

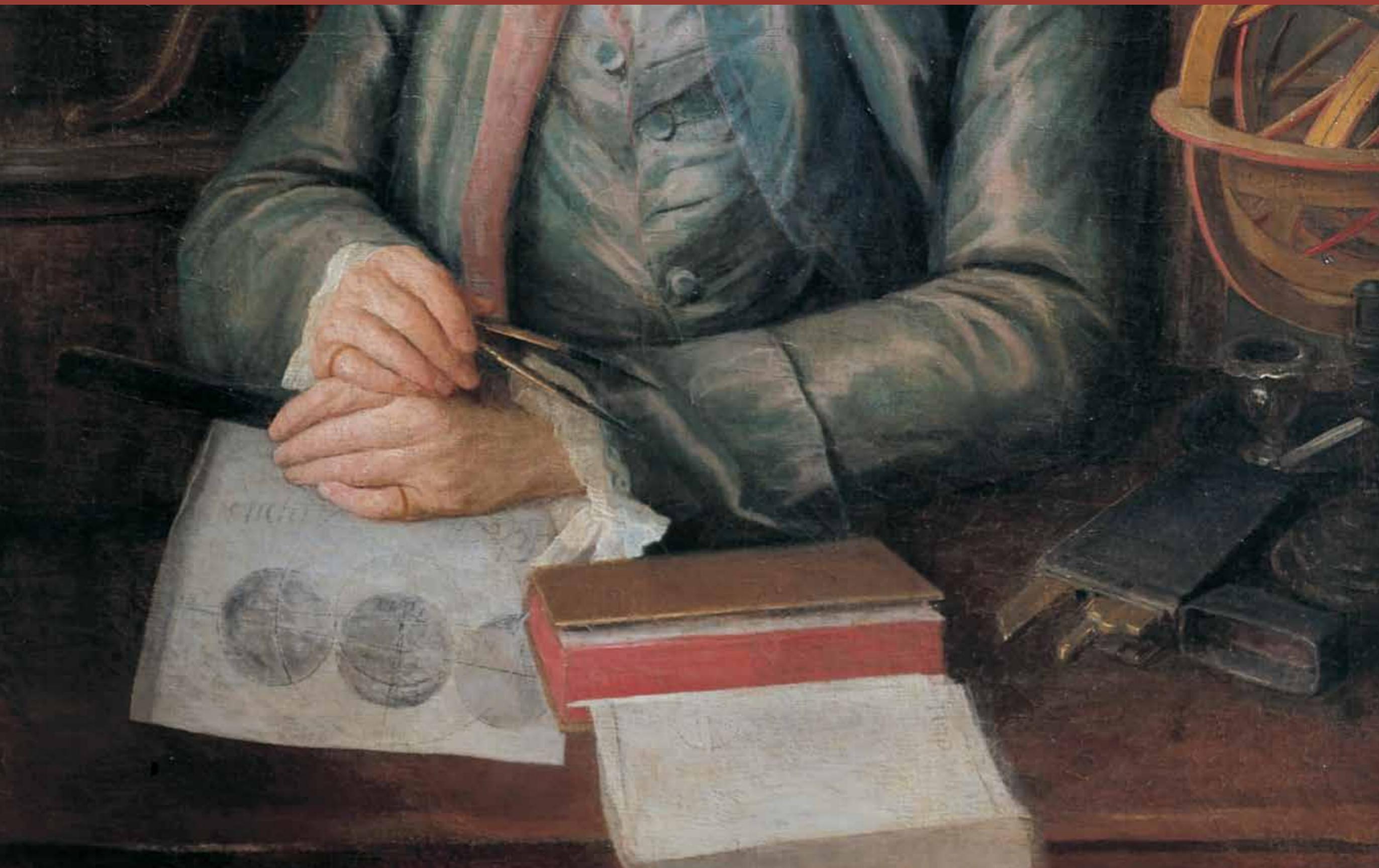


ASHER Rare Books

Since 1830

Science and Technology

ANTIQUARIAAT
FORUM



Description and use of a newly invented drafting instrument, with engraved plates

01

ALBRECHT, Andreas.

Instrument zur Architectur ...

Nürnberg, (colophon:) printed by Ludwig Lochner, 1622. 4°. With an engraved title page, showing all components of the newly invented instrument designed to help draftsmen enlarge or reduce drawings, and 9 numbered figures on 5 plates: 4 plates showing the instrument and its use and 1 large folding plate. Set in fraktur types. Modern nonpareil marbled boards, red morrocco spine-label, bound by Ateliers Laurenchet.

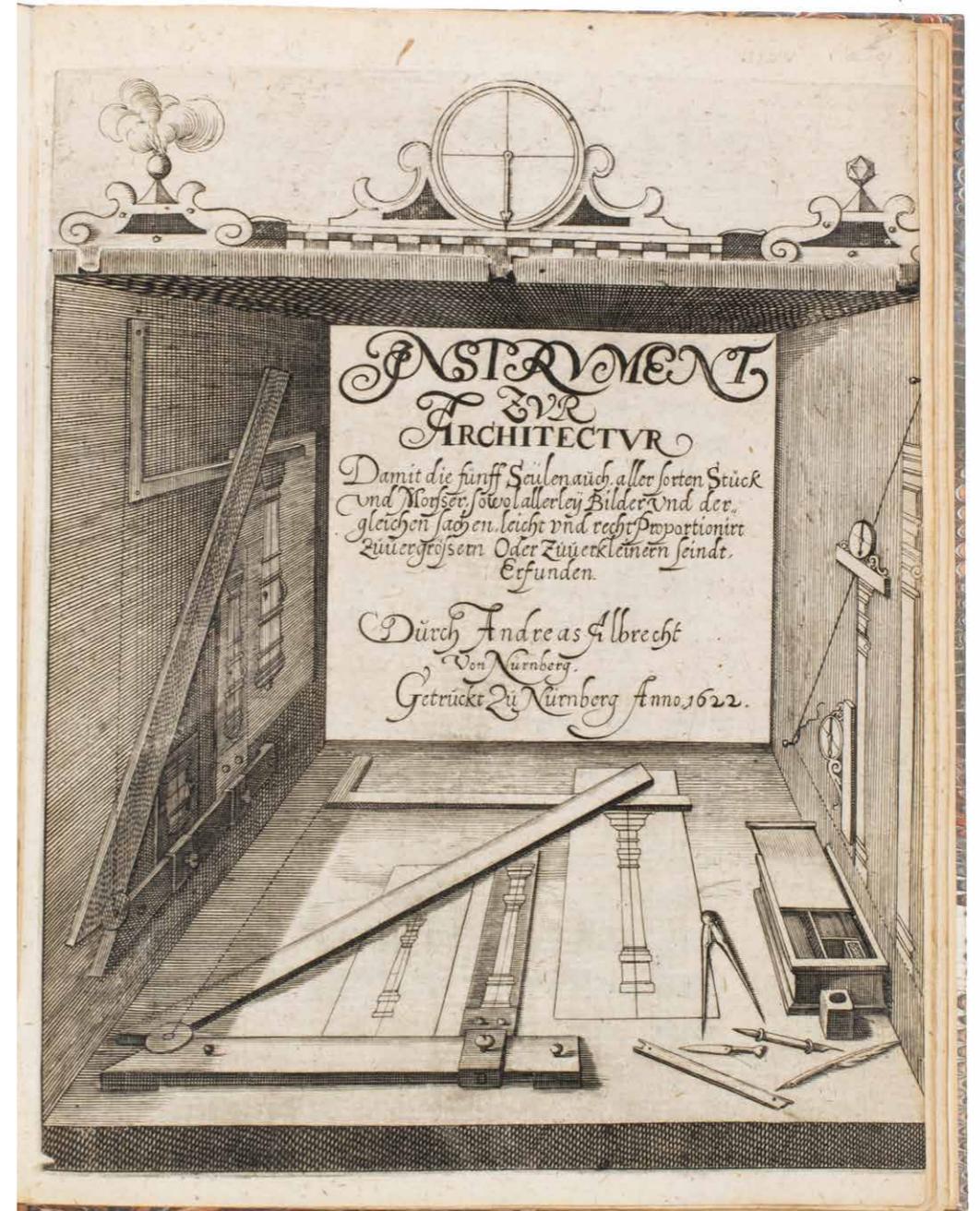
€ 14 500

Rare first edition of a description, illustration, and full explanation of the use of a newly invented instrument for artists and draftsmen, invented by Andreas Albrecht. He was a German military engineer, inventor, and author on technical drawing, active in Nürnberg ca. 1620 to 1628. The instrument, with all its components is depicted on the title page. It is less sophisticated than a pantograph and resembles a modern drafting machine, but is designed primarily to help artists and draftsmen enlarge and reduce drawings of any kind. The key component is what was later called a "proportionalzirkel": two straight-edges attached so that they could be set at any angle to each other. The plates demonstrate its use with columns as examples. The illustrations on the plates are numbered 1-9, the first five (model drawings for the five orders of columns) together on one folding plate. In 1625 Albrecht published his better known two treatises in one volume, devoted to perspective and to shadows respectively, but the present small treatise on his drafting instrument seems to be almost unknown. A second edition appeared in 1673.

With a small tear in the folding plate and it and the title page very slightly shaved. Otherwise in very good condition.

[16] pp. *Berlin Kat.* 1721; *VD 17*, 23:233429N (9 copies); cf. *Vagnetti EIIIb14* (Albrecht's treatises on perspective and shadows); *Poggendorff I*, col. 25 (*idem*); *Honeyman Coll.* 55 (*idem*).

➤ More on our website



The work that spread Ptolemy's ideas in Europe

02 AL-FARGHANI, Ahmad ibn Mohammad ibn Kathir and Jacob CHRISTMANN (translator).

Chronologica et astronomica elementa, e Palatinae bibliothecae veteribus libris versa, expleta, & scholiis expolita.

Frankfurt, A. Wechel (heirs of), C. de Marne, and J. Aubry, 1590. 8°. With some woodcut decorations. Near contemporary overlapping vellum with the manuscript title on the spine, remnants of ties, red edges.

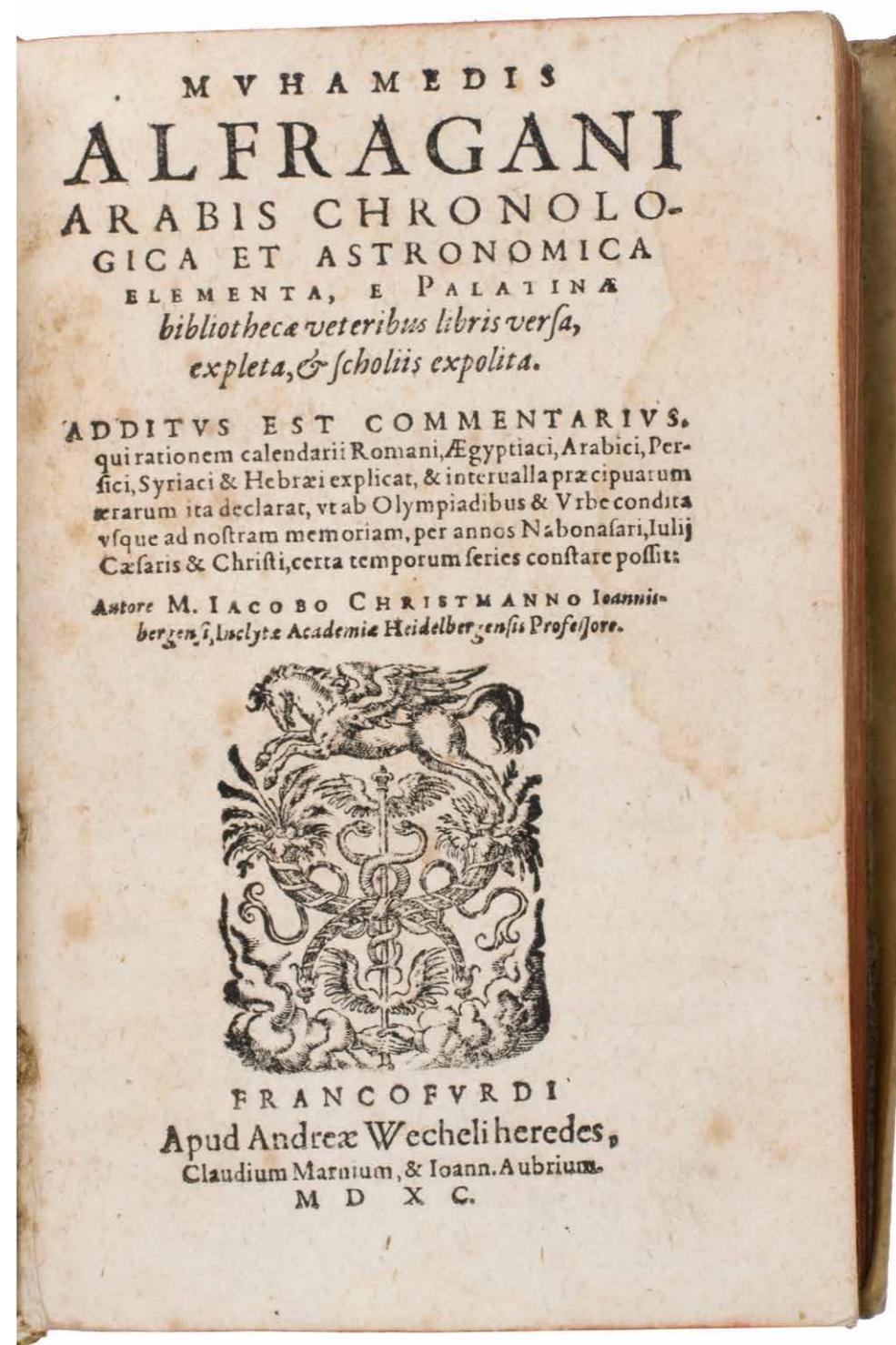
€ 17500

Rare first edition of the Latin translation of a very influential astronomical work, which was in large part responsible for spreading Ptolemaic astronomy in medieval and early modern Europe. Written in the 9th century, it was a summary of Ptolemy's *Amalgest*, but circulated in Europe long before the *Amalgest* itself was first translated into Latin (1496). The work was referenced by numerous medieval authors. Despite its importance, however, the present edition is quite scarce, as we have only been able to trace one other copy in sales records of the past 100 years. Ahmad ibn Mohammad ibn Kathir al-Farghani (or Alfraganus, ca. 800-ca. 861) was one of the astronomer-astrologers employed by the Abbasid caliph Al-Ma'mun (r. 813-833) in Baghdad. He composed several works on astronomy and astronomical equipment that were widely distributed in Arabic and Latin for multiple centuries. The present work, however, is his best-known and most influential one; it describes the movements of the sun, moon and planets, their distance to earth, solar and lunar eclipses, and more.

