

Nicholas Marlowe Rare Books

List 2: Voyages, Travel, Natural History 1512 - 1863



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Voyages, Travel, Natural History 1512 - 1863

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Cover illustration: item 4

Cincomenza el libro de la prima Nauigatione per lo oceano a le terre de Negri de la Bassa Ethiofia per comandamento del Illust. Signor Infante Don Hurich fratello de Don Dourth Re de Portogallo.

El primo che ha trouato la nauigation del mare oceano uerso el mezo di. Capi. i.



Stendo Io Alouise da Ca da molto statoro el primo: che de la nation de la nobel Cita de Venesia sia dimosso a nauigare al mare oceano di fora del stretto de zibeltera uerso le parte de mezo di in le terre de Negri de la bassa Ethiofia. doue in questo mio itinerario hauendo uisto molte cose noue: & degne de qualche noto: acioche quelli che de mi haeranno a descendere possino intendere quello sia stato lo animo mio in haer messo accerchare uarie cose in diuersi & noui lochi: che ueramente & icostumi: & li lochi nostri in comparatione dela cosa

fa per me ueduta & intesa: uno altro mondo se poteria chiamar: de qua e aduqua processo: che benemerito farne qualche nota: che come la memoria me seruira: cusi con la penna transorrero le cose predette: le quale se per mi non seranno cosi ordinatamente messe: come la materia richiede: almeno non manhero de integra uerita in ogni parte: & questo senza dubio piu presto de mancho dicendo che oltre el uero alcuna cosa narrando. Adunque e da sapere: che colui che fu el primo inuentore de far nauigare questa parte del mare oceano uerso mezo di de le terre de Negri de la bassa ethiofia. laquale dal primo nostro padre Adamo in qua non se troua (excepto quello che seruira) che fosse nauigata mai. Saluo al presente e stato lo Illust. Signor Infante don hurich de portogallo fiolo che fo del illustre don zouanne Re de portogallo: El qual Signor Infante don hurich: ben che de la sua uirtu molte cose notande se poteria dire: tuto ne passo: Solo a dechiarare che esso fo dato tuto ala militia del nostro Signor Iesu Christo in guerzar a barbari e combattere per la fede: non uolse mai prendere donna: sotto grande castita obseruata dose in sua zouentu: molte cose dignissime in baraglia de mori & per sua propria persona per sua industria fece degne de grande memoria: de che essendo el prefato Re Don zouanne suo padre uegnuto a morte. chiamo el dicto signor infante don Hurich suo fiolo: e r comandoli

First printed account of the first voyage to India from Europe:
the Vasco da Gama voyage

First printed account of the discovery of Brazil by Pedro Alvares
Cabral

“After Columbus’ letters the most important contribution to the
early history of American discovery” - Sabin

1.

Montalboddo, Fracanzano. *Paesi nouamente retrouati et nouo mondo da Alberico Vesputio florentino intitulado.*

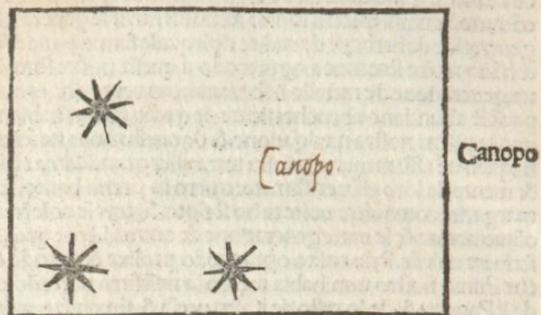
Milan: con la impensa de Io. Iacobo & fratelli da Lignano : & diligente cura
& industria de Ioanne Angelo Scinzenzeler, nel 1512.

Octavo (190 x 135 mm.), ff. [68] (A⁴, a-s⁴). 4 woodcut text illustrations (3 star maps, and one diagram demonstrating the curvature of the earth), roman letter, floriated white on black woodcut initials, woodcut printer’s device on verso of last leaf. 17th century vellum over boards, edges sprinkled red and green.

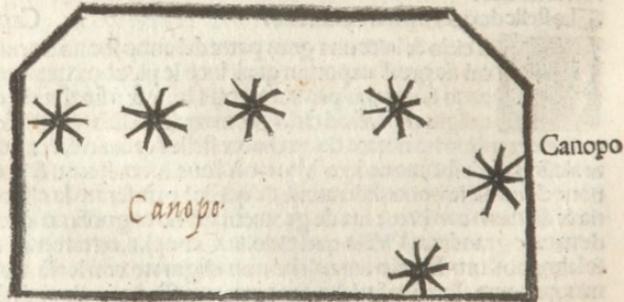
Lacking the 4 preliminary leaves (title A⁴ and table of contents), but text (beginning on a¹) complete; a few contemporary annotations, occasional very slight marginal stains, a couple of minute wormholes. Binding a little stained. A good copy, clean and unpressed.

RARE EARLY EDITION of one the most important collections of voyages and travels ever printed, including the first printed account of the voyage of Vasco da Gama to India, the first printed account of the discovery of Brazil by Pedro Alvares Cabral, and all three voyages of Columbus to the Americas. It is also the first printed collection of global voyages, and the earliest obtainable printed collection of voyages overall, preceded only by Peter Martyr’s *Libretto*, known in only 3 copies, which is limited to the Americas: “Apart from the little *Libretto*, 1504, this account of “The New Found Lands” is the earliest printed collection of voyages and discoveries” (*Printing and the Mind of Man* p. 24).

sono menate. sif. sonno: lequale hanno la figura del triangulo orthogono: de lequale quella che e di mezo. ha. ix. mezi gradi de circonferentia: E quando queste nascono da la sinistra: se uede uno Canopo biácho de una eximia grandezza: lequale quando a mezo il cielo peruengano hanno questa figura.



Dopo q̄ste tiengono altre due: de lequale la meza ha de la circonferentia el diametro. xii. mezi gradi: & cō q̄le se uede unaltro Canopo biácho: & a questo se quitano altre. vi. stelle bellissime & chiarissime infra tutte le altre de loctava sfera: lequale in la superfittie del firmamento la meza ha de la circōferentia el diametro gradi. xxxii. & con queste ua uno Canopo negro de una grande magnitudine. & si se uedeno in la uía lactea: & tale figura hanno quando sono in la linea meridionale.



It has now been established that the book was compiled and edited by Fracanzano Montalboddo, a professor of literature at Vicenza. The extremely rare first edition appeared in 1507 (in Vicenza). The text includes the following accounts, amongst other material:

- (1) Two letters of Girolamo Sernigi, an Italian merchant/spy based in Lisbon, with an account of Vasco da Gama's first voyage to India (1497-99): "the earliest printed account of the voyage of Vasco da Gama" (*Printing and the Mind of Man* p. 24)
- (2) The discovery of the coast of Brazil by Pedro Alvarez Cabral (1499)
- (3) The first three voyages of Christopher Columbus (1492, 1493, 1498)
- (4) The two voyages of Alvise Cadamosto exploring the West African coast, Senegal, Gambia, and discovering the Cape Verde islands (1455-56)
- (5) The voyage of Vincente Yanez Pinzon to Brazil (1500)
- (6) The third voyage of Amerigo Vespucci to Brazil (1501)
- (7) The discovery of Greenland by Gaspar Corte-Real (1500)

"One of the most influential books ever published - the celebrated *Paesi novamente ritrovati*... a volume whose importance can neither be overrated nor overemphasised ... the book par excellence by which the news of the great voyages and the great discoveries - east and west - was disseminated throughout Renaissance Europe. For news value as regards both the Orient and America, no other book printed in the sixteenth century could hold a candle to it" (Penrose p. 277).



“After Columbus’ letters the most important contribution to the early history of American discovery” (Sabin XI p. 299).

“This book is not a jewel, it is a cluster of jewels” (Borba de Moraes p. 580).

“Columbus, Magellan, and Vasco da Gama accomplished the three greatest feats of navigation in history. Vasco da Gama’s was an even more remarkable performance than that of Columbus... This voyage in the eastern hemisphere is comparable in importance to Columbus’s in the western” (*Printing and the Mind of Man* p. 24).

In common with some other early editions of Montalboddo, copies of this edition appear to occasionally lack the table of contents at the beginning of the book - cf. the Grenville copy in the British Library.

Very rare. OCLC lists 5 copies only (NYPL, Newberry, Indiana, BL (incomplete), Leiden). No copies at any of the major auction houses since at least 1975 (ABPC).

Provenance: early ownership inscription on verso of last leaf.

£11,000

Printing and the Mind of Man 42; Brunet V 1158; Borba de Moraes 581; HARRISSE 70; Alden & Landis 512/6.

Printing and the Mind of Man. Munich (1983).

Penrose, B. *Travel and Discovery in the Renaissance 1420-1620*. Cambridge (1967).



Itinerario De Ludouico De Verthema Bolognese
de lo Egipto de la Suria de la Arabia Deserta & Felice
de la Persia de la India: & de la Ethiopia. La fede el
uiuere & costumi de tutte le prefate prouincie. Noua
mente impresso.



One of the great early travel accounts

First printed eyewitness account of Mecca

First printed description of the Hajj

First printed reference to voyages towards Australia?

2.

Varthema, Ludovico di. *Itinerario de Ludouico de Verthema bolognese ne lo Egypto ne la Suria ne la Arabia deserta & felice ne la Persia ne la India, & ne la Ethiopia. La fede el uiuere & costumi de tutte le prefate prouincie.*

Milan: Iohanne Angelo Scinzenzeler, 1523.

Octavo (185 x 130 mm.), ff. 42 (A-E⁸, F²). Large woodcut on title with decorative woodcut border, putti above and below. The foreground of the main woodcut depicts Varthema seated on a bench in front of a building, writing on a globe, behind him a set of dividers; in the background a landscape with a ship at sea and a castle. Roman letter, numerous floriated white on black woodcut initials. Recent calf in contemporary style, covers with concentric frames in blind fillets, gilt fleurons at outer corners, central lozenge in gilt; spine with five raised bands, lettered direct in gilt; marbled endpapers, all edges gilt.

