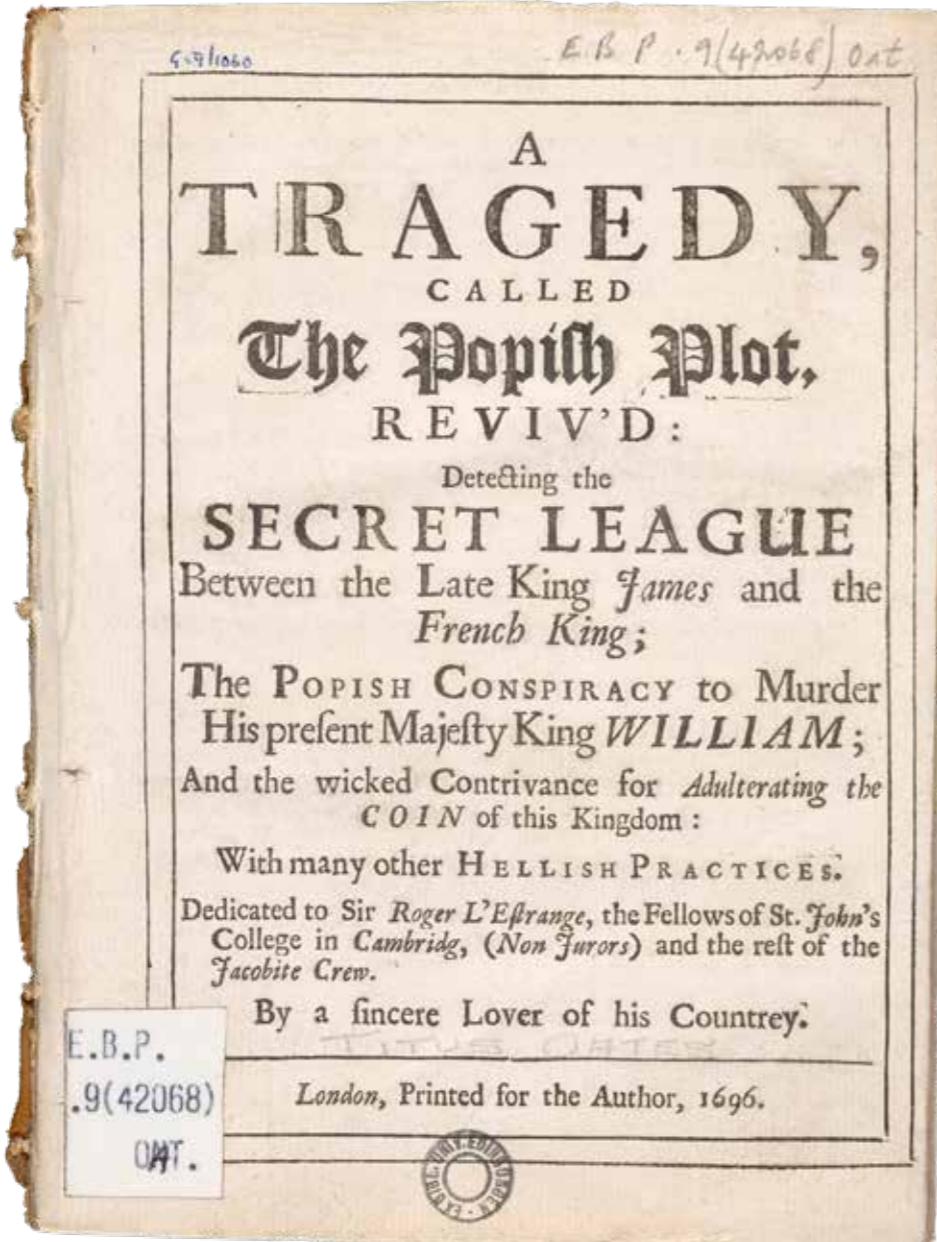
88

Mrs Henry Fawcett

Home and Politics

Published London, about 1909

Rare Books Collections: Pam.1287/40



WHY SO SERIOUS?

POPULAR PRINTING

Would you expect the University Library to collect popular fiction, humour and tourist souvenirs?

Maybe not, but Edinburgh has a long history of collecting contemporary popular literature. This began with the donation of William Drummond of Hawthornden's collection in 1627. Among his books were early quarto editions of some of Shakespeare's plays, including *Love's Labour's Lost*, the first of his published works to include his name on the title page. In his day these small-format, thin pamphlets were considered ephemeral and not worthy of a serious library. They are now very rare and sought-after.

Sir Walter Scott, alumnus of the University and Scotland's 19th-

century literary celebrity, is a major figure in the Rare Book collections. His books have been published in many editions for different markets, including the thriving 19th-century tourist trade. Some of these were bound in **Mauchline Ware** from the East Ayrshire town of Mauchline, famous for its distinctive, decorative wooden souvenirs. Conversely, cheap 'yellowbacks' were produced to sell on railway book stalls.

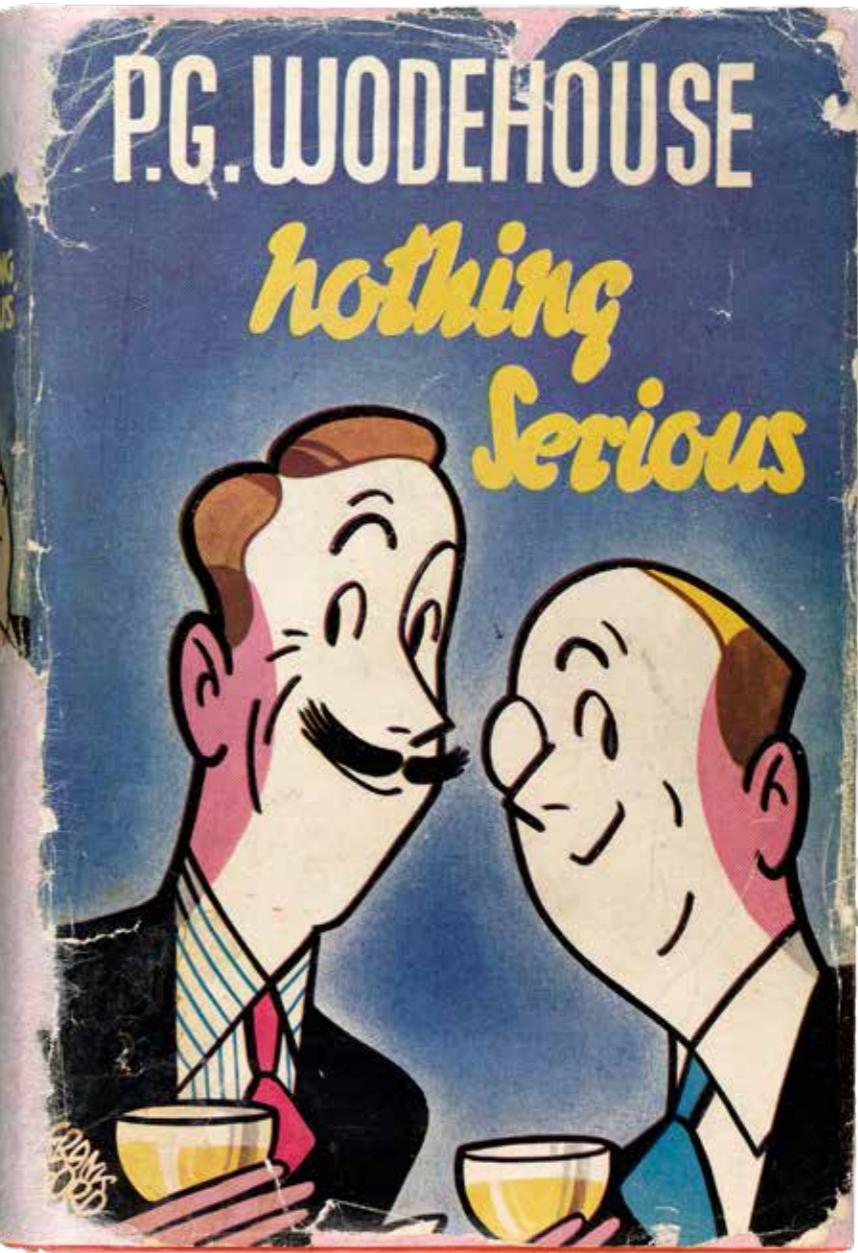
We have recently acquired a collection of the works of **Ian Rankin**, another University of Edinburgh alumnus. His work, like Scott's, is firmly located in Scotland and closely associated with Edinburgh.