With some annotations on the first flyleaf, some 18th-century annotations on pp. 25, 531, and 565. The edges and corners of the boards are slightly scuffed and the vellum is slightly stained, with an imprint of a label on the spine, some scribbles on the front board. The work is somewhat browned throughout, with a water stain in the outer margin of the first 30 pages, slightly affecting the text, the head margin has been cut slightly short, without affecting the text. Otherwise in good condition.

[1], [1 blank], [12], [2 blank], 565, [1], [1 blank], [1] pp. See our website for the reference list.

➤ More on our website



Extensively illustrated classic of cosmography, geodesy, mensuration, perspective and optics

03 APIANUS (APIAN), Petrus and Gemma FRISIUS. Cosmographia.

Antwerp, Jan Verwithagen (colophon: printed by Verwithagen), 1574.
4°. With a large woodcut on the title page (with a terrestrial globe and other instruments); 4 printed paper volvelles with moving parts and a woodcut sun dial with a string attached to its centre; a folding woodcut cordiform mappa mundi (block size 19×27.5 cm) with letterpress text in the margins; well over 100 further woodcut illustrations, diagrams, maps, etc., in the text. Recased in 17th-century(?) limp sheepskin parchment.

€ 12 500

A great and influential work on cosmography, perspective and many related subjects, in the original Latin, being Gemma Frisius's extensively revised and expanded version of Petrus Apianus's account of cosmography, providing readable explanations and numerous clarifying woodcut illustrations. Apianus and Frisius discuss latitude and longitude and their determination, the earth's climatic zones, maps, surveying, triangulation, and give a brief description of the continents, including the New World. The illustrations include a folding cordiform world map. The ingenious volvelles with their moving dials and pointers clearly illustrate the position and movement of celestial bodies.

With a few small marginal tears, chips or excisions, one at the foot of the title page very slightly affecting the border of the woodcut and one at the head of the title page removing an old owner's inscription, and browned water stains at the foot throughout and at the head of the last 5 quires.

[2], 64, [2] ll. plus folding woodcut. *Adams A1284; Belg. Typ. 5087; Bib. Belg. A227; STCV 12915940; USTC 408135; cf. Van Ortroy, Frisius 28 (Bellère issue); Sabin 1738–1756 (other eds. & issues); Voet 573 (Plantin issue); for Apianus: DSB I, pp. 178–179.* ➔ More on our website



A dissertation from Manila's Jesuit University on practical mathematics for the military

04

ARAYA, Fernando de.

Conclusiones mathematicas, practicas, y especulativas defendidas en el principio del segundo año ...

Manila, Nicolas de la Cruz Bagay, 1758. 4°. With engraved equestrian portrait of Ferdinand VI, King of Spain and Emperor of the Indies as a frontispiece. Contemporary salmon-coloured silk over flexible boards, preserved in modern portfolio.

€ 8750

First and only edition of a brief dissertation on the practical use of mathematics in the military by the Spanish soldier Fernando de Araya, "alferez de una de las compañías del regimiento del rey nuestro señor", who studied at Manila's Jesuit University. With the Jesuit mathematician Francisco Ortiz Zugasti (1727–1772) as praeses. Although the letterpress presswork leaves much to be desired, the frontispiece is nicely executed and well printed, and the Italian laid paper is excellent and very white. In very good condition. Silk covering torn at the spine (front board nearly detached) and with faded patches along the edge of the front board. A rare Manila imprint, bound in silk.

[4], 4 ll. *De Backer & Sommervogel VIII, col. 1534; Medina, La imprenta en Manilla 260; WorldCat (7 copies)*. [More on our website](#)



Rare study describing a 622 AH (1225/26 CE) celestial globe with Cufic lettering, with 3 folding plates

05

ASSEMANI, Simone.

Globus caelestis Cufico-Arabicus Veliterni Musei Borgiani ... illustratus. Praemissa ejusdem De Arabum astronomia dissertatione et adjectis duabus epistolis Cl. Josephi Toaldi.

Padua, Seminary printing office, 1790. Small 2° (21.5 × 29.5 cm). With 3 large folding engraved plates. Contemporary green half calf, gold-tooled spine, marbled sides.

€ 28 000

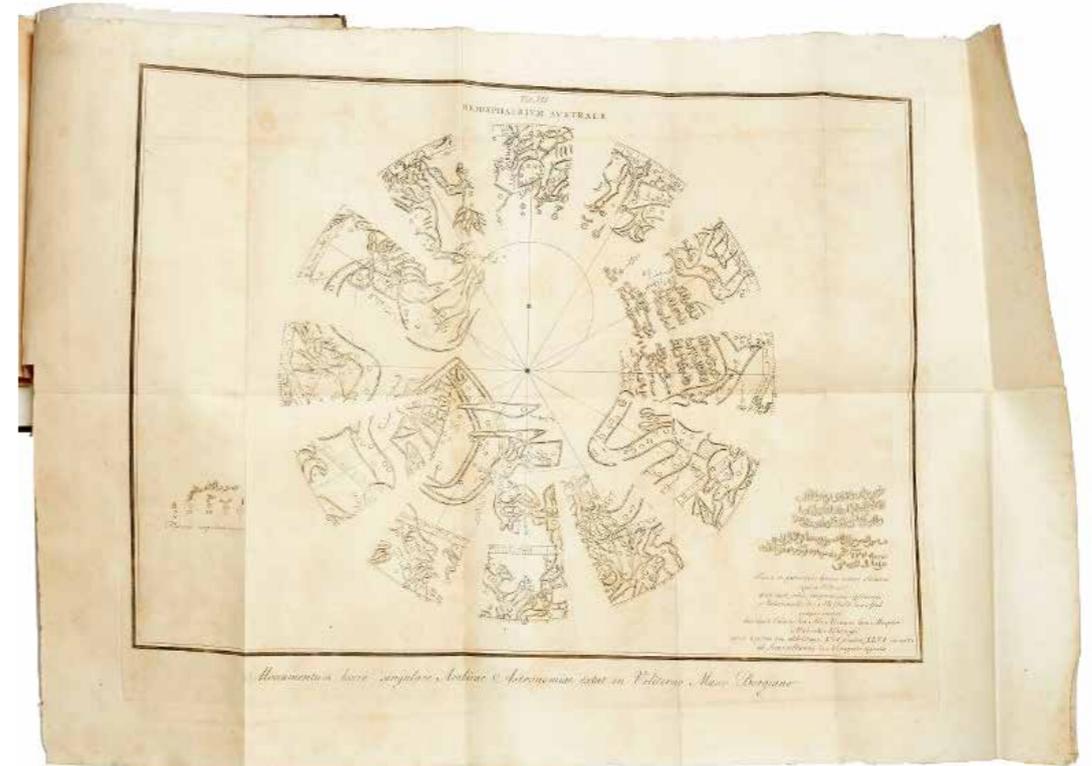
First and only edition of a rare study describing and illustrating (with all elements needed to construction a 3D facsimile) one of the most splendid Islamic globes ever made, a celestial globe with Cufic lettering in the Borgia Museum at Velletri (now at the Museo Nazionale di Capodimonte in Naples). The Syrian mathematician Qaysar ibn Abu al-Qasim (1178/79–1251) made the bronze globe with inlaid silver and copper (22 cm diameter) in 622 AH (1225/26 CE) for the fourth Ayyubid Sultan of Egypt, al-Malik al-Kamil Muhammad (ca. 1177–1238).

The three folding plates show measured drawings (apparently original size, though without a scale) of the components of the celestial globe, with 1025 stars and 48 constellations, designed so that they could be cut out and assembled around a globe body: the first shows the meridian and horizon rings with 2 gnomon scales (for the base) and a small view of the assembled globe, the second shows the northern hemisphere and the third the southern hemisphere. Mediaeval Arabic astronomers used celestial globes to help solve various problems in astronomy far in advance of their European contemporaries. The seminary printing office in Padova, established 1684, had its own typefoundry and had non-Latin types (including Arabic) cut for its first books, published in 1685.

Old library shelfmark label on the inside of the front board. The hinges and the head and foot of the spine somewhat worn. Otherwise in fine condition.

[16], CCXIX, [9] pp. *Brunet VI*, 8185; *DG* 7.9265; *M. H. Fikri, Treasures from the Arab Scientific Legacy in Europe*, no. 13 (with full-page illustration); for *Ahmed al-Farghani: DSB IV*, pp. 541–545.

[More on our website](#)



A wonderfully illustrated rare Dutch compilation of Apian

06

[ASTRONOMY – APIAN and others]. S.D.V.B (compiler).

Een nieu constich boeck inde geometrie en de astronomiae, voor desen noyt in druck gheweest, ende is in ses stucken afghedeylt ... (Colophon:) Rees, Abraham Wijlicx, 1608. Folio. With a half-page woodcut illustration and some decorations on the title page, 74 woodcuts of various sizes in text. Contemporary vellum, sewn on four supports laced through the joints.

€ 15 000

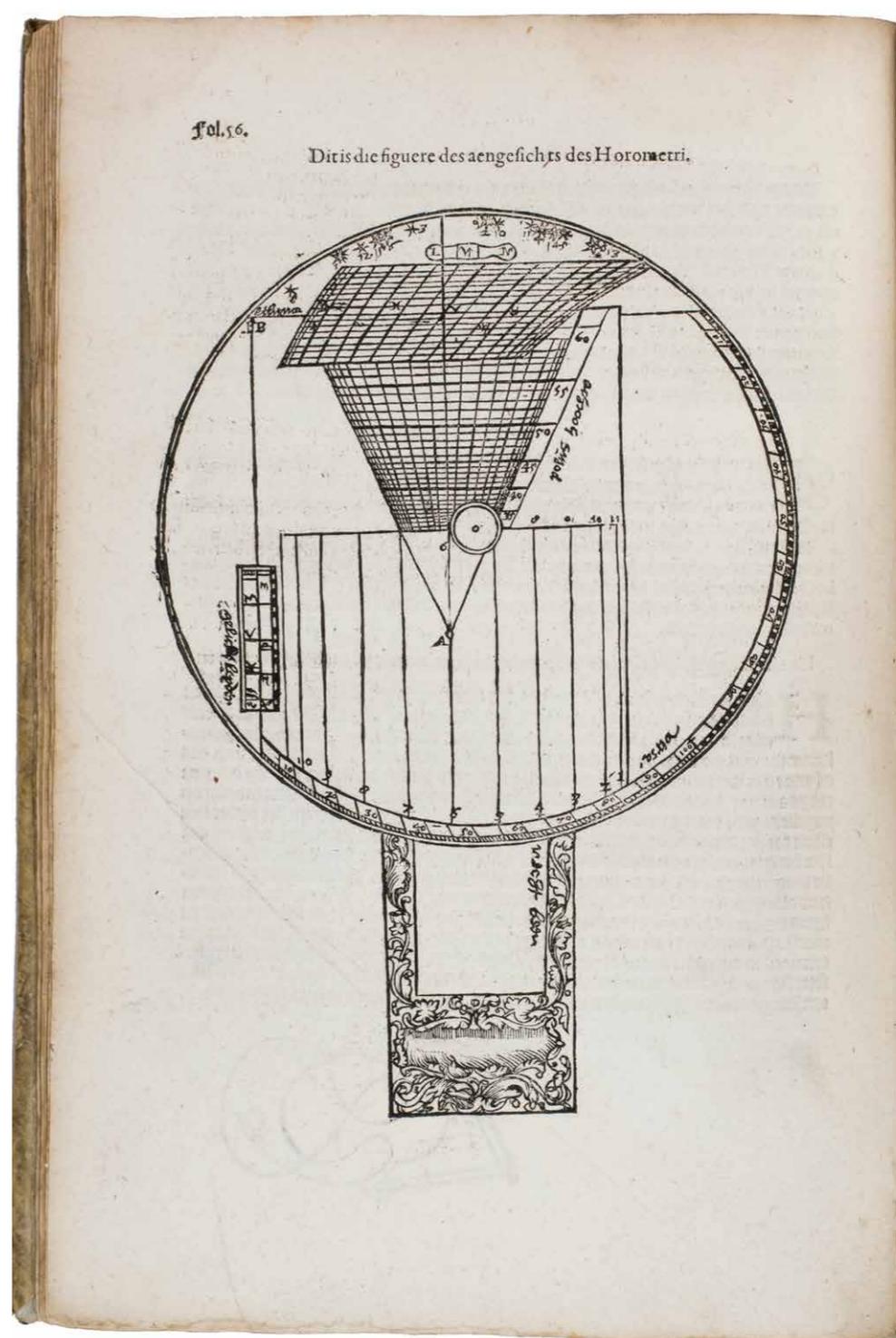
A very rare early seventeenth-century Dutch book on astronomy, compiling the knowledge of the German astronomer, mathematician and cartographer Peter Apian (1495–1552). A great work on cosmography, astronomy, perspective and many related subjects. The book is subdivided into six parts, highlighting the scales and course of planets, the principles of the zodiac signs and their correct identification, the calculation of heights and distances as well as the instruments used for calculation and measurement.

The book showcases marvelous woodcut illustrations of volvelles, which are rotating parts of a paper construction known as a wheel chart used to illustrate the position and movement of celestial bodies. Volvelles are recognized as early versions of paper analogue computers. The origins of volvelles can be traced back to astronomy books, as well as certain Arabic treatises on humoral medicine and the Persian astronomer Abu Rayhan Biruni (circa 1000), who played a significant role in their development. Throughout the book, the author compiled images taken from Apian's influential works.

With a bookplate on the front pastedown. The base of the spine is slightly damaged, the boards are slightly dust-soiled, internally very slightly browned and foxed throughout. Light damage to spine and book block slightly detached at bottom, some browning and foxing. The first and last few leaves are slightly water stained. Otherwise in good condition.

111, [1] pp. *Bierens de Haan* 94; *Hoogendoorn BSor*; *Houzeau/ Lancaster* 2909; *STCN* 86331306X (7 copies); *USTC* 1035104 (6 copies); *Van Ortrov (Apian)* 114; *WorldCat* 65713062 (10 copies).

➔ More on our website



First printed edition of a famous work on optics

07 BACON, Roger.

Perspectiva. In qua, quae ab aliis fuisse traduntur, succincte, nervose & ita pertractantur, ut omnium intellectui facile pateant. Nunc primum in lucem edita. Opera & studio Joannis Combachii.

Frankfurt, Wolfgang Richter for Antonius Hummius, 1614. 4°. With 8 full-page woodcuts printed on both sides of four leaves inserted as plates, and numerous woodcut figures and illustrations in text, several full-page. Modern plain paper boards.

