

ANTIQUARIANA AT FORUM



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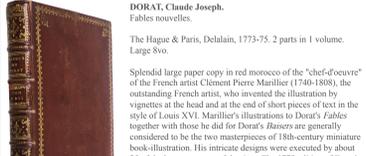
It's a pleasure to present a new short list with 12 recently described items from the period between 1587 and 1849 on many different subjects, including Arts, Cartography, Friesland, History, Literature, and Travel.

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Recently catalogued: February



Masterpiece of 18th-century miniature book-illustration

DORAT, Claude Joseph.
Fables nouvelles.
The Hague & Paris, Dehain, 1773-75. 2 parts in 1 volume. Large 8vo.

Splendid large paper copy in red morocco of the "chef-d'oeuvre" of the French artist Clement Pierre Marillier (1740-1809), the outstanding French artist, who invented the illustration by vignettes at the head and at the end of short pieces of text in the style of Louis XVI. Marillier's illustrations to Dorat's *Fables* together with those he did for Dorat's *Reveries* are generally considered to be the two masterpieces of 18th-century miniature book-illustration. His intricate designs were executed by about 25 of the best engravers of the time. The 1773 edition of Dorat's *Fables* is the first edition to include Marillier's illustrations, and according to the author in his foreword it was enlarged with 24 new fables.

Claude Joseph Dorat (1734-1780), a very prolific but not very successful author of gallant poetry, was always much interested in the rich production and fine illustration of his works. For this, he defends himself in an interesting preface, in which he further discusses previous authors of fable books, from Aesop to La Motte-Flouart.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

[CASSAS, Louis François].
[View of the Taormina theatre ruins (Sicily) with Mount Etna in the distance].
[Sicily or Paris], [ca. 1781 or somewhat later?]. 46 x 81 cm (frame 85 x 128 cm).

Large watercolour-drawing of the Taormina temple ruins in Sicily, with Mount Etna in the distance, attributed to the French landscape painter Louis-François Cassas (1756-1827), who is best known for his illustrations for numerous travel books of the Levant published in the late 18th and early 19th century.

Cassas had a keen interest in and knowledge of classical architecture, displayed in full in the present drawing. He came from a wealthy family and was taught by the greatest French artists of the time. Having finished his education in 1778 he first journeyed back him to Rome, a beacon to many artists. From there he travelled throughout Italy, visiting the many classical ruins and sights to study and draw. Some of his drawings were published as plates in Jean Claude Richard Saint-Nour's *Voyage pittoresque ou description des Royaumes de Naples et de Sicile* (1781-1786). For this, the best travel books ever made. One of these is a view of the Taormina temple ruins that has nearly exactly the same composition as the present drawing.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

More Drawings & Watercolours



Prophecies concerning the fall of the Ottoman Empire by two Byzantine Emperors, in a 19th-century arabic binding

[PROPHECIES - OTTOMAN EMPIRE].
Prophecies, of voorspellingen der beyde Keyseren Severi en Leonis, die beyde in Orienten gheregeert hebben. In de welke het hem laat sentien als of het Tarische Rijk onder desen teghenwoordigen Sultan wel een eynde mocht nemen. ...
Amsterdam, Broer Jansz., 1627. 4to.

First Dutch edition of the divinations of the Byzantine Emperors Severus (probably Lucius Septimius Severus, 145-211 CE) and Leo VI the Wise (866-912 CE) on the fall of the Ottoman Empire in the 17th century. A second edition with the same plates appeared with the same publisher in 1640. The work is a separately published part of *Historie van den oorsprongh, geslacht, geboorte, opvoeding, en leere des grooten valschen propheet Mahumet* ... also published by Broer Jansz in Amsterdam in 1627 and 1640. The 16 engravings are after the illustrations in the *Codes of the Oracles of Leo Sapieha* in the Amsterdam University Library (MS 16).