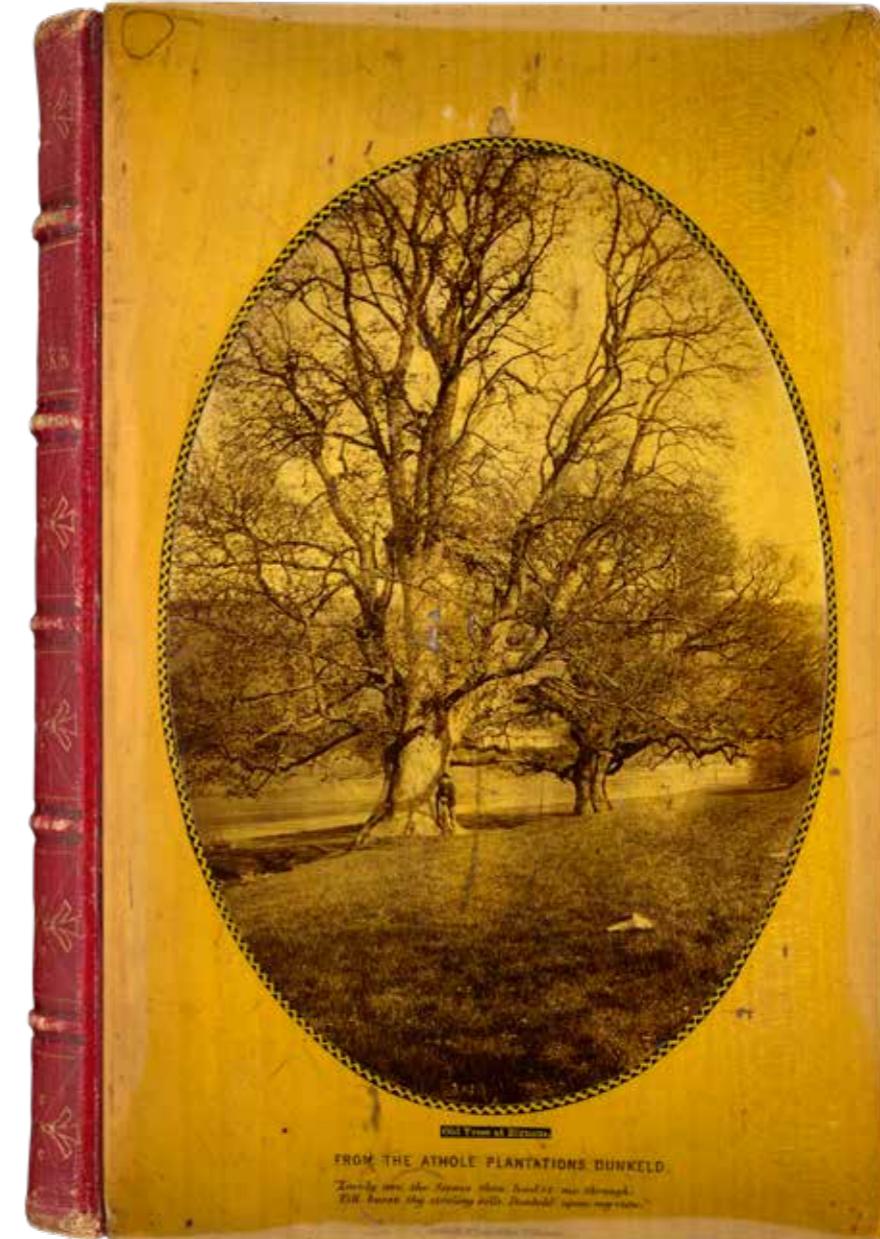
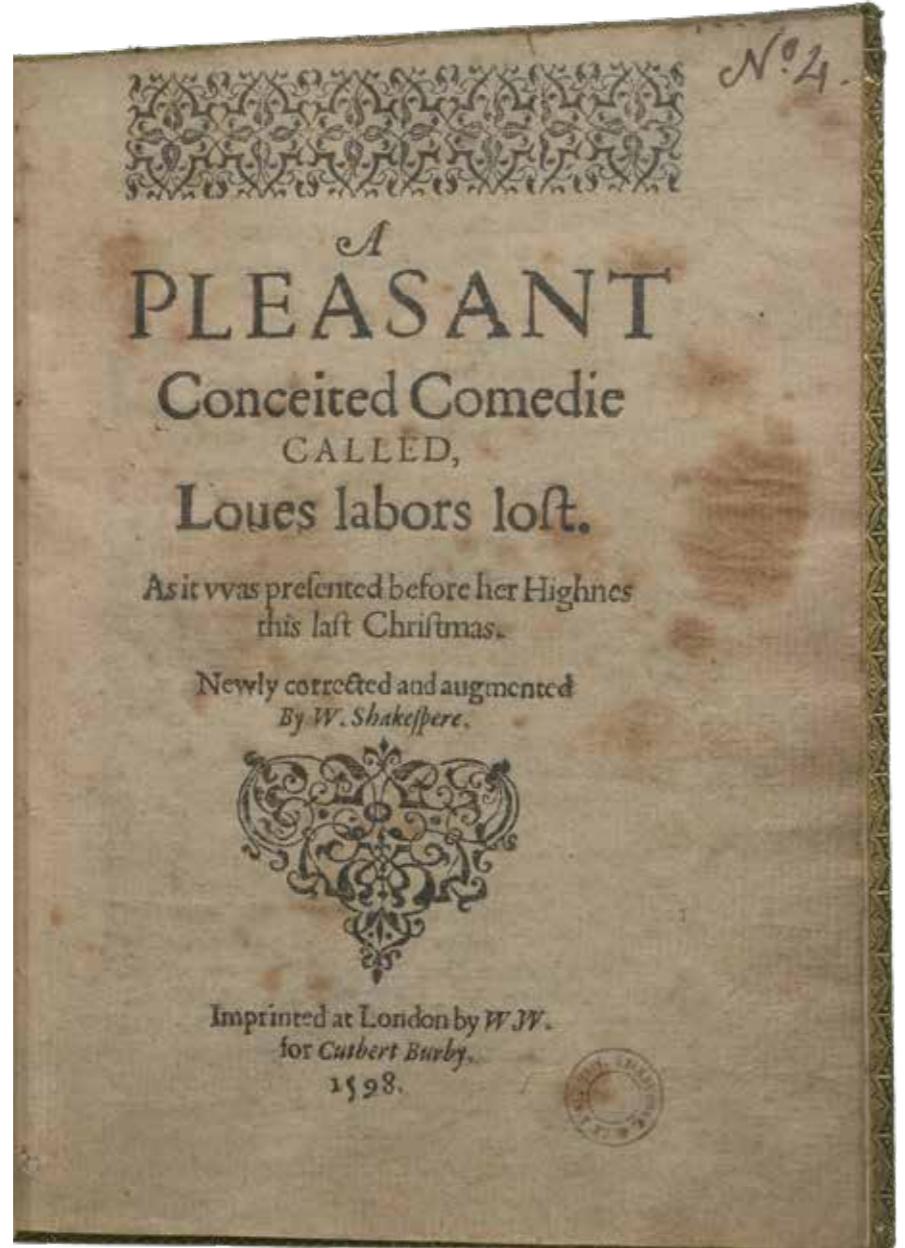
Golf is not a subject the Library often collects. **Thomas Mathison's The Goff** (1743) was the first poem dedicated to the sport. A mock heroic account of exploits on Leith

Links, it has crept in, as has **Parker's** 19th-century dictionary of **slang and cant**.

Acquiring books is often an opportunistic business. We have an excellent collection of first and early editions of **P.G. Wodehouse** thanks to former Professor of Public Law, A.H. Campbell, who bequeathed his vast collection of, mostly serious, books.

Broadside ballads and small chapbooks, including **Baileadan Inbhir Aora** [The Inveraray Ballads] were sold on the streets as popular entertainment and were not intended to reach libraries. The survival rate is low, and *Baileadan Inbhir Aora* is the only set of ballads printed in Gaelic that survives, against all the odds, in a handful of copies. These are rare and precious, and still sung, as you can hear at www.tobarandualchais.co.uk





48

William Shakespeare

A Pleasant Conceited Comedy Called Loves Labours Lost

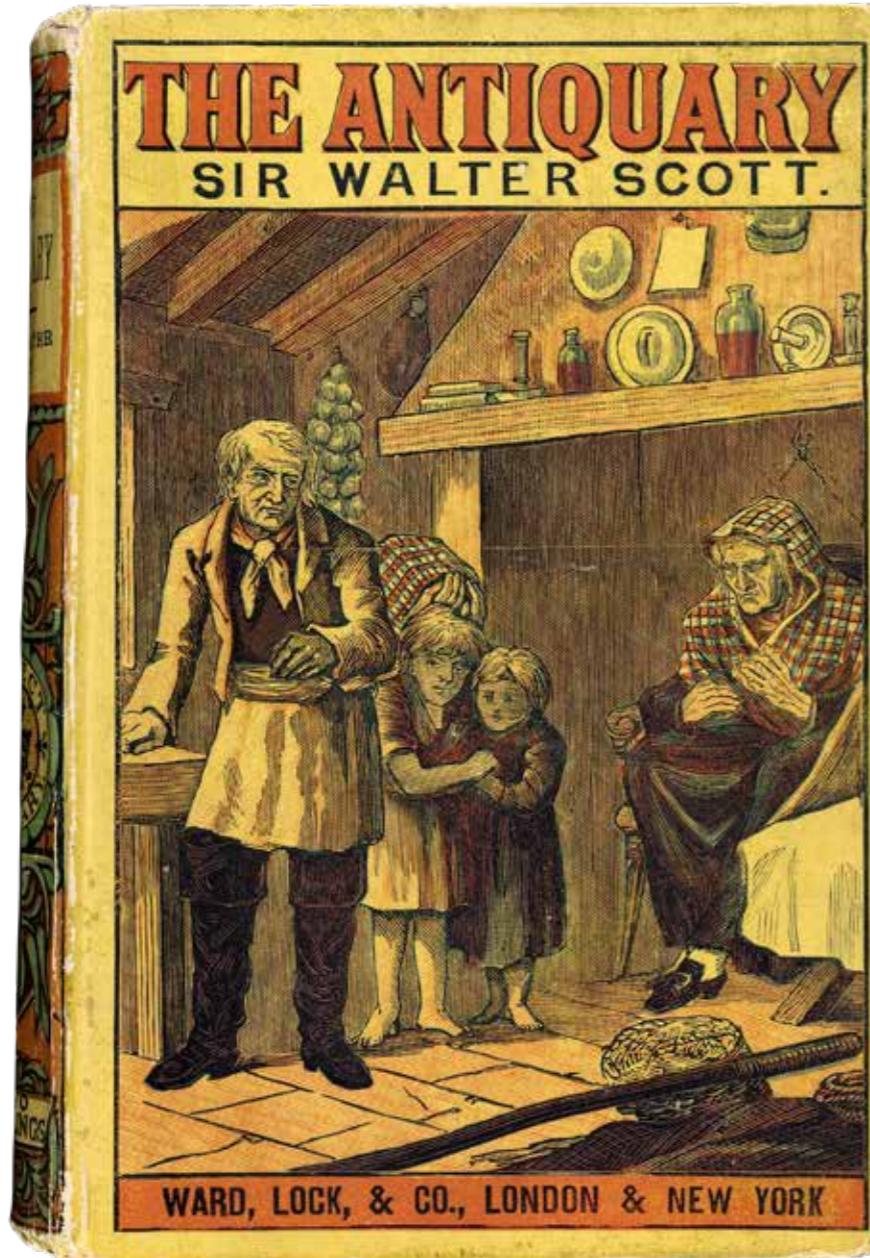
Published London, 1598
Rare Books Collections: De.3.74