€ 9500

First edition of a famous work on optics by the English natural philosopher and mathematician Roger Bacon (ca. 1220–ca. 1292). Bacon was well read in Arabic and ancient Greek sources on optics and perspective, a subject hardly studied in Europe during the earlier Middle Ages. The main sources for his theories were the writings of Euclid, Ptolemy and Alhazen (Ibn al-Haytham), and he followed Robert Grosseteste concerning the importance of light and in his emphasis on the use of lenses, not only for burning, but also for magnification to aid natural vision. Bacon advised magnifying glasses for old people as well as for people with weak eyes. The *Perspectiva* belonged to Bacon's *Opus maius*, compiled in manuscript in 1266–1267. The present edition was based on a medieval manuscript and was edited by Johann Combach (1585–1651), professor of philosophy at Marburg in Germany

With a stain on the title page and two on the last blank, probably from removing old stamps, browned throughout with a few small spots, but overall in good condition. Binding with some water stains, but otherwise good.

[8], 189[=205], [1 blank] pp. *DSB I*, pp. 377–384; *Poggendorff I*, 468; *STC German, 17th Century*, B 53; *VD17* 23:236968W; cf. *Kemp, The science of art*, pp. 26, 211, and 269; *Vagnetti DB5*.

➤ More on our website



Important history of ancient astronomy, with chapters on Egyptian, Chaldean and Persian astronomy

08

BAILLY, Jean-Sylvain.

Histoire de l'astronomie ancienne, depuis son origine jusqu'à l'établissement de l'École d'Alexandrie.

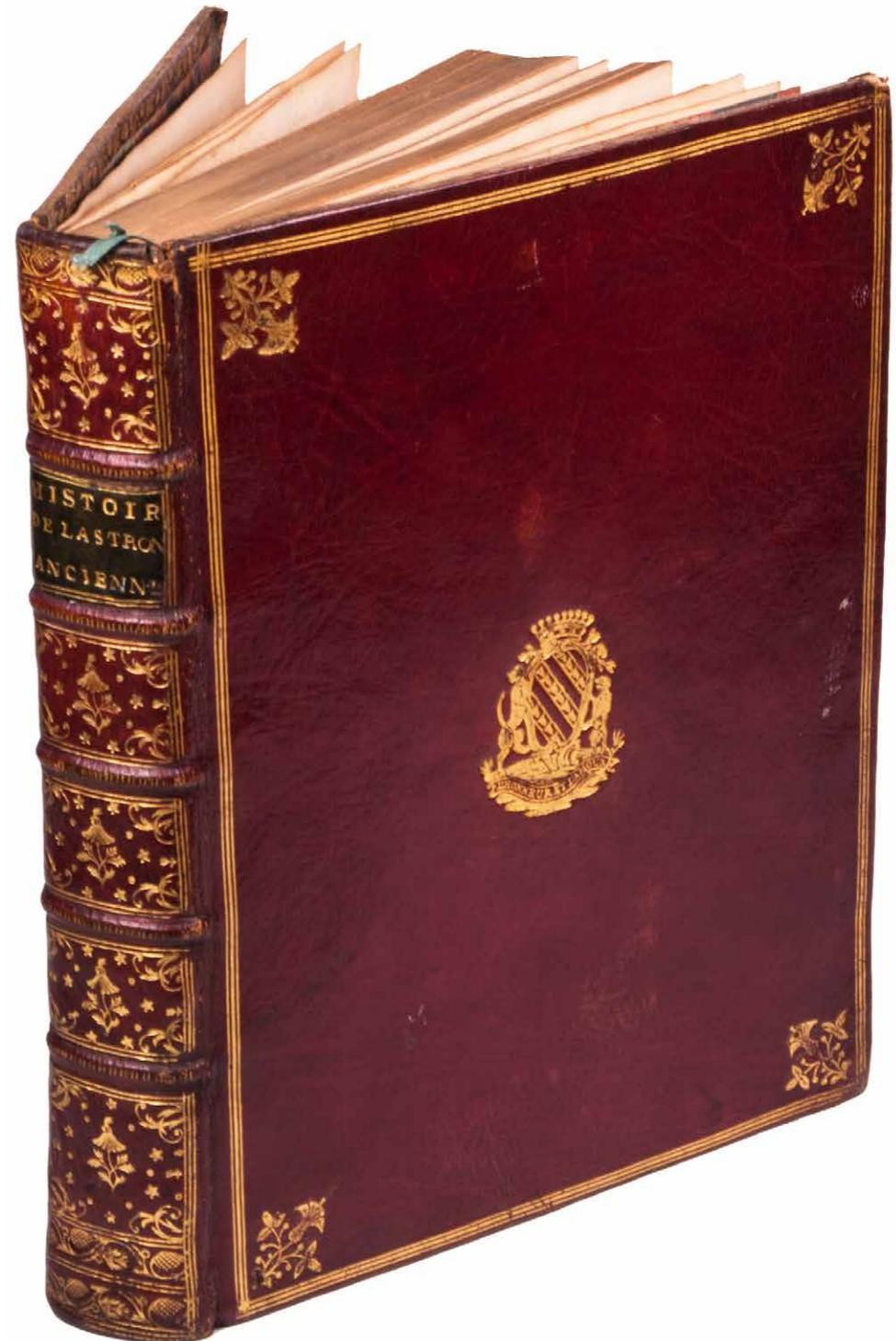
Paris, Debure brothers, 1775. 4°. With 3 numbered folding engraved plates. Beautifully bound in contemporary gold-tooled red morocco, each board with coat of arms of Simon-Pierre Merard de Saint-Just in the centre, marbled endpapers. In modern slipcase covered with marbled paper.

€ 25 000

First edition of a history of astronomy from prehistoric times to the Alexandrian school in the third century BCE, by Jean-Sylvain Bailly. It covers not only European and biblical sources but also the cosmographical concepts of Chinese, Egyptian, Persian and Chaldean astronomers. Some of the surviving artefacts that provided a basis for his studies are illustrated in the plates, which are designed to fold out so that one can view them while paging through the text.

This copy was originally owned by and bound for Bailly's most important contemporary biographer, his friend Simon-Pierre MÉRARD de Saint-Just, who published *Eloge historique de Jean-Sylvain Bailly* (1794). His arms appear on the binding. In very good condition, with only a few minor spots. The binding also very good, only slightly worn around the corners and hinges. An important work on ancient astronomy, beautifully bound for the author's biographer.

[2], XXII, 526 pp. *DSB I*, pp. 400–402; *Houzeau & Lancaster 22*; *E.B. Smith*, "Jean-Sylvain Bailly; astronomer, mystic, revolutionary", in: *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*, n.s. 44 (1954), pp. 427–538. [More on our website](#)



Anticipating Halley on the periodicity of comets and excellent engraved patterns for constructing sundials

09

BIANCANI, Giuseppe.

Sphaera mundi, seu cosmographia demonstrativa ...

Modena, Andrea & Girolamo Cassiani, 1653.

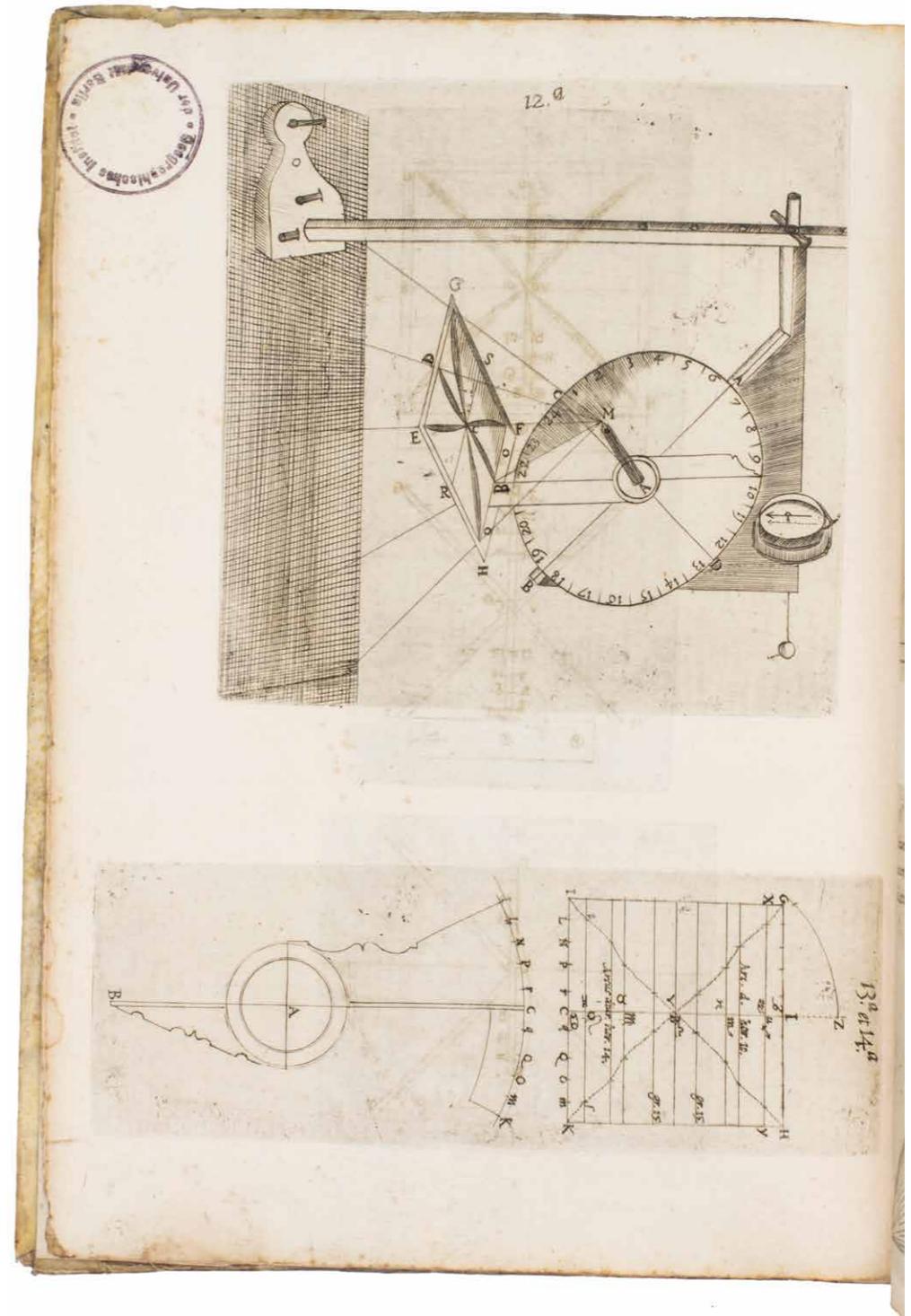
With: (2) BIANCANI, Giuseppe. *Constructio instrumenti ad horologia solaria describenda peropportuni. ... Opus posthumum.* Modena, Andrea Cassiani, 1654. 2 works in 1 volume. Folio. Ad 1: with a large folding diagram, numerous woodcut diagrams and other illustrations in text, letterpress tables. Ad 2: with a woodcut astronomical dial on the title page, 18 numbered engraved figures, and a large folding letterpress table. Contemporary sheepskin parchment, sewn on 5 cords, manuscript spine title, rebaked.

€ 8500

The two most important works of the famous Jesuit mathematician Giuseppe Biancani (1566–1624). Here the third edition of his *Sphaera mundi*, with the second edition of his *Constructio instrumenti*. The former presents a summary of the recent progress in astronomy from discoveries made with the telescope by famous scientists like Tycho Brahe, Kepler, Galileo, and Copernicus. Biancani never gave up the geocentric view of the universe, but he ascribes tides to the influence of the moon, discusses the moons of Jupiter and Saturn, refers readers to the work of Tycho and Kepler, discusses sonic echoes, and even anticipated Halley in suggesting that comets might be periodic. The second work, devoted to the construction and use of sundials, includes precisely drafted diagrams and clear illustrations that allow one to construct a sundial.

With an 1891 owner's inscription and several leaves with library stamp (and a deaccession stamp). With 1 bifolium browned and another badly foxed, a stain on one leaf running into the text, but further in good condition, with only minor and mostly marginal stains and small tears. Binding rebaked and with some stains, but otherwise good.

[6], 232; 24. [5] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* [➤](#) More on our website



Rare encyclopaedic work by one of the most prolific polymaths of the 17th century

10

CARAMUEL Y LOBKOWITZ, Juan.

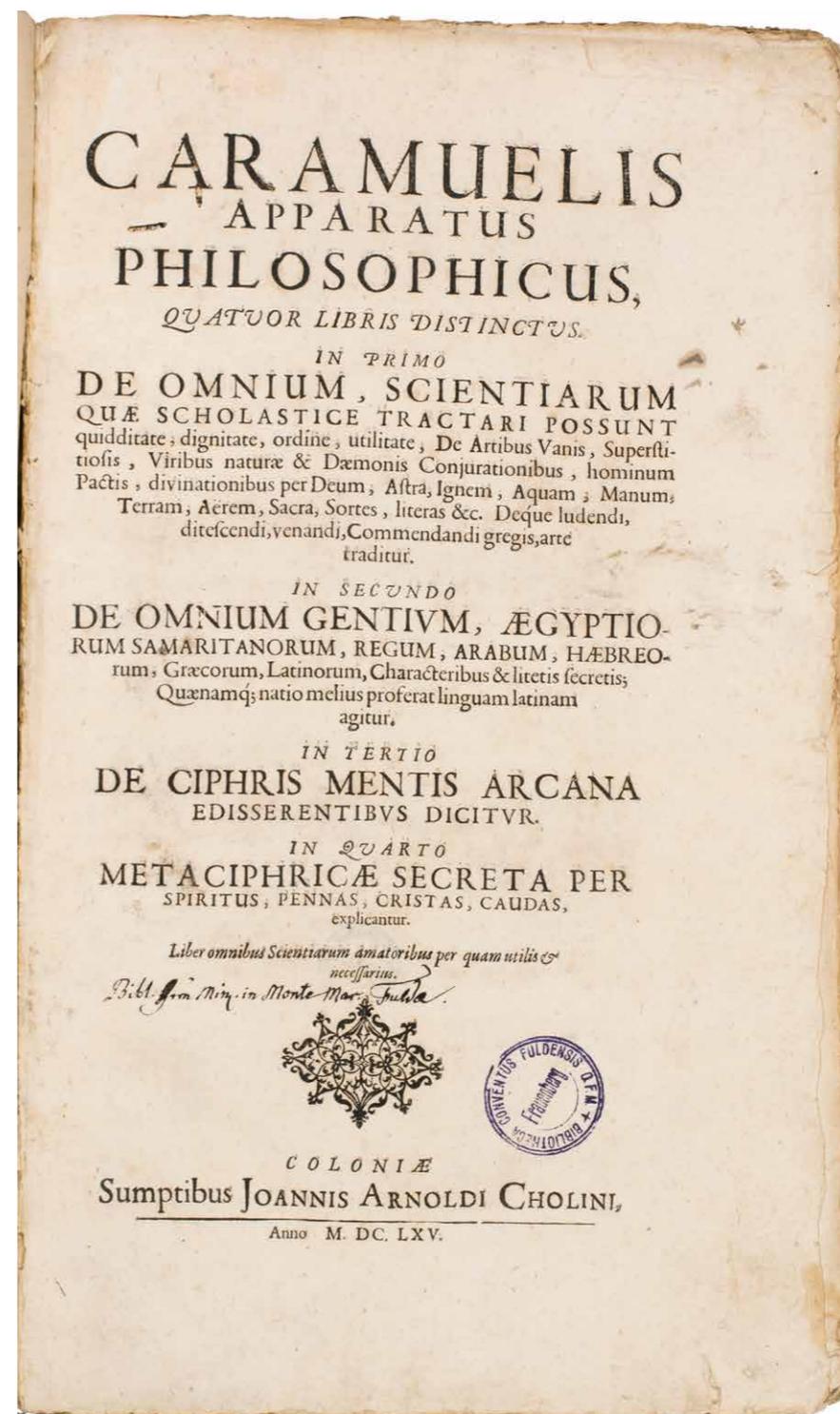
Caramuelis apparatus philosophicus quatuor libris distinctus ...
Cologne, Johann Arnold Cholinus, 1665. Folio. With some tables in the text. Stiff paper wrappers with (remnants of) a manuscript title label at the head of the spine.