Bound without the register leaf F³. Colophon leaf F² present, and text complete. Occasional very small worm trails, expertly repaired, affecting a few letters of text; occasional faint early annotations. A good, clean copy.

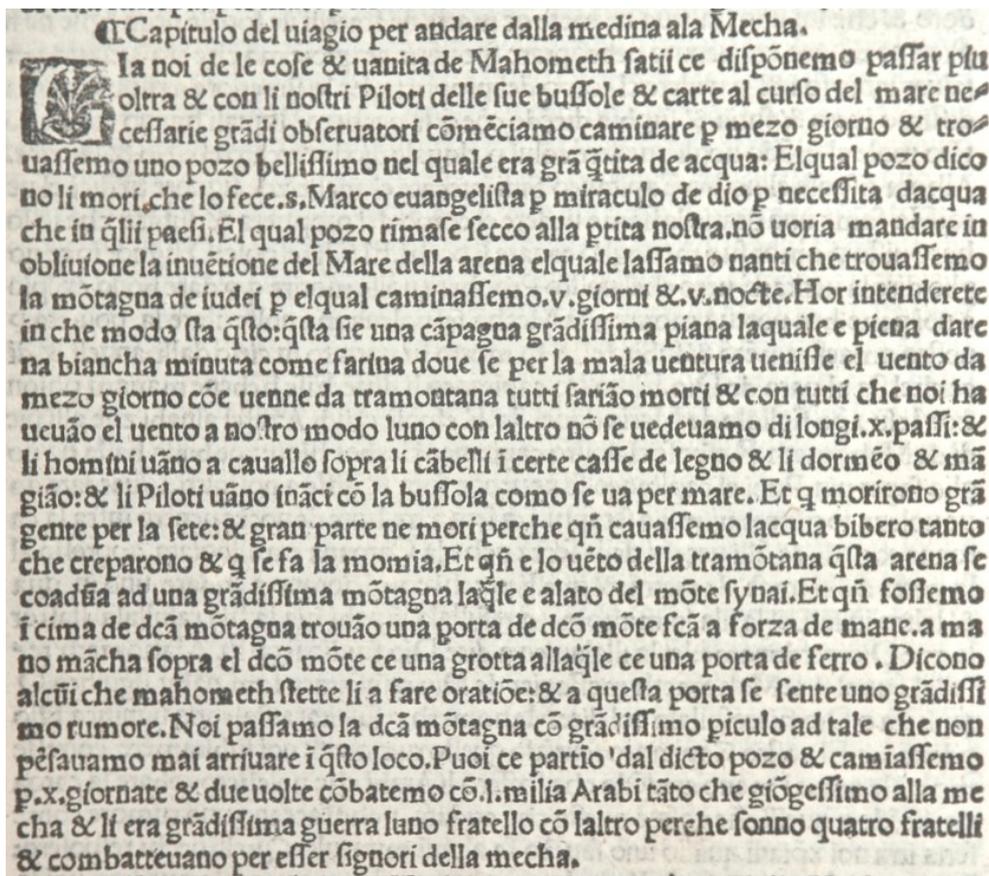
RARE EARLY EDITION of one of the great early travel accounts: the voyages and travels of Ludovico di Varthema in the Middle East, India and Southeast Asia. Varthema was the first traveller to reach India by the Red Sea and return by the Cape of Good Hope, probably the first European to enter Mecca, and, if his account is accurate, the first European to reach the Spice Islands. His account includes what is certainly the first printed eyewitness descriptions of Mecca and Medina, and, most intriguingly, the first printed reference to voyages south of Java - ie. in the region of Australia.

Varthema left Venice on his travels in 1502; having converted to Islam he accompanied a Hajj caravan from Damascus to Medina and Mecca in

1503, entering both cities. By 1505 he had reached India, and from there claims to have travelled to the Malay Peninsula, Burma, Sumatra, and as far east as the Moluccas. Returning to India via Borneo and Java, he sailed to Lisbon in 1508 in a Portuguese ship. His account of his travels was first printed in Rome in 1510, and became a Europe-wide bestseller.

“... a man whose fame in his own lifetime rivaled that of Columbus and Magellan” (Penrose p. 28).

“... when he died some time before 1517, Varthema was one of the most successful and best-known travel writers since Marco Polo... In fact his work is one of the most striking successes of travel literature in the history of printing, with at least five editions in Italian, one in Latin, three in German, and two in Castilian between only 1510 and 1523” (Rubies p. 125).



“Varthema’s *Itinerario*, first published in 1510, had an enormous impact at the time, and in some respects determined the course of European expansion toward the Orient. It is important as the first printed European source of information on lands to the east of India...” (Howgego I, p. 1058)

Amongst Varthema’s more celebrated passages is his account of travelling with a Hajj caravan of 40,000 pilgrims in 1503: “the first Western narrative of the Hajj” (Wolfe p. 77). He entered both Medina and Mecca, and provides descriptions of both, and the tomb of Muhammad: “probably he is the first European whose claim to having been [to Mecca] is genuine” (Rubies, p. 132).

Remarkably, in his description of his travels in what is now Indonesia, Varthema relates a conversation with a sea captain who speaks of voyages south of Java: “Varthema also makes a brief but very important reference to the Southern Cross and to navigation on the seas south of Java: in this way he refers, admittedly in a sketchy and inconclusive way, to Australia...” (Hammond, p. xix). The passage in Varthema translates as follows:

“[The captain] showed us four or five stars, among which there was one he said was opposite to our North star... He also told us that on the other side of the island [Java], towards the south, there are some other races, who navigate by these four and five stars opposite ours; and, moreover, he gave us to understand that beyond the island... it was colder than in any other part of the world” (Varthema, translated in Hammond, p. 195).

OCLC lists 5 copies only (Yale, Trinity College Hartford, NYPL, BL, BnF).

£7,500

Cordier *Indosinica* I 98;

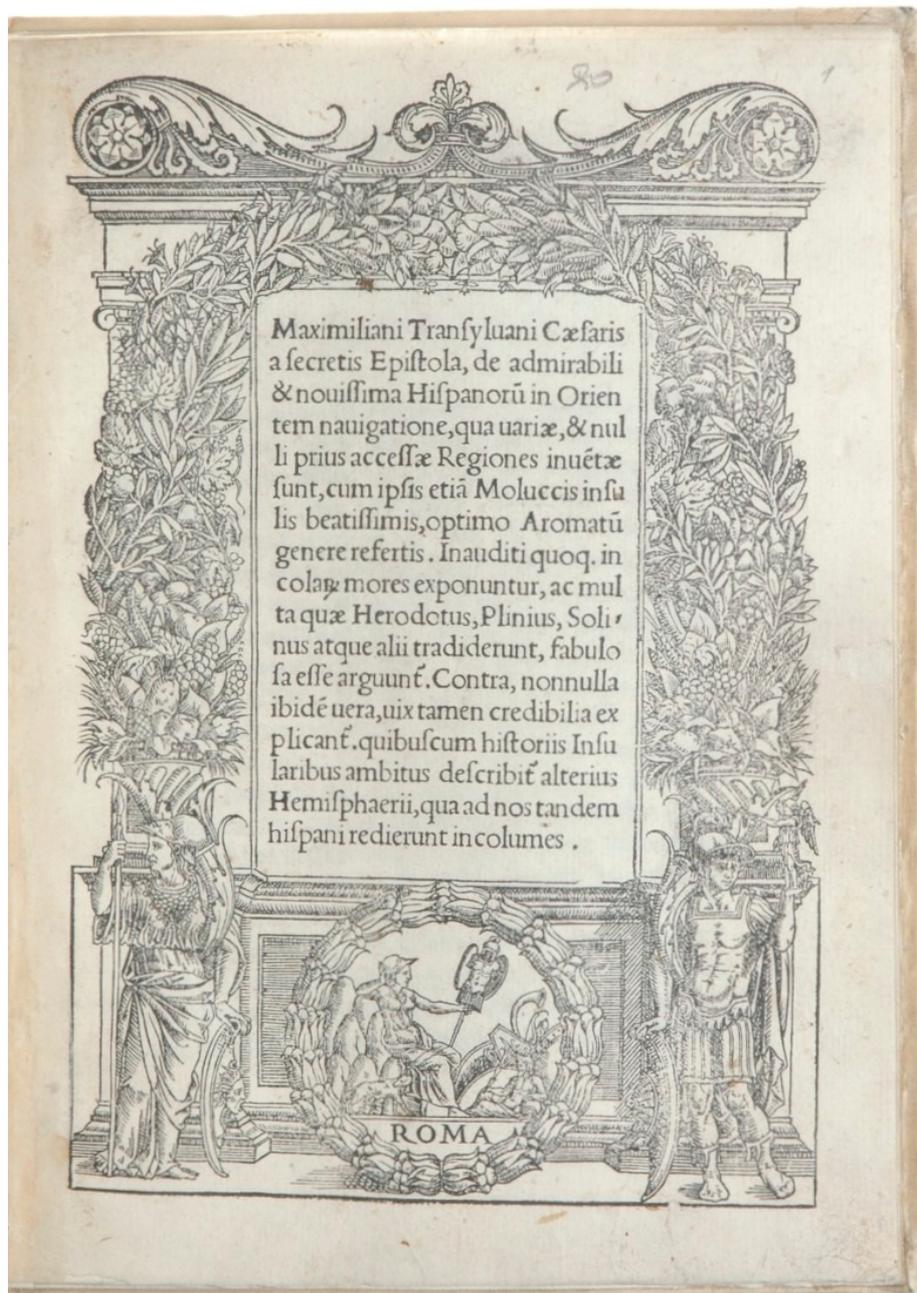
Wolfe, M. *One Thousand Roads to Mecca*. New York (1997)

Rubies, J. *Travel and Ethnology in the Renaissance, South India Through European Eyes 1250–1625*. Cambridge (2000)

Hammond, L. *Travelers in Disguise*. Cambridge (1963)

Howgego, R. *Encyclopedia of Exploration*. Potts Point (2004)

Penrose, B. *Travel and Discovery in the Renaissance 1420–1620*. Cambridge (1967)



80

Maximiliani Transyluani Cæsaris
a secretis Epistola, de admirabili
& nouissima Hispanorū in Orien-
tem nauigatione, qua uariæ, & nul-
li prius accessæ Regionēs inuētæ
sunt, cum ipsis etiā Moluccis insu-
lis beatissimis, optimo Aromatū
genere refertis. Inauditi quoq. in
colap. mores exponuntur, ac mul-
ta quæ Herodotus, Plinius, Soli-
nus atque alii tradiderunt, fabulo-
sa esse arguunt. Contra, nonnulla
ibidē uera, uix tamen credibilia ex-
plicant. quibuscum historiis Insu-
laribus ambitus describit alterius
Hemisphaerii, qua ad nos tandem
hispani redierunt incolumes .