44

Walter Scott

The Lady of the Lake

Published Edinburgh, 1869
Rare Books Collections: SD 5628



45

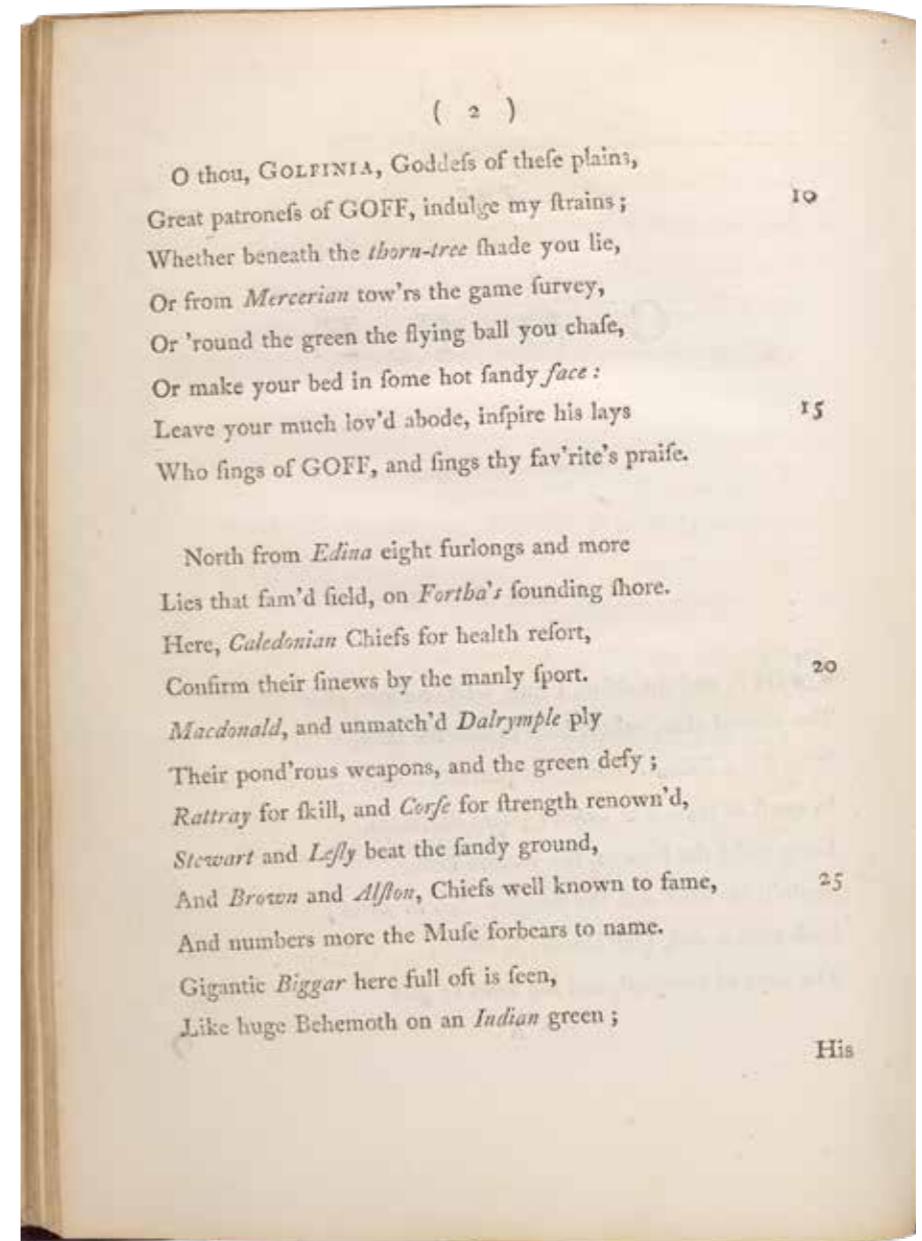
Walter Scott

The Antiquary

Published London, 1882

Rare Books Collections: A.11.ANT.1.b.WAR

46



47

Thomas Mathison

The Geff [golf]

Published Edinburgh, 1793

Rare Books Collections: De.7.112

47

Bub and Grub. A mighty low expression, signifying victuals and drink.

A Ned. A guinea.

Neddies. A number of guineas.

Ken. Is a house.

Drop the glanthen. Parting with money.

Gammon. Gammon and Patter is the language of cant, spoke among themselves; when one of them speaks well, another say, he gammons well, or he has got a great deal of rum patter.

Dubber mum'd. To keep your mouth shut or be obliged to hold your tongue.

Hornies. Constables, watchmen, and peace-officers.

Traps. Belonging to the rotation offices; when the magistrates send their men in pursuit of robbers, they say, the traps are after us.

Scouts. Men from the above offices, who are sent out as scouts, for the purpose of getting intelligence of robbers, &c.

Beak-runners. The same description of men belonging to the above magistrates; the Beak, a term that was given to the late Sir John Fielding, the blind-beak.

Pal. A comrade, when highwaymen rob in pairs, they say such a one was his or my pal.

Lock do you cut. Means by what way do you get your livelihood now? Or, are you on the sneak? Or, what lock do you cut? or how do you work?

Rum squeeze at the spell. A kind of harvest for pick-pockets. When the king goes to the play, and there is an overflow of the house, the Spell is cant for the theatre. Here it will be necessary to explain making of a stall, as they term it; one pick-pocket gets in the front and squeezes backwards, another behind you, and pushes forward; one of each side of you, which, if they can get your arms up, they will prevent your getting them down again, and then you are sure to be robbed of your watch, money, or pocket-book.

Wipe prigging. Stealing of handkerchiefs.

Tick. Is your watch.

Reader. Is a pocket-book; a person cannot be too careful of this article, particularly if he should have what they call any rum screens in it, that is, bank notes. This robbery is chiefly carried on about the Bank, and practised mostly by young Jews, who are continually lurking about the avenues of the Bank and Royal Exchange. As soon as you call a coach, and you are stepping into it, that instant they make a dive into your

BOND BUT NOT HIGH-BOARD

LOOKING BEYOND THE TEXT

There is much more to a book than the text. The format, print and paper size, the binding the publisher or an owner chose for it, the marks, annotations or damage it has collected in use, all contribute to its story. Sometimes these are more interesting and informative than the text itself.

Occasionally the entire structure of a book is designed for a particular use. *"The Car" Road Book*, published in 1909, must be one of the first motoring handbooks and road atlases ever produced. It is perfectly adapted for life in the glove compartment: a leather flap to keep it closed, an internal pocket for folding maps, and an inbuilt compass. No Edwardian motorist had any excuse for getting lost!

The unknown 17th-century owner of the recently-acquired copy of the works of **Ben Jonson** wrote notes and stage directions in the margins of two plays. They could not have known that nearly 400 years later these would provide such unique evidence of performance practice that the volume would be placed

under an export bar to stop it leaving the country. The University purchased it in 2018 with support from Friends of Edinburgh University Library, Friends of the National Libraries and the John R. Murray Trust.

Writing on books is often discouraged – unless you are the author: **John Steinbeck** signed a copy of *The Long Valley* in the Gray-Steinbeck collection.

W.H. Auden's first book of poems tells a tale. It was printed by his friend, the poet Stephen Spender, on a tiny press intended for labels. The unsuitability of his equipment, and inexperience, resulted in a little booklet in about thirty not quite identical copies. The quality of the printing improves part way through, marking the point where Spender, defeated, handed it over to a professional to finish.

Book bindings were traditionally the responsibility of the owner, not the bookseller. They might be luxurious, such as the 18th-century gilt-tooled **Scottish herringbone binding**. Exotic materials might also be used. The rough, bubbly

effect on the Library's tiny **18th-century prayer** book is shagreen (fish skin, from a shark or ray).

In the 19th century publishers developed cloth bindings with coloured, printed designs, to appeal to an aspirational middle-class audience. Doesn't *John Halifax, Gentleman* jump off the shelf?

Bindings might also be art. At the beginning of the 20th century, Edinburgh was at the centre of a movement of women artists working in the Arts and Crafts tradition. Members of the Guild of Women Binders, notably Phoebe Anne Traquair and Annie S. Macdonald, produced bindings very like that on **Françoise Coppée's** works of poetry. It was transferred to Rare Books from the French Class Library many years ago.