€ 18 000

Rare philosophical and scientific work by one of the most prolific Spanish philosophers of the 17th century, with the very rare variant title page mentioning the publisher. Juan Caramuel y Lobkowitz (1606–1682) was a Catholic scholastic philosopher, ecclesiastic, mathematician, polyglot, and writer. Born in Madrid, he pursued an international ecclesiastical career that took him across Spain, the Low Countries, Germany, Bohemia, and Italy, ultimately serving as Bishop of Vigevano. He is noted for his contributions to probabilism in moral theology and for early work anticipating binary numerical systems. His vast and wide-ranging output made him one of the most intellectually ambitious figures of the Baroque era. The 18th-century French bibliographer J.-N. Paquot presumes that Caramuel published at least 262 works on a plethora of subjects. Caramuel's present work, supposedly one of his most complete encyclopaedias, is divided into four books. The first explores both scholarly sciences and more controversial subjects such as superstition, divination, natural and demonic forces, and spiritual secrets. The second focuses on secret alphabets and writing systems of various ancient cultures, the third describes ciphers, and the final book discusses "metaciphricus": various forms of (secret) sign language.

With a label and some annotations on the front pastedown, a library stamp and an old manuscript annotation on the title page, both noting that the book was part of the library of the Franciscan Frauenberg Monastery in Fulda, Germany. Further with two variant stamps of the same monastery. Wide margined, uncut copy, thus the edges of the leaves are slightly frayed, the binding is slightly stained and shows signs of wear, small wormholes in the blank margins throughout, browned and slightly stained throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[1], [1 blank], 144, [1], [1 blank] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* ➔ More on our website



First edition of an important mathematical treatise

11 CEULEN, Ludolf van.

De arithmetische en geometrische fundamenten.

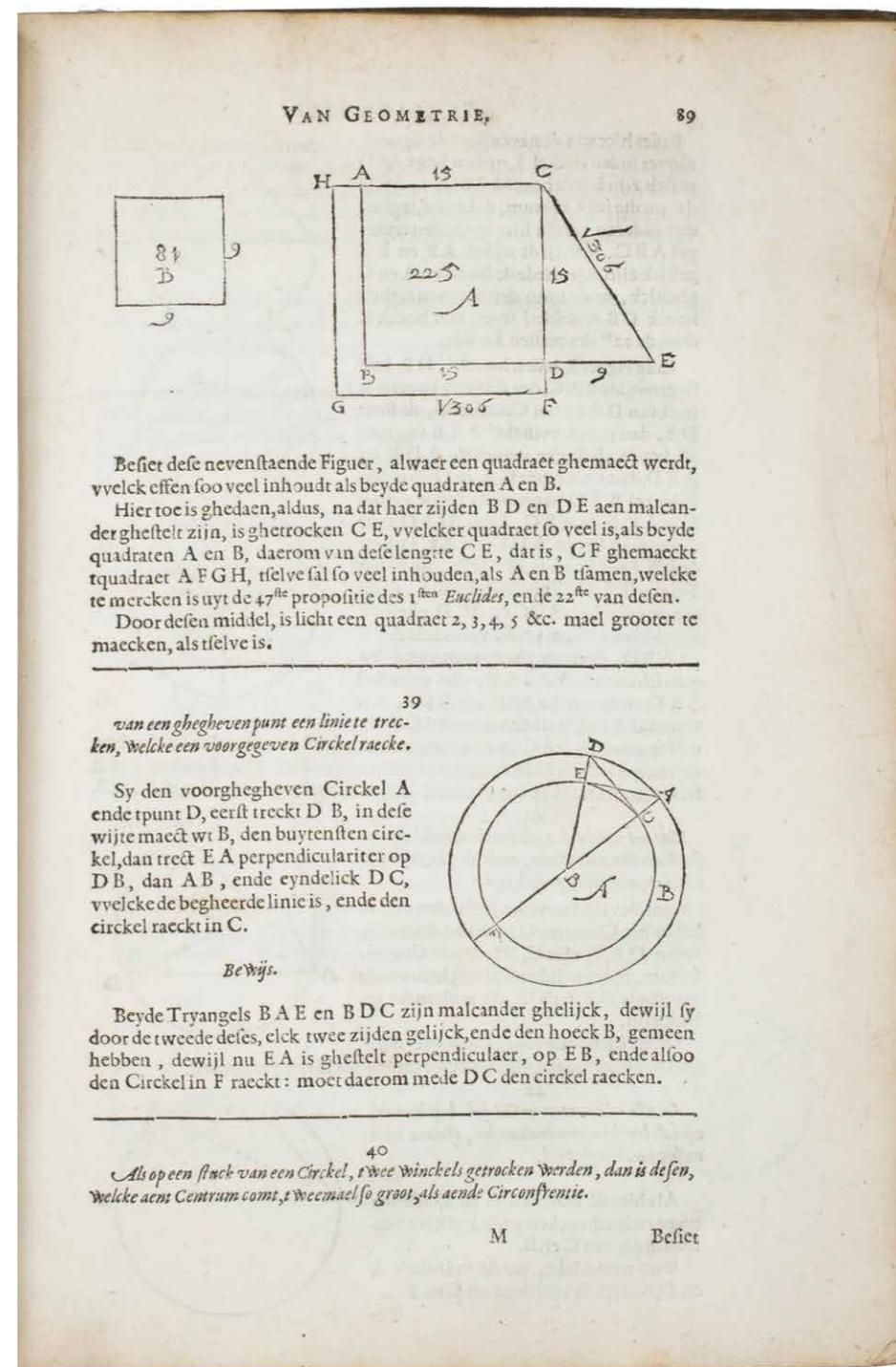
Leiden, Joost van Colster and Jacob Marcus (colophon: printed by Ulderick Cornelisz. Honthorst and Joris Abramsz.), 1615. Folio. With engraved portrait of Van Ceulen on the title page, and numerous woodcut geometrical figures in the text. Contemporary vellum, remains of ties.

€ 6500

First edition of an important mathematical treatise by Ludolf van Ceulen (1539–1610), a widely-travelled fencing master and mathematical instructor. Van Ceulen devoted much of his time to the computing of pi. In the present work, "he reached thirty-three decimal places, always enclosing pi between an upper and a lower limit" (DSB). Occasional browning, some contemporary annotations, repaired tear on title page and a a roughly erased library stamp damaging the paper (pp. 99–100). Good copy.

[4], 271, [1 blank] pp. *Bierens de Haan* 839; *Poggendorff I*, col. 414; *Simoni C-85*; *DSB III*, p. 181.

➔ More on our website



War of words on perspective, conic sections, cutting architectural stones and making sundials: the Jesuit versus the Cartesian

12

[DUBREUIL, Jean] and others.

Advis charitables sur les diverses oeuvres, et feuilles volantes du Sr. Girard Desargues Lyonois ...

With: [DUBREUIL, Jean]. Diverses methodes universelles, et nouvelles, en tout ou en partie pour faire des perspectives ...

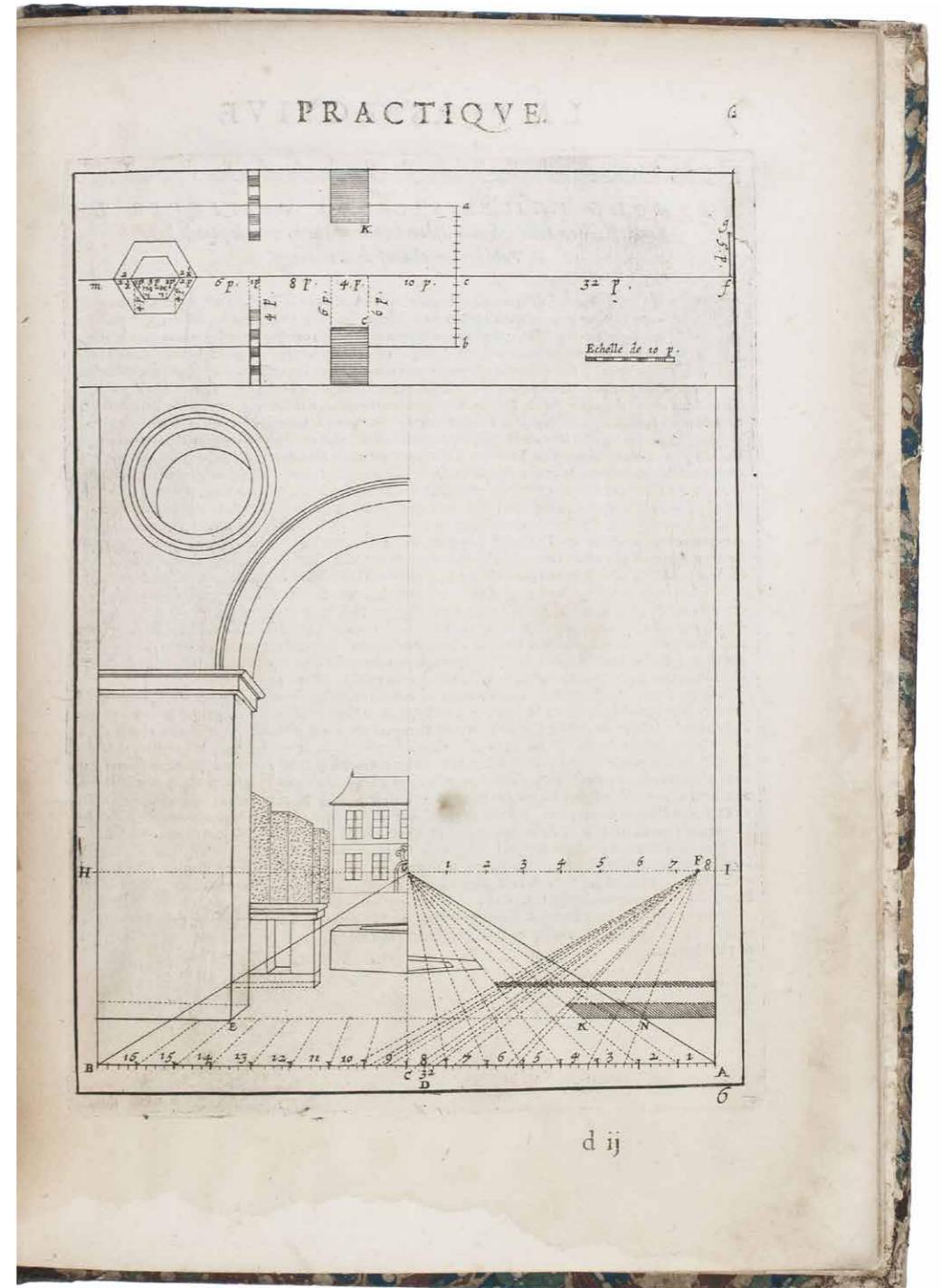
Paris, Melchior Tavernier, François l'Anglois, dit Chartres, 1642. 2 works (4 & 2 parts) in 1 volume. 4° (25.5 × 18 cm). Ad 1: lacks two small engraved plates. Ad 2: with 10 full-page engravings. Half white sheepskin parchment (ca. 1900?).

€ 22 500

Very rare and important first editions forming the culmination of an on-going war of words on perspective, conic sections, cutting stones for architectural use and making sundials, with the Parisian Jesuit architect Jean Dubreuil (1602–1670) attacking the Lyonese mathematician and engineer Girard Desargues (1591–1661), who spent much time in Paris in the circles of Descartes, Fermat and Pascal (the young Blaise and his father) and pioneered the modern principles of perspective drawing. Ironically the publications on both sides of this war came from the same printing and publishing office. Desargues's rigorously mathematical *Exemple de l'une des manieres universelles ... touchant la pratique de la perspective ...* (Paris, 1636), is now recognized as the pioneering work on the mathematics of projective geometry. Although Dubreuil's two present works do not explicitly cite it, both respond to Desargues's criticisms and the title page of ad 1 cites Desargues's later publications.

With a neat manuscript list on the front pastedown. Ad 1 lacking 2 small engraved plates, as noted, but no complete copy with all parts has been located. Otherwise a good copy and including the two integral blank leaves. With traces of a blue, 19th-century blue paper wrapper stuck to the first title page, covering two letters in the title, and some water stains and spotting in the second work.

Ad 1: [4], [4]; 10; 14, [2 blank]; 17, [3 blank] pp.; Ad 2: [15] pp., 10 double-page spreads, [1 blank] p. See our website for the reference list. [↗](#) More on our website



Rare catalogue of military and other instruments and machines

13

FAULHABER, Johann.

Geheime Kunstkammer: darin[n]en hundert allerhand Kriegs Stratagemata, auch andere unerhörte Secreta, und Machinae mirabiles zusehen, dergleichen in Europa (respectivè) wenig zu finden.

Ulm, Jonam Saur, 1628. 4°. Half vellum (ca. 1900).

€ 12 500

Very rare first and only edition of a catalogue of military and other instruments, models of machines, plans, etc., that Faulhaber displayed in the "Kunstkammer" in his house in Ulm.