ROMA

The first circumnavigation of the earth

The Magellan voyage

3.

Maximilianus Transylvanus. *Maximiliani Transyluani Caesaris a secretis Epistola, de admirabili & nouissima Hispanoru in Orientem nauigatione, qua uariae, & nulli prius accessae Regiones inuetae sunt, cum ipsis etia Moluccis insulis beatissimis, optimo Aromatu genere refertis.*

Rome: F. Minitii Calvi, 1524.

Quarto (210 x 150 mm.), ff. [18] (A-C⁴, D⁶). Title within an elaborate woodcut architectural border, classical figures below with cornucopias and a floral wreath, medallion depicting the goddess Roma; roman letter, capital spaces with guide letters. Later limp vellum.

Leaves B² and B³ in excellent facsimile, title reinforced at gutter, minute wormhole in a few leaves partially affecting a few letters. In a half green morocco chemise and half green morocco slipcase. An unusually tall, clean copy.

FIRST PRINTED ACCOUNT of the first circumnavigation of the earth by Ferdinand Magellan, drawn from interviews conducted with the remaining 18 crew members on their return to Spain in September 1522.

“The first complete account of Magellan’s voyage was published in 1523 by Maximilian of Transylvania. The natural son of the archbishop of Salzburg, the young Maximilian was attached to the court of Charles V then in Castile. At the suggestion of Peter Martyr, his tutor, Maximilian interviewed Sebastiano del Cano and his men and addressed an account of their adventures to his father. The report subsequently appeared in print at Cologne and Rome as *De Moluccis Insulis*” (Howgego I, p. 665).

The first edition appeared in Cologne in January 1523; this was followed by editions in Paris and Rome in the same year. The present second Rome edition, fourth overall, appeared in February 1524, within eighteen months of the return of the expedition.

“Columbus had travelled westward in the hope of reaching the Indies, but instead discovered America. Fernando Magellan (1480-1521) was his rational successor and brought the enterprise to a successful conclusion by

accomplishing the first voyage around the world... Magellan's achievement is probably the greatest feat of seamanship the world has ever known. It must be remembered that he had no charts, could calculate the latitude only by the sun, and the longitude not at all. All he had was the compass, the hour-glass and astrolabe. Magellan's achievement is as important as Columbus's and had an equally potent effect on the fate of the world" (*Printing and the Mind of Man* p. 34).

"Magellan, in short, is the true heir of Columbus, not merely in his purpose but in the manner of its achievement; he took up where Columbus left off and carried to a successful though barren termination what Columbus had from boyhood striven to do. Columbus got half way; Magellan got the whole way, in a voyage that was the rational successor of the venture of 1492. With da Gama's expedition to complete the trilogy, we may have no hesitancy in proclaiming these three voyages the most important in human annals, and Magellan's outstrips the other two as a triumph over terrible difficulties" (Penrose p. 155).

Provenance: Horacio Zorraquin Becu (accompanying correspondence with the bookseller Francis Edwards dated 1971).

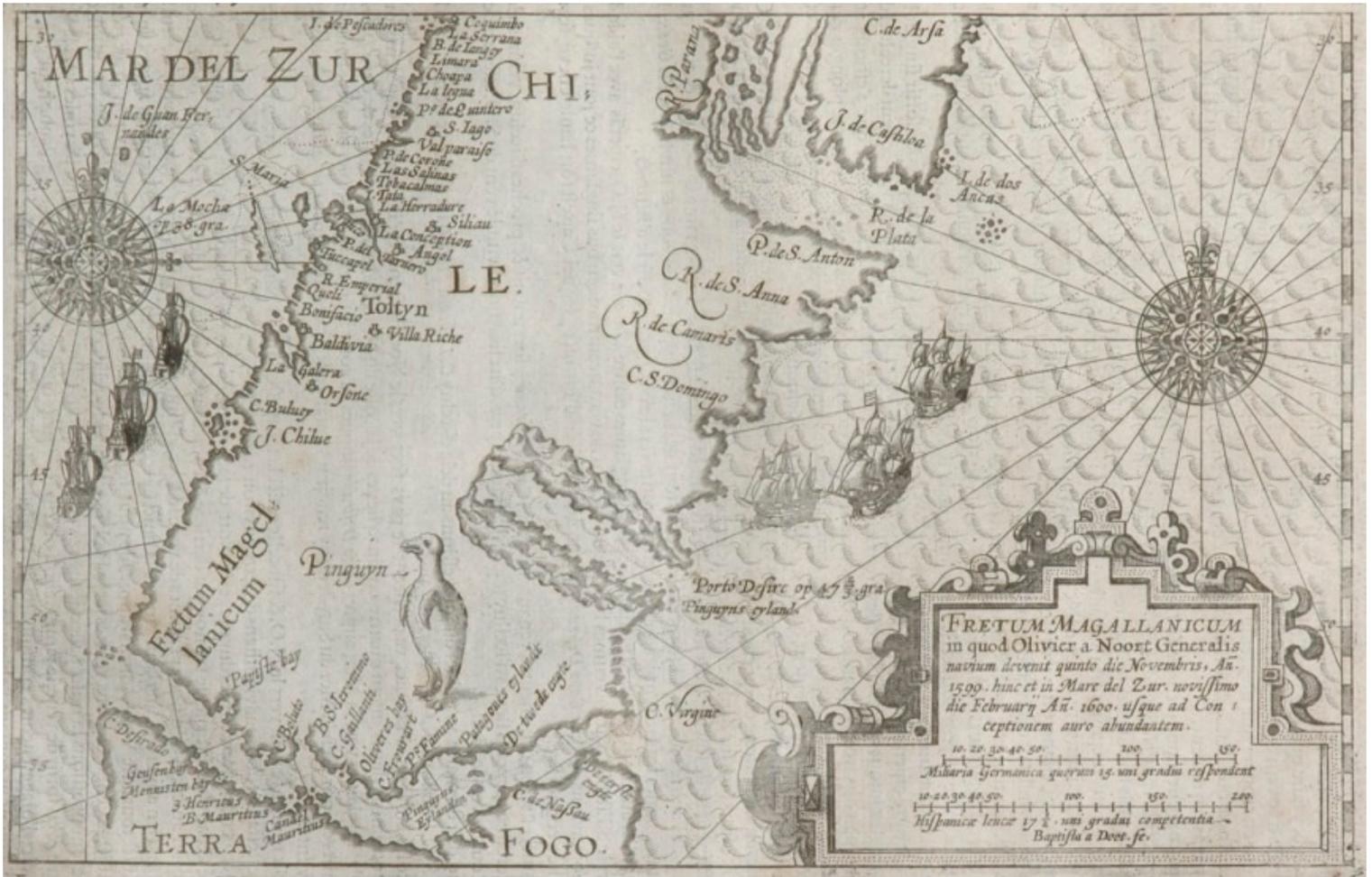
£14,000

Alden & Landis 524/13; Church 56; HARRISSE 124

Howgego, R. *Encyclopedia of Exploration*. Potts Point (2004)

Printing and the Mind of Man. Munich (1983)

Penrose, B. *Travel and Discovery in the Renaissance 1420-1620*. Cambridge (1967)



Fourth circumnavigation of the earth

Amongst the earliest European images of Japanese ships and people

With five engravings by Baptista van Doetecum, including a map of the Strait of Magellan

4.