This copy was bound for Victor Masséna, 5th Prince of Essling and 3rd Duke of Rivoli (1816-1910) by the famous 19th-century French bookbinders Allou-Wampfling. Masséna was a French army officer, a member of Parliament for the Grasse constituency (Alpes-Maritimes) from 1863 to 1871, a Knight of the Legion d'honneur in 1859, and a bibliophile and scholar.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

Coming up

FIRSTS

O N L I N E

● February 26 - March 2 ●



Essential for the history of the Dutch War of Independence

LE PETIT, Jean François.
La grande chronique ancienne et moderne, de Hollande, Zelande, West-Frise, Utrecht, Frise, Overysel & Groningen, jusques à la fin de l'An 1690. Recueillie tant des historiens desdites provinces, que de divers autres auteurs.
Dordrecht, Jacob Canin for the author (colophon volume 2.) printed in Dordrecht by Guillaume Guillenot, 1601. 2 volumes. Folio.

First edition of the famous *Grande Chronique* by Jean François Le Petit, who lived in the second half of the 16th century. In 1577, he was clerk of the Court at Bellenne in Artois. He converted to protestantism and went into the service of William of Orange and was a military in the service of the Dutch States. Between 1595 and 1598 he was a notary at Middelburg in Zeeland, where he devoted most of his time to his historical works, resulting in the publishing of the *Grande Chronique* in 1601. The first part of the work is mainly based on the so-called "Divisie-kroniek" of Cornelius Aurelius, but the second part, devoted to the years 1556-1600, is of great historical value, giving numerous particulars and detailed information nowhere else to be found.

Le Petit, in the service of William of Orange and the Dutch States had been personally present at the bloody battles of 1572-1574, and had witnessed a large number of important political events, which made his "Grande Chronique" one of the most vivid and original sources for the period. The work also is of interest for the fine engraved plates and portraits by Christoffel van Sichem the Elder, engraver, woodcutter, printer and publisher at Amsterdam (1546-1624).

☞ [More information and images.](#)

More Fine bindings

First and only edition of a detailed and accurate atlas of Friesland

ECKHOFF, Wopke.
Nieuwe atlas van de provincie Friesland, bevattende kaarten van de dertig gretjeningen of gemeenten, met de daarin geleegene elf steden en haan grondgeboog, alsmede van de elanden Ameland en Schiermonnikoog.
Leeuwarden, W. Eckhoff, 1849-1859. Large folio (68 x 41 cm).

First and only edition of a detailed and accurate atlas of Friesland, one of the most detailed regional mapping projects of its period. The paper was especially made by J. Hong, Zandijk. According to the preface there were 286 subscribers to the atlas, which was actually quite high according to Kooman. It was issued over a ten-year span, it comprises finely engraved cadastral-style maps of Friesland's thirty gretjeningen (later municipalities), including the eleven Frisian cities and the islands of Ameland and Schiermonnikoog. The maps, drawn from official surveys and engraved on copper, are notable for their precision, decorative cartouches, and heraldic elements. The atlas remains an important monument of Dutch topographical cartography.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

Quixotic adventures in Corsica

BOSWELL, James.
An account of Corsica, the journal of a tour to that island, and memoirs of Pascale Paoli.
Glasgow, printed by Robert & Andrew Foulis for Edward & Charles Dilly London, 1768. 8vo (ca. 21 x 13 cm).

First edition of a delightful and important travel book by James Boswell (1740-1795), best known as the friend and biographer of Samuel Johnson. His first major publication, it includes a journal of his 1765 visit to the new Republic of Corsica, which had declared its independence from the Republic of Genoa in 1755, as well as his memoirs of the Republic's founding father and president, Pasquale Paoli (1723-1807). Boswell's book made the new republic and its leader famous and helped give them legitimacy. Two-and-a-half months after Boswell's book appeared, Genoa, unable to conquer Corsica, sold its claim to France, which invaded and conquered it in 1769. Boswell's book proved so popular that three more editions appeared before the end of 1768. It is divided into two parts, the first giving a detailed description and history of Corsica, and the second containing a journal of Boswell's voyage to and travels on the island. It was especially this latter part that excited the public, being a lively account of Boswell's quixotic adventures in Corsica and his association with President Paoli.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

A contemporary, official copy of the Minutes and Resolutions of the Dutch States General of the second half of 1586, a pivotal time for the young Dutch Republic

[MANUSCRIPT - DUTCH - STATES GENERAL].
Acten ende Resolutien van der Heeren Generale Staten der Vereenigde Nederlanden (11 July - 31 December 1586).
[The Hague, 1587]. Folio.

One of the rare fair copies made at the time from the original minutes (acten) and resolutions of the meetings of the States General of the Republic of the United Seven Provinces of the Netherlands - the highest authority in the Netherlands since 1567. The present manuscript covers the period from 11 July 1586 to the end of that same year, 31 December 1586. Our copy, an all-officially fair copy, is "collated" (gecollationeerd): annotation in the lower margin of f. 212v. The fair copies mostly included the full texts of the resolutions and other relevant documents, as opposed to the original minutes and resolutions (which are digitized and can be found online: National Archives, Registers van de Ordinarius minuat-resoluties, 1376-1684, Vol. 13 (1586), pp. 160-253) and show sometimes considerable differences and variants, including the marginal annotations. The text of the original minutes is published - not completely and arranged to subjects - in the RGP-GS series by N. Japikse, H.H.P. Ruijmer, et al., vol. 5 (1585-1586), RPP, GS, 47 (1921), online: Huygens Institute and Delpher.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

More items concerning Law & Politics

How to enter the land of the fairies

[SENETERRE, Henri-Charles de].
Nouveaux contes de fees.
"Amsterdam" (= Paris], aux depens de la Compagnie, 1745. 8vo.

Charming collection of six fairy tales, each one illustrated by an elegant engraving in the style of Cochin. The little book is dedicated to Madame la Marquise de L***, and in the dedication the anonymous author prepares his reader for the happy and dreamlike feeling necessary to enter the land of the fairies. The title at the head of the text reads: "Petits contes de fees", and the fairy tales are called respectively: "L'anana", "Le jone", "La courtoisime", "L'Espaignole", "Les statues amimees", and "Le lit de gaze".

The first edition had been published at Paris, with the same fake address, in 1744. The present is the second edition, to which an extra vignette on title was added. The book is ascribed to Henri-Charles de Seneterre (1714-1785).

☞ [More information and images.](#)

Atrocities committed by the French army of Louis XVI, illustrated by Romeyn de Hooghe

[WICQEFORTE, Abraham de].
Advis fidelle aux véritables Hollandois. Touchant ce qui s'est passé dans les villages de Bodegrave & Swammerdam, ...
[The Hague, Jan and Daniel Steuckel], 1673. 4to.

First edition of a famous Dutch history book vividly describing and depicting the "crushes of war" committed by the French army of Louis XIV in The Netherlands in the years 1672 and 1673. The illustrations also rank among the best masterpieces of Baroque book-illustration. By their passionate denunciation of the horrors of war, Romeyn de Hooghe's illustrations stand comparison with Goya's *Desastres de la Guerra*. Thieme & Becker calls the artist "the most important and fertile master of the second half of the 17th century in Holland". And Furstenberg judged the present print-series "One of the few and two-life known masterpieces of the period" (*The Book Collector*, 1960, p. 432).

☞ [More information and images.](#)

Frisian flora and plants of northwestern Europe: a detailed description

GABBEMA, Simon Abbes.
Frische last-gaarde ofte Booms-beester-bloemen en kruid-waerarde, bestaende byt der gewassen beschrijvinge, die in Hoog- en Neder-duyts-land en de aangrenzende land-schappen bekenet zyn.
Leeuwarden, Hendrik Rintjes, 1687. 4to.

Detailed botanical description of Frisian and Northwest European plants, trees, flowers and herbs by the Frisian historian Simon Gabbema (1628-1688). Although Gabbema was appointed history writer of Frisia in 1659 by the States of Frisia because of his learning and knowledge concerning Frisian history, he also knew a lot about botany. While Gabbema structured his work around several botanical categories (trees, flowers, herbs, vegetables, etc.), he is often reproached for his unstructured way of listing the several Frisian and other European plants. He describes their appearance, flourish, characteristics and sometimes also their uses (for example healing wounds or preventing diseases). Gabbema complements his own findings with quotes from several ancient Greek and Latin writers.

☞ [More information and images.](#)

More items concerning Floras & Flowering Plants

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