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Front cover [37520] **Elliot, Daniel Giraud.** A Monograph of the Phasianidae, or family of the pheasants. *New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1870-1872.*

Inside cover [6078] **Fayrer, J.** The Thanatophidia of India; being a description of the venomous snakes of the Indian Peninsula with an account of the influence of their poison on life and a series of experiments. *London: J. and A. Churchill, 1872.*

Back cover [14658] **Sweet, Robert.** Flora Australasica; or a selection of handsome or curious plants, natives of New Holland, and the South Sea Islands. *London: James Ridgway, 1827-1838.*



THE FIRST SNAKE BOOK

[36425] **Abbatius, Baldus Angelius.** *De admirabili Viperae natura et de mirificis ejusdem facultatibus.* *The Hague: Sam Broun, 1660.* Duodecimo, 186 pp., index, engraved title page, four wood engraved plates. Early papered boards, old library stamp on verso of title page, an excellent copy contained in a half calf and marbled boards Solander box. **\$1,850**

Baldo Angelo Abati was an Italian physician and naturalist who lived in the second half of the sixteenth century. *De admirabili Viperae natura*, first published in 1589, has been through a number of editions and was the first book devoted exclusively to snakes.

BM(NH) p.1.



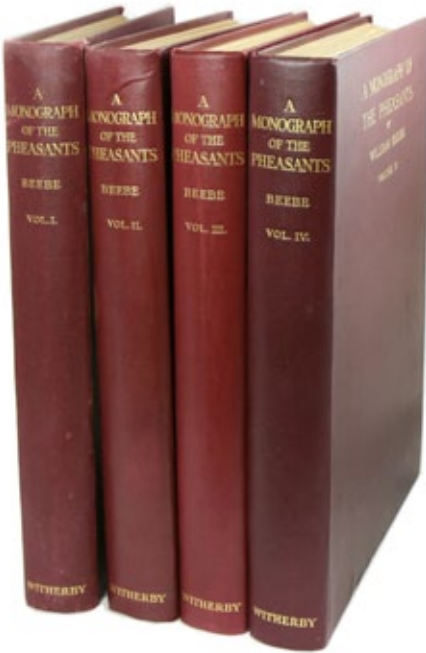
[35470] **Barrington, George.** *An account of a voyage to New South Wales [with] The history of New South Wales ...* *London: Sherwood, Neely and Jones, 1810.* Octavo, two volumes, 472 and 544 pp., portrait frontispiece, coloured title page, a total of 25 handcoloured engraved plates. Contemporary full tree calf, expertly rebacked with coloured labels, a fine set. **\$4,500**

The many works by and about Barrington are bibliographically complex but the well known 1810 edition consists of a second edition of his *Voyage* (first published 1801) and an extended issue of the *History* (first published 1802).

Ferguson 486 and 487.



PHEASANTS AND CHINA



[33245] **Beebe, William.** A monograph of the pheasants. *New York: New York Zoological Society, 1918-1922.* Folio, four volumes, 913 pp., 90 coloured plates by Thorburn, Grönvold, Lodge and others, 88 photographs, map. Handsome red publisher's cloth, limited to 600 numbered copies, a very good set with a few light blemishes and a small worm hole to the first few leaves of volume one, the bookplate of Herbert Rivington Pyne. **\$6,000**

"Perhaps the greatest ornithological work of the present century, notable not only for its beauty and the wealth of information it contains, but also for the unusual grace of its prose. Much of the information is first-hand, the author having made extended expeditions to familiarize himself with the species in their native haunts" (Mengel, volume one).

Anker 31; Mengel 203; Nissen IVB 84; Wood p. 228, Zimmer p. 49-50.

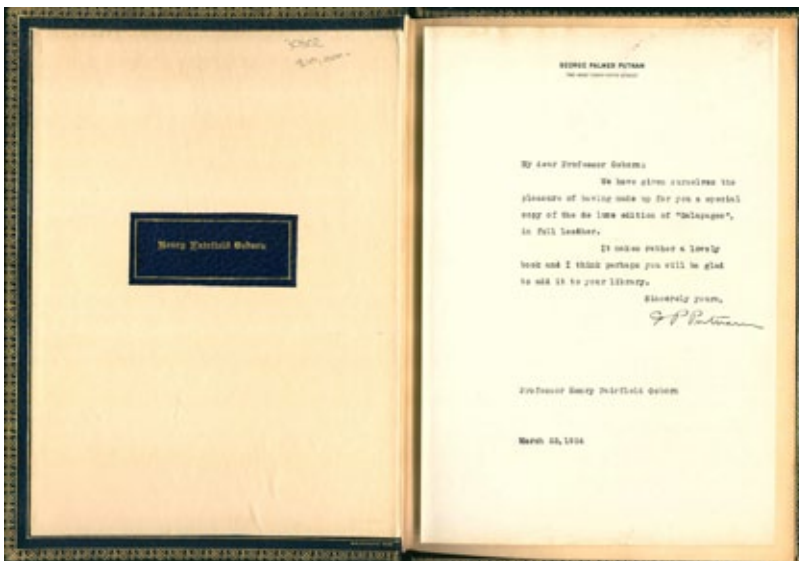


LIMITED TO TEN COPIES

[30802] **Beebe, William.** *Galapagos: world's end.* New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, (1924 first edition). Quarto, 443 pp., portrait plate, nine tipped-in coloured plates and 55 uncoloured plates. Publisher's presentation blue morocco, some very minor shelf wear otherwise a fine copy. \$8,500

A MAGNIFICENT ASSOCIATION COPY. A special issue of the author's autograph edition limited to ten signed copies on handmade paper. This is copy C, with a letter from the publisher George Palmer Putnam to Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn (1857-1935). "We have given ourselves the pleasure of making up for you a special copy of the deluxe edition of "Galapagos" in full leather. It makes rather a lovely book and I think you will be glad to add it to your library", with Osborn's leather label on the front pastedown. William Beebe led an expedition to the Galapagos Archipelago in 1923 and collected live animals for the New York Zoological Gardens and specimens for the American Museum of Natural History. Osborn was a long serving president of the museum and is best remembered for his substantial monograph on fossil elephants.

Wood p. 228.



BRITISH SPIDERS



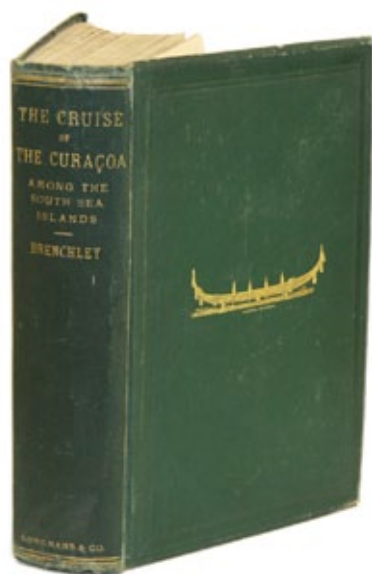
[36432] **Blackwall, John.** A history of the spiders of Great Britain and Ireland. *London: Ray Society, 1861-1864.* Folio, two volumes, 384 pp., 29 handcoloured lithographed plates. Publisher's quarter cloth and papered boards with title labels, corners a little bumped but a very good copy.

\$1,850

John Blackwall (1790-1881) was a pioneering arachnologist, correspondent of Charles Darwin, and one of the first naturalists to be interested in spiders of very small sizes.

BM(NH) p.169; Nissen ZBI, 380.

PACIFIC WANDERINGS



[12566] **Brenchley, Julius L.** Jottings during the cruise of H.M.S. Curacoa among the South Sea Islands in 1865. *London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1873.* Octavo, 487 pp., 50 lithographed plates, folding coloured map. Publisher's green gilt pictorial cloth, skillfully rebaked with new endpapers, a bright crisp copy.

\$4,500

The plates are as follows: 21 handcoloured plates on birds by Smit, 4 uncoloured lithographs of reptiles, 10 lithographs (including 5 handcoloured) of fish, 7 chromolithographs of shells, 8 chromolithographs of insects. The *Curacoa* visited Norfolk Island, Samoa, Fiji, New Hebrides, The Solomons and New Caledonia. Brenchley's voyage is an important early account of the South Pacific Islands.

Ferguson 7376.

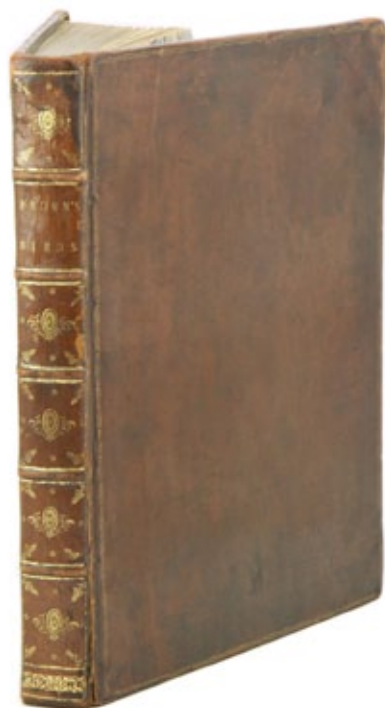


JOSEPH BANKS AND HIS RAINBOW LORIKEET

[38105] **Brown, Peter.** New illustrations of zoology, containing fifty coloured plates of new, curious, and non-descript birds, with a few quadrupeds, reptiles and insects. *London: Printed for B. White, 1776.* Quarto, 136 pp., 50 handcoloured engraved plates with parallel text and titles in English and French. Contemporary calf with early rebacked spine, marbled endpapers and edges, bookplates, a handsome tall crisp copy. **\$13,500**

WITH THE FIRST ILLUSTRATION OF AN EAST COAST BIRD, COLLECTED BY JOSEPH BANKS ON COOK'S FIRST VOYAGE. A work of great interest to Australiana collectors. Plate seven ("This bird was first brought over by Joseph Banks Esq.") is of a Rainbow lorikeet collected on Cook's First Voyage. Whittell quotes George Allan, the purchaser of the Tunstall collection "The Blue-headed and bellied Parrot ... a native of New Holland [is] very numerous at Botany Bay. The bird was brought to England by Sir Joseph Banks who gave it to Mr Tunstall and informed him that it belonged to the unfortunate Tupia, a native of Otaheite, who died at Batavia, on his way to England. P. Brown ... has given a beautiful plate of the bird." A hardy bird such as a parrot was the most likely animal to make the difficult journey back to England. Lorikeets are adaptable feeders and would have been well suited to a diet of mash in the form of ship's bread soaked in water with some added sugar or honey.