THE CAR ROAD BOOK.

II. B.—EDINBURGH TO GLASGOW, via BATHGATE.

FROM

G.P.O., PRINCES STREET, CALEDONIAN RAILWAY STATION,
MAITLAND STREET

TO

Miles
from
Edinburgh.

3 Princes St. Stn. Follow tram at Caledonian Sta. straight on by Maitland St.

1½ Haymarket Stn. Follow tram to right.

1½ Murrayfield Stn. Under railway and keep left at fork.

4 Corstorphine.

5 Fork roads. Keep left.

FALKIRK 19½ m. (See Route II. c.)

8½ Newbridge Cross Roads.

11½ Broxburn.

12½ Uphall.

15½ Dechmont.

18½ BATHGATE.

21½ Armadale.

24½ Blackbridge.

29 Caldercruix.

31½ Clarkston.

32½ Cross roads.

34 Chapelhall. Keep left.

35½ Newhouse. Bear right, and take first left, and keep well left.

37½ Keep right.

39½ Newmains. Left at fork.

43 CARLUKE. Keep right at fork in town.

45½ Braiswood Station.

48½ LANARK.

STIRLING 19½ m.

33 AIRDRIE.

35 COATERBRIDGE.

38½ Baillieston.



414

14

IV

Suppose they met, the inevitable procedure
Of hand to nape would drown the staining cry
Of cucoo, filter off the day's detritus,
And breach in their continual history

Yet, spite of thir new heroism they set ed
That doddering Jehovah whom they mocked;
Enough for him to show them to their rooms
They slept apart, though doors were never locked.

(The womb began its crucial expulsion.
The fishermen, aching, drenched to the skin
The ledge cleared, dragged thier boat upon the
beach.

The survivor dropped, the bayonets closing in.)
In these, who saw and never rubbed an eye
A thousand dancers brought to sudden rest,
Transformed to tiger-lilies by the band,
It was no wonder they were not impressed

15

By certain curious carvings on the porch,
A generous designation of the fate
Of those shut altogether from salvation.
Down they fell. Sorrow had they after that.

V

On the frontier at dawn getting down,
Hot eyes were soothed with swallows: ploughs be
Upon the stunted ridge behind the town, [gan
And bridles flashed. In the dog days she ran
Indoors to read her letter. He in love,
Too curious for the East stiffens to a tower;
The jaw-bone juts from the ice; wisdom of
The cooled brain in an irreverent hour.

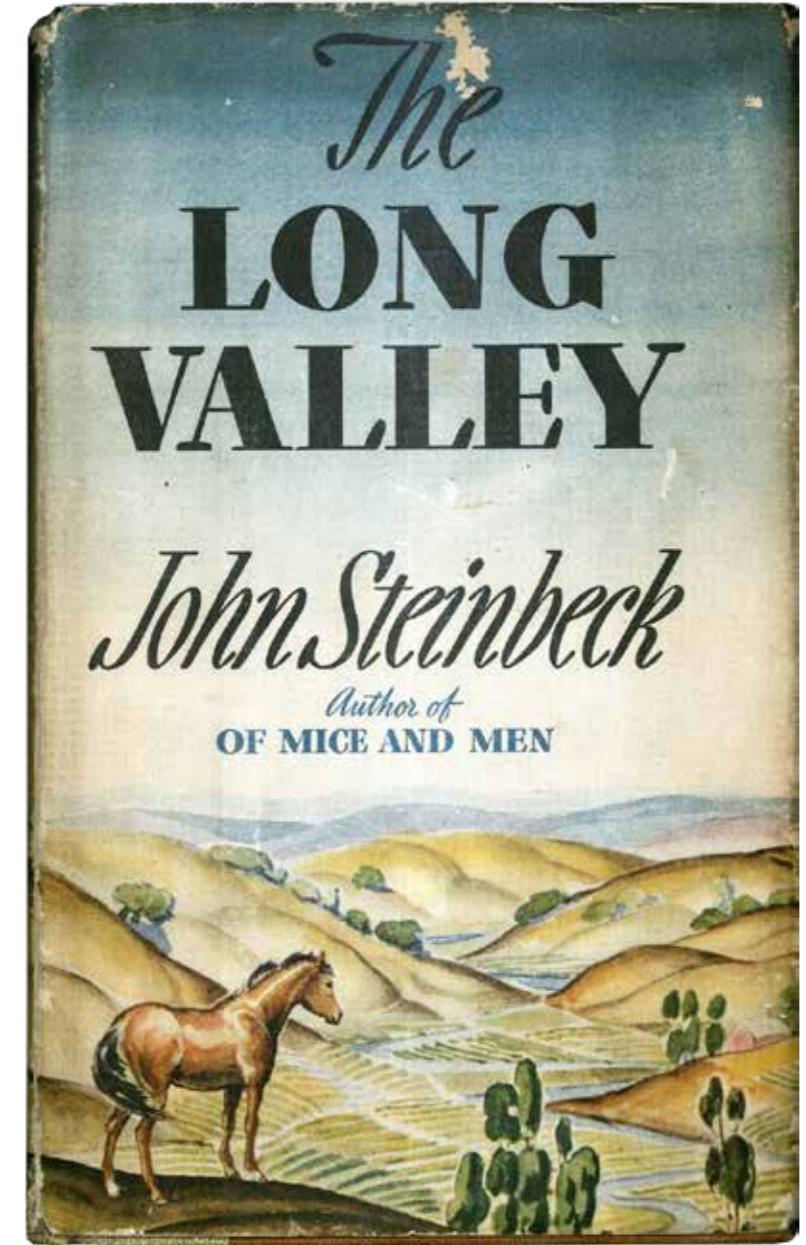
At the half-close the muted violin
Put cloth and glasses by; the hour deferred
Peculiar idols nodded. Miles away
A horse neighed in the half-light, and a bird
Cried loudly over and over again
Upon the natural ending of a day