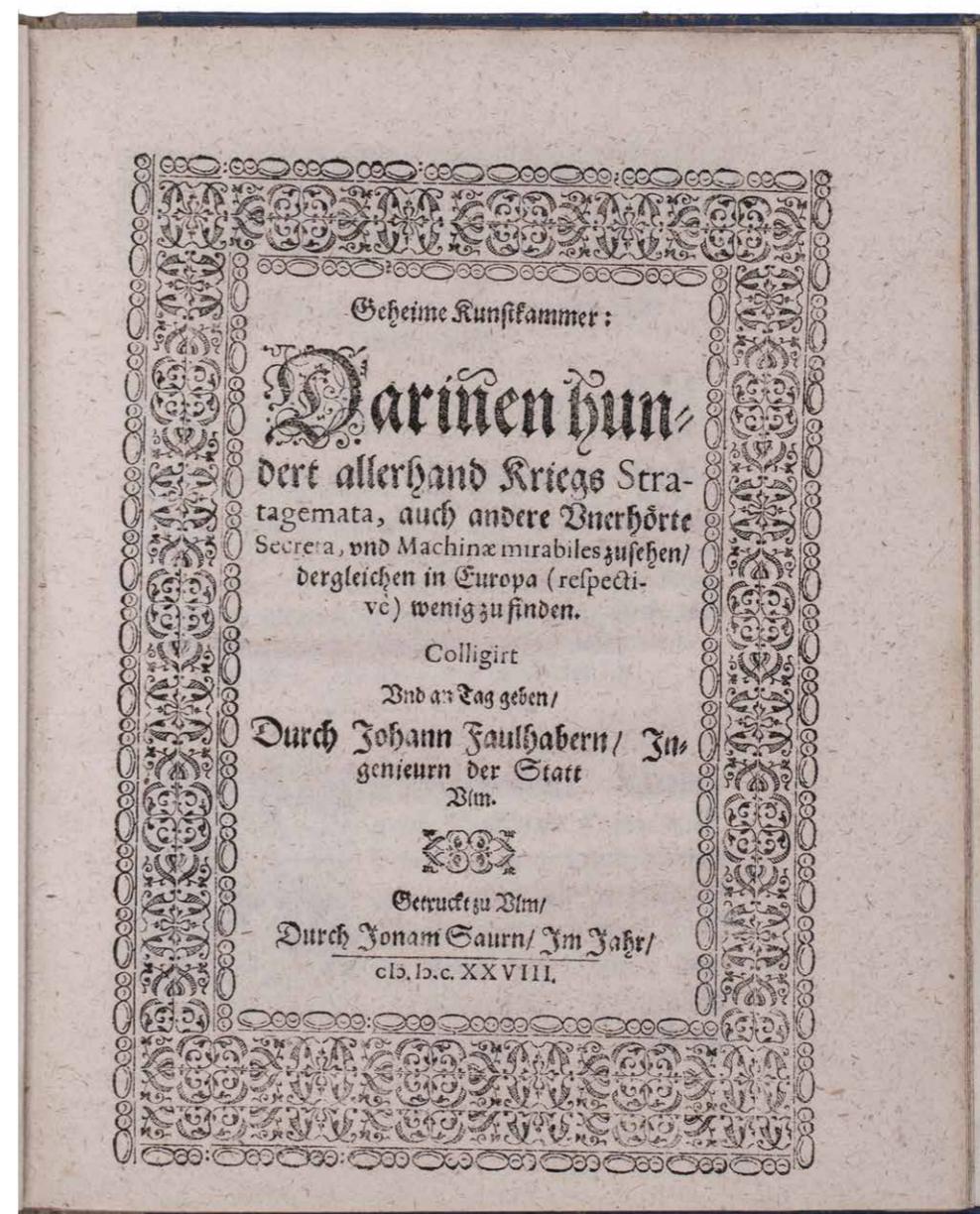
Johann Faulhaber (1580–1635), taught mathematics at Ulm, where his family moved around 1461, after serving as vassals of the Abbot of Fulda. He became the most important of the "Cossists", mathematicians concerned with algebra. After publishing his first arithmetic text, Faulhaber founded his own school in Ulm in 1600, which grew into an internationally famous educational institute for higher mathematical sciences. He later added an artillery and engineering school. Descartes came to study with him, and Faulhaber had a lively contact with Kepler.

Applying mathematics to military engineering, the building of fortifications and the art of fire-arms, Faulhaber was also much in demand as fortification engineer, receiving commissions from the King of Sweden and many others. He published a large number of mathematical works, mostly in German, and invented a number of instruments and machines.

Two different readers have checked off items in the catalogue, perhaps indicating those in their own collections. In very good condition.

28 pp. *Bircher A 4515; VD 17, 23:000295W (3 copies); not in Balsiger; Berlin Kat.; Jammes, Cabinets de curiosités; Murray; Sloos, Warfare and the age of printing; for Faulhaber: DSB IV, pp. 549–552.*

➤ More on our website



The standard handbook on geomancy, a divination system with Arabian origins, including a 12th-century translation of a work by the Arab Alfakini, published here for the first time

14

FLUDD, Robert, Henri de PISIS and ALFAKINI.

Fasciculus geomanticus, in quo varia variorum opera geomantica continentur.

“Verona” [= Frankfurt am Main], 1687.

With (bound before ad 1): (2) Tabulae geomanticae ...

Frankfurt am Main, Johann David Zunner, 1693.

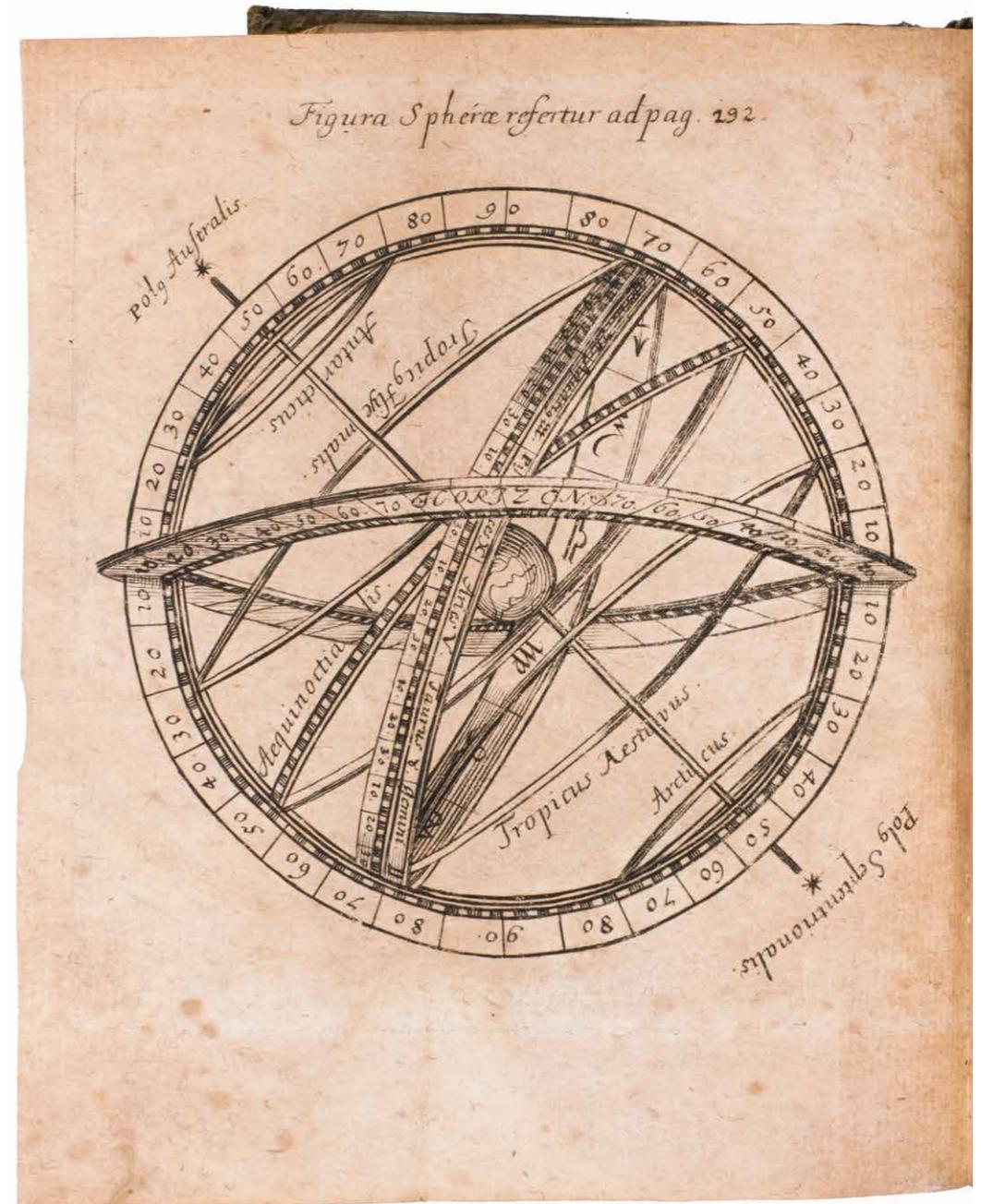
2 works in 1 volume. 8°. Ad 1 with title page printed in red and black, 5 (of 6) large folding letterpress tables, 1 double-page engraved folding plate with 2 engraved illustrations, and some woodcut illustrations and numerous letterpress geomantic figures in text. Ad 2 with 2 letterpress folding tables, and nearly 200 pages of letterpress tables with geomantic figures. Contemporary overlapping vellum, with the manuscript title on the spine.

€ 4500

First edition of a collection of three texts on geomancy, a divination system with Arabian origins. Geomancy comes from the Ancient Greek “geômanteía”, a translation of the Arabic term “ilm al-raml”, the “science of the sand”. It includes texts by the English physician and astrologer Robert Fludd (1574–1637), the French physician Henri de Pisis and the Arab Alfakini. It is preceded by its separately published supplement *Tabulae geomanticae*, together forming “the standard printed Latin source for the rules of geomantic practice ... a handbook and compendium not since rivalled for clarity and completeness” (Skinner). The last treatise contains the geomantic questions of the Arab Alfakini, son of Abizarch, based on a manuscript from 1535 and published here for the first time. A supplement containing almost 200 pages of tables, is bound first.

Lacking one letterpress folding table in the main work. Browened throughout, as usual, some occasional smudges, a few tears along the folds of the folding tables, and some wormholes in the first two leaves, otherwise internally still good. Binding soiled and with crudely restored spine.

647, [1 blank]; 197, [1 blank] pp. See our website for the reference list. ➔ More on our website



Richly illustrated 16th-century atlas on celestial and terrestrial physics and their influence on medicine

15

GALLUCCI, Giovanni Paolo.

Theatrum mundi, et temporis ...

Venice, Giovanni Battista Somasco, 1588. 4°. With Somasco's Sagittarius device on the title page, 144 full-page woodcuts, 1 large folding table, several full-page or smaller tables in the text and woodcut head- and tailpieces and initials. Lacking the moving volvelles. Contemporary overlapping vellum, manuscript title (faded) on spine.

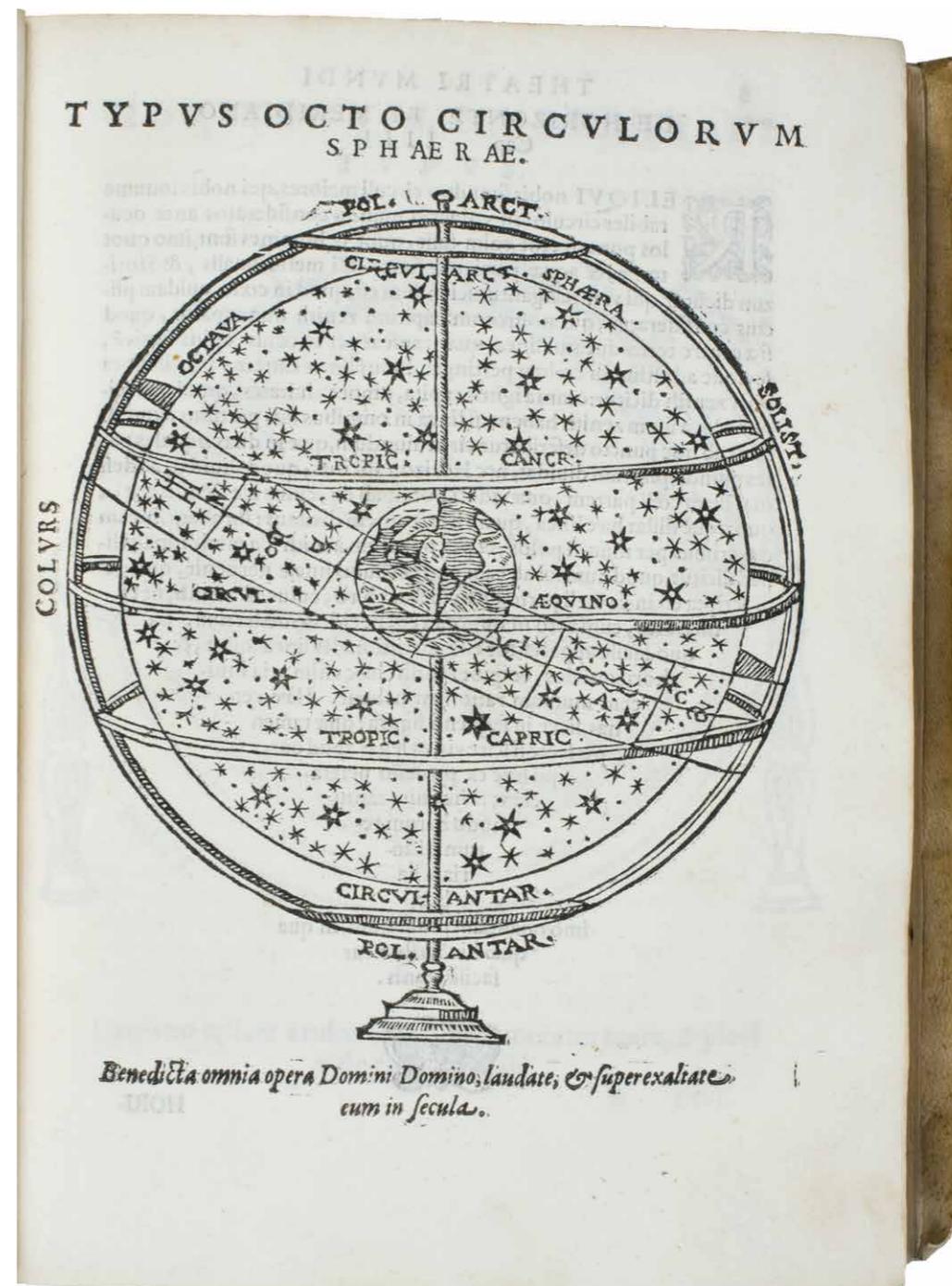
€ 6000

First edition of Giovanni Paolo Gallucci's *Theatrum mundi*, considered the first modern celestial atlas. This 16th-century atlas was the first to use the Copernican coordinates for the locations of the stars. In six books, Gallucci provided his readers with a survey of terrestrial and celestial physics, beautifully illustrated with many woodcuts.