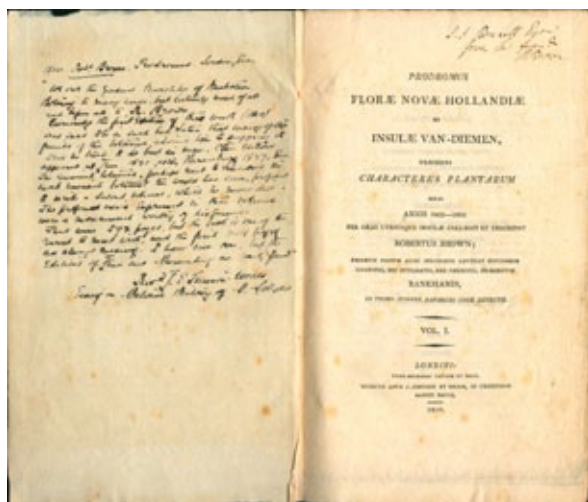
Anker p. 72; Mengel 388; Nissen IVB 151; Whittell p. 81; Wood p. 264; Zimmer p. 101.



THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN FLORA

[38115] **Brown, Robertus.** *Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae et insulae Van-Dieman, exhibens characteres plantarum quas annis 1802-1805. London: Typis Richardi Taylor et Socii, 1810.* Octavo, viii, 145- 592 pp. Contemporary patterned binder's cloth, defective spine. Inscribed on the title page "J. J. Bennett Esq from his friend R. Brown"; the copy of the Reverend J. E. Tenison-Woods with a lengthy note in ink in his hand on the free front endpaper and the bookplate of John Mullens Lane. **\$22,500**

Robert Brown is one of the great figures in botany. He sailed with Flinders on the *Investigator* and collected over 4,000 plant specimens. *Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae* is the first comprehensive account of Australian plants using his collection, plus those of Banks and Solander from Cook's First Voyage, and one of the first works on systematic botany to use de Juissieu's natural system of classification.



The *Prodromus* is considered a masterpiece of botanical literature and "has a two-fold importance in the history of systematic botany. Its primary purpose was to record succinctly the plants of Australia collected by Robert Brown himself in 1802 and 1805 when naturalist on Flinders' voyage ... The many new genera and species named by Brown in this book make reference to it continually necessary for workers on Australian flora. However to Brown's contemporaries, the importance of Brown's *Prodromus* lay in the adoption of a natural system of classification based on that of Antoine Laurent de Juissieu's *Genera Plantarum secundum Ordinares naturales disposita* (1789) as opposed to the popular artificial 'sexual system' of classification taken from Linnaeus;

Brown's *Prodromus* and Aug. P. de Candolle's *Flora Francaise* (1805) were the first major floristic works so arranged. Moreover Brown's founding of new families and genera and his inclusion of pertinent observations on those already known gave it an importance and interest reaching from Australia to northern Europe and Asia ..." Stearn, William T. (from the Introduction to the Cramer/Wheldon and Wesley facsimile 1960).

The *Prodromus* was privately published by Brown in a run of 250 copies but was a commercial failure during his lifetime with only 26 copies sold. A number of copies were distributed to friends and the botanical luminaries of the day. He intended to publish an account of the Acotyledons as a first volume (although chronologically the second volume) which explains the pagination of the *Prodromus* starting at 145, not one.

Ferguson 491; not in Nissen DBB.

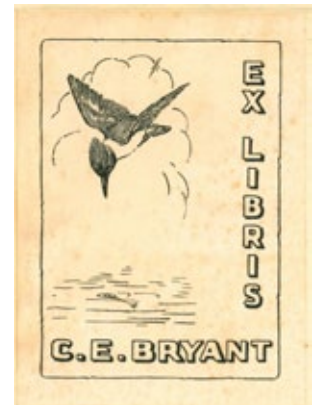
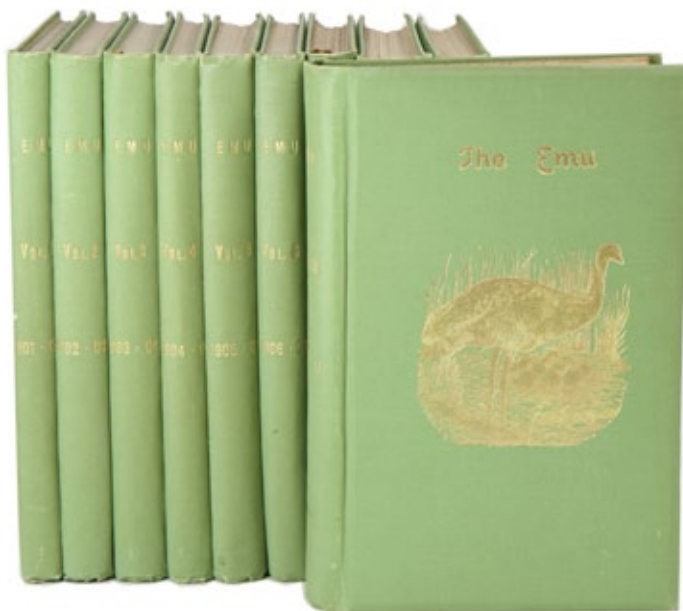
A FINE SET OF THE EMU

[37927] [Bryant, Charles, editor]. *The Emu*. Melbourne: Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union, 1900-1968. Octavo, 68 volumes. The first 49 volumes in a fine "Emu" binding (green cloth, round back, bevelled boards, gilt Emu design), the remaining volumes in the original wrappers. The set of Charles Bryant with his Eric Thake designed bookplate. Arguably one of the finest sets of *The Emu*, in spectacular condition and a magnificent association copy. \$16,500

The most important reference work on Australian ornithology of the twentieth century. The Australian Ornithologists' Union (soon after formation it was awarded the Royal prefix; now the latest name change is BirdLife Australia) started with 135 members thus explaining the scarcity of the early volumes. In the first volume, A. J. Campbell the first editor of *The Emu*, gives an account of the formation of the Union. A set of *The Emu* is the cornerstone of any serious collection of Australian ornithology.

For a history of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union (now Birdlife Australia) and *The Emu* see Robin, Libby. *The flight of the Emu: a hundred years of Australian ornithology 1901-2001*. Carlton South: Melbourne University Press, 2001.

PROVENANCE: The set of Charles Bryant (1902-1960) who served as editor of *The Emu* for over thirty years. He was close friends with Eric Thake, hence Bryant's excellent bookplate.



WALKS, BIRDS AND CIGARETTE CARDS



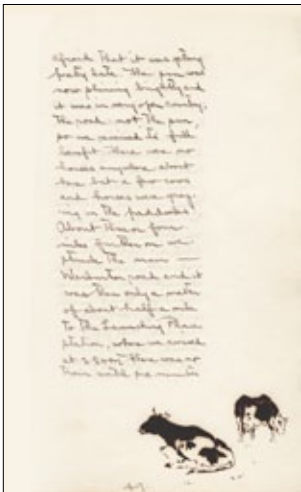
[38049] **Bryant, Charles.** Two manuscript books, two photographic albums and an album of cigarette cards. Two handwritten manuscripts, two hand captioned photographic albums, one quarto sized ring binder with cigarette cards of birds plus an autobiographical typescript manuscript. **\$12,000**

A superb collection of manuscript material relating to Australian birds and naturalist ramblings by Charles Bryant.

MANUSCRIPT ONE: *The Trip for the Camper's Badge* [three chapters]. Quarter cloth and papered boards (21cm by

14cm), 52 pp, folding map. Pen and ink manuscript in the neat and artistic hand of Bryant with nine handsome original vignettes in the lower margins, the folding hand drawn map highlighted in red ink. Signed "Charles Bryant 8.2.20" at the foot of the final leaf.

The map describes his walk from Beaconsfield to Gembrook. "Chapter 1. The first Stage. "Two and a half miles out we were fortunate in seeing a Coachwhip Bird which was however very shy and kept to the scrub as much as possible" (page 24).



MANUSCRIPT TWO: *A walking tour from Yarra Junction to Neerim* [two chapters]. Paper covers (21cm by 14cm), stapled, 76 pp., three (one folding) maps. Pen and ink manuscript in the neat and artistic hand of Bryant with eight handsome original vignettes in the lower margins, the hand drawn maps highlighted in red ink. Signed "Charles Bryant 2.9.20" at the foot of the final leaf.

"Chapter 1. Through the big timber districts. "The country surrounding Lilydale is very open and rather desolate but it soon becomes wild as the train pushes on towards Warburton" (page four). "The Boobook owls, are, I think as typical of and Australian night as the Laughing Jackass is of the day" (pages 46-47).

Both manuscripts are an evocative account of the activities of the recently formed Scout movement and the heavy timbered forests of the Dandenong ranges north east of Melbourne.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM ONE: Commercial photo album in an oblong format of stiff card with string tie (17cm by 25cm), 12 stiff card leaves with a total of 46 photographs pasted on both recto and verso, two other photographs loose plus a newspaper cutting.

The title has a manuscript quote from a Shelley poem (*To a Lady, with a Guitar*) and is inscribed "To dear Dulci [Bryant's future wife] with love from Charles 14.12.26". All photographs are a standard size contact print (6cm by 9cm) but the images are either portrait or landscape. There are two photographs per side and each photograph is well captioned in Bryant's neat hand. The photographs are primarily of the Australian high country such as Mount Kosciusko, Bogong High Plains and Marysville but there is one coastal picture of Cape Schanck.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUM TWO: Commercial photo album in an oblong format of stiff card with string tie (14cm by 19cm), 24 stiff card leaves with a total of 72 photographs pasted on both recto and verso, two other photographs loose plus a newspaper cutting, signed "C. Bryant".

All photographs are a standard size contact print (6cm by 9cm) but the images are either portrait or landscape. There are usually two photographs per side and each photograph is well captioned in Bryant's neat hand. The photographs are primarily of the Dandenong Ranges and were taken on excursions in 1821 and 1922.

CIGARETTE CARD ALBUM: Quarto ring binder with seven stiff card leaves, 96 coloured cigarette cards mounted both sides. With a neat index written in ink titled Top line, original 'green backed' set 1911/ 2nd line (new birds) "Orange back" set 1916. Also an untitled 16 page typewritten manuscript.

The manuscript starts: "This is the only 'book' I shall make. When I was twenty or so I planned to do something in that line but two matters 'took over'- the demands of a profession and ornithology (other peoples). That is why I have never been an ornithologist myself. "There follows evidence Bryant wrote this manuscript towards the end of his life. "I remember in the period following 1910 ... I was puzzled and bothered over birds because there was no-one from whom to acquire knowledge and all learning was the hard way. The first edition of Leach was published in 1911, but I did not know of its existence for some years after that. This is where the cigarette cards, treasured over early years, and kept for nearly fifty, must have been of some assistance. There was nothing else, and I suppose I went seeking the birds depicted, in ignorance of the locality potential" (page two).

ORIGINAL ARTWORK FOR CIGARETTE CARD PARODIES: Three large stiff cards, 22cm by 12cm, by Bryant parodying birds and cigarette cards.

Orange Chat is an image of orange growers with a wooden box labelled Vic Lowe Mystic Park. The Lowes of Mystic Park near Kerang were orchardists and well known Victorian bird watchers. The two other cards are *Half-back Magpie*, a parody of Australian Rules Football and *Egg and Spoonbill*. These three cards are cleverly designed and show Charles Bryant as the possessor of considerable artistic talent.