52

W.H. Auden

Poems

Published London, 1928
Rare Books Collections: JA 4004



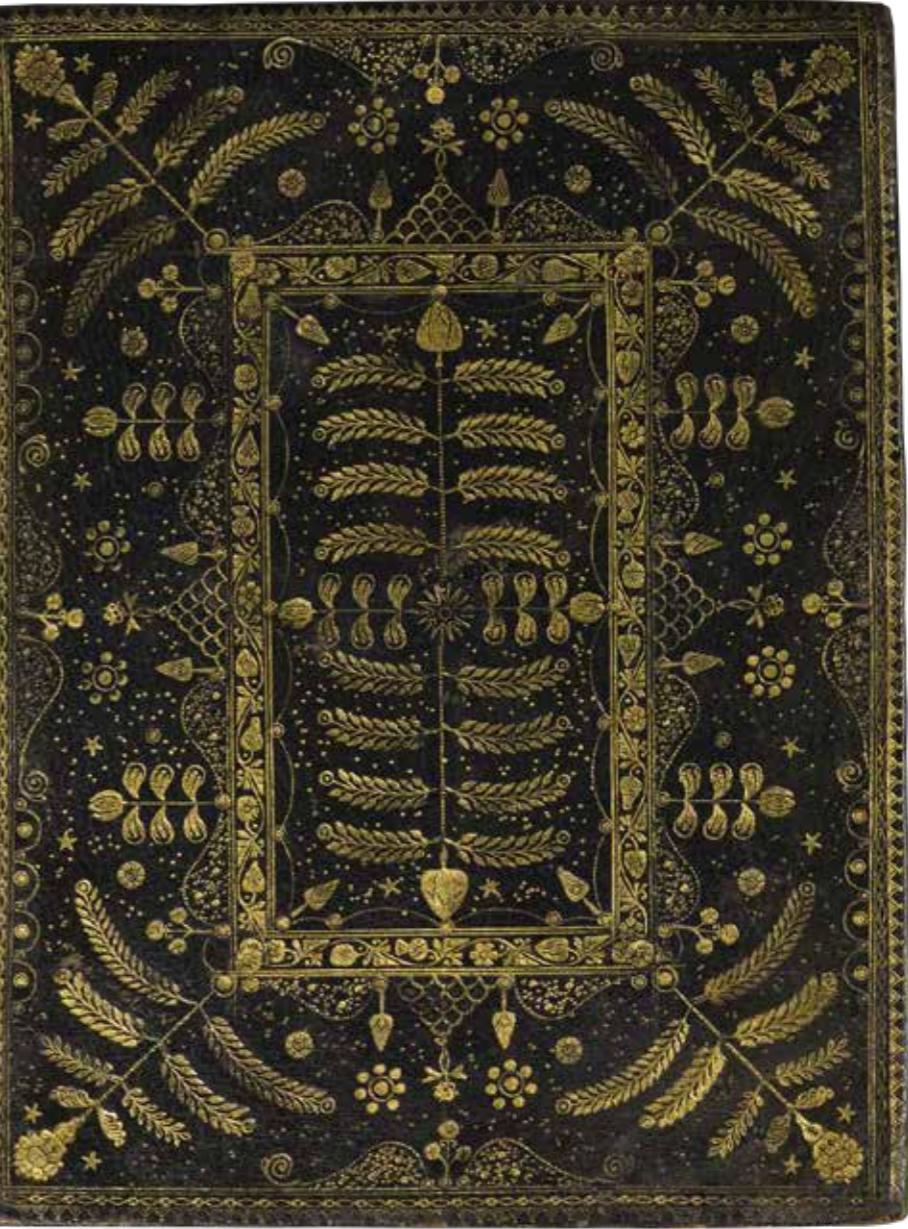
54

John Steinbeck

The Long Valley

Published New York, 1938

Rare Books Collections: Steinbeck.15



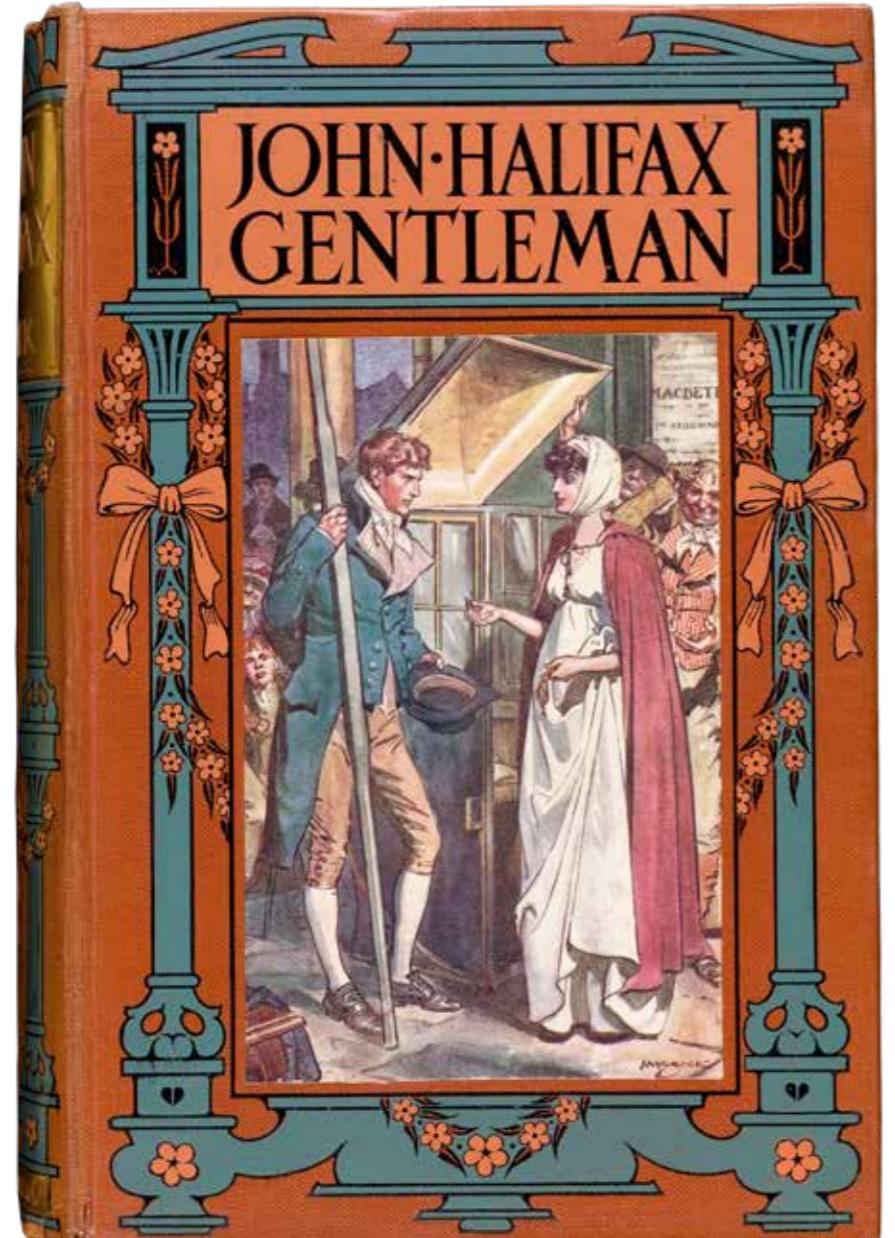
55

Herringbone binding

History of the Late Rebellion

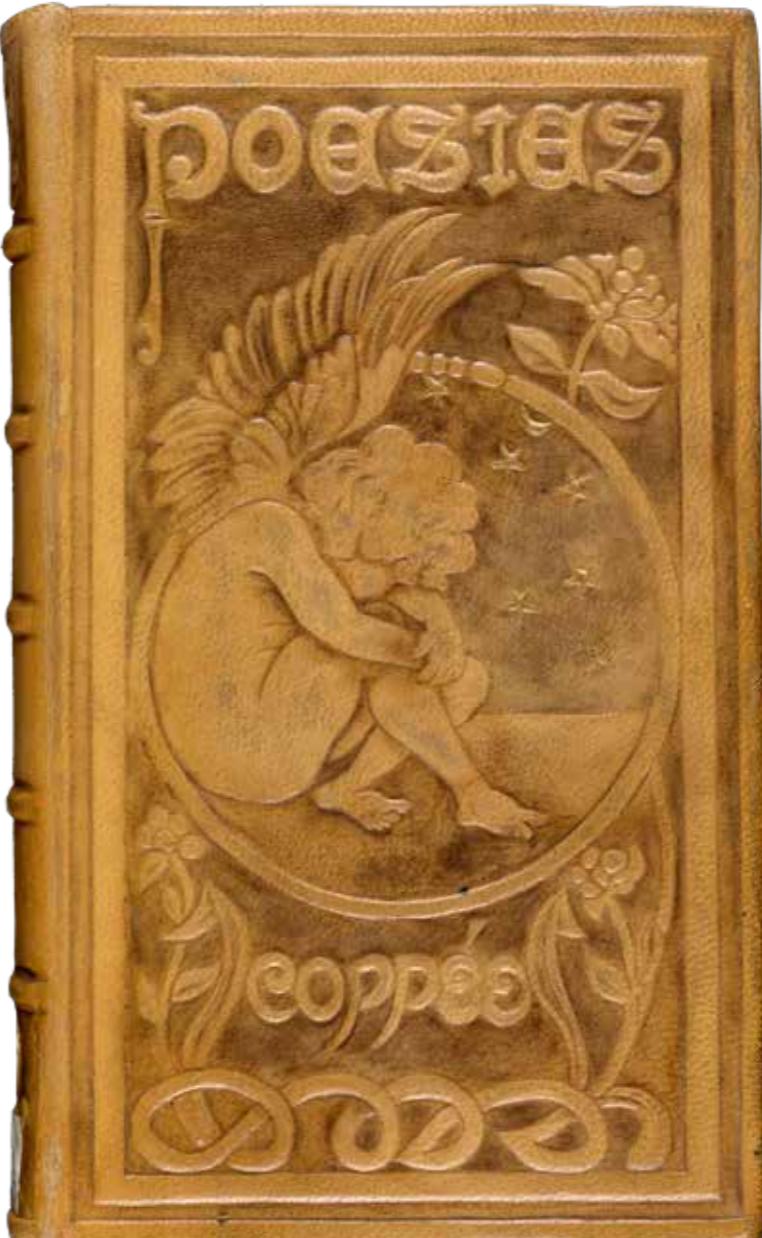
Published Dumfries, 1718

Rare Books Collections: Dn.5.12



57

Publisher's printed cloth binding
Dinah Maria Mulock Craik
John Halifax, Gentleman
Published London, about 1890-1930
Rare Books Collections: Freshwater.3



58

Worked leather by the Guild of Women Binders
François Coppée
Poésies 1886-1890 [Poems 1886-1890]
Published Paris, 1891
Rare Books Collections: S.B. 84135



One of the joys of the Rare Books collection is its power to produce surprises. These are often hiding in plain sight, waiting on the shelves for a reader to look more closely, turn a page, or make a connection.

Over the last year, our cataloguing team have (so far!) discovered two volumes from the collection of James Orchard Halliwell-Phillipps (1820–1894) containing fragments from at least two copies of the **First Folio of Shakespeare**. As one of the most iconic and best-documented books in the world, the discovery, even of fragments, is cause for excitement.

In the medieval Catholic Church, an Indulgence could be bought as a certificate of pardon to reduce punishment for sins. Hopefully we'll be pardoned for "losing" a **1498 Indulgence** printed by Wynkyn de Worde. Bound behind a 1497 version of the same Indulgence, no one had turned the page for decades. As staff moved on or retired, the 1498 copy was forgotten, until a conscientious cataloguer checked the back.

As more of our collections are catalogued electronically, these items are revisited and rediscovered.

John Dee, the Elizabethan mathematician, astrologer and colourful character, was owner of a famous, but dispersed, library.

His copy of **Hector Boece's History of Scotland** came to light when our Rare Books Librarian opened the volume while looking for something else. When it arrived, from the collection of Aeneas Mackay (1839–1911), no one was much interested in Dee, or provenance in general.

Orlando Furioso is an Italian epic poem by Ludovico Ariosto, first published in 1532 and translated into English in 1591. The Library's copy of the English edition has beautiful hand-coloured woodcut illustrations. However, the image on page 24 was printed upside down. Undeterred by this mishap, the colourist completed their task with the same skill and attention paid to the rest of the book.

The signature of Thomas Jefferson (third President of the USA) is hidden at the back of the Library's copy of the **first American census**.

Jefferson signed the copies as the Secretary of State responsible for the census. The book has been here since it was new, long before Jefferson had celebrity status. It was identified and transferred to Rare Books a century later.

The Library was unaware that it had a first edition of *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, until a sharp-eyed volunteer sorting through a backlog of unprocessed material found a volume containing the first commercial editions of both.

We would like to pay tribute to everyone who has told us about their discoveries in the collections. We continue to expect the unexpected...

Paul. What (Soueraigne Sir)
I did not well; I meant well: all my Services
You haue pay'd home. But that you haue touchfis'd
(With your Crown'd Brother, and theſe your contracted
Heires of your Kingdome) my poore House to visit;
It is a ſurplus of your Grace, which neuer
My life may laſt to anſwe.

Leo. O Paulina,
We honor you with trouble: but we came
To ſee the Statue of our Queene, Your Gallerie
Haue we paſt through, not without much content
In many singularities; but we law not
That which my Daughter came to looke vpon,
The Statue of her Mother.

Paul. As ſhe liu'd peerleſſe,
So her dead likeneſſe I doe well beleeue
Excels what euer yet you look'd vpon,
Or hand of Man hath done: therefore I keepe it
Loſely, apart. But here it is: prepare
To ſee the Life as linely mock'd, as euer
Still ſleepe mock'd Death: behold, and ſay 'tis well.
I like your ſilence, it the more ſhewes-off
Your wonder: but yet ſpeakē, firſt you (my Liege)
Comes it not ſomething neere?

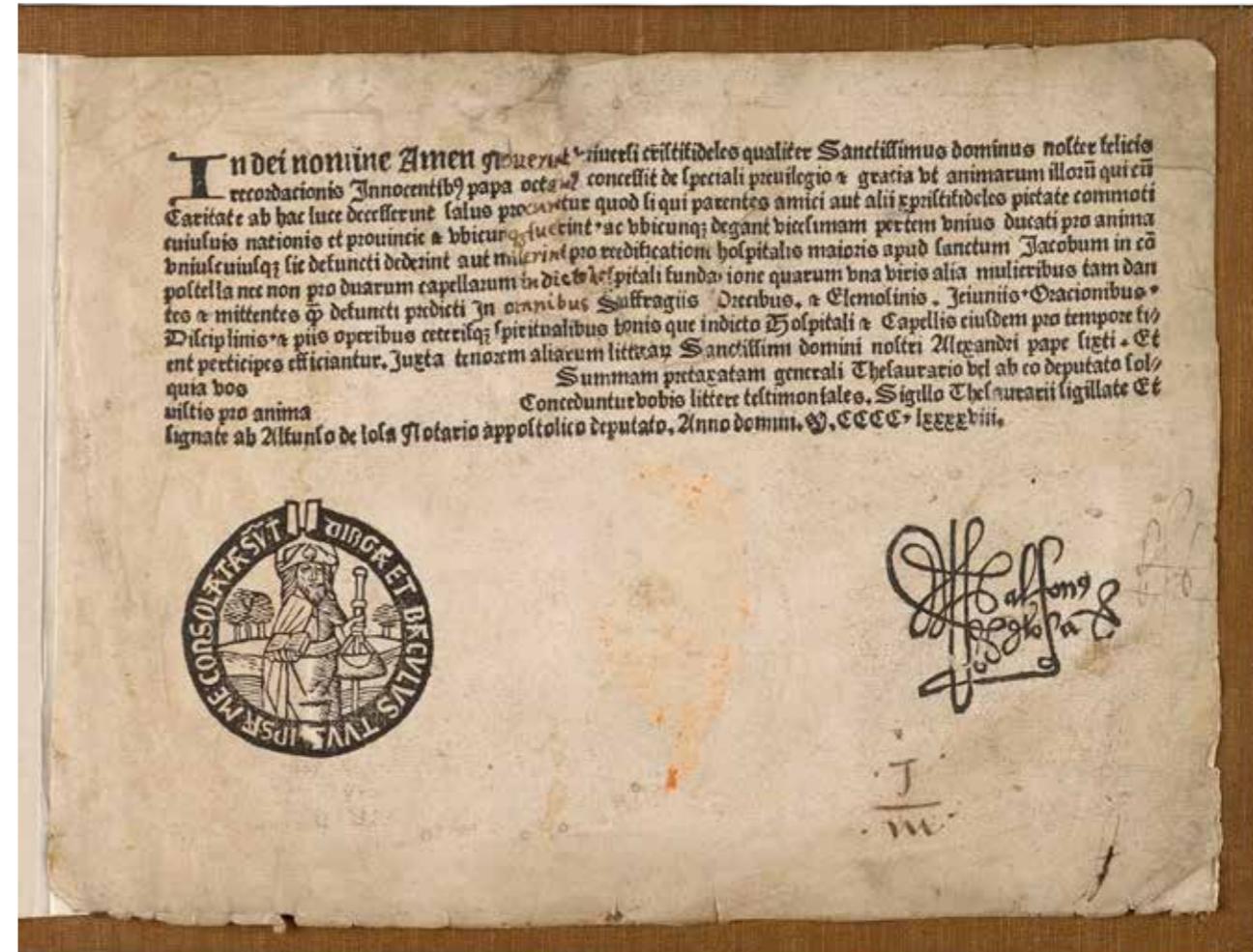
Leo. Her naturall Poſture.
Chide me (deare Stone) that I may ſay indeed
Thou art *Hermione*; or rather, thou art ſhe,
In thy not chiding: for ſhe was as tender
As Infancie, and Grace. But yet (*Panina*)
Hermione was not ſo much wrinckled, nothing
So aged as this ſeemeſſe.

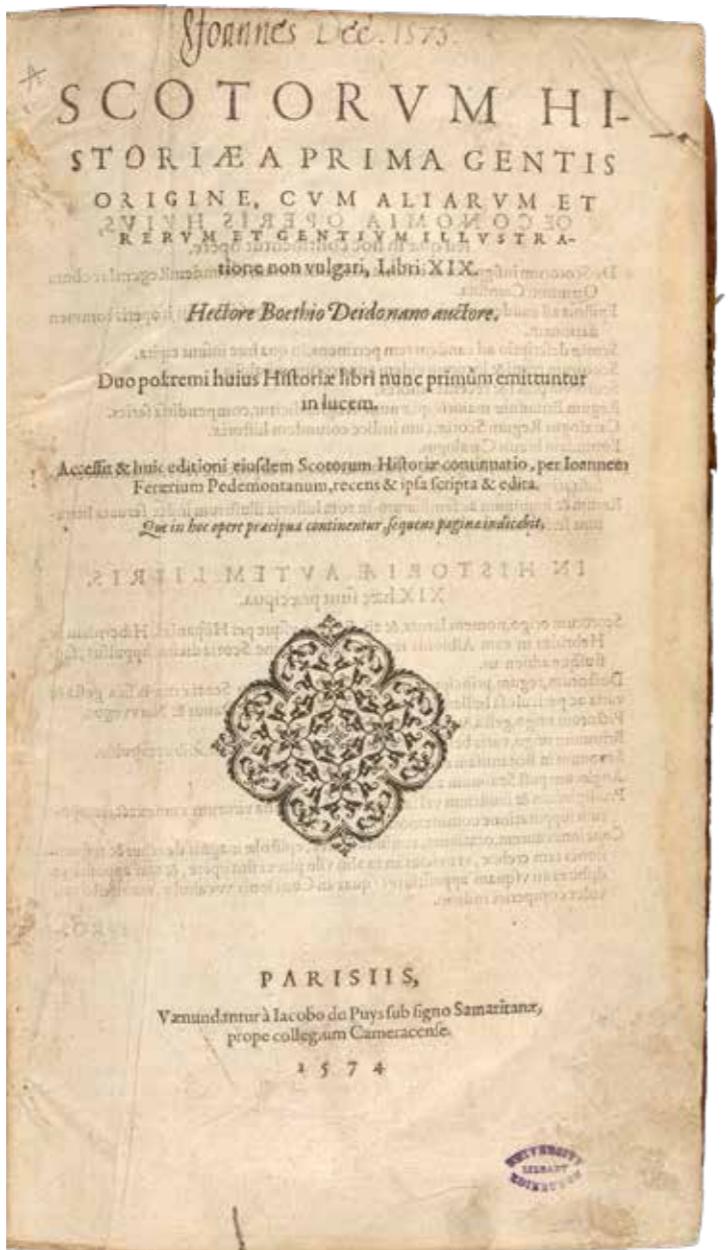
Paul. Oh, not by much.

Paul. So much the more our Caruers excellence,
Which lets goe-by ſome fifteeſe yeaſes, and makes her
As ſhe liu'd now.

Leo. As now ſhe might haue done,
So much to my good comfort, as it is
Now piercing to my Soule. Oh, thus ſhe ſlood,
Euen with ſuch Life of Maiefie(warme Life,
As now it coldly stands) when firſt I wo'd her.
I am afham'd: Do's not the Stone rebuke me,
For being more Stone then it? Oh Royall Peece:
There's Magiſtice in thy Maiefie, which ha's
My Euils coniur'd to remembrance; and
From thy admiring Daughter tooke the Spirits,
Standing like Stone with thee.

ed. 1623.



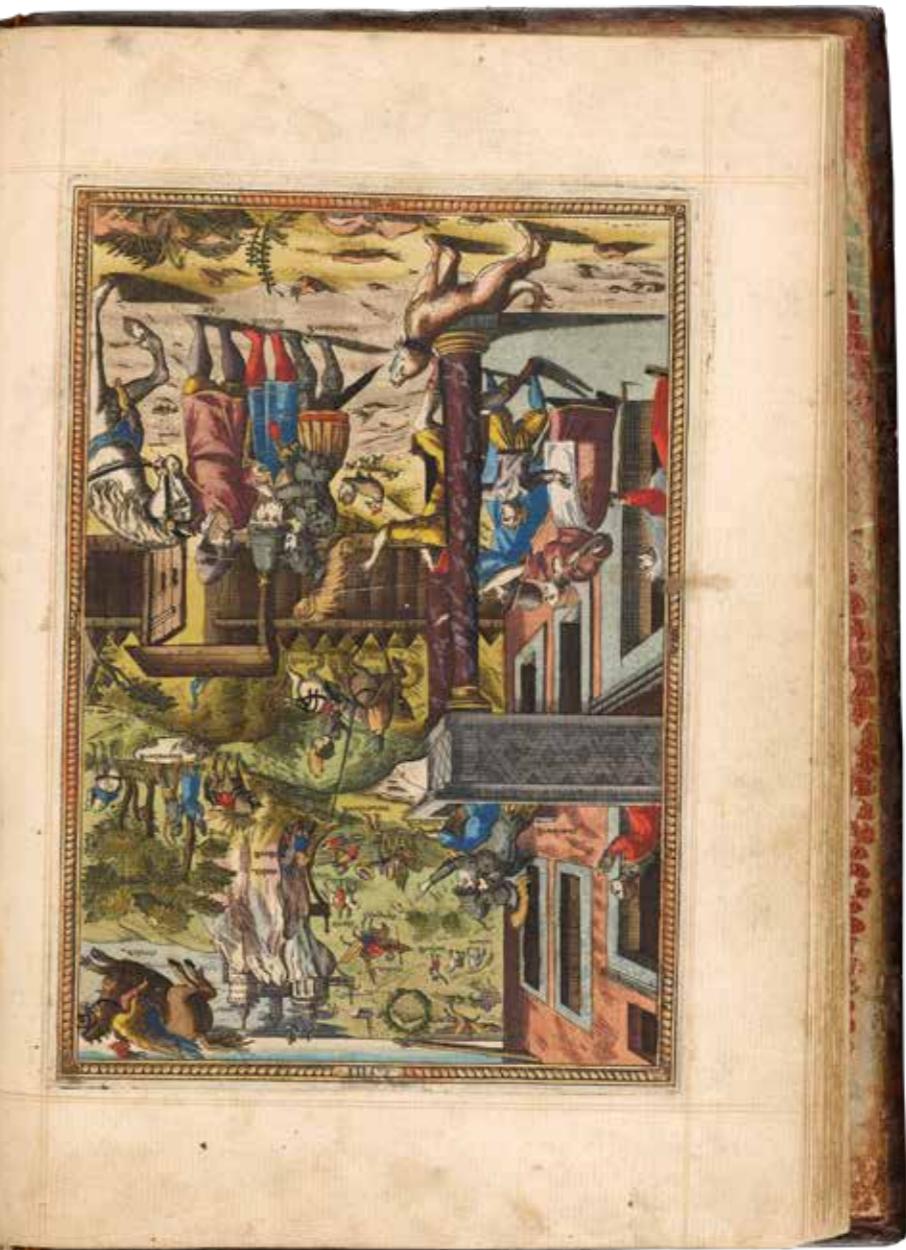


61

Symmetry of the Densities in Higher Dimensions

Scotorum Historiae a Prima Gentis Origine [The History and Chronicles of Scotland]

Published Paris, 1574
Rare Books Collections: Hg.2.3



62nd

Lodovico Ariosto
L'ando Furioso in English, Heroical Verse

Published London, 1591
re Books Collections: Pam.1287

Schedule of the whole number of persons in the territory of the United States of America, South of the River Ohio, as taken on the last Saturday of July 1791, by the Captains of the Militia within the limits of their respective districts.

| | | <i>Free white males of 21 years and upwards, including heads of families.</i> | <i>Free white males under 21 years, including heads of families.</i> | <i>Free white females under 21 years, including heads of families.</i> | <i>All other persons.</i> | <i>Slaves.</i> | <i>Total of each county.</i> | <i>Total of each district.</i> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>WASHINGTON DISTRICT.</i> | | 1009 | 1792 | 2524 | 12 | 535 | 5872 | |
| Counties. | Washington . | 806 | 1242 | 1995 | 107 | 297 | 4447 | |
| | Sullivan . | 1293 | 2374 | 3580 | 40 | 454 | 7741 | |
| | Greene . | 1204 | 1970 | 2921 | 68 | 807 | 6970 | |
| | Hawkins . | 681 | 1082 | 1627 | 66 | 163 | 3619 | |
| | South of Fr. Broad | | | | | | | 28649 |
| <i>M E R O DISTRICT.</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Counties. | Davidson . | 639 | 855 | 1288 | 18 | 659 | 3459 | |
| | Sumner . | 401 | 582 | 854 | 8 | 348 | 2196 | |
| | Tennessee . | 235 | 380 | 576 | 42 | 154 | 1387 | |
| | | 6271 | 10377 | 15365 | 361 | 3417 | 35691 | |

Note. There are several Captains who have not as yet returned the Schedules of the numbers of their districts, namely: In Greene County, three—in Davidson, one—and South of French-Broad, one district.

September 19th, 1791.

W^m: BLOUNT.

By the Governor,

DANIEL SMITH, Secretary.

8

Signature of Thomas Jefferson in *Return of the Whole Number of Persons within the Several Districts of the United States*

Published Philadelphia, 1791
Rare Books Collections: De.8.93



4

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Published London, 1866
Rare Books Collections: R.B.S.3455/2

List of Exhibits

1. Album of German Notgeld
Germany, about 1921
Special Collections: Coll-1861
2. Illustration Theory and Practice Students
Notgeld Project
2018
3. Juan de Torquemada
Quæstiones Euangelicorum tam de Tempore quam de Sanctis [Commentary on the Gospels for both the Seasonal Calendar and the Holy Days]
Published Strasbourg, 1485
Rare Books Collections: Dd.4.20
4. Frances Trollope
The Abbess
Published London, 1833
Rare Books Collections: SD 1426-8
5. Adam Smith
An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations
Published London, 1776
Rare Books Collections: Dh.7.10
6. Philipp Melanchthon
Moralis Philosophiae Epitome [Summary of Moral Philosophy]
Published Strasbourg, 1539
Rare Books Collections: De.1/1.78
7. Hornbook
England, about 1780
Rare Books Collections: RB.S.3080
8. Eugenie Lacaille
Little Words for Little Mouths
Published Glasgow, about 1895
Rare Books Collections: RB.S.3266
9. W.J. Younger
Semaphore Signalling in a Week: A Method of Self-instruction and Practice in "Sending" and "Reading"
Published Edinburgh, 1914-18
Rare Books Collections: RB.P.2094
10. Alexander Brill
Carton-Modelle von Flächen zweiter Ordnung [Models of second-order surfaces]
Published Darmstadt, 1874
Rare Books Collections: S.B. 5131 BRI
11. Roggero Giuseppe
Solid alto-relievo model of Italy and the Alps
Published Glasgow, 1800s
Rare Books Collections: Map.FF.2
12. Commemorative kerchief for the opening of the Forth Bridge
Published Edinburgh, 1890
Rare Books Collections: RB.FF.219
13. World War II escape map of Central and Northern Burma
Published New Delhi, 1943-5
Rare Books Collections: R.B.FF.302
14. Peepshow, *The Castle of Edinburgh*
Published Germany, about 1835
Rare Books Collections: R.B.S.3159
15. Ackermann & Co
Fantoscope, or Phantasmascope
Published London, 1833
Rare Books Collections: RB.FF.338
16. *The Amazing Spiderman*
Published New York, 1991
Rare Books Collections: RB.F.990/47
17. *Marvel Age*
Published New York, 1993
Rare Books Collections: RB.F.990/131
18. Max Collins and Terry Beatty
Ms. Tree: Knee Deep in Death
Published New York, 1984
Rare Books Collections: RB.F.990/30
19. Brian Augustyn [et al.]
Gotham by Gaslight: A Tale of Batman
Published New York, 1989
Rare Books Collections: RB.F.990/76
20. Maui Pomare
Legends of the Maori
Published Wellington, 1930-4
Rare Books Collections: NZH.140
21. Russian Old Believers
Otoechos [Chant in Church Slavonic]
Late 1800s
Special Collections: Ms.Add.4
22. Photographs of China, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Macao
1858-60s
Rare Books Collections: RECA.MS.8
23. Pedro Murillo Velarde
Historia de la Provincia de Philipinas [History of the Jesuit Province of the Philippines]
Published Manila, 1749
Rare Books Collections: JY 417
24. *The Voyage of the "Scotia": Being the Record of a Voyage of Exploration in Antarctic Seas* Published Edinburgh, 1906
Rare Books Collections: Dh.6.1
25. Konseki S. Okamoto
Kokon hyakufū Azuma nagori / Ancient and modern various usages of Tokyo Japan
Published Tokyo, 1885
Rare Books Collections: S.B. 39(52) OKA
26. Koran fragment
North Africa, about 1000 AD
Special Collections: Or.Ms.175
27. Martin Luther
Ain Güte Trostliche Predig von der Wirdigen Berayttung zü dem Hochwirdigen Sacrament [A good and comforting sermon on the dignified preparation for the Holy Sacrament]
Published Augsburg, 1518
Rare Books Collections: Dh.2.48
28. *The Revolution*
Published Glasgow, 1918
Rare Books Collections: Rad.P.221
29. *Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland*
Published Edinburgh, 1843
Rare Books Collections: P.121/40
30. *Act of Union*
Published London, 1706
Rare Books Collections: EB.P.9 (42069)
31. Scottish National Party
Independence in Europe: make it Happen Now! The 1992 Manifesto of the Scottish National Party
Published Edinburgh, 1992
Rare Books Collections: SC 9023
32. John Torrence
Scotland's Dilemma: Province or Nation?
Published Edinburgh, 1937
Rare Books Collections: S.B.32915(41) Sco.
33. Houldbrooke
A Short Address to the People of Scotland, On the Subject of the Slave Trade
Published Edinburgh, 1792
Rare Books Collections: D.S.h.12.12/1
34. R. Harris
Scriptural Researches on the Licitness of the Slave Trade
Published Liverpool
Rare Books Collections: D.*.27.1
35. *Army and Navy Stores: Crushing Exposure*
Published London, 1889
Rare Books Collections: SD P 1/7
36. *Yellow labour: The Truth about the Chinese in the Transvaal*
Published London, 1904
Rare Books Collections: Rad.P.94
37. Julius Lewin
Britain's Colour Bar in Africa
Published London, 1952
Rare Books Collections: Rad.P.88
38. Mrs Henry Fawcett
Home and Politics
Published London, about 1909
Rare Books Collections: Pam.1287/40
39. Elvira Hernández
La Bandera de Chile
Published Santiago, 2018
Rare Books Collections: R.B.S.4258
40. Titus Oates
A Tragedy, Called the Popish Plot, Reviv'd
Published London, 1696
Rare Books Collections: E.B.P.9(42068) Oat
41. Robert Parsons
[Cum responsione ad singula capita...]
Elizabethae, Angliae Reginae, haeresim Calviniam propugnantis, saevissimum in Catholicos sui regni edictum [A response to each point in...] the most cruel edict against the Catholics of her kingdom by Elizabeth, Queen of England, defending the Calvinist heresy
Published Rome, 1592
Rare Books Collections: De.10.114
42. Hitler's Friends in Britain
Published London, about 1938
Rare Books Collections: Radical Collection
43. William Shakespeare
A Pleasant Conceited Comedy Called Loves Labours Lost
Published London, 1598
Rare Books Collections: De.3.74
44. Walter Scott
The Lady of the Lake
Published Edinburgh, 1869
Rare Books Collections: SD 5628
45. Walter Scott
The Antiquary
Published London, 1882
Rare Books Collections: A.11. ANT.1.b.WAR
46. Ian Rankin
Fleshmarket Close
Published London, 2004
Rare Books Collections: Rankin.N24.1
47. Thomas Mathison
The Goff [golf]
Published Edinburgh, 1793
Rare Books Collections: De.7.112
48. George Parker
Life's Painter of Variegated Characters in Public and Private Life
Published Cambridge, 1863-6
Rare Books Collections: Hb.3.21
49. P.G. Wodehouse
Nothing Serious
Published London, 1950
Rare Books Collections: RB.S.3747
50. Baileadan Inbhir Aora [The Inveraray Ballads]
Published Inveraray, about 1800-10
Rare Books Collections: MacKinnon Coll. P.18/4
51. "The Car" Road Book and Guide: An Encyclopaedia of Motoring
Published London, 1909
Rare Books Collections: Map.S.65
52. Benjamin Jonson
Workes [second folio]
Published London, 1640
Rare Books Collections: RB.F.1083
53. John Steinbeck
The Long Valley
Published New York, 1938
Rare Books Collections: Steinbeck.15
54. W.H. Auden
Poems
Published London, 1928
Rare Books Collections: JA 4004
55. *History of the Late Rebellion*
Published Dumfries, 1718
Rare Books Collections: Dn.5.12
56. Nicolas Duval
Nouvelles Hevres Gravées au Burin [Dedicated to the King] [Book of Hours]
Published Paris
Rare Books Collections: Bdg.s.51
57. Dinah Maria Mulock Craik
John Halifax, Gentleman
Published London, about 1890-1930
Rare Books Collections: Freshwater.3
58. François Coppée
Poésies 1886-1890 [Poems 1886-1890]
Published Paris, 1891
Rare Books Collections: S.B. 84135
59. William Shakespeare
The Works of William Shakespeare
Published Cambridge, 1863-6
Rare Books Collections: Hb.3.21
60. *Indulgence for Contributors to the Hospital of St. James, Compostela*
Published London, 1498
Rare Books Collections: Inc.235/2
61. Hector Boece
Scotorum Historiae a Prima Gentis Origine [The History and Chronicles of Scotland]
Published Paris, 1574
Rare Books Collections: Hg.2.3
62. Lodovico Ariosto
Orlando Furioso in English, Heroical Verse
Published London, 1591
Rare Books Collections: Pam.1287
63. *Return of the Whole Number of Persons within the Several Districts of the United States*
Published Philadelphia, 1791
Rare Books Collections: De.8.93
64. Lewis Carroll
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Published London, 1866
Rare Books Collections: RB.S.3455/2

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All the items in this catalogue can be consulted in the Centre for Research Collections (CRC) on the 6th floor of the Main Library. They can be found through the University's online catalogue (www.discovered.ed.ac.uk).

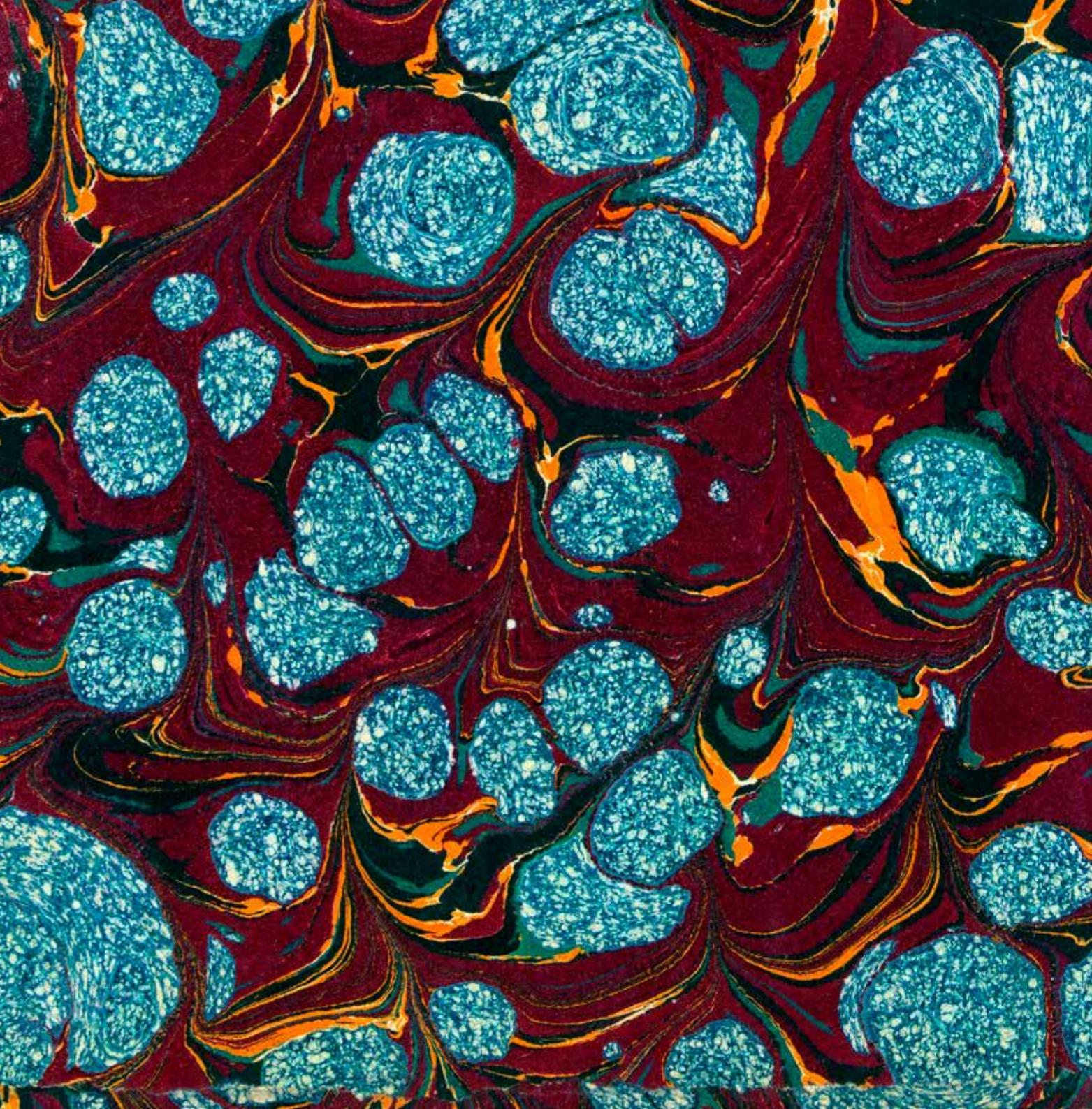
For any enquiries regarding the collections please contact the CRC at is-crc@ed.ac.uk or on 0131 650 8379.

Further information, including opening times, can be found at
www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/library-museum-gallery/crc

Rare Books? Expect the Unexpected was an exhibition at the University of Edinburgh's Main Library Exhibition Gallery, 30 November 2018 – 2 March 2019. It was curated by Elizabeth Quarmby Lawrence, Rare Books Librarian and Finlay West, Rare Books Cataloguer.

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of EDINBURGH