Gallucci dedicated it to Pope Sixtus V, who had banned all astrological literature in 1586, trying to convince him to grant an astronomical observatory. Although Gallucci can't resist reading some astrological implications into the constellations, he tried to write a pure astronomical treatise. He discusses planets and their qualities, their radiation, the influence they exerted when in particular positions in the zodiac, and designates some zodiac signs masculine or feminine, commanding or obedient. He also added medical notes to his astronomical treatise, concerning the influence of constellations and the signs of the zodiac on the human body and therefore on human health. Gallucci argued for using astrology in medicine, while warning physicians to be thoughtful and not overly reliant on it. It nevertheless became very popular, probably in part because of the many illustrations.

With an owner's inscription on the title page. Binding a little stained, lacking the moving volvelles. Slightly water stained in the head margin of the first few pages, with a tear in the foot margin of pp. 93-94, a few stains, but otherwise in good condition and with the additional folding table.

[16], 478, [2] pp. See our website for the reference list. ➤ More on our website



Well-illustrated encyclopaedia of astronomical and surveying instruments from the time of Galileo, with a world map in two hemispheres, and 3 volvelles

16

GALLUCCI, Giovanni Paolo.

Della fabrica et uso di diversi stromenti di astronomia, et cosmografia ...

Venice, Roberto Meietti, 1598. 4°. With engraved title page, folding woodcut plate, 3 woodcut volvelles with moving parts, and numerous woodcut illustrations in text. Including a world map in two hemispheres, they reappear with volvelle attachments on both sides of leaf 149 and leaf 153. Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment.

€ 35 000

First edition of a well-illustrated encyclopaedia of astronomical and surveying instruments available from classical times to the time of publication, by the Italian astronomer Giovanni Paolo Gallucci (1538-ca. 1621), a well-known private tutor to the Venetian nobility and founding member of the Second Venetian Academy. It gives a comprehensive summary of the knowledge of astronomy, cosmography and mathematics at the time of Galileo. "It describes instruments designed by others (Finé, Apian, Gemma Frisius, etc.) and gives credit to the original inventors. The one exception to this is the Visorio, which Gallucci claims as his own, but an identical instrument by Waldseemüller can be found illustrated in the 1512 edition of *Margarita Philosophica* by Gregor Reisch. Other instruments, such as the Hemispherical Uranico (a complicated device used for computations dealing with the moon, sun and stars), appear to be of Gallucci's invention. Besides the usual portable instruments, he also includes a simple quadrant and a two-ringed armillary built into the church of Santa Maria Novella in Florence" (Erwin Tomash). For some of the instruments this is the only description available. The present second issue of the first edition appeared a year after the first.

With a label and a library stamp on the engraved title page. A few marginal water stains and some occasional spots, otherwise in very good condition.

[8], 228 ll. See our website for the reference list. [➤](#) More on our website



Rare 16th-century treatise pointing out the interaction between astronomy and geography

17

GIRAULT, Simon.

Globe du monde contenant un bref traité du ciel & de la terre.

Langres, Jean des Preyz, 1592. 4°. With a woodcut on the title page showing an armillary sphere, 3 woodcut folding plates of the solar system, a celestial chart in two hemispheres and a (terrestrial) map of the world in two hemispheres, 4 woodcut maps in the text (including a map of Europe), many astronomical and cosmographical woodcut figures and tables in the text and woodcut head- and tailpieces and initials. 18th-century half brown sheepskin, brown paper sides.

€ 18 000

Rare French 16th-century astronomical, cosmographical and geographical work by Simon Girault. This short treatise, comprising three books presented in the form of a dialogue between two children named Charles and Marguerite, discussing several aspects of heaven and earth. The first book discusses celestial movements and circles, the second book treats the solar system more extensively, the quality of different planets, the size of the earth and its proportion and distance to the other celestial bodies. Girault also discusses why the sun appears to be larger in the winter than in the summer, explains eclipses and tells more about the directions and retrograde movements of several planets. The third book is more on terrestrial topics.

With manuscript inscriptions on the first free endleaf and on the title page. Binding worn, corners bumped, parts of the backstrip loose, some (water-) staining, slightly dust-soiled, with some small tears, mainly in the foot margin (some repaired) and a wormhole in the foot and one in the fore-edge margin. Otherwise in good condition. A rare astronomical work.

92 ll. *BM STC French*, p. 203; *Brunet II*, col. 1614 (note); *Graesse III*, p. 89; *Houzeau & Lancaster 4962*; *Pettegree, French vernacular books 23076 & 23077* (2 identical descriptions!); *USTC 37546*; not in *Adams*; *Mortimer, French*. [More on our website](#)



Bound for King Louis XV

18

HAMILTON, Hugh.

De sectionibus conicis. Tractatus geometricus. In quo, ex natura ipsius coni, sectionum affectioens [!] facillime deducuntur. Methodo nova.

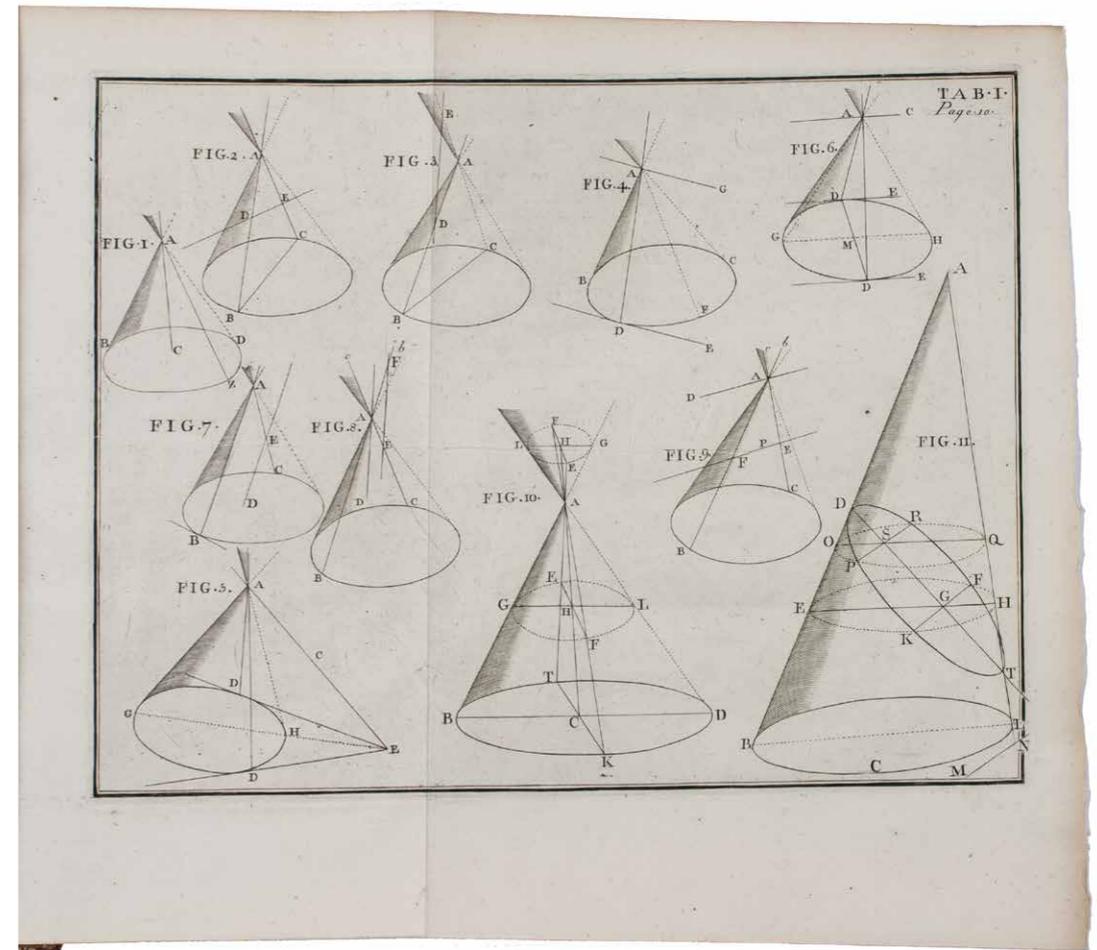
London, William Johnston, 1758. 4°. With numerous illustrations on 17 folding engraved plates. Contemporary French gold-tooled red goatskin morocco, with the arms of the French King Louis XV in the centre of each board and his crowned monogram in each compartment (except that with the title) of the spine.

€ 13 000

Splendid copy in contemporary red morocco, bound for the French King Louis XV, containing the first edition of a geometrical treatise on a new method of drawing and projecting conic sections (circles, ellipses, parabolas, hyperbolas). Hugh Hamilton (1729–1805), was a descendant of a Hugh Hamilton who settled in Ireland in the time of James I. He studied at Trinity College in Dublin, was appointed Erasmus Smith's professor of natural history in the University of Dublin in 1759, and was elected a fellow of the Royal Academy and member of the Irish Royal Academy. He later fulfilled several posts as vicar and dean and in 1799 he became bishop of Ossory. Hamilton published several learned treatises, of which the present was the most valued, as it contained several new theorems. The new analytical system of conic sections and the drawing of their projections is mainly taught by means of propositions and problems, all clearly illustrated on the large engraved plates. The present first edition was published simultaneously in both Dublin and in London. Although the book was reprinted several times it seems to be very rare today.

A small blank area on the title page cut out and restored, not approaching the text, presumably to remove an owner's name. Magnificent copy, with the coat-of-arms of Louis XV.

[4], VIII, 211, [1] pp. *Sotheran II*, 8850; *Poggendorff I*, col. 1009; not in *Honeyman*; *Wheeler Gift*; for the *armorial binding*: *Olivier 25*, plate 2495, 12. [More on our website](#)



Rare first edition, printed in Calcutta, of an attempt to reconcile Biblical Creation with geological science as 19th-century liberal views on earth's history and species development emerged

20

HUTTON, Thomas.

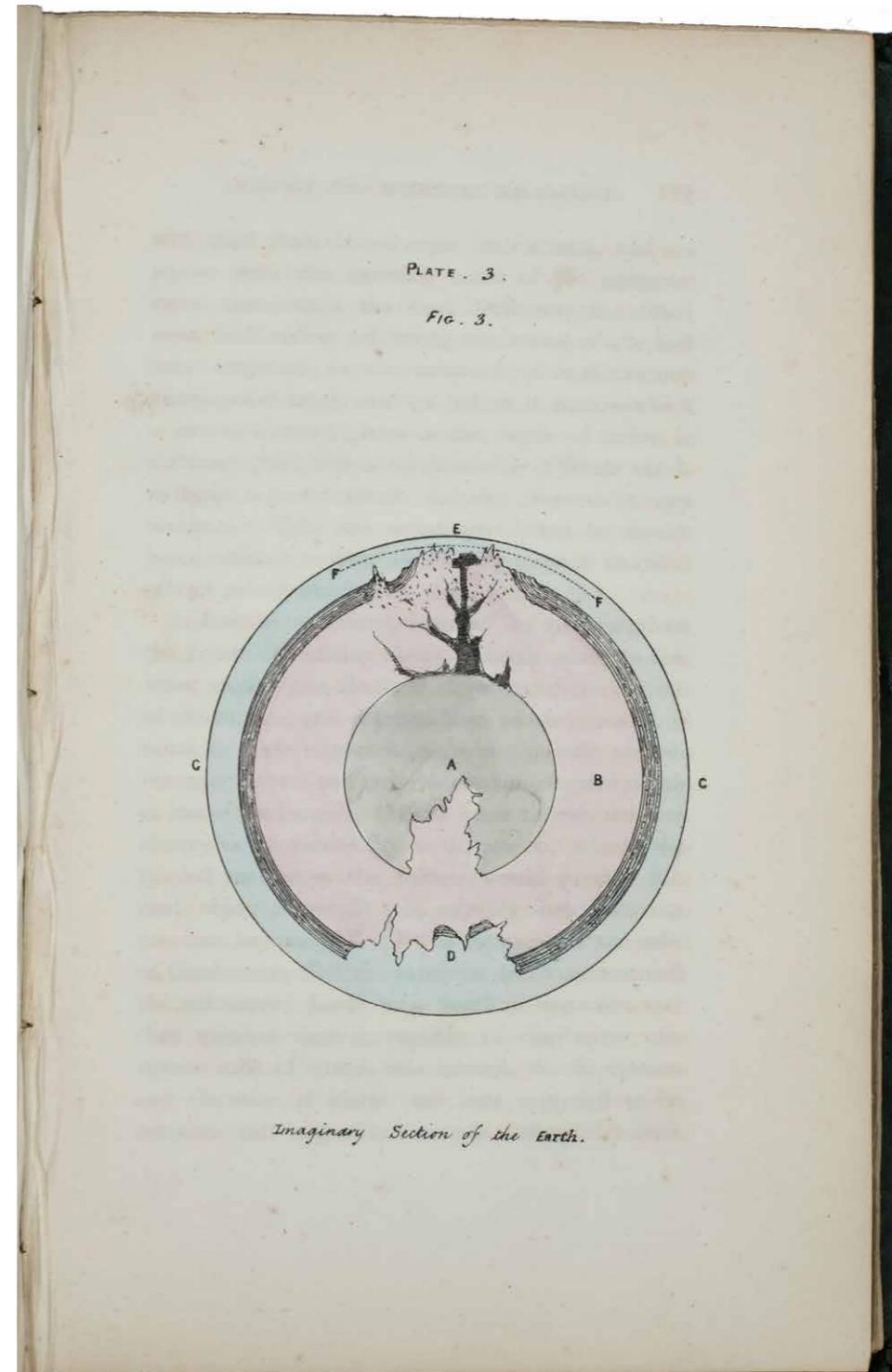
The chronology of creation; or, geology and scripture reconciled. Calcutta, W. Thacker and Co., 1850. Large 8°. With a coloured lithographic frontispiece, and 3 coloured lithographic plates. Contemporary green cloth.

€ 2950

Rare first edition of a very rare geological and natural theological work, written by Thomas Hutton, Captain in the Bengal Army, discussing the chronology of the creation and history of the earth from a geological, but also a theological perspective, by refusing the more liberal ideas of William Buckland (1754–1856) on earth's history and species development. Buckland in his *Geology and mineralogy considered with reference to natural theology* (1837), proposed a progressive development from an initially hot earth, showing a continuous transmutation and evolution, but also the progress of organic life. Hutton, a strict Biblical literalist, rejects Buckland's theory of successive creations. In the present work, he challenges Buckland by proposing that God created the earth only from materials intended for that purpose, and not from any materials of worlds preceding the earth, as if our earth arose out of the "ruins" of former worlds. Hutton's views on the creation of earth and organic life are collected in the present *The chronology of creation*, an attempt to reconcile geology and the Bible (in particular *Genesis*) again in a period when evolutionary theories and more liberal ideas on earth history and species development were upcoming (he wrote nine years before Darwin's *On the origin of species*). The two orthographic views of the earth show it first entirely covered by an ocean, then with the first land appearing, while the cross-section shows his idea of the earth's interior structure and a theory of volcanos.

With an owner's inscription on the half-title. Binding slightly worn and soiled, some stains on the first leaves, but overall a good copy of a very rare first edition printed in Calcutta.

[2], XVI, [2], 503, [1 blank] pp. *WorldCat 8771052 (8 copies)*. [More on our website](#)



Complete book III of 1498 edition of Ibn Sina's great masterpiece, in contemporary Renaissance bindings

21

IBN SINA (AVICENNA).

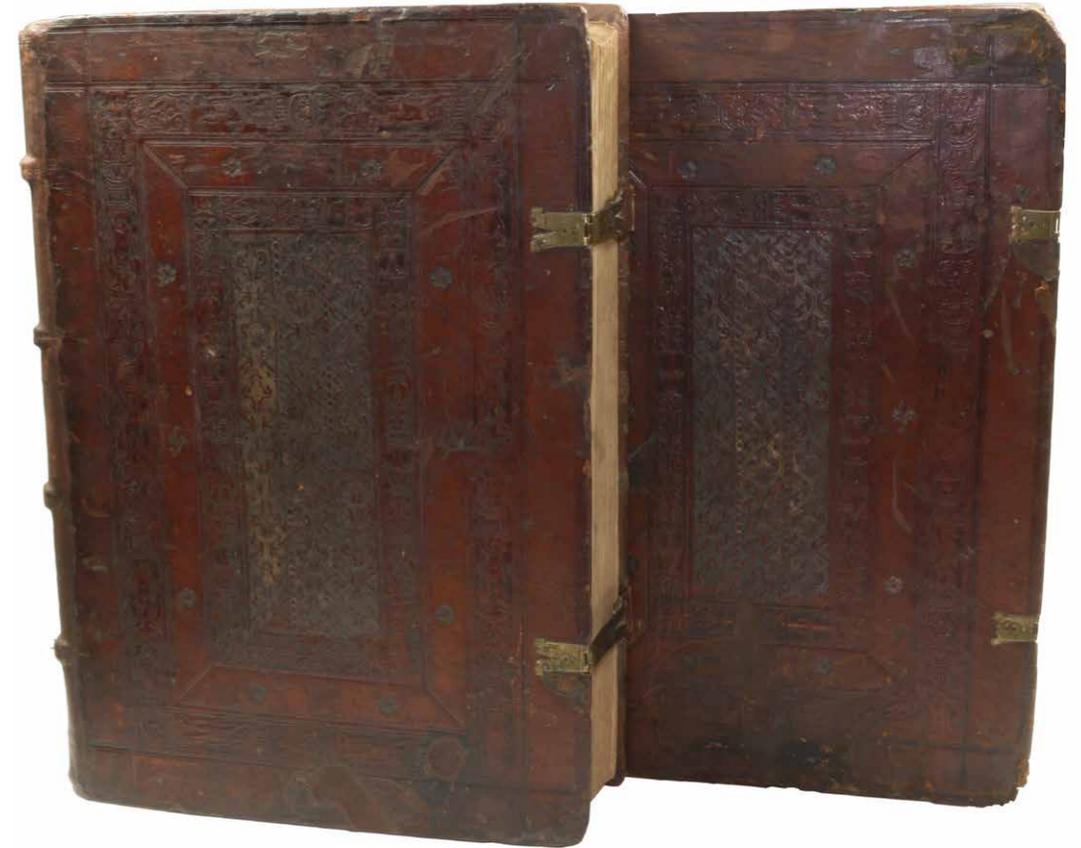
Canon medicinae [= al-Qanun].

Lyon, Jean Trechsel & Johann Klein, 24 December 1498. 2 volumes. Folio. With a diagrammatic woodcut. Contemporary blind- and gold-tooled calf over wooden boards, one volume with 2 brass clasps (and traces on the other volume).

€ 125 000

Important 1498 edition of the complete volumes 2 and 3 (of 4), comprising the complete book III, of the greatest monument of Islamic medicine, al-Qanun written in Arabic by Ibn Sina (ca. 980–1037), known in the West as Avicenna, and translated into Latin by Gherardo da Cremona (ca. 1114–1187) as Canon medicinae. This is the first edition edited by J. Ponceau, physician to King Charles VIII of France, and the second published outside Italy. It is here preserved in contemporary Renaissance gold- and blind-tooled calf and nearly untrimmed. The complete five books were first printed ca. 1473 and Cremona's translation remained the standard into the 17th century. For the present Trechsel edition, Ponceau for the first time added the unpublished commentaries of J. Desparts (ca. 1380–1458), physician to Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, and new commentaries by the leading scholar J. Lascaris (1445–1534), a Greek living in Italy. Trechsel and Ponceau clearly went to great lengths to surpass all earlier editions in scholarship. Fortunately book III (well over half of the present edition) can stand independently, covering the pathology of and therapy for all parts of the body systematically "a capite ad calces" (from head to toe), including ailments of the ear, nose and throat, as well as obstetrics. This is the longest and in many respects, the most important book of the al-Qanun. With a few contemporary manuscript annotations, and traces of bookplates removed from the pastedowns. A pencil note on the front pastedown of volume 2 notes that the set came from the Fritzlar Cathedral Library. Both volumes lack the final blank leaf, but are otherwise complete and nearly untrimmed. Some light browning and marginal water stains (mainly towards end of vol. 2), some mostly marginal worming, but still in good condition.

379; 357 ll. See our website for the reference list. [➤](#) More on our website



Rare 1534 edition of a classic on palm-reading & physiognomy, with the woodcuts of the first edition

22

INDAGINE VON HAGEN (ROSENBACH), Johannes.

Chiromantia. 1 Physiognomia ... 2 Periaxiomata ... 3 Canones astrologici ... 4 Astrologia naturalis. 5 Complexionum noticia ...

(Colophon:) Strasbourg, Johann Schott, 1534. Folio. With a large woodcut portrait of the author on the title page, the author's full-page woodcut coat of arms on the recto of the otherwise blank last leaf, about 93 woodblock illustrations. 20th-century half maroon goatskin morocco.

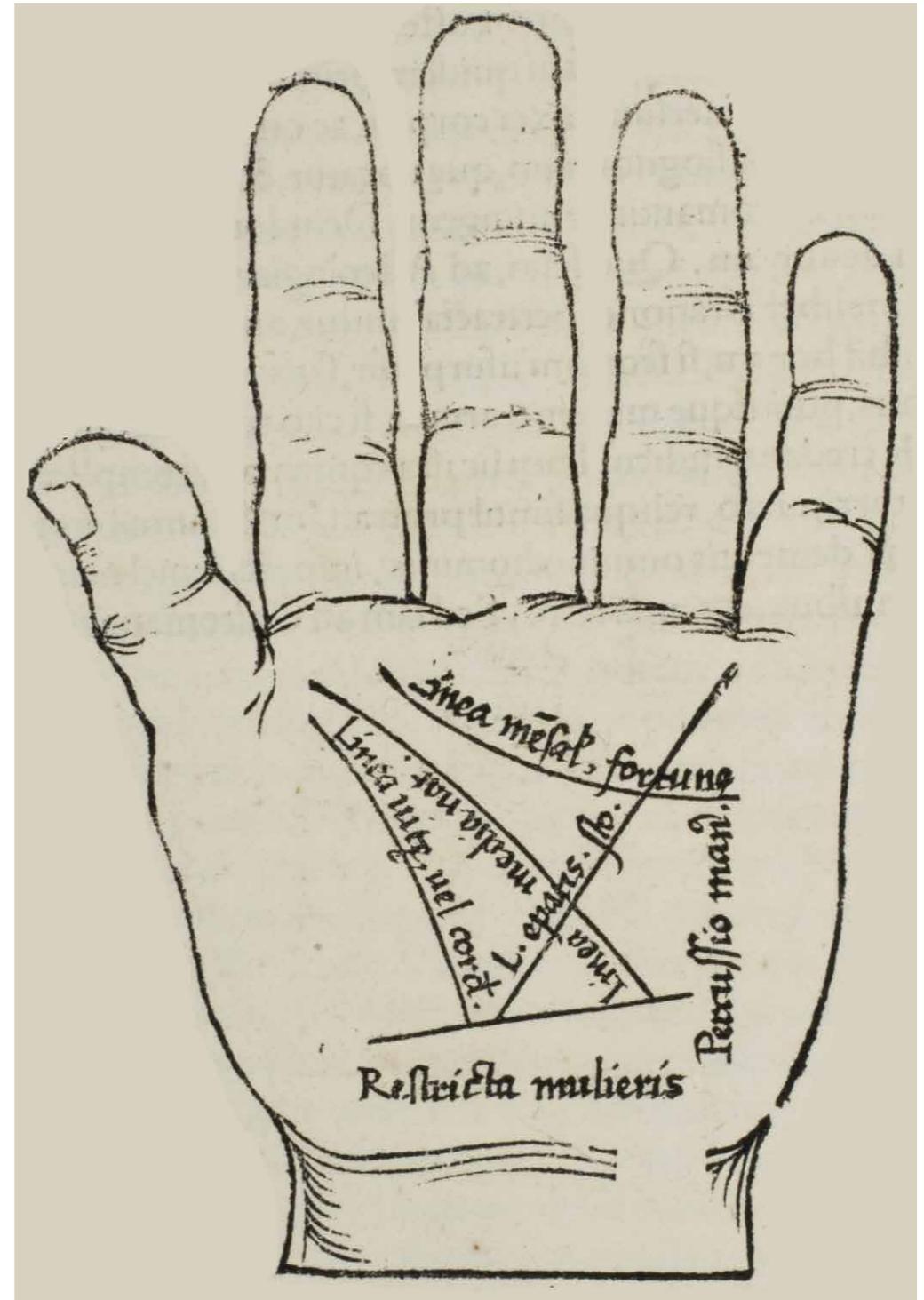
€ 9500

Rare third edition in the original Latin, printed with the woodblocks of the first (1522) edition by the same publisher, of a classic account of palm reading, physiognomy (determining personality from facial features and the shape of the head) and several aspects of astrology, including horoscopes and the effect of the sun, moon and planets on health and on the temperaments associated with the four humours. The text is divided into six "libri", but the first is unnumbered on the title page so that it numbers the others 1-5. The woodcuts (including the author's portrait and coat-of-arms) were executed for the first edition and some have been attributed to Hans Baldung Grien and Hans Wechtlin. They include six fantastic chariots carrying male and female figures representing the moon and the five planets pulled by a variety of birds, a basilisk or cockatrice, wolves and a pair of women, with zodiac signs on the wheels. While Ratdolt had published woodcuts of the sun, moon and planets riding chariots in 1491, the present woodcuts are much more sophisticated and probably inspired the ca. 1568 engraved series by Maarten van Heemskerck (New Hollstein 546-552).

With a water stain in the upper outside corner throughout and a corner torn off the final leaf (not approaching the woodcut arms), but otherwise in very good condition. Binding also very good.

126, [1], [1 blank] pp. *Thorndike V*, pp. 65-66; *USTC 621014* (5 copies); *VD16, R3110* (6 copies); cf. *Adams 188* (1522 ed.); *MacPhail/Mellon, Alchemy and the occult 9* (1523 German ed.).

[More on our website](#)



Best and only folio edition of an encyclopedic work of eccentric genius on magnetism

23

KIRCHER, Athanasius.

Magnes sive de arte magnetica ...

Rome, Biagio Diversin and Zanobio Masotti, 1654. Folio. With engraved frontispiece, letterpress title page printed in red and black with engraved double publisher's device, full-page engraved plate with the portrait of Emperor Ferdinand IV, 34 mostly full-page engraved illustrations, 215 woodcut illustrations and about 50 letterpress tables. Contemporary overlapping vellum.

€ 17500

The third, last, best and only folio edition, much enlarged, thoroughly revised and with the engraved and many other illustrations newly made for it, of one of the major scientific works of the famous German Jesuit scholar, Athanasius Kircher (1602–1680), a truly encyclopedic work on magnetism. Kircher published his first major work, *Ars Magnetica*, in 1631. Only 63 pages in length, it extensively reports on his invention of a method for measuring magnetic power by means of a balance. The present work on magnetism was for Kircher an omnibus of scientific and also phantastic theories. He researched and measured magnetism in numerous situations and applied it to numerous fields of study, including cosmology, astronomy, geography, optics, electricity, medicine, metallurgy, animals, music, love, etc. He was the first to propose using magnetic declination to determine longitude. With the armorial bookplate of Hyacinth Theodore Baron (1706/07–1787), Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris, and library stamps of Dr. Timoteo Riboli (1809–1895). Somewhat browned and with a small defect in the engraved title page, but still in good condition, binding slightly stained.

[32], 618, [28] pp. *De Backer & Sommervogel IV, cols. 1048–1049; Caillet 5780; DSB VII, pp. 374–378; Fletcher, Athanasius Kircher (2011), p. 565 (no. 5b) & passim; Poggendorff I, pp. 1258–1259; Wheeler Gift 116a; cf. Kemp, The Science of Art, pp. 280–281 & passim.* ➔ More on our website



Important and richly illustrated work on sundials and perspective, particularly anamorphosis

24

MAIGNAN, Emmanuel.

Perspectiva horaria, sive de horographia gnomonica tum theoretica, tum practica libri quator ...