PROVENANCE: Charles Ernest William Bryant (1902–1960) was a Melbourne born barrister and amateur ornithologist. He served as editor of *The Emu*, the journal of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union (RAOU) for 31 years until his death. He was the RAOU president from 1955 to 1957 and in 1957 was awarded the Australian Natural History Medallion. Bryant formed a substantial and valuable ornithological library and after his death the great bulk of the collection was purchased by Dr Norman Wettenhall. A few items were kept by his son and this collection was passed on to his widow Pat Bryant who kept the material up until April 2015.

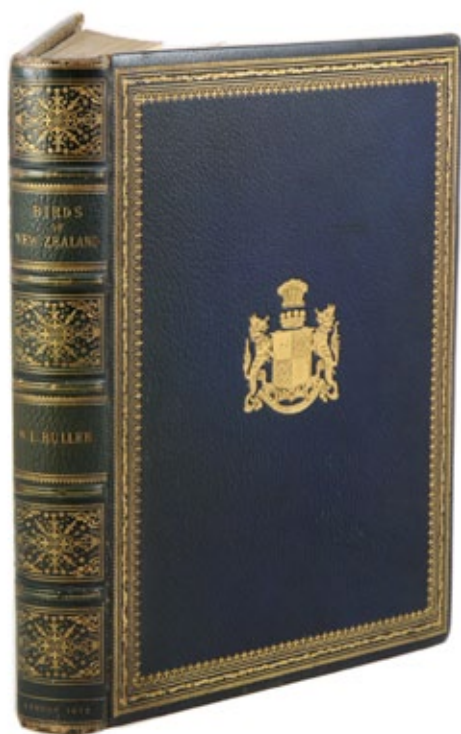


FIRST EDITION BULLER

[38106] **Buller, Walter Lawry.** A history of the birds of New Zealand. *London: John Van Voorst, 1873.* Large quarto, 384 pp., photographic frontispiece, 35 handcoloured plates by Keulemans. Contemporary full blue morocco with embossed owner's stamp, all edges gilt, marbled endpapers, part one of publisher's blue printed wrappers retained, a few spots throughout otherwise a fine copy. **\$15,000**

First edition, limited to 500 copies. Walter Buller, the son of a missionary, was born in New Zealand in 1838. He trained as a solicitor and showed himself to be extremely capable, amassing a considerable fortune. Towards the end of his life, much of his time was spent in England where he died in 1905. His contribution to New Zealand ornithology is immense and his books are an evocative account of the destruction of an important and distinctive avifauna. *A History of the Birds of New Zealand*, in either edition, is one of the best, and most underrated, of all nineteenth-century colourplate bird books.

Anker p. 85; *Bagnall* 755; *Fine Bird Books* (1990) p. 85; *Mengel* 428; *Nissen IVB* 163; *Nissen SVB* 83; *Wood* p. 269; *Zimmer* p. 115. See also Ross Galbreath, *Walter Buller: the reluctant conservationist*. Wellington: Government Printing Office, 1989.



GRASSFINCHES AT THEIR FINEST

[27750] **Butler, Arthur G.** Foreign finches in captivity. *London: L. Reeve & Co., 1894.* Quarto, 332 pp., 60 handcoloured lithographs by F. W. Frohawk. Modern half burgundy morocco and marbled boards, spine with two inlaid black labels, top edge gilt, publisher's original cloth mounted on rear endpaper, a very good clean copy. **\$9,000**

A handsome monograph on finches. The illustrations by Frohawk, particularly those of the Australian finches, are excellent. A second edition with chromolithographed plates and in a smaller format was published in 1899.

Arthur Gardiner Butler (1844-1925) was a trained entomologist and taxonomist who spent much of his career at the British Museum (Natural History). He published a number of attractive minor works on cage birds and was a prolific lepidopterist with a substantial body of work to his name. Butler was a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society, the Linnaean Society of London and the Zoological Society of London.

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 85; Mengel 445; Nissen IVB 169; Nissen SVB 88; Wood p. 274.



[36417] **Campbell, Archibald James.** Nests and eggs of Australian birds: including the geographical distribution of the species and popular observations thereon. *Sheffield: Author, 1901.* Octavo, 1102 pp., 28 (27 of eggs) chromolithographs by Brittlebank, photographs. Publisher's brown decorated cloth [single volume], tipped in papers by Campbell and a newspaper cutting; a bright crisp copy, scarce in this condition. **\$1,500**

A. J. Campbell, a foundation member of both the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union and the Bird Observers' Club, was a prolific contributor to the journals of the day. Along with A. J. North he was the leading oological authority and his work is rightly one of the classics of Australian ornithology. "A most interesting account of the nidification of the 765 Australian birds, with copious notes and beautiful photos of nests and nestlings ..." (Wood). The publication date of copies can vary. Some copies, as per Whittell's comment, have the date of 1900 pasted on the title page. This copy has the title page with a proper printed date of 1901.

Ferguson 7872; Whittell pp.106-115; Wood p. 277; Zimmer p. 123.



ORIGINAL CAYLEY JUNIOR WATERCOLOURS

[38072] **Cayley, Neville W.** Coxen's Fig Parrot and Red-browed Fig Parrot. Watercolour, 30 cm by 20 cm, signed "N. W. Cayley", mounted and framed. **\$12,000**

The accompanying plate to Chisholm, A. H. *Australia's lorilet puzzle. The Emu*, volume 29, 1929. Pp. 80-85.

"... the so-called Red-faced Lorilet, sent by Eli Waller, a Brisbane bird-dealer, to John Gould in 1866, and "christened" in 1867, was termed *coxeni*, in honour of Gould's brother-in-law, Charles Coxen, who was then doing much good public and ornithological work in the young capital city" (Chisholm, A. H. page 80). "The two specimens from which the accompanying paintings was made were borrowed by Mr Cayley from the Australian Museum. The northern Lorilet was purchased by the Museum from K. Broadbent, who collected it near Cairns in 1877, and the *coxeni* specimen was taken at the Richmond River, N.S.W., in November 1870; it was in the Dobroyde Collection, but the collector's name is not given" (Chisholm, A. H. page 85).

[38070] **Cayley, Neville W.** Mangrove Kingfisher. Watercolour, 30 cm by 20 cm, signed "N. W. Cayley", mounted and framed. **\$9,500**

The accompanying plate to Miller, R. S. *The Mangrove Kingfisher. The Emu*, volume 37. Melbourne, 1937. Pp. 149-152.

[38071] **Cayley, Neville W.** Pair of Little Kingfisher. Watercolour, 30 cm by 20 cm, signed "N. W. Cayley", mounted and framed. **\$9,500**

The accompanying plate to Miller, R. S. *A beautiful Little Kingfisher. The Lowan*, part two. Melbourne, 1936. Pp. 3-4.



PROVENANCE: The property of Charles Bryant (1902-1960), editor of *The Emu* from 1929 to 1960, and thence by descent.

ORIGINAL HORNBILL WATERCOLOURS BY WILLIAM T. COOPER

After the success of *Birds of Paradise and Bowerbirds* (Collins, 1977) Joe Forshaw and Bill Cooper embarked on what proved to be their most ambitious project. *Kingfishers and Related Birds* (Lansdowne, 1983-1994) was published in a limited edition of six folio volumes from 1983 to 1994. The paintings were started in 1977 but it was not until 1994 that the last of the Hornbill paintings were completed. The final two volume hornbill monograph was the last to be published in the set (1994). By then the publisher had run into numerous problems and the marketing was substandard, but not so the printing and design which was executed to the same high standard of the previous four volumes. Exact sales numbers are not known for the two hornbill volumes but an estimate is only 150 sets were sold- compared with 1,000 copies of volume one. This means that complete sets of *Kingfishers* are now scarce and very few people have been exposed to the brilliance of Cooper's hornbill paintings. The quality of Bill Cooper's illustrations for *Kingfishers and Related Birds* is unsurpassed and probably ranks as his finest body of work and the most spectacular plates are those of the hornbills.



[37487] **Cooper, William T.** Helmeted Hornbill. Watercolour and gouache on acid free watercolour paper, 72cm by 48cm, signed lower right "W. T. Cooper 78", unframed but in a pale green archival mount. **\$24,000**

The original watercolour for plate 129 from Forshaw, Joseph M. and William T. Cooper *Kingfishers and related birds, volume six* (Bucerotidae: *Buceros* to *Ceratogymna*) 1983-1994.

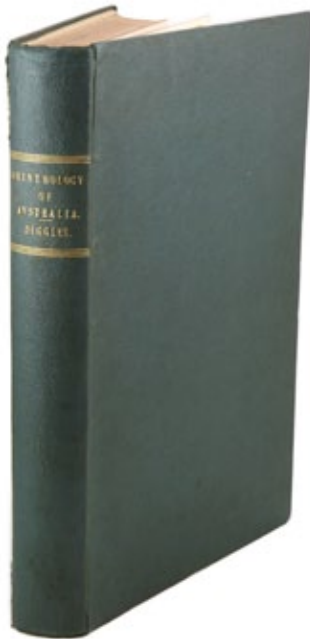
and gouache on acid free watercolour paper, 65cm by 48cm, signed lower right "W. T. Cooper 91", framed and mounted. **\$18,000**

The original watercolour for plate 107 from Forshaw, Joseph M. and William T. Cooper *Kingfishers and related birds, volume five* (Bucerotidae: *Bucorvus* to *Anthracoceros*) 1983-1994.



[37510] **Cooper, William T.** Red-billed Hornbill and Damara Red-billed Hornbill. Watercolour

A FINE COMPLETE DIGGLES' ORNITHOLOGY



[38109] **Diggles, Sylvester.** The ornithology of Australia. *Brisbane: Author, [1866-1870]*. Folio, [21 parts in a] single volume, 126 handcoloured lithographs. Early binder's cloth, the title page (which was never published) in a copperplate hand plus a handwritten index of plates, the bookplate of George Dawson Rowley. Some typical oxidation and foxing throughout, the images well coloured and unusually in excellent condition, a very good copy, very scarce. **\$65,000**

Sylvester Diggles was a prominent figure in early colonial Brisbane and had interests ranging from music to entomology. His book belongs to that small but select group of colour-plate books produced in Australia. Copies of Diggles are invariably found in average, or worse, condition; probably because all but three copies were originally subscribed for in the subtropics of Queensland and New South Wales. Copies in quality contemporary bindings are almost non-existent. Diggles is complex bibliographically and virtually no two copies are alike, but for practical purposes there are two editions.

The first edition, *The Ornithology of Australia*, appeared in 21 parts from 1866 to 1870 with six plates per part for a total of 126 plates. This first edition is sometimes found in a contemporary binding with plates and accompanying text leaves but no title-page or index. The title *The Ornithology of Australia* is invariably found on the spine or upper board. Typically, such copies have only 120 plates and were obviously bound before the 21st part was produced. However Ferguson [9148] notes a copy with 126 plates and a title-page. There was a two-year gap between the 20th part and the final part. This copy has the full complement of plates.

The scarcity of Diggles can, in part, be attributed to the financial problems which beset him. His subscriber list dropped from 92 to 60 and a letter from Diggles to the Rev. J. J. Halley dated 19 September 1871 gives some insight into the difficulties under which he was labouring. "I was delighted to receive



the first part of your excellent work on the Psittacidae of Australia, & wish you every success in its full and complete termination. I only hope that the disappointments I have met with, may not be your lot & that no adverse "crisis" may arise to cause the sudden withdrawal of some of the dilatory payment or sometimes the not paying at all of many subscribers. I fear that you will without the aid of energetic and persevering agents be obliged to act to a considerable extent on the credit system. It is now nearly 2 years since I stopped the issue of my work & saved myself from severe loss. I hope bye & bye to resume, but do not flatter myself that I shall surpass your work in the quality of either plates or letterpress (the latter especially). We could not attempt the chromo-process here, if it could be done a vast deal of trouble would be saved. The amount of anxiety I have had in bringing out the 20 parts already issued is unknown to anyone but myself. Slapdash colouring which could not be passed but I dare not complain, as I should not be able to replace my colourist. Many are the arduous hours I have spent in going over the plates to make them at all possible. I shall be happy to use my influence to obtain some subscribers but do not be too sanguine of my success. For my own part I will send you a part of my work in exchange for every one of yours & will undertake to give every plate a modicum of my own pencil work. You invite criticism which shows you are not afraid of the same ... My own lithographer's work is far from faultless. If at any time I can assist you with a few notes I shall be glad ... " (Moyal, *Scientists in nineteenth century Australia: a documentary history*, 1976. Pp.116-117).

Diggles, in any edition and in reasonable condition, is a rare and desirable book.

PROVENANCE: Originally the copy of George Dawson Rowley (1822-1878), a wealthy amateur ornithologist best remembered for his three volume *Ornithological Miscellany*. Purchased by Dudley Dickison, probably in the 1920's. Dickison (1896-1967) was the secretary of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union from 1924 to 1951 and assembled a fine natural history and Australiana library.

Ferguson 9146, 9147, 9148, 9148a; Whittell pp.201-203; Wood p. 319; Zimmer pp.171-2. See also Mathews, Gregory M. Sylvester Diggles, Ornithologist. *The Austral Avian Record*, volume three, 1917. Marks, Elizabeth N. Notes on Diggles "The Ornithology of Australia". *Queensland Naturalist*, volume 17, 1965.



[32299] **Dresser, H. E.** A Monograph of the Coraciidae, or Family of the Rollers. *Farnborough: Author, 1893*. Quarto, 111 pp., 27 handcoloured plates by Keulemans. Early half dark green morocco, gilt spine with bird emblems, uncut, internally clean and crisp, an excellent copy. **\$15,000**

One of the very best nineteenth century quarto colour plate bird books and a companion volume to Dresser's equally handsome *Monograph on the bee-eaters* (1884-1886).



Henry Eeles Dresser (1838-1915) was a wealthy businessman and one of the leading ornithologists of his day. He published over 100 scientific papers, many in the *Ibis*, and produced the standard work on European birds, *A History of the Birds of Europe* (1871-1896) and a subsequent monograph on *The Eggs of the Birds of Europe* (1905-1910). His *Manual of Palaearctic Birds* (1902) was an early study of ornithological zoogeography.

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 92; Nissen, IVB 270; Nissen SVB 139; Wood p. 324; Zimmer p. 178.

[32964] **Elliot, Daniel Giraud.** A Monograph of the Pittidae, or Family of Ant Thrushes. *New York: D. Appleton and Company, (1861-1863, first edition)*. Folio, 31 handcoloured lithographic plates heightened with gum arabic, after Elliot and P.L. Oudart. Six parts in the original printed tan card covers and half red roan, some light wear; a fine well coloured set. **\$25,000**



The first book by Elliot and the scarcest of his major monographs. Daniel Giraud Elliot (1835-1915) was one of the founders of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, the American Ornithologists' Union and of the Société Zoologique de France. He was also curator of zoology at the Field Museum in Chicago. A wealthy man, he published six other sumptuous folio natural history monographs with the intention of rivalling the folios of John Gould. Elliot's preferred illustrator for his Pitta monograph was the French artist Paul Louis Oudart, but when the artist died having completed only three of the plates, Elliot completed the work himself.

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p 95; Nissen, IVB 292; Whittell, pp. 225-26; Wood p. 332.

JOSEPH WOLF'S MASTERPIECE



[37520] Elliot, Daniel Giraud. A Monograph of the Phasianidae, or family of the pheasants. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1870-1872. Folio, two volumes, 79 handcoloured lithographs primarily by Joseph Wolf, two uncoloured lithographs. Contemporary half green morocco, spines gilt in compartments, the contents fine and crisp, a superb copy. **\$225,000**

One of the greatest colour plate natural history books and only surpassed by the double elephant folio of John James Audubon's *The birds of America*, Havell, 1829. Joseph Wolf is justifiably famous for his bird of prey illustrations in Gould's *Birds of Great Britain* and Schlegel and Wulverhurst's, *Traité de Fauconnerie*. His illustrations for Elliot's *Monograph of the Phasianidae* are arguably the finest example of Joseph Wolf's genius as a wildlife artist and bird illustrator. "Little known and appreciated, because rarely seen, Wolf's charcoal

drawings of pheasants are masterly, spontaneous, preliminary sketches for some superb watercolours made in preparation for 81 plates in D. G. Elliot's *Monograph of the Phasianidae*... This is one of the best books with handcoloured lithographs ever published" (Jackson, Christine. *Dictionary of bird artists of the world*, 1999). "The other major work of D. G. Elliot, the equal in every way to any work by Gould, is his *Monograph of the Phasianidae* ... His plates of the Golden Pheasant, and its mutations, must remain among the most splendid of bird illustrations" (Sitwell, Sacheverell. *Fine Bird Books* p. 55).

Anker 130; *Fine Bird Books* (reprint) p. 95 three stars; Wood p. 331; Nissen IVB 295; Zimmer p. 206.



VENOMS, COBRAS AND KRAITS

[6078] **Fayrer, J.** *The Thanatophidia of India; being a description of the venomous snakes of the Indian Peninsula with an account of the influence of their poison on life and a series of experiments.* *London: J. and A. Churchill, 1872.* Folio, 156 pp., 28 chromolithographed and three uncoloured lithographed plates. Publisher's burgundy cloth titled in gilt to upper board, a few blemishes, rebacked with original spine laid down, a few tears restored. Inscribed "With Dr. Fayrer's Comps.", the bookplate of Edward Taylor. **\$6,500**



Sir Joseph Fayrer (1824-1907) was a surgeon and physician who in 1850 left England for Calcutta to become assistant surgeon in Bengal. His connection with the Indian Medical Service (IMS) lasted for forty-five years, half of it in England. Fayrer was a prolific writer on Indian climatology, the pathology of Indian diseases, sanitation, and above all on venomous snakes. *The Thanatophidia of India* is a classic contribution to the literature of snakes and snakebites. Printed by the Indian government it was illustrated with spectacular coloured plates from life by members of the Calcutta School of Art. The book embodies all Fayrer's experiments and researches, accounts of which were forwarded from India to

Dr F. C. Webb, who put them into literary shape. From Fayrer's enquiries came the permanganate treatment of venomous snakebites. But his main conclusions were that there then existed no absolute antidote, and that safety was to be attained only when the bite was in such a position as to make the application of a ligature between it and the heart possible, together with the use of cauterization. "[O]ne of the classics on venomous snakes ... The double-page illustration of the King cobra is one of the most imposing drawings of a snake ever published" (Adler, Kraig. *Contributions to the history of herpetology, volume two*, 2007. p. 97).

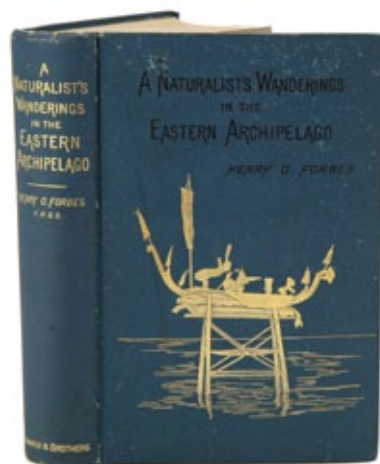
Nissen ZBI 1339; BM(NH) p. 560.

TRAVELS IN WALLACEA

[16657] **Forbes, Henry O.** A naturalist's wanderings in the eastern archipelago, a narrative of travel and exploration from 1878 to 1883. *London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, 1885.* Octavo, chromolithograph frontispiece (Forbes' Honeyeater), text illustrations. Publisher's decorated cloth, apart from a few flecks a bright crisp copy, scarce in this condition. **\$1,450**

An important early natural history of the area now known as Wallacea. Henry Ogg Forbes (1851-1932) was a Scottish born explorer, ornithologist, and botanist. He was primarily active in the Moluccas and New Guinea and served as director of the Canterbury Museum in New Zealand between 1890 and 1893. He then moved to Liverpool, England, where he served as a consulting director of museums there until his death.

Nissen ZBI 1408; Wood p.344.



[36776] **Godman, F. DuCane.** A monograph of the Petrels (Order Tubinares). *London: Witherby & Co., 1907-1910.* Quarto, 106 handcoloured lithographs by Keulemans, limited to 225 numbered copies. Handsome early red half morocco (five parts in a single volume), all wrappers retained, a fine clean copy. **\$12,000**

The most famous and spectacular of all publications on the true seabirds and still an important reference. Many of the world's Procellariiformes, particularly the albatross and shearwater species, are abundant in Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic waters.

Frederick DuCane Godman (1834-1919) was a founding member of the British Ornithologists' Union and collaborated extensively with Osbert Salvin. "It was Salvin's intention on the completion of the 'Tubinares' for the twenty-fifth volume of the *Catalogue of the birds in the British Museum*, to write a fuller account of the Petrels, and publish it as a monograph, illustrated by coloured figures of each species; for that purpose we had some forty plates prepared by Mr Keulemans, but Salvin's untimely death, in June 1898, put an end to this project" (preface p. ix). Thus Godman, with assistance from Robert Bowdler Sharpe, completed Salvin's monograph and Bowdler Sharpe's daughters were responsible for the colouring.

Anker 163; Nissen IVB 356; Whittell p. 280; Wood p. 361; Zimmer p. 248.



PLATES BY ELIZABETH GOULD



[26959] **Gould, John.** A synopsis of the birds of Australia, and the adjacent islands. *London: Author, 1837-1838.* Large octavo, 73 finely coloured lithographed plates by Elizabeth Gould with accompanying text leaves. Contemporary publisher's half green morocco and morocco-grained cloth, elaborate gilt-decorated spine, all edges gilt. An owner's biro inscription on the blank endpaper, the contents clean and crisp and the plates beautifully coloured, a fine copy, scarce. **\$20,000**

There are two variants of the *Synopsis*. The first issue is usually found in four parts in printed boards with a narrow cloth spine. A title page was never issued. By the 1850's (the precise date is uncertain), Gould started to sell copies of the *Synopsis* bound in a characteristic half green morocco with a title page. The *Synopsis* is a very attractive and interesting book, and is quite unlike all Gould's other illustrated work. The birds figured are head studies only but the standard of illustration and colouring is exquisite. It is also scientifically important with many first and early descriptions of Australian birds.

Ferguson 2271: Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 101; Nissen IVB 382; Sauer 5; Wood p. 364; Zimmer p. 254.



A FINE SET OF GRAY'S CATALOGUE OF REPTILES

[36424] [Gray, John Edward]. Catalogue of reptiles ... in the collection of the British Museum. *London: British Museum, 1844-1845.* Duodecimo, two volumes, 80 and 289 pp. Publisher's blue wrappers with title labels on upper covers and hand written paper label on spine, a fine set contained in a handsome modern half calf Solander box. **\$850**

Part one: Catalogue of the tortoises, crocodiles and amphisbaenians in the collection of the British Museum, 1844. Part two: Catalogue of the specimens of lizards in the collection of the British Museum, 1855.

THE REPTILES OF SOUTH AMERICA

[36045] **Guichenot, A.** Animaux nouveaux ou rares recueillis pendant l'expédition dans les parties centrales de l'Amérique du Sud: de Rio de Janeiro a Lima, et de Lima au Para ... sous la direction du Comte Francis de Castelnau. Reptiles. Paris: P. Bertrand, 1855. Quarto, 96 pp., 18 chromolithographic plates. Modern binder's cloth, a fine copy, scarce. **\$6,500**

Complete in 14 volumes published 1850-1859. "This classic work of the natural history of South America, the text chiefly from the pen of Count de Castelnau, assisted by M. P. Gervais (mammalia), M. O. Des Murs (birds) and A. Guichenot (reptiles). It is one of the most valuable contributions of its kind in all zoological literature" (Casey Wood p. 281).

Francis de Castelnau (1810-1880) was a French naturalist best known for his first expedition into the Canadian lakes followed by a five year expedition, starting in 1843, into South America. He also has a substantial Australian connection because he was the French consul from 1864 to 1877, an active member of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria and the Entomological Society of New South Wales. He died in Melbourne in 1880. He was the unfortunate victim of a scientific hoax with a description, based on a drawing, of an archaic fish which he named *Ompax spatuloides*.



Wood p. 281 (under Castelnau); Nissen DZB 837 (under Castelnau).

[6427] **Günther, Albert C. L. G.** The reptiles of British India. London: Ray Society, 1864. Folio, 452 pp., 26 uncoloured lithographic plates. Publisher's quarter cloth and boards with label, some cracking and minor fraying of corners, a few minor spots. **\$1,850**

German born British herpetologist and ichthyologist Albert Karl Ludwig Gotthilf Günther (1830-1914) was, along with his near contemporary Alfred George Boulenger, the most prolific of all reptile taxonomists with more than 340 descriptions to his name. He took over the position of Keeper of Zoology at the British Museum (Natural History) after the death in 1875 of John Edward Gray.

Nissen ZBI, 1744; Wood p.371.

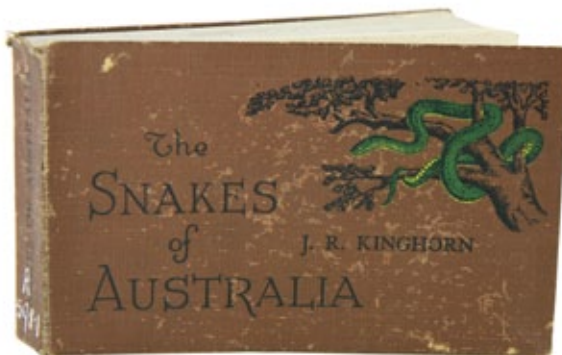


NESTS, EGGS AND TREE CLIMBING



[8802] **Jackson, S. W.** *Egg collecting and bird life of Australia: catalogue and date of the "Jacksonian Oological Collection,"* illustrated with numerous photographs depicting various incidents and items ... *Sydney: Author, 1907.* Quarto, 172 pp., photographs. Publisher's printed wrappers, a fine copy. **\$4,500**

S. W. Jackson (1873-1946) is best known for *Egg collecting and bird life of Australia*. This is a handsome production liberally illustrated with his pioneering photographs and has always been a scarce and desirable item of ephemeral Australian ornithology. Jackson sold his egg collection to H. L. White and was in his employ for eighteen years. Writing to F. Lawson Whitlock, H. L. White said of Jackson "You will not be taken at first with Jackson, his appearance is between that of an actor and an Italian count. He is not a bushman in the ordinary sense of the word but knows his way about and is the only man who has found eggs of the Eastern *Atrichia* [Rufous Scrub-bird]. In fact he is the best scrub collector I know." (White, Judy. *The White family of Belltrees: 150 years in the Hunter Valley.* Sydney: Seven Press, 1981. P. 78). Jackson was a prolific contributor to *The Emu*.



[6916] **Kinghorn, J. R.** *Snakes of Australia.* *Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1929.* Small oblong format, 198 pp., illustrations. Publisher's cloth with green tree-snake design, the bookplate of John Lane Mullens, library pocket and inoffensive accession number on spine, a few flecks otherwise a very good copy of a book often found in poor condition. **\$650**

One of the classics of Australian herpetological literature. A desirable book published in an attractive and unusual format.

James Roy Kinghorn (1891-1983) became curator of Reptiles and Amphibians at the Australian Museum, Sydney where he spent his entire working life, retiring in 1956 as assistant Director. In retirement he became a minor natural history television personality.

KREFFT THE ARTIST

[38142] **Krefft, Gerard.** Pen and ink of Emus. c.1860. Ink on paper, 15cm by 12 cm, tipped on to a sheet of nineteenth century paper, signed in pencil by the artist beneath the image. **\$1,650**

"Born Johann Gerhard Louis Krefft in Brunswick, Braunschweig, on 17 February 1830, Gerard Krefft became one of Australia's first naturalists and the father of Australian herpetology. Originally intending a career in business, he emigrated to the United States in 1851 and briefly supported himself as an artist in New York City before embarking for Australia in 1852 to join the gold rush. He was a miner until 1857 when he moved to Melbourne and was hired by Frederick McCoy as a collector and artist" (Adler, Kraig, editor. *Contributions to the history of herpetology, volume one*. Oxford, OH: SSAR publications, 1989. P. 51). The pencil signature associated with this pen and ink closely matches the signature produced in Adler.

See also the entry for Krefft by G. P. Whitley and Martha Rutledge. *Australian Dictionary of Biography, volume five*. Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 1974. Pp. 44-45.



[26971] **Krefft, Gerard.** The snakes of Australia; an illustrated and descriptive catalogue of all the known species. Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer, 1869. Quarto, 100 pp., 16 (four in duplicate) uncoloured lithographic plates. Binder's cloth, the plates crisp and free of foxing. **\$2,500**

Gerard Krefft (1830-1881) is rightly considered the father of Australian herpetology. He was a significant figure in colonial science and wrote papers on mammals, fish, invertebrates and palaeontology. Unfortunately his career was marred by an acrimonious dispute with the Trustees of the Australian Museum and it never recovered. Krefft's *Snakes of Australia* is the premier Australian reptile book and is one of the most desirable and important of all Australian nineteenth-century natural history publications. The plates were drawn and coloured by the Scott sisters, Harriet and Helena, who were responsible for many natural history illustrations including Krefft's other great book, *Mammals of Australia* (1871) and *Australian Lepidoptera and their transformations* (1864-1898), by their father, A. W. Scott. The advertisement leaf in *Mammals of Australia* offers copies of *Snakes of Australia* for sale at "Plain 15s; Coloured 30s."

Ferguson 11247; Wood p. 422.



EARLY MINERALS



[36571] **Kurr, J. G.** The mineral kingdom; with coloured illustrations of the most important minerals, rocks and petrifications. *Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas, 1859.* Folio, 70 pp., 24 lithographed plates (22 handcoloured). Publisher's (?) quarter brown morocco and morocco grained green cloth, gilt, top and bottom of spine badly worn, some slight rubbing, a few spots throughout otherwise a handsome copy with the plates generally fresh and crisp. **\$1,200**

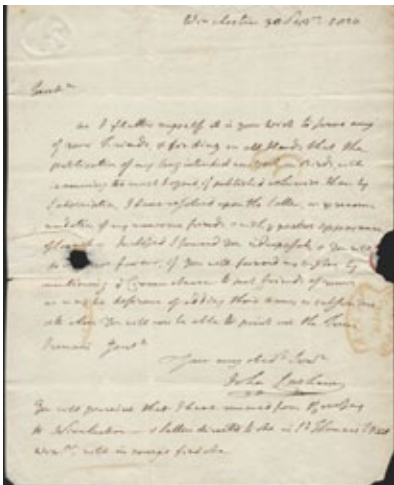
First published in German in 1858 with handcoloured plates, a second German edition with chromolithographic plates was produced in 1869. This English edition uses the same plates as the German edition.

Johann Gottlob von Kurr (1798-1870) was born in Sulzbach on the Murr, Württemberg, Germany. After earning his doctorate in Medicine and Surgery he later became Professor of Mineralogy at the Polytechnic Institute in Stuttgart. His first mineralogical work was a textbook of economic mineralogy

Grundzüge der Ökonomisch-Technischen Mineralogy in 1836.

LATHAM TO HIS PUBLISHER

[38112] **Latham, John.** Autograph letter signed and dated 1820. Single sheet, 22.5 cm by 18 cm, holograph letter in ink in the entire hand of John Latham. Original folds, some slight loss and tear. **\$850**



An excellent holograph letter in which Latham discusses the "publication of my long intended new work on birds" [*A General History of Birds, 1821-1828*]. Medical practitioner John Latham (1740-1837) "was a man born at the right time, with the appropriate qualities to perform an onerous task. He determined to describe all known species of birds and to record the discoveries of new species as they occurred, at a time when the number of discoveries was increasing at an accelerating pace, for fifty years he was the chief recorder of the world" (Jackson p. 136). Thus Latham's great works, the *General Synopsis* and the *General History*, coincided with exciting discoveries from the New World. Both works are central to Australian ornithology with over 450 species described. The *General History* lists most species known at that time, many as first descriptions, and at least 16 Australian birds are figured. Many of the species included were later listed by Vigors and Horsfield in their classic paper on the taxonomy of Australian birds published 1827.

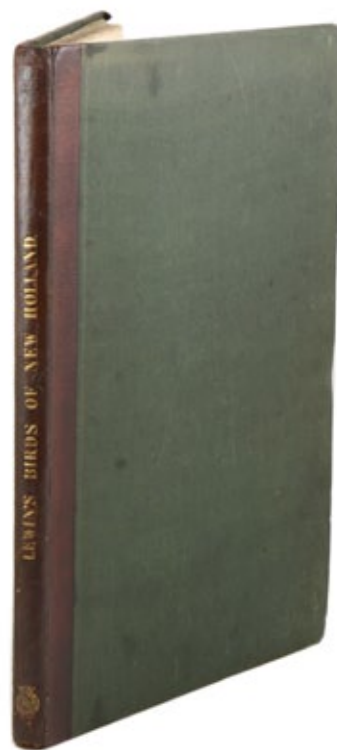
THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN BIRD ARTIST

[7064] **Lewin, John William.** A natural history of the birds of New South Wales, collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature. *London: Henry G. Bohn, 1838.* 26 handcoloured engraved plates with accompanying text leaves. Publisher's red quarter morocco and cloth boards, a fine clean copy, rare in this condition. **\$65,000**

John William Lewin (1770-1819) arrived in Australia in 1800 with the intention of establishing himself as an artist and naturalist and by 1804 he was working on the plates for a projected work on the birds of the new colony. In 1808 *Birds of New Holland* was published in London, and in 1813 an edition, renamed *Birds of New South Wales*, was published in Sydney. Both editions are exceptionally rare with seven and 13 known copies respectively. After his death in 1819 his widow returned to England and arranged for the publication of another edition with an extra six plates. The 1822 edition and the subsequent 1838 edition are the only forms of the book that are reasonably available to the collector. Both editions have considerable points of difference; the 1838 edition was revised by John Gould and his entrepreneurial hand is evident in the rich gouache colouring. The 1822 is considerably more restrained with its watercolour plates. The serious collector of Australian and natural history should aspire to have both editions.

The bibliographical and historical importance of Lewin has been emphasised in recent years, and rightly so, but Lewin the naturalist has been somewhat neglected. His illustrations are highly competent and show the mind of an excellent observer. Lewin's birds are correct; the feather detail, legs, particularly the positioning of the toes, posture of the bird, the understanding of male and female plumage, the interactions between male and female (in four plates the male is singing and displaying to the female) are accurate and show a keen observer at work. The other important detail in Lewin's illustrations are the plants; they demonstrate an observer who is familiar with his subject's habitat and life history. All birds are painted with identifiable plant species and each plant species is part of a bird-plant association. His notes, although sparse, provide confirmation of his abilities as a naturalist. For example "Crested Shrike [Eastern Shrike-Tit]. Frequents thick bushes. Is a noisy chattering species, very active in tearing off the bark of trees and shrubs in search of insects, particularly hard-coated beetles."

Ferguson 2535; Wood p. 434. See also Neville, Richard. Mr J.W. Lewin: painter and naturalist. Sydney: NewSouth Publishing, 2012.



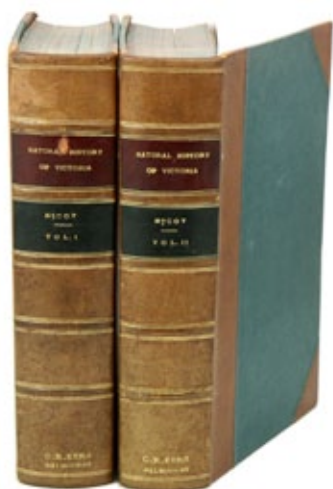
[33631] **Lindley, John.** Ladies botany: or a familiar introduction to the study of the natural system of botany. *London: James Ridgeway and Sons, 1834.* Octavo, two volumes, 582 pp., 50 handcoloured engraved plates. Handsome modern half calf with marbled boards, uncut, contemporary signature on half title plus later signature, a very good set. Volume two is the second edition. **\$850**

Arranged as a series of twenty five "letters" to various plant groups including one to the Protea with mention of the genus *Grevillea* collected by Banks, and a *Grevillea* plate. The illustrations are by Sarah Drake, one of Lindley's most important artistic contributors and best remembered for her fine orchid plates.

Nissen 1201.

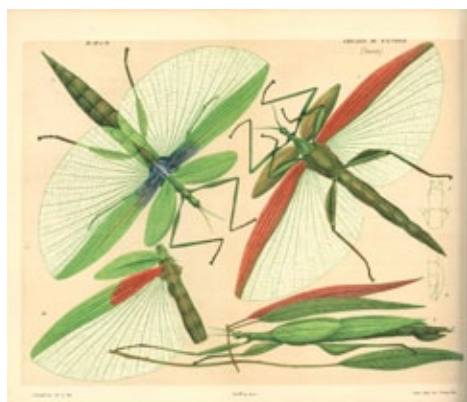
THE INCORRIGIBLE REAL MCCOY

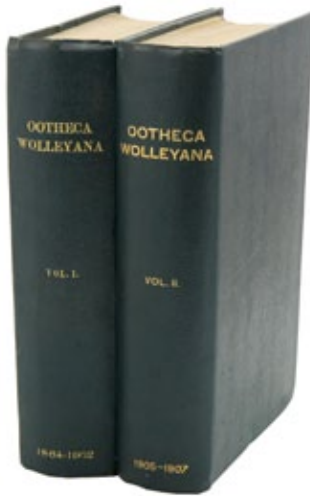
[18508] **McCoy, Frederick.** Natural history of Victoria. Prodrromus of the zoology of Victoria; or, figures and descriptions of the living species of all classes of the Victorian indigenous animals. *Melbourne: Government Printer, 1878.* Large octavo, two volumes, 711 pp., 199 handsome lithographed plates (including 172 chromolithographs) of mammals, reptiles and fish. Contemporary half calf, marbled endpapers with hinges strengthened, all edges coloured, a very good set. **\$6,500**



Irish-born Frederick McCoy (1817-1899) arrived in Melbourne in 1854 to take up the position of the first Professor of Natural Science of the newly formed University of Melbourne. For the next 40 years he was at the centre of colonial scientific life. He became the first Director of the newly formed National Museum of Victoria and was responsible for the rapid development of the Museum and its collection. The *Prodromus* is an underrated work of Australian natural history; the plates are handsome and the text scholarly. There are 36 chromolithographs of reptiles, 57 of fish and five of mammals.

Not in Ferguson; Wood p. 456. See also Pescott, R. T. M. Collections of a century: the history of the first hundred years of the National Museum of Victoria. Melbourne: National Museum of Victoria, 1954.





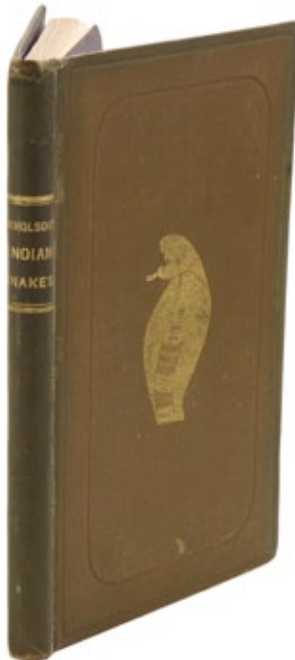
GREAT AUK EGGS

[26876] **Newton, Alfred, editor.** *Ootheca Wolleyana: an illustrated catalogue of the collection of birds' eggs begun by the late John Wolley and continued with additions by Alfred Newton.* London: R.H. Porter, 1864-1907. Large octavo, two volumes, 1289 pp., portrait, 37 lithographed plates mostly coloured, folding coloured map. Binder's cloth retaining the two printed upper wrappers in both volumes, top edges gilt, others uncut, scarce. \$8,500

John Wolley (1824-1836) assembled a fine egg collection and was deeply involved, with his close friend Alfred Newton, in the pursuit of all things relating to the Great auk. They travelled to Iceland in 1858 in pursuit of the auk. "It is entirely due to Wolley that the circumstances surrounding the last raid on Eldey in June of 1844 are known. John Wolley is, then, one of the great unsung figures in the story of Garefowl research" (Fuller, Errol. *The Great Auk*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1999. P. 378).



Wood p. 633; Zimmer p. 691-692.



INDIAN SNAKES

[35837] **Nicholson, Edward.** *Indian snakes. An elementary treatise on ophiology with a descriptive catalogue of the snakes found in India and the adjoining countries.* Madras: Higginbotham and Co., (1893, second edition). Octavo, 188 pp., 20 lithographic plates, many figures handcoloured. Publisher's brown cloth with gilt cobra, title page and early leaves laid down, otherwise a very good copy. \$850

NEW GUINEA NATURAL HISTORY EXPLORATION

[15134] [Ogilvie-Grant, W. R., editor]. Reports on the collections made by the British Ornithologists' Union Expedition and the Wollaston Expedition in Dutch New Guinea 1910-1913. *London: Francis Edwards, 1916*. Quarto, 1227 pp., two volumes, ten chromolithographs (including eight of birds by Grönvold, two of insects) and 27 uncoloured plates (including four of reptiles and one of fish). Publisher's blue wrappers, uncut and partly unopened, limited to 150 numbered copies (this copy is number 112), a fine set with both volumes in matching blue cloth boxes with leather and gilt title labels. **\$3,250**



The British Ornithologists' Union was established in 1858, and to celebrate it's jubilee it was decided to sponsor a major expedition to the Snow Mountains of Dutch New Guinea, now Irian Jaya. 9,000 pounds was raised by private donation and Government grants and the first of two expeditions, led by Walter Goodfellow, set sail from England in September 1909. "As Mr Wollaston's book [*Pygmies and Papuans*, 1912], the official account of the expedition, explains the great physical difficulties of this hitherto unexplored part of New Guinea and other unforeseen circumstances rendered the work of the B. O. U. Expedition quite exceptionally arduous; and if their results of their exploration were not all that had been hoped, it must be remembered that they did all that was humanly possible to carry out the dangerous task with which they had been entrusted. Their work has added vastly to our knowledge of this part of New Guinea ..." (Ogilvie-Grant, W. R. Introduction p. iii).

Both expeditions made important contributions to the zoology of New Guinea, and the paper on birds has some significance. It was also reproduced in octavo form as an *Ibis* supplement.

Wood p. 262; Zimmer p. 100.

DRAGONS AND OTHER FANTASTIC CREATURES

[7572] **Owen, Charles**. An essay towards a natural history of serpents: in two parts. *London: Author, 1742*. Octavo, 252 pp., seven copper engraved plates. Modern polished quarter calf with marbled boards, a very good copy. **\$600**

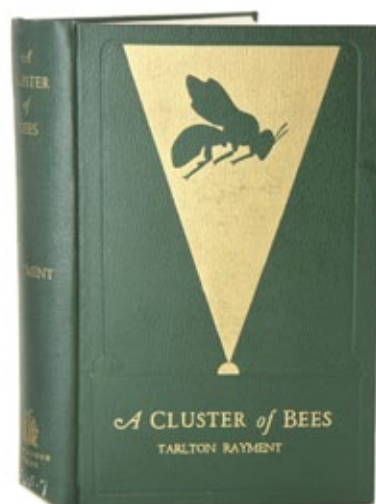
An eighteenth century view of the real world of herpetology and the supernatural, with the first section devoted to mythical serpents. "In winged serpents the tail serves as a rudder to govern them in flying through the air; and, in the marine serpents, they serve as oars" (page two).

Nissen DZB 3033; Wood p. 509.

RARE NATIVE BEES

[38098] **Rayment, Tarlton.** A cluster of bees: sixty essays on the life-histories of Australian bees. *Sydney: The Endeavour Press, [1935].* Octavo, 752 pp., coloured frontispiece and numerous illustrations. Publisher's gilt-decorated rexine, the bookplate of John Lane Mullens, library pocket and accession number on spine, a very good copy, scarce. \$1,850

One of the classics of Australian entomological literature, handsomely published and the only true monograph on native bees. Percy Tarlton Rayment (1882-1964) was an Australian artist, author, broadcaster, poet, naturalist, entomologist and beekeeper. He wrote many popular articles and other books on bees. A posthumous biography *The melody lingers on: biography of Tarlton Rayment* by Lynette Young was published in 1967.



[37247] **Reichenow, Anton.** Vogelbilder aus fernen zonen. Abbildungen und Beschreibungen der Papageien. *Kassel: Verlag von Theodor Fischer, 1878-1883.* Folio, 33 chromolithographic (finished by hand) plates and accompanying text leaves. Publisher's green blindstamped and gilt cloth, some very minor shelf wear otherwise a fine crisp copy, tipped in a photographic print of the author. \$9,000



Anton Reichenow (1847-1941) was the most prominent German ornithologist of his day and worked at the Humboldt Museum from 1874 to 1921. He was the editor of *Journal für Ornithologie* from 1894 to 1921 and African birds were his speciality. *Der Papageien* is a comprehensive monograph and described all known species at the time of publication. It is also an unusually fine example of the difficult art of chromolithographic printing and is rivalled only by the second edition of Buller's *Birds of New Zealand* (1888). The Australian parrots are particularly fine and all are illustrated.

*Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 133;
Nissen IVB 767; Nissen SVB 401;
Wood p. 532; Zimmer p. 514.*

DODO, MOAS AND O'O



[36779] **Rothschild, Walter.** Extinct birds. An attempt to unite in one volume a short account of those birds which have become extinct in historical times- that is, within the last six or seven hundred years. To which are added a few which still exist. *London: Author, 1907.* Small folio, 244 pp., 45 chromolithograph plates by Keulemans, Grönvold, Lodge and Frohawk. Publisher's half calf gilt, limited to 200 numbered copies (this copy number 146) and signed by the author, a fine copy. **\$15,000**

The most famous book on extinct birds. Many of the original paintings including life sized paintings of Moa are held at Tring, formerly Rothschild's residence and museum and now the property of the British Museum (Natural History).

Anker 430; Nissen IVB 795; Nissen SVB 417; Wood p. 543; Zimmer p. 533.

[38107] **Rowley, George Dawson.** Ornithological miscellany. *London: Trubner and Co, 1876-1876.* Quarto, three volumes, 104 handcoloured lithographs and chromolithographs by Keulemans and others. Modern brown half morocco, a crisp bright set free of foxing. **\$16,500**



"This valuable serial was published at irregular intervals in 14 parts ... written ... mostly by Rowley, but containing important papers by Dresser, Alfred Newton, R. B. Sharpe, P. L. Sclater and other noted ornithologists." (Wood p. 543). His chromolithographs are outstanding and the plate 'Mother Carey and her chickens' (a witch on a broomstick flying over the ocean) deserves special mention. There are a number of papers on New Guinea and a monograph, with Keulemans plates, on Kiwis.

George Dawson Rowley (1822-1878) was an English amateur ornithologist, a friend of John Wolley (1823-1859) and together they enthusiastically researched the history of the Great Auk. He translated and published the works of the Russian geographer and explorer Nikolai

Przhevalsky, the discoverer of the horse that bears his name.

Anker 432; Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 137; Nissen IVB 798; Wood p. 543; Zimmer p. 533.



[38130] **Scherzer, Karl.** Narrative of the circumnavigation of the globe in the Austrian frigate Novara [with] the Zoology. *London: Saunders, Otley and Co. 1861-1869.* TEXT: Octavo, three volumes, 1655 pp. Publisher's cloth, some cracking, bookplates, library accession numbers on spines, library pockets in all three volumes. ZOOLOGY [first edition in the German]: Von Wullerstor-Urbair, Zoologischer theil. Vienna: Kaiserlich-Konigliche, 1869. Quarto, 33 lithographed plates, eight chromolithographs (two mammal and six bird). Binder's cloth, a few spots otherwise a very good copy. **\$2,650**



The English translation in three volumes plus the complete first part of the zoology, with plates, of the *Novara* voyages, covering mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. The *Novara* was the frigate that circumnavigated the earth for the Austrian Imperial expedition of 1857-1859. This massive scientific expedition was sponsored by the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna and led by geologist Ferdinand von Hochstetter and zoologist Georg von Frauenfeld. Important collections were made in many countries including Australia and New Zealand and major oceanographic contributions were made in the South Pacific.

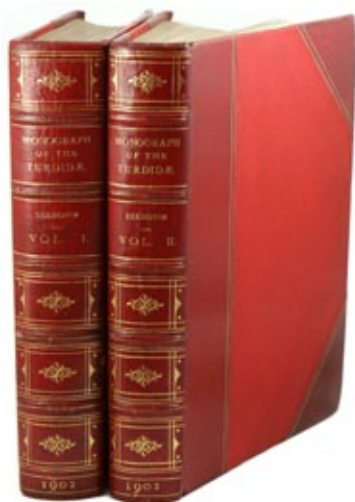
Wood p. 495.



[36778] **Seebohm, Henry.** The geographical distribution of the family Charadriidae; or the plovers, sandpipers, snipes and their allies. *London: Henry Sotheran & Co., [1887-1888].* Quarto, 524 pp., 21 handcoloured lithographs by Keulemans. Publisher's green panelled cloth, expertly rebaked, all edges uncut, a fine crisp copy. The bookplate of Harry Forbes Witherby, and pasted in note "The editors of the *Auk* with the author's compliments Christmas 1887". **\$5,000**

The first, and superior, issue of the only monograph on the order Charadriiformes. Both first and second issue have the same date and identical publisher's cloth but are easily recognised by the superior colouring of the first issue and the different frontispieces (Slender-billed Dotterel- first issue, Chilean Dotterel- second issue). Red-kneed Dotterel and Hooded Plover are figured.

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 141; Wood p. 561; Zimmer pp.568-9.



[7992] **Seebohm, Henry.** A monograph of the Turdidae, or family of thrushes. *London: Henry Sotheran, 1902.* Quarto, two volumes, 587 pp., photogravure portrait of Seebohm, 149 handcoloured lithographs by Keulemans. Contemporary red three quarter polished morocco, a fine crisp set. **\$16,000**

The full title has appended "edited and completed (after the author's death) by R. Bowdler Sharpe". "One of the greatest of Mr Seebohm's discoveries in ornithology was the application of the character of the plumage of the young birds for the differentiation of the thrushes (Turdidae) from the Warblers (Sylvidae). The former have but one moult a year, while the latter have two—one in autumn and another in Spring.

The young thrushes have a spotted plumage, while the young Warblers have a plain dress, not very different from the plumage of their parents" (R. Bowdler Sharpe, introduction. P. iv).



Henry Seebohm (1832-1895) was a wealthy English businessman and prominent amateur ornithologist. He wrote two books on his travels to Siberia as well as a number of substantial ornithological monographs with handcoloured plates, mostly by Keulemans. His important collection of 17,000 bird skins was bequeathed to the British Museum.

Nissen IVB 451; Wood p. 561; Zimmer p. 570.

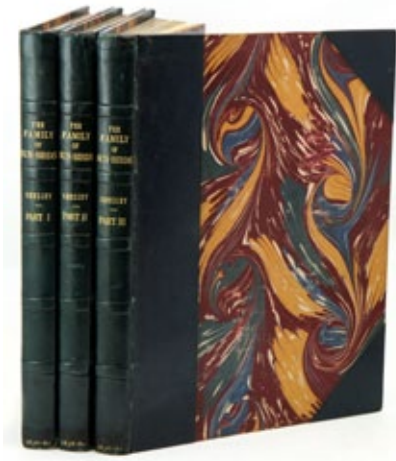
[24854] **Sharpe, Richard Bowdler.** A monograph of the Alcedinidae: or family of Kingfishers. *London: Author, 1868-1871.* Quarto, unpaginated, 120 handcoloured plates by Keulemans, with accompanying text leaves, one uncoloured plate, one coloured folding map, list of subscribers. Modern full red morocco with gilt, raised bands and inner dentelles, a few minor blemishes otherwise a fine clean copy in an exceptional binding. Rare in this condition as most copies are heavily foxed. **\$24,000**



Richard Bowdler Sharpe (1847-1909) founded the British Ornithologists' Club and worked his way into the curatorship of the British Museum's bird collection until his death. At the age of seventeen he showed his ambition and talent by starting work on a monograph of the Kingfishers, an experience that proved invaluable in later years for both himself and his artist John Gerard Keulemans. He wrote and edited the 27 volume *Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum* (1874-1898) and undertook the completion of John Gould's proposed *Monograph of the Birds of Paradise* (1891-1898).

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 141; Nissen IVB 864 Nissen SVB 456; Wood p. 564; Zimmer p. 575.

BIRDS OF THE SUN



[9695] **Shelley, G. E.** A monograph of the Nectariniidae, or Family of sun-birds. *London: Author, 1876-1880*. Quarto, three volumes, 393 pp., 121 handcoloured plates by Keulemans. Contemporary polished green half morocco and marbled boards, three leaves (including the title page) with small paper restorations, a handsome crisp copy with the plates free of foxing. **\$24,000**

An unusually fine copy in three volumes instead of the customary single volume. One of the finest of all nineteenth century quarto bird books. Captain George Ernest Shelley (1840-1910), geologist and ornithologist, was a nephew of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley. He spent much of his working life in Africa which resulted in *The Handbook to the Birds of Egypt* (1872) and *The Birds of Africa* (five volumes, 1896-1912). He travelled to in Burma and Australia and collected specimens.

Fine Bird Books (reprint) p. 108; Nissen IVB 873; Zimmer, p.588.



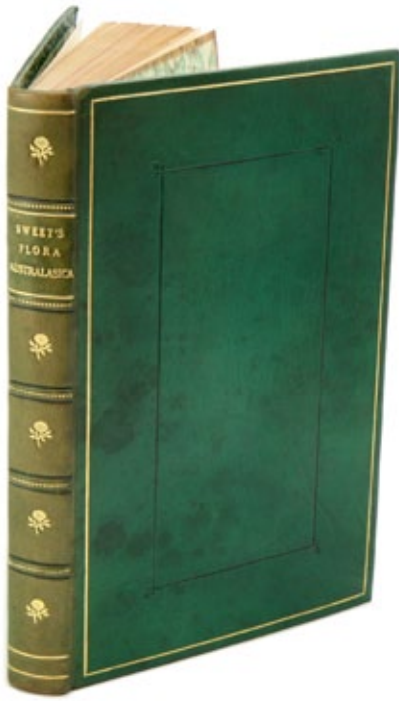
[15220] **Sowerby, John E. and Charles Johnson.** The ferns of Great Britain [with] The fern allies: a supplement. *London: Henry G. Bohn, 1859*. Octavo, 128 pp., 80 handcoloured plates. Publisher's handsome blindstamped and decorated cloth, all edges gilt, a few occasional spots and signature on front endpaper, a fine copy. **\$1,650**

BM(NH) p. 1984; Plesch p. 414; Pritzel 8793.

[26996] **Swann, H. Kirke and Alexander Wetmore.** A monograph of the birds of prey (Order Accipitres). *London: Wheldon & Wesley, 1930-1945*. Quarto, two volumes, 1025 pp., 41 coloured plates and 16 photogravure plates. Contemporary blue half morocco, printed wrappers, some insect damage to the bindings, a little foxing, short tear in one plate. Edition limited to 412 copies. **\$1,200**

The only true colour plate monograph of the birds of prey. Harry Kirke Swann (1871-1926) is best remembered for this monograph plus his excellent *Bibliography of British Ornithology* which he wrote in collaboration with W. H. Mullens. He was the owner of Wheldon and Wesley, the most successful natural history bookseller for most of the twentieth century and was succeeded in business by his son Howard Kirke Swann (1919-1993).

SWEET'S AUSTRALIAN PLANTS



[14658] **Sweet, Robert.** *Flora Australasica; or a selection of handsome or curious plants, natives of New Holland, and the South Sea Islands ... London: James Ridgway, [1827-1838].* Octavo, 56 leaves, 56 handcoloured engraved plates. Later full green morocco, spine lightly sunned, marbled endpapers, top edge gilt a few spots otherwise a very good copy. **\$9,500**

One the most attractive of Australian botanical books and the first to use live specimens for illustration instead of dried plants or field sketches. The species depicted were all grown from seed in London nurseries. Sweet was a talented, hard-working horticulturist and writer with a substantial number of books to his name. The conclusion to Sweet's life was tragic; he was accused, in 1826, of stealing from Kew Gardens "seven plants, value £7, and seven pots, value 6d, the goods of our Lord the King". This was a serious charge with hanging or transportation the ultimate conclusion. The charge was possibly trumped up by the Director of Kew Gardens and Sweet was found not guilty. The trial affected Sweet's mental health and he died in 1835. *Flora Australasica* and *The Florist's Guide* were his last books.

Ferguson 1144; Great Flower Books (reprint) p. 143; Nissen BBI 1924. See also Fletcher, Harold R. The story of the Royal Horticultural Society 1804-1968. London: Oxford University Press, 1969.



THAKE IS NO FAKE

[38073] **Thake, Eric.** Crested Penguin. Gauche on paper, 24 cm by 19 cm, signed "Eric Thake" upper right hand corner, mounted and framed. **\$6,500**

Eric Prentice Anchor Thake (1904-1982) for much of his career worked as a commercial artist. He had a number of successful exhibitions throughout his life and there are a number of books on his work. He is best known for a series of printed Christmas cards that were sent to friends over forty years.

PROVENANCE: The property of Charles Bryant (1902-1960), editor of *The Emu* from 1929 to 1960, and thence by descent. Thake designed Bryant's bookplate of a diving Kingfisher.



CAPTAIN LEGGE'S COPY

[28036] **[Tweeddale, Arthur].** The ornithological works ... reprinted from the originals by the desire of his widow. Edited and revised by his nephew, Robert G. Wardlaw Ramsay, together with a biographical sketch of the author by William Howard Russell. For private circulation. *London: Author, 1881.* Large quarto, 760 pp., eleven handcoloured plates by Smit, one coloured map. Contemporary half olive morocco and marbled boards, two library stamps of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union (blank endpaper and title page), pasted on the blank endpaper a note "Captain Legge with Lord Tweeddale's kind regards April 1882". **\$3,500**



Colonel Arthur Hay, ninth Marquess of Tweeddale (1824-1878), known before 1862 as Lord Arthur Hay and between 1862 and 1876 as Viscount Walden, was a widely travelled soldier and ornithologist. He was president of the Zoological Society of London from 1868 until his death and assembled a substantial collection of birds, insects, reptiles and mammals. He is best known for his monograph on the *Birds of the Celebes*, first published in The Transactions of the Zoological Society of London.

Wood p. 605.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON



In 1826 the Zoological Society of London was formed with the specific intention of establishing a menagerie, museum and library. In 1830 the first octavo sized volume of the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* was published, a journal that continues to the present day with the title of *Journal of Zoology*. In 1835 the first volume of the quarto sized *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London* was published and this was one of the premier natural history journals of its day. The best Victorian zoologists contributed important articles and the handcoloured illustrations were of the highest standard. The following volumes of the *Transactions* are available, some of them scarce with important papers. For a full listing of the papers and plates contained within each volume please go to our website.



[27575] **Volume seven.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1872.* Quarto, 609 pp. 73 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Contemporary green half morocco, marbled endpapers, a few spots. **\$3,000**

With many papers that formed much of Owen's *Extinct and wingless birds*, plus Murie's classic papers on the Walrus and the Sealion.

[37183] **Volume eight.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1874.* Quarto, 600 pp., 82 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Restored green half morocco, new endpapers, a small library stamp on title page. **\$3,000**

With Viscount Walden's *Birds of The Celebes* and papers by Richard Owen on Moa and extinct Australian marsupials.



[37187] **Volume ten.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1879.* Quarto, 563 pp., 95 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Restored green half morocco, new endpapers, a few light spots and a single small library stamp, otherwise a very good copy. **\$2,500**

With papers by Richard Owen on Moa and other ratites and Slater's supplement to his Curassow monograph.

[27582] **Volume eleven.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1885.* Quarto, 502 pp., 97 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Restored green half morocco, marbled endpapers, a very good copy. **\$2,500**

With papers by Owen on Moa, other ratites and extinct Australian marsupials.



[27576] **Volume twelve.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1890.* Quarto, 393 pp., 65 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Contemporary green half morocco, marbled endpapers, a few spots. **\$2,500**

With papers by Owen on ratites and a handsome paper by Beddard on Hooker's Sea Lion.

[27579] **Volume 13.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1895.* Quarto, 445 pp., 62 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Restored green half morocco, new endpapers, some plates spotted otherwise a very good copy. **\$3,000**



[38188] **Volume 14.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1872.* Quarto, 472 pp. 73 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Contemporary green half morocco, new endpapers, a very good copy. **\$3,000**

With papers by Boulenger on fish and a handsomely illustrated paper on the mammals of the Phillippines by John Whitehead.

[27577] **Volume 16.** *London: Zoological Society of London, 1903.* Quarto, 427 pp., 38 handcoloured and uncoloured lithographic plates, some double page. Binder's cloth, two small library stamps including one on the title page, corners of pages creased and crushed. **\$1,000**

With Lankester's famous paper on the Okapai, the greatest mammal discovery of the twentieth century, and illustrated with a fine chromolithographic plate by Smit.





[8370] **Van Denburgh, John.** The reptiles of western North America: an account of the species known to inhabit California and Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, British Columbia, Sonora and Lower California. *San Francisco: California Academy of Sciences* 1922. Quarto, two volumes, 1028 pp., photographs. Publisher's printed wrappers, uncut and partly unopened. All housed in two matching fleece lined quarter green morocco folding Solander boxes, a superb set. **\$1,500**

Volume one: Lizards. Volume two: Snakes. "One of the best treatise on the subject extant" (Wood p.609).

[32211] **van Lier, J.** Verhandelinge over de slangen en adders die in het Landschap Drenthe ... [title also in French]. *Amsterdam: Erven Houtuin*, 1781. Quarto, 372 pp., uncoloured engraved half title, three handcoloured engraved plates. Contemporary (publisher's?) boards and red calf spine with all edges uncut and coloured, a superb copy contained in a modern Solander box, rare. **\$6,000**

Dutch and French text in parallel column. Johannes van Lier (1726-1799) was a wealthy Dutch politician and tax collector from Drenthe who formed a fine collection of archaeological, mineral and animal specimens. He published on various subjects but he is best remembered for his handsome monograph on the European Adder.

BM(NH) p. 1113; Nissen 2509; Adler volume three; not in Wood.



FOSSIL VEGETABLES



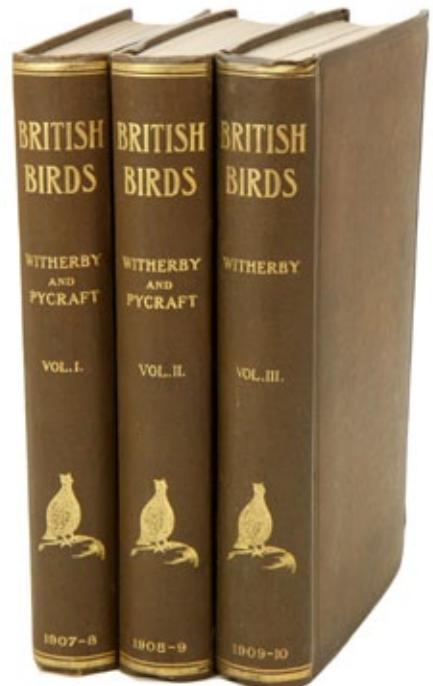
[36572] **Witham, Henry.**
The internal structure of
fossil vegetables found in
the carboniferous and oolitic
deposits of Great Britain,
described and illustrated.
*Edinburgh: Adam and Charles
Black, 1833.* Quarto, 84
pp., 16 engraved plates.
Contemporary full calf,
expertly rebaked, a "prize"
binding with a contemporary
written inscription pasted in.
\$1,200

Henry Witham (1779- 1844)
was the first English person to
investigate the internal structure
of fossil plants by sectioning the
specimens and was a founder
member of the Royal Geological
Society.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BRITISH BIRDS

[30204] **Witherby, H.F. and W. P. Pycraft,**
editors. *British Birds: an illustrated magazine*
devoted chiefly to the birds on the British list.
London: Witherby & Co., 1907-1996. Octavo, 89
volumes, photographs. The first 42 volumes
in the publisher's brown cloth, the remaining
volumes in brown binder's cloth, a fine set
\$4,500

"This is the most important of the periodicals
devoted to British birds, eggs and nests... A
feature of this journal is the biography of British
ornithologists by W. H. Mullens that runs through
it" (Wood p. 258).



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- Nissen IVB* **Nissen, Claus.** Die illustrierten Vogelbücher. *Stuttgart*: **Anton Hiersemann**, (1953).
- Nissen ZBI* **Nissen, Claus.** Die zoologische buchillustration, two volumes. *Stuttgart*: Anton Hiersemann, 1969-1978.
- Nissen BBI* **Nissen, Claus.** Die botanische buchillustration [with supplement], two volumes. *Stuttgart*: Anton Hiersemann, 1969-1978.
- ADB* **Pike, Douglas, general editor.** Australian dictionary of biography, 10 volumes. *Melbourne*: Melbourne University Press, 1966-1986.
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- Zimmer* **Zimmer, John Todd.** Catalogue of the Edward E. Ayer Ornithological Library, two parts. *Chicago*: Field Museum of Natural History, 1926.



St. B. Smith del.

Botany of the Hawaiian Islands, Vol. I, 1848.