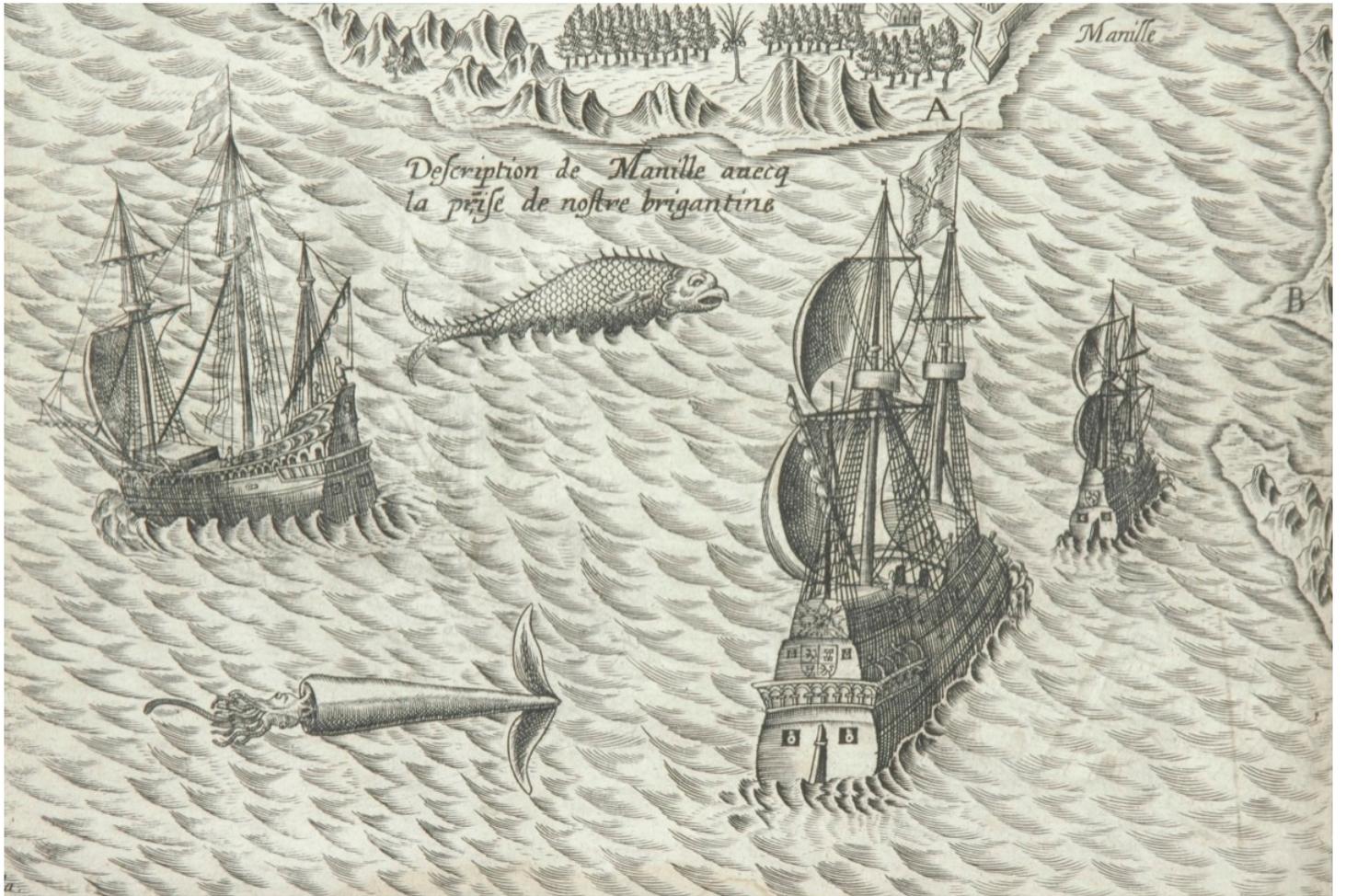
Van Noort Olivier. *Description du penible voyage faict entour dl'univers ou globe terrestre, par Sr. Olivier du Nort d'Vtrecht, general de quatre navires, ascavoir: de celle dicte Mauritius avecq laquelle il est retourne comme admiral, l'aultre de Henry filz de Fredericq vice-admiral, la troisieme dicte la Concorde, avecq la quatriesme nomme l'Esperance, bien montees dequipage de guerre & vivres, ayant 248. hommes en icelles, pour traversant le destroit de Magellanes, descouvrir les costes de Cica, Chili & Peru, & y traffiquer & puis passant le Molucques, & circumnavigant le globe du monde retourner a la patrie.*

Amsterdam: Cornille Claesz, 1602.

Folio (330 x 230 mm.), pp. [2], 61, [1]. Engraved vignette of Rotterdam on title; 25 engraved views, maps and portraits in text (including maps of the Strait of Magellan, Peru and Brazil, a view of Rio de Janeiro, and illustrations of sea battles, a Japanese junk and Japanese merchants). Recent quarter calf over marbled paper boards.

A few leaves dust-soiled and a little frayed at edges with a couple of marginal repairs; one plate with a marginal tear with slight loss; some light stains, mostly marginal; small worm trail in the inner margin of the first five leaves affecting a few letters and two plates; outer margin cut a little close touching a couple of plates. A good copy with good impressions of the plates.

FIRST EDITION IN FRENCH of the fourth circumnavigation of the earth (following those of Magellan, Drake, and Cavendish) commanded by Olivier van Noort: "of the utmost rarity" (Sabin XIII p. 370). All early editions of this voyage are very rare. With five plates, including a beautiful map of the Strait of Magellan, by Baptista van Doetecum, of the celebrated van Doetecum family of Dutch engravers (Hollstein IV p. 270).



Famously tragic at the time, the expedition left Rotterdam in August 1598 with a crew of 248, to return three years later with only 8 survivors. Having picked up a pilot on the English coast who had sailed with Thomas Cavendish, van Noort proceeded to the Strait of Magellan via Guinea and Brazil. Once in the Strait, the expedition lost 35 men to a major attack by native Fuegians, and the crew were forced to survive on penguin meat. A mutiny led by the second-in-command, Jacob van Ilpendam, then followed: van Noort prevailed and van Ilpendam was marooned on the coast of Chile.

With half his crew already dead, and only two ships remaining, van Noort started across the Pacific in May 1600, finally reaching the Philippines five months later. There he was involved in a sea battle with the Spanish, losing a further ship, whose entire crew was garroted on the order of Francisco Tello, governor of the Philippines. His remaining ship heavily damaged, van Noort managed to take on a cargo of spice in the Moluccas, and then sailed directly across the Indian Ocean to the Cape of Good Hope. He arrived back in Holland in August 1601, after a voyage of almost exactly three years, with only one ship and 8 crew remaining. The account of the voyage, however, was a great success. It first appeared in Dutch in 1601, shortly after the return of the expedition. Editions in Dutch, French, German, and Latin then followed in 1602 - all of which are very rare. This first French edition was reprinted in de Bry.

Five of the plates are by Baptista van Doetecum (Hollstein IV p. 270), a member of the van Doetecum family, which achieved wide fame at the time for their revolutionary engraving techniques, a combination of engraving and etching, famously employed on a number of prints designed by Pieter Bruegel. The illustrations were in part based on drawings made during the voyage itself, and some were later copied by the de Brys for their *Grands Voyages* (Hollstein IV p. 270). Particularly important are the images of Japanese ships and merchants encountered by van Noort in the Moluccas:

“... it is especially interesting because of its descriptive passages on Japan, and the engravings of Japanese shipping and natives must be among the earliest done in Europe” (Penrose p. 312).



Rare. OCLC lists only 4 copies in America (Yale, Minnesota, Harvard, Huntington, NYPL).

£14,000

Borba de Moraes, p.617; Alden & Landis 602/74; Hogwego N37; JCB (3) II:16; Hollstein IV p. 270

Nalis, H. *The New Hollstein: Dutch and Flemish Etchings, Engravings and Woodcuts 1450-1700: The Van Doetecum Family*. Rotterdam (1998)

Penrose, B. *Travel and Discovery in the Renaissance 1420-1620*. Cambridge (1967)

LES
VOYAGES
ADVANTUREUX
DE
FERNAND
MENDEZ PINTO.

FIDELEMENT TRADVICTS DE
Portugais en François par le Sicur BERNARD
FIGVIER Gentil-homme Portugais.

ET DEDIEZ A MONSEIGNEUR
LE CARDINAL DE RICHELIEV.

LE CONTENV DE LA PRESENTE
Histoire se verra à la page suiuantc.

A PARIS,

Chez MATHVRIN HENAVLT, ruë Clopin, deuant
le petit Nauarre: & à sa boutique en la Cour du
Palais, à costé de la Chappelle saint
Michel, proche la fontaine.

M. DC. XXVIII.

Auue Privilege du Roy.

“One of the finest travel books of all time” - Howgego

“The Sindbad of Portugal” - Richard Francis Burton

One of the earliest eyewitness accounts of Japan

5.

Pinto, Fernand Mendez. *Les Voyages Advantureux De Fernand Mendez Pinto* .

Paris: Mathurin Henault, 1628.

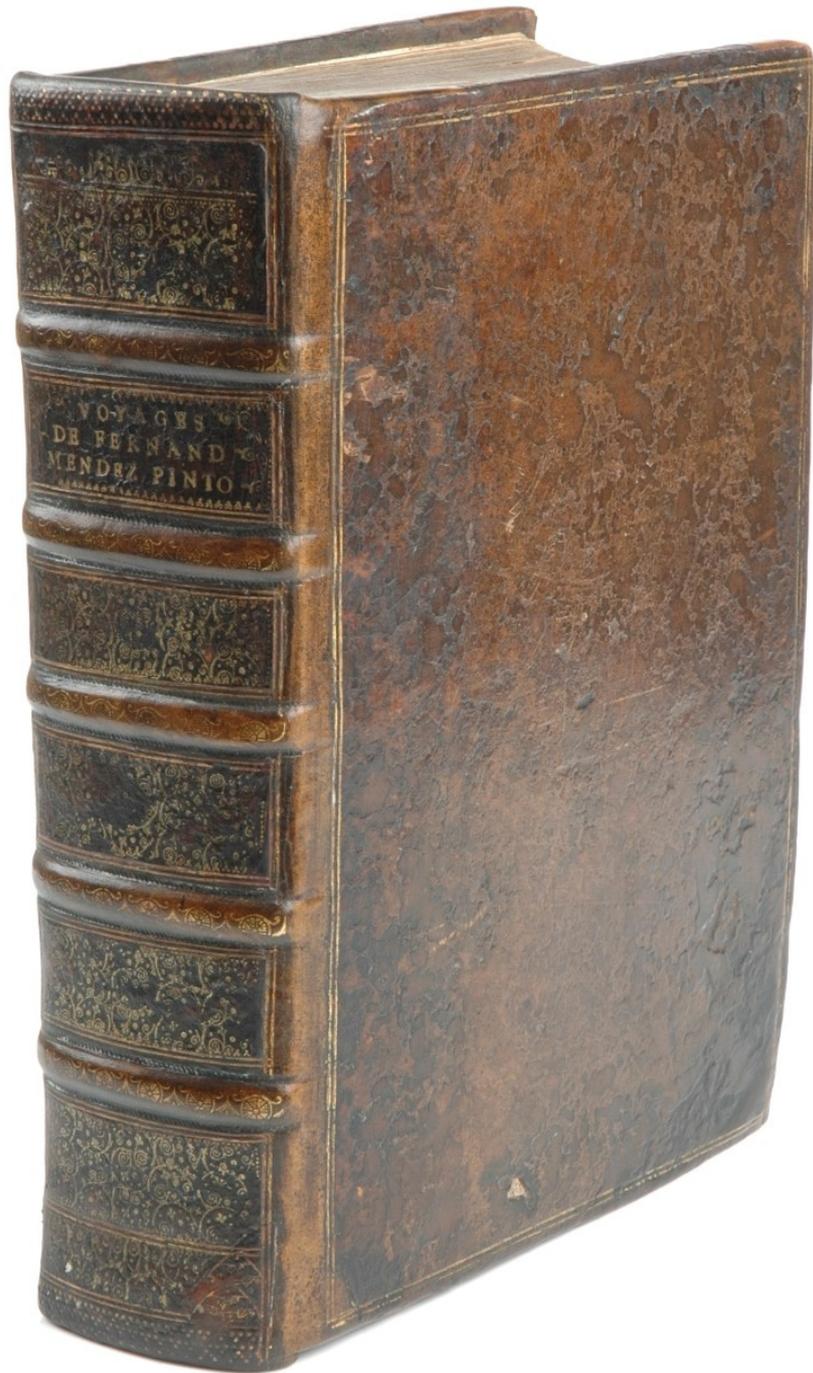
Quarto (230 x 165 mm.), pp. [xvi], 1193, [xv]. Title printed in red and black. Roman letter with some italic. Woodcut initials and headpieces. Contemporary French mottled calf, covers with a double fillet frame in gilt, spine with five raised bands, compartments elaborately gilt, edges sprinkled red and blue.

Light age-toning, lower corner p. 623 torn (not affecting text); occasional very slight marginal stains and rust spots.. Expertly re-backed preserving spine compartments; corners restored. A very good copy.

FIRST EDITION IN FRENCH: an early edition of the voyages and travels of Fernao Mendes Pinto in India, Southeast Asia, China, and Japan, widely regarded as one of the most influential travel books ever written.

Pinto sailed from Lisbon for India in 1537; he was to spend the next 20 years in Asia, travelling independently in India, the Malay Peninsula, Thailand, Vietnam, Burma, Hainan, China, and Japan. His claim to have visited the Great Wall in 1545 is much disputed, but he was certainly amongst the first Europeans to visit Japan, landing on Tanega Shima Island in 1545 and travelling to Kyushu. He finally sailed for home in 1558, settled near Lisbon, and wrote up his travels. The manuscript was complete by 1578, but for reasons that are unclear - probably political - it was not published until 1614.

“Pinto’s fame rests upon his *Peregrinacao* (Travels)... It is a huge work of 226 chapters, encompassing 523 pages in its latest English-language translation. He recounts his adventures in China (where he may have met the Dalai Lama) Japan, Indochina, Ethiopia, and the East Indies, an odyssey during which he was captured, was sold into slavery, and served as an ambassador.



Although he has been accused of taking undue licence with the facts, most of his adventures have been corroborated, even though he may have plagiarized from accounts written by others. He has been unjustly maligned because he promulgated a “Black Legend” criticizing Portuguese colonization in the East. The *Peregrinacao* was his only literary work, but in his day, his popularity rivaled that of Marco Polo and Cervantes’s character Don Quixote” (Torodash p. 156).

“The success of the *Travels* was enormous... In the seventeenth century alone the *Travels* ran into a total of nineteen editions in six languages: two Portuguese, seven Spanish, three French, two Dutch, two German, and three English editions...” (Catz p. xxvii).

“No work about Asia had a greater impact on 17th century European literature than Pinto’s account of his adventures in the East” (Lowendahl I p. 40)

“...probably the greatest adventurer in Portuguese history. In the course of twenty-one years he traveled, fought, and traded all the way from East Africa to Japan, being several times shipwrecked, thirteen times a captive, and seventeen times sold into slavery. His buoyant and courageous spirit - as well as iron constitution - brought him through every peril, and he lived to return to Portugal to write a wonderful account of his fabulous adventures” (Penrose, p. 70).

Provenance: Madame La Marquise D'Agoult (early ownership inscription of on front free endpaper).

£4,500

Cordier *Bibliotheca Indosinica* vol. 1 p. 111; Brunet vol. 4 p. 670.

Lowendahl, B. *China Illustrata*. Hua Hin (2008).

Penrose, B. *Travel and Discovery in the Renaissance 1420-1620*. Cambridge (1967).

Torodash, M. *Fernao Mendes Pinto*. In: Buisseret, D. *Oxford Companion to World Exploration*. Oxford (2007).



FRANCIS LOLONOIS.

Part. 2. Page. 1.

The Buccaneers of America in a rare contemporary binding

6.

Esquemeling, John [Exquemelin, Alexandre]. *Bucaniers of America Or a true Account of the Most remarkable Assaults Committed of late years upon the Coasts of The West Indies.*

London: William Crooke, 1684.

Quarto (256 x 177 mm.), pp. [12], 115, 151, 124, [12]. Roman letter. Title within box rule. With 9 engraved plates and maps (3 folding), and 3 woodcut text illustrations. The plates include: 4 portraits of buccaneers, a scene of Francois Lolonois eating the heart of a victim, an attack on Puerto Principe, a sea battle with the Spanish, a map of Panama, and an attack on Panama. Contemporary mottled calf, red morocco label, edges sprinkled red.

A couple of slight marginal marks. Rubbed, front endpapers removed at an early date, a large chip in the upper cover, short crack in upper joint. A beautifully authentic, unpressed, tall copy, clean and bright, the plates in excellent impressions with wide margins, retaining their original deckle edges.

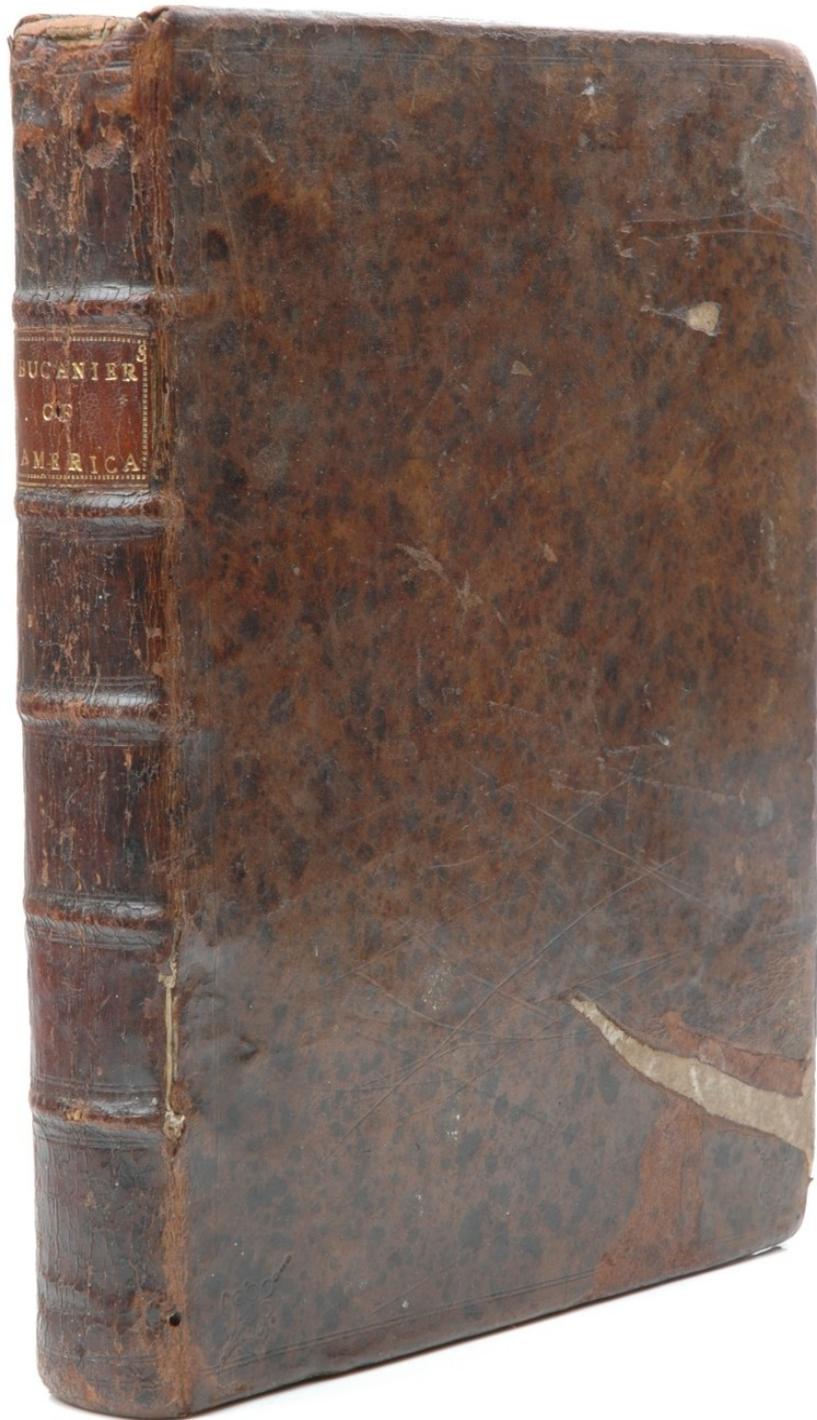
FIRST EDITION IN ENGLISH of *The Buccaneers of America*, the key work on the buccaneers: the complete text of Alexandre Exquemelin's famous *De Americanische Zee Roovers*. This is a rare example in an intact contemporary binding - copies are usually found rebacked or in later bindings.

"... the "classic" of all buccaneering books" (Hill p. 202)

"Perhaps no book in any language was ever the parent of so many imitations, and the source of so many fictions, as this the *Buccaneers of America*" (Sabin VI p. 310)

The author, Alexandre Exquemelin, was himself a buccaneer in the Caribbean between 1666 and 1672. First published in Dutch in 1678, *Buccaneers of America* became an immediate bestseller throughout Europe.

"[The] classic *Buccaneers of America* ... is the prime, and indeed almost the only comprehensive source of information for pirate activities in the seventeenth century" (Howgego I p. 357)



“The buccaneer’s most spectacular successes were achieved under the leadership of Henry Morgan whose feats are recorded in A O Exquemelin’s *De Americaenische Zee-Roovers* ... Exquemelin’s narrative describes how Morgan was commissioned by the governor of Jamaica, Thomas Modyford, to enhance the security of the island. Morgan interpreted his instructions liberally, effecting a series of preemptive strikes against the Spanish towns throughout the region culminating in an assault on Panama. With the city in flames, Morgan barely manages to restrain his men from invading Peru. Exquemelin claims to give an eyewitness account of Morgan’s “unparalleled exploits”. Replete with sensational tales of daring and lush descriptions of exotic locales, Exquemelin’s narrative is a festive historical romance with great appeal” (Kelly p. 136)

This first English edition of 1684 was quickly followed by a second edition in the same year. In 1685 Crooke published a “fourth part” of the book, not in fact a translation of Exquemelin at all (and not anticipated in the present 1684 first edition), but containing the accounts of Bartholomew Sharp and Basil Ringrose. This was subsequently often bound with the first and second editions of *Bucaniers*. “This Part iv consists of Sharp's voyage, and is perhaps more properly part of the second edition” (Sabin VI p. 313).

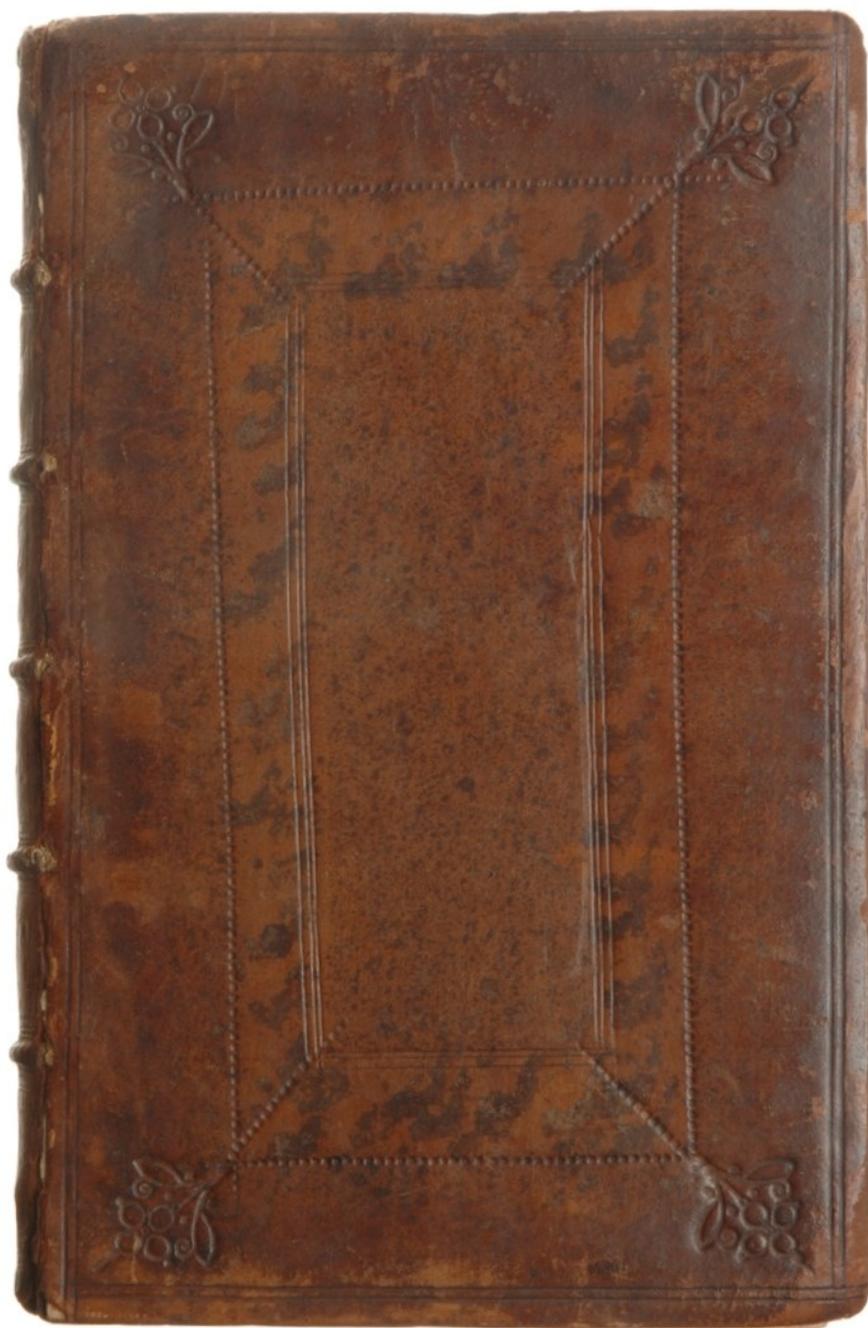
Provenance: (1) early shelfmark on front pastedown (2) Elizabeth Cuff (18th century inscription at head of title).

£5,700

European Americana 684/54; Sabin 23479, Borba de Moraes p. 299

Howgego, R. *Encyclopedia of Exploration*. Potts Point (2004)

Kelly, W. *Buccaneer Narratives*. In: Speake, S. *Literature of Travel and Exploration*. London (2003)



“The Aristotle of England”

An important early English text on fossils

In a contemporary binding

7.

Ray, John. *Miscellaneous Discourses Concerning the Dissolution and Changes of the World.*

London: Samuel Smith, 1692.

Octavo, (175 x 105 mm.) pp. [xxviii], 259, [1]. Roman letter, with some italic and Greek. Title page within box rule. With the imprimatur leaf. Contemporary sprinkled calf, covers with three concentric frames in blind, the middle frame with fleurons at the outer corners; spine with five raised bands; edges sprinkled red.

Occasional very slight spotting. Rubbed, upper joint cracked but holding. A very good, unsophisticated copy.

FIRST EDITION of this important early geological text, in which the leading English naturalist John Ray argues that fossils are the remains of animals that were once alive. In a contemporary binding.

“... his writings on natural history earned him the appellations of the ‘Father of Natural History’ and ‘Aristotle of England’” (Williams p. 435)

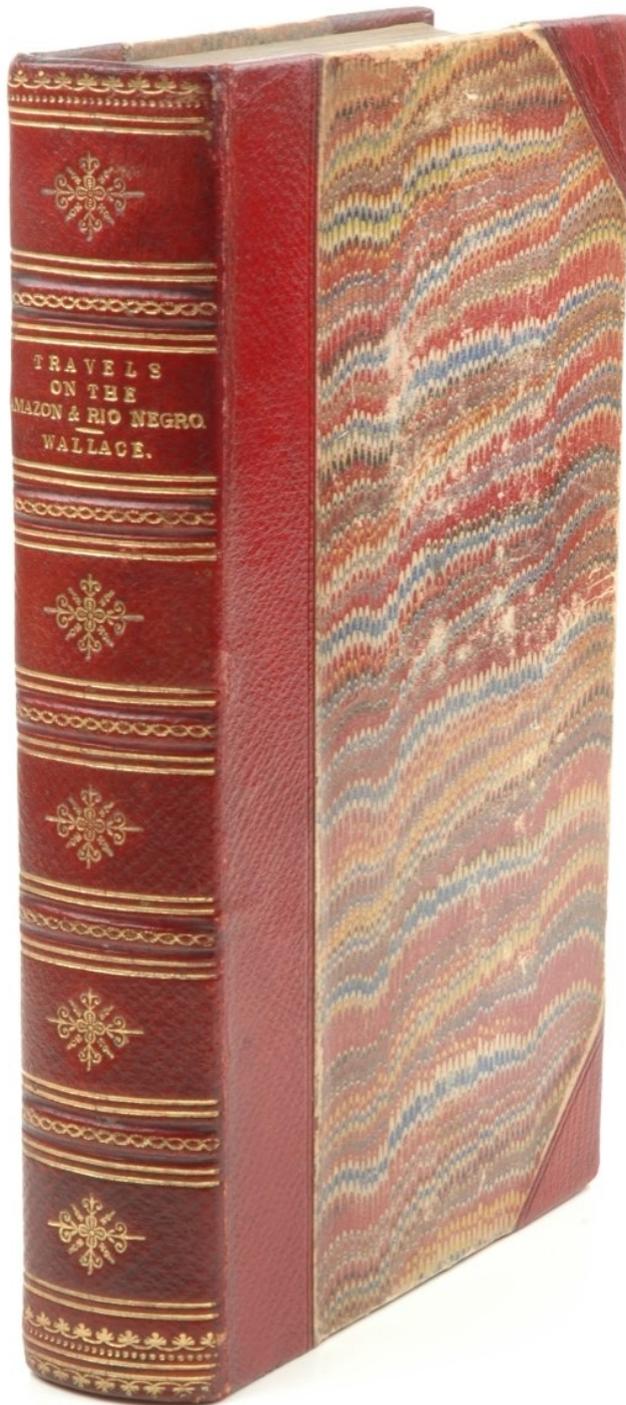
“For Ray the fossils are not proof of the universality of the Flood; they are rather something disturbing, something impossible to explain. In a special appendix... he describes the dreadful philosophic and theological consequences of the theory that the fossils are *lusus naturae* and of the suggestion that some species of marine life have been “lost out of the world’” (Allen, p. 103).

£650

Norman 1795

Allen, D. *The Legend of Noah* in: *University of Illinois Studies in Language and Literature*, 33 (3-4) (1949)

Williams, C. *A Biographical Dictionary of Scientists*. London (1982)



The search for the origin of species

Association copy

8.

Wallace, Alfred Russel. *A Narrative of Travels on the Amazon and Rio Negro, with an Account of the Native Tribes, and Observations on the Climate, Geology, and Natural History of the Amazon Valley.*

London: Reeve and Co., 1853.

Octavo, (210 x 135 mm.), pp. vii, 541. With a coloured lithographic frontispiece of a view of Nazare, a map of the river Amazon, 8 lithographic plates illustrating Indian artifacts, rock carvings, etc. (after sketches by Wallace), a folding letterpress table of Indian words, and two engravings in the text. Contemporary three-quarter red morocco over marbled paper boards, covers ruled in blind, spine gilt with five raised bands, lettered direct in gilt, top edge gilt, marbled endpapers.

Occasional very slight stains, a few contemporary pencil annotations initialed by Howard Saunders, a couple of short closed marginal tears not affecting text; slightly rubbed. A fine copy in an attractive binding.

FIRST EDITION, a finely-bound and very rare association copy, owned by another Amazonian explorer, and then a scientific colleague of Wallace: Howard Saunders, (1835-1907), explorer, and fellow-member with Wallace of the Linnean, Zoological, and Royal Geographical societies, with his initialed pencil annotations; and William Eagle Clarke (1853-1938), ornithologist. Clarke was an acquaintance of Wallace, and the two men corresponded; he contributed material to Wallace's *Island Life*, and received a presentation copy from Wallace in return.

"...a classic work on the Amazon" (Borba de Moraes p. 933).

"In 1843 [Wallace] obtained a position at the Collegiate School in Leicester, where he taught drafting, surveying, English and arithmetic, and in the following year became acquainted with Henry Walter Bates. Bates' collections and collecting activities soon captured Wallace's interest, and for the next four years the two kept up a regular correspondence. After reading "A Voyage up the River Amazon" by William Henry Edwards, Wallace decided to launch a self-financing expedition to the River Amazon, and

Bates readily accepted an invitation to join him. Their intention was to solve the problem of the origin of species..." (Howgego II p. 625).

Provenance: (1) Howard Saunders, 1835-1907 (ownership inscription). Following much the same route taken by Wallace, Saunders canoed down the Amazon from Peru to Para: "... in 1855 he determined to leave England on a journey to Brazil and Chile. In 1856 he rounded Cape Horn on the way to Peru, where he resided continuously till 1860... On quitting Peru he crossed the Andes, struck the head-waters of the Amazon, and descended that river to Para... The revolutionary spirit of many towns in South America at that epoch constituted a very serious danger, in addition to the usual risks of a wild and little-known country, but Saunders' courage was by no means the least characteristic of his qualities" (*The Ibis*, p. 233). Saunders was a member, with Wallace, of the Zoological, Linnean, and Royal Geographical Societies, and was one of the leading ornithologists of his period. "He was regarded as one the greatest contemporary authorities on British birds" (ODNB). Some of his annotations in the present copy relate to Wallace's observations on birds. (2) William Eagle Clarke, 1853-1938 (presentation inscription dated Dec 7 1907, from Maude Rita Saunders). Clarke was also an ornithologist, and Keeper of the Natural History Department of the Royal Scottish Museums. He received a presentation copy of *Island Life* from Wallace, having assisted with it (letter from Clarke to Wallace, July 10, 1902).

£4,300

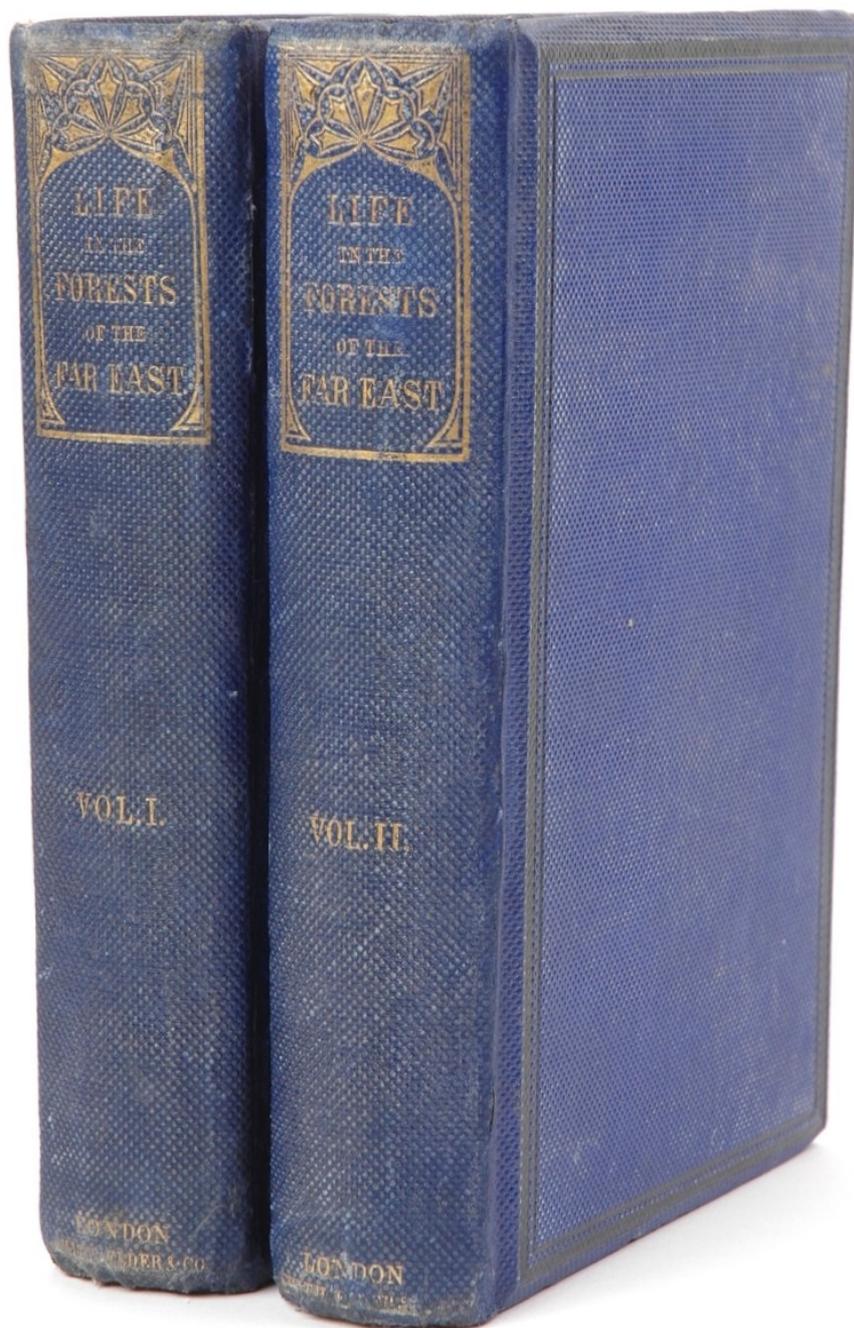
Borba de Moraes p. 933, Casey Wood p. 617.

Borba de Moraes, R. *Bibliographia Brasiliana*. Los Angeles (1983)

Clarke, W E. Letter to Alfred Russel Wallace, 10 July 1902. British Library: BL Add. 46437 f. 111

Howgego, R. *Encyclopedia of Exploration*. Potts Point (2004)

The Ibis, vol II, 1908. London (1909)



A classic of jungle travel

By a fellow explorer of Alfred Russel Wallace

In the rare original publisher's cloth

9.

St. John, Spenser. *Life in the Forests of the Far East.*

London: Smith, Elder and Co., 1862.

2 vols. octavo (220 x 140mm.), pp. xix, 400, 4 (publisher's ads), 16 (publisher's ads dated May 1862); xviii, 420. Half titles in both volumes, 3 folding lithographic maps, 4 hand-coloured lithographic plates of pitcher plants, 12 tinted lithographic plates of landscapes and native peoples, original tissue-guards. Original publisher's pebble-grained blue cloth, covers with a double-fillet frame in black, spines decorated and lettered in gilt, chocolate brown endpapers, pastedowns with printed publisher's ads.

Wear to edges of a few leaves, maps with a couple of closed tears repaired, occasional slight stains, a couple of very small ink spots. Slight expert restoration to the upper joint of vol. 1, hinges reinforced, closed tear to front free endpaper vol. 1, a little rubbed. Overall a very good copy.

FIRST EDITION. A beautifully illustrated account of pioneering expeditions on the island of Borneo, by a fellow explorer of Alfred Russel Wallace. Very rare in the original cloth: only two copies recorded at auction (ABPC).

St John (1825-1910) worked as Secretary for Sir James Brooke, the "White Rajah", in Sarawak, Borneo, from 1848-1855. His *Life in the Forests of the Far East* is his journals of those years, describing his accounts of operations against Malay pirates, two ascents of Mount Kinabalu (discovering near the summit a giant species of carnivorous pitcher plant, illustrated in the book), and his expeditions into the interior of Borneo, at that period almost entirely unexplored by Europeans.

"very few works can be considered in the same class as Wallace. One of these few is *Life in the Forests of the Far East*" (Harrison p. vi).

"two well-written and beautifully illustrated volumes" (DNB).



1. - *Nephrolepis villosa* (L.) Presl

NEPHROLEPIS VILLOSA L.

Published by Smith, Elder & Co. 25, Abchurch Lane, London.

“[St John] took an early interest in the exploits of James Brooke, the ‘rajah’ of Sarawak. When Brooke visited England in 1847 he invited St John to return with him to Sarawak the following year as his private secretary. St John accompanied Brooke on many of his excursions and in his campaigns against pirates, then in 1851-55 undertook his own explorations, visiting the northeast coast of Borneo and ascending its major rivers. In 1856 he was appointed consul-general to Brunei, and in this capacity he explored around the capital and penetrated deep into the interior....” (Howgego III p 601).

“St John made two of the first great inland explorations [of Borneo]. First with Hugh Low, the conquest of Mt. Kinabalu... second, less obviously impressive but in my view more difficult, his ascent of the whole course of the great Limbang River” (Harrison p. vii).

St John’s travels in Borneo coincided with those of Alfred Russel Wallace, and the two men became lasting friends until St John’s death in 1910, maintaining a correspondence on a wide range of topics, including human evolution. Wallace stayed with St John in the Raja’s mountain-top cottage in Sarawak in December 1855 (Wallace p. 94), and appears in St John’s book in his discussion of Orang Utan hunting (St John vol. 1 p. 22).

Very rare in the original cloth: only two copies at auction since at least 1975 (ABPC).

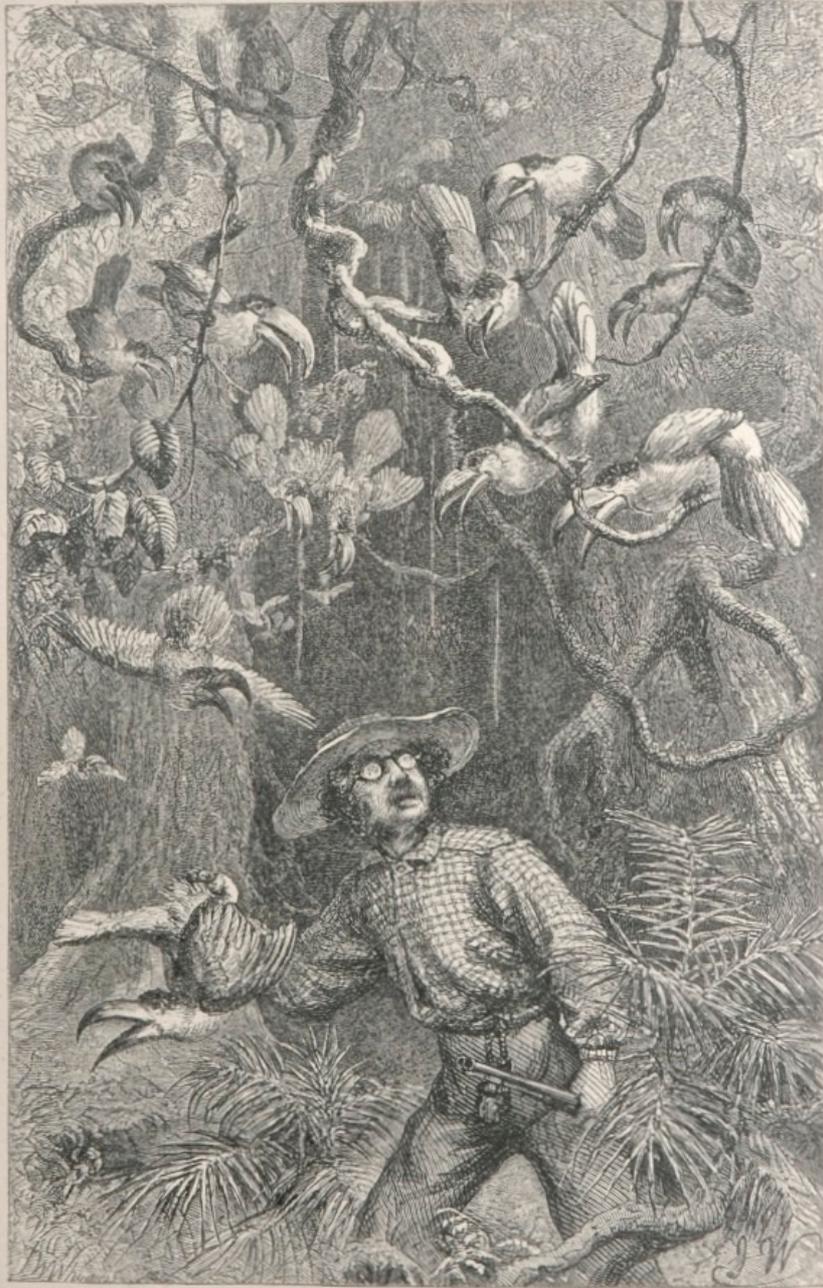
£2,400

Casey Wood 1931

Harrison, T. *Life in the Forests of the Far East*. Oxford (1974)

Howgego, R. *Encyclopedia of Exploration*. Potts Poin (2008)

Wallace, A R. *The Malay Archipelago*. London: Macmillan (1869)



ADVENTURE WITH CURL-CRESTED TOUCANS.

Frontispiece to Vol. I.

The search for the origin of species

"The best work on natural travels ever published in England" -
Charles Darwin

“a travel classic” - DNB

In the original publisher's cloth

10.

Bates, Henry Walter. *The Naturalist On The River Amazons A Record Of Adventures Habits Of Animals Sketches Of Brazilian And Indian Life And Aspects Of Nature Under The Equator During Eleven Years Of Travel.*

London: John Murray, 1863.

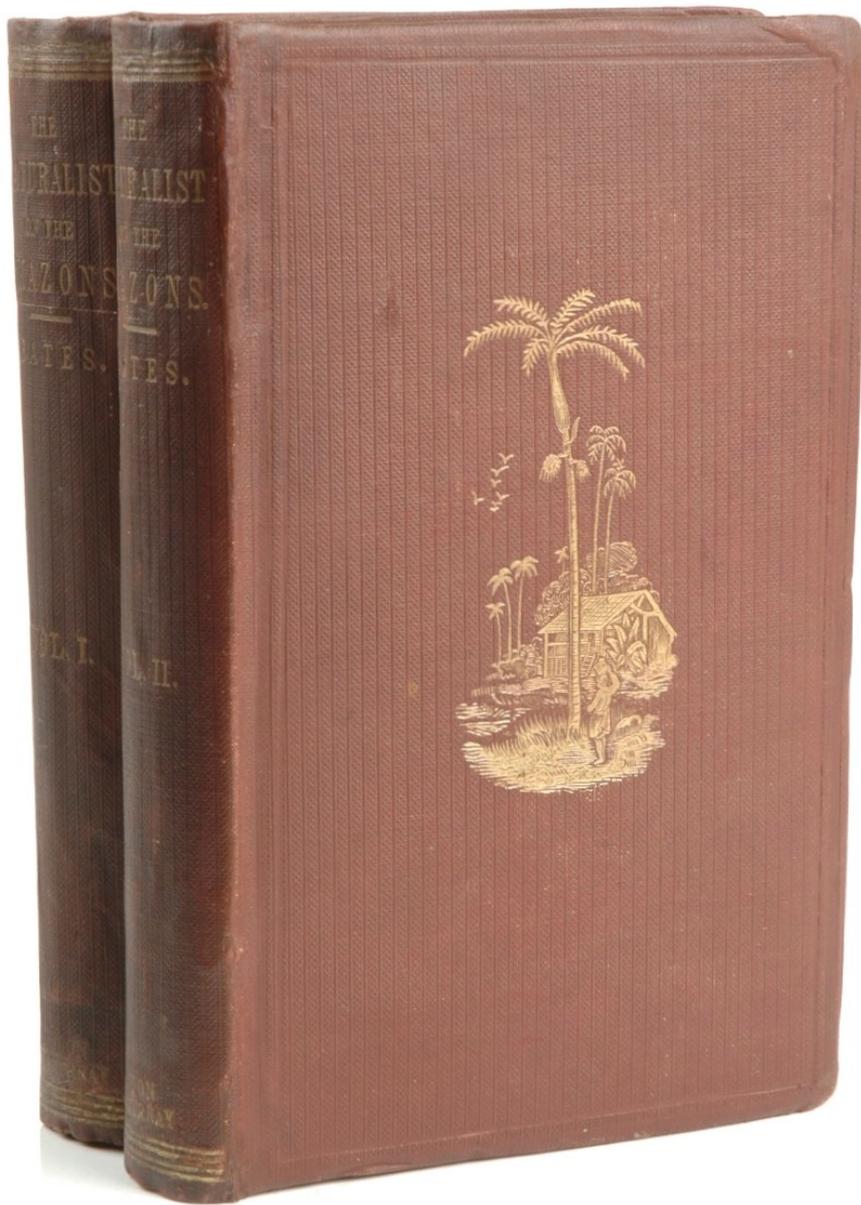
2 vols. octavo, pp. [x], 351, 32; vi, 423. With 10 engraved plates and maps (1 folding), and numerous text illustrations. Original brown cloth, with an Amazon scene on the front covers in gilt, spines lettered in gilt, red endpapers, binder's ticket of Edmonds and Remnants on rear pastedown of vol. 1.

A couple of closed marginal tears; a few leaves with marginal stains and chipping; map with closed repaired tear; endpapers dusty. Rubbed, spines slightly darkened, extremities slightly restored in places. A very good copy.

FIRST EDITION of Henry Bates' classic account of travel in Amazonia with Alfred Russel Wallace in search of the solution to the problem of the origin of species. Wallace was later independently to discover evolution by natural selection, prompting Charles Darwin to write *The Origin of Species*. In the original publisher's cloth.

“... one of the finest scientific travel books of the nineteenth century” (DSB).

Bates explains the genesis of the expedition in the preface to the book: “In the autumn of 1847 Mr A R Wallace, who has since acquired wide fame in connection with the Darwinian theory of Natural Selection, proposed to me a joint expedition to the river Amazons, for the purpose of exploring the Natural History of its banks; the plan being to make for ourselves a



collection of objects, dispose of the duplicates in London to pay expenses, and gather facts, as Mr Wallace expressed it in one of his letters, “towards solving the problem of the origin of species,” a subject on which we had conversed and corresponded much together” (Bates, vol. 1 p. iii).

Wallace returned to England in 1852, but Bates remained, spending 11 years in Amazonia. By the time he left in 1859, he had collected 8,000 species new to science. Charles Darwin became a close acquaintance: “Darwin frequently asked Bates for information on the insects and other wildlife of Amazonia, and it was at his suggestion that Bates wrote an account of his travel experiences, Darwin recommending Bates to his own publisher, John Murray. *The Naturalist on the River Amazons* ... was a major contribution to the knowledge and literature of Amazonia. Bates had spent longer on the Amazon than any of his European predecessors, and the book was an immediate success and has become a travel classic” (ODNB). Darwin rated it “...the best work on natural travels ever published in England” (Darwin II p. 381).

£1,500

Borba de Moraes 91.

Darwin, C. in: Darwin, F. *Life and Letters*. London (1887)