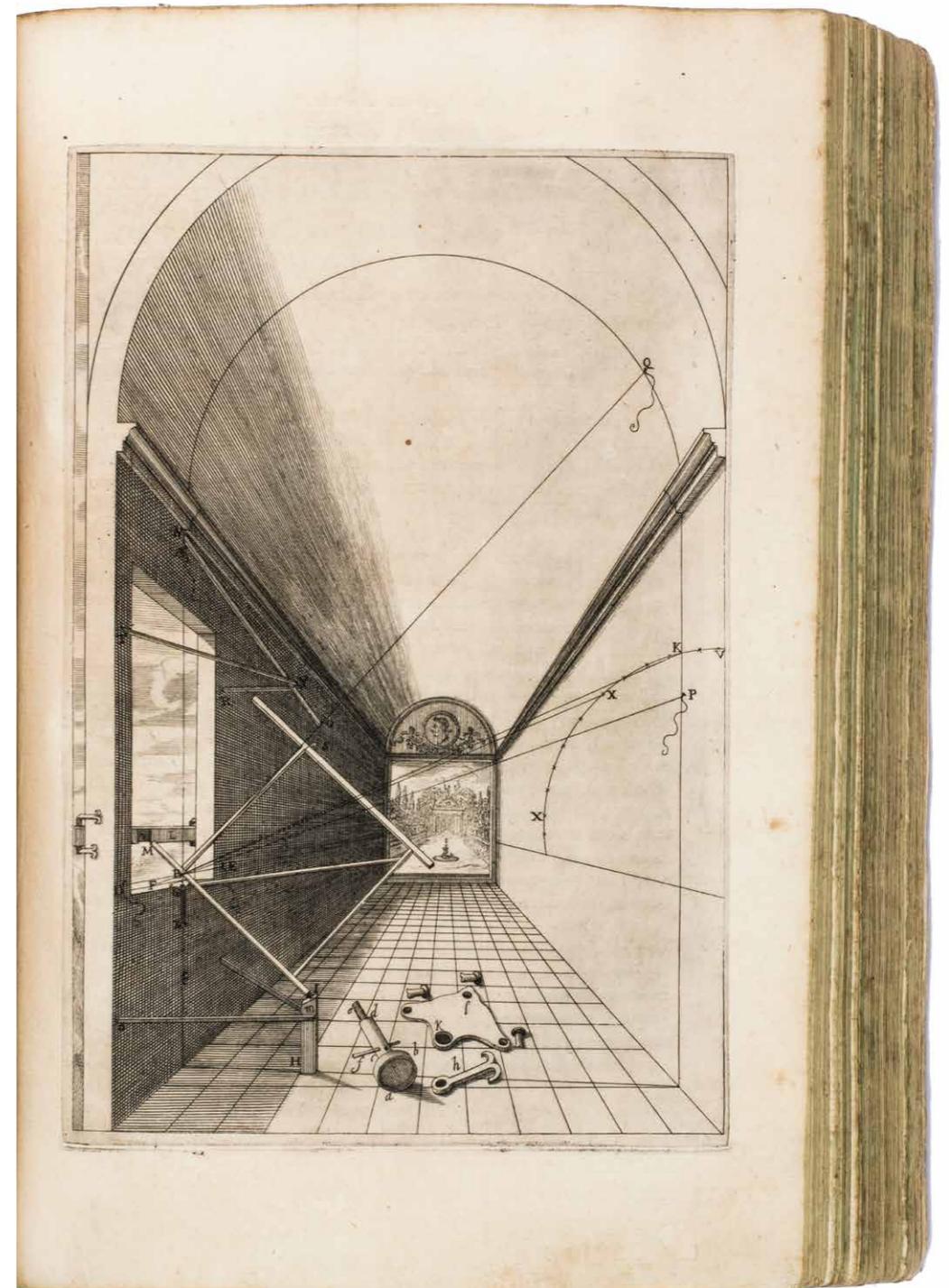
Rome, Philippus Rubeus, 1648. Folio. With an engraved allegorical frontispiece, 45 engraved plates, a woodcut vignette on the title page, an engraved headpiece with portrait to the dedication, a folding table, and numerous woodcut figures in the text. Contemporary Southern European limp vellum, with the manuscript title on the spine.

€ 9500

First and only edition of an encyclopedic work on perspective and horology. This richly illustrated work contains an extremely detailed discussion of sundials, from both a practical and theoretical point of view, explains the grinding and polishing of lenses, and contains a system of optics with an early theory of the refraction of light. It is also one of the most important works on anamorphosis from the 17th century, and explains how to make projections onto a wide variety of different surfaces. Despite its importance, the work is relatively rare on the market, as it has only been offered for sale three times in the past 20 years.

Emmanuel Maignan (1601–1676) was a mathematician who joined the Order of Minims when he was just 18. He resided at the Monastery Ss. Trinità dei Monte in Rome, where he met the mathematician and painter of anamorphic art J.-F. Nicéron (1613–1646). Together they made an anamorphic fresco on the walls of the monastery in 1642. Both Nicéron and Maignan much contributed to the wider practising of illusionistic perspective and anamorphosis, which until then had been looked upon as something occult. The vellum is somewhat creased and stained, the head of the spine, the upper outer corner of the front board, and the upper edge of the back board have been restored. The end papers have recently been replaced, the work is somewhat browned and foxed throughout, with some leaves affected more than others. Otherwise in good condition.

[28], 705, [1] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* ➤ More on our website



Manuscript on the motion of the sun and stars, from the Bibliotheca Phillipica

25

[MANUSCRIPT – MEDIEVAL TIMEKEEPING].

Calculus temporum ecclesiasticus.

[Possibly England, ca. 1360]. Small 4° (15.5 × 22.5 cm). Latin manuscript on paper. Brown ink in an early bastarda hand, the final three leaves in a slightly later (near-contemporary) hand. 19th-century paper wrappers, with the manuscript title on the front.

€ 95 000

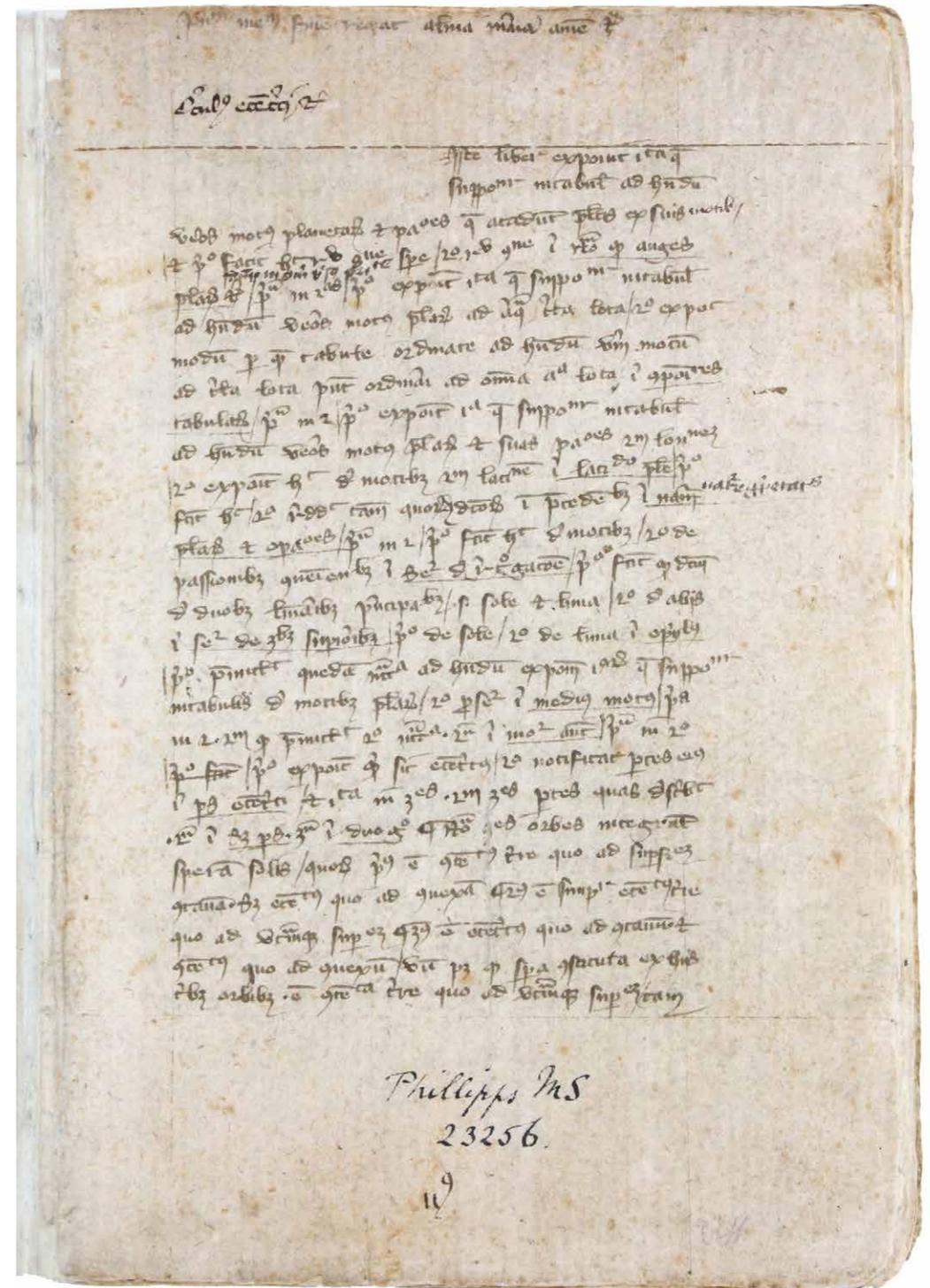
With no other known textual witnesses, this extremely interesting Latin calendrical manuscript must be considered a unique work, possibly of English origin. It was formerly the property of the bibliophile Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792–1872), who lends the work its title (and short catalogue description) on its wrappers.

It appears likely that the manuscript had not been entirely completed by its scribe when it was bound, as there are a number of spaces left open in the text for diagrams which were never drawn in, as well as spaces for catchwords in the left margin of the pages (a later owner has completed a few of these). Throughout the manuscript, the text makes reference to these non-existent diagrams; these were perhaps intended to contain computational tables or similar, although the incipit does indicate significant astronomical content when it describes the “motus planetarum”. The three final leaves, which are penned in a slightly different, but likewise contemporary hand, may be an attempt to complete the work textually.

Altogether, a fascinating example of a unique 14th-century manuscript in progress, and one with a rather unique construction, as well as no other surviving copies. The most notable previous owner of the manuscript was Sir Thomas Phillipps, who amassed one of the greatest private manuscript collections in English history.

With Phillipps’ description is pasted to the inside front cover, and the first leaf shows “Phillipps Ms. 23256” inked in Phillipps’ own hand in the lower margin. Minor water staining throughout, but otherwise quite well preserved.

30 ll. Schoenberg Database 72245; Phillipps MS 23256 (Catalogus librorum manuscriptorum in bibliotheca D. Thomae Phillipps, pt. 4 [1871]: “Calculus Astronomicum, & Mathematicum de Motu Solis, & Astrorum ... Dering Mss., Sale 674”); not listed by In Principio index. ➔ More on our website



Astrology, alchemy and mineralogy on the threshold of modern science

26

MAZZOTTA, Benedetto.

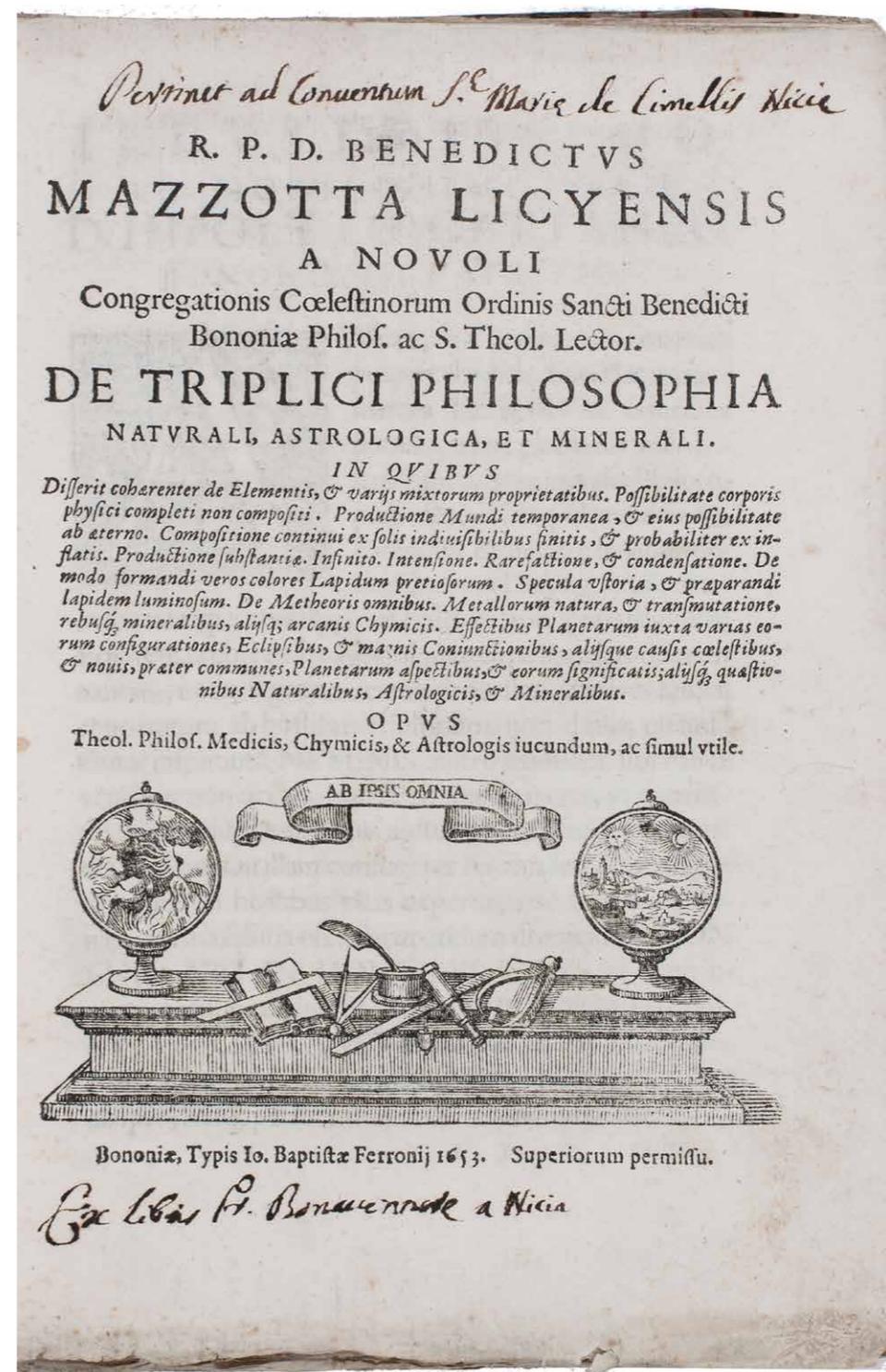
De triplici philosophia naturali, astrologica, et minerali ...
Bologna, Giovanni Battista Ferroni, 1653. 4°. With an engraved heraldic and allegorical frontispiece with the arms of the dedicatee, a full-page engraving, and 2 engraved illustrations and 2 woodcut diagrams in the text. Contemporary boards covered with a vellum leaf from a 16th-century(?) plain-chant manuscript antiphonary.

€ 19 500

First and only edition of a detailed Latin treatise mixing astronomy, astrology, mineralogy, metallurgy, chemistry, alchemy and gemology, by Benedetto Mazzotta, professor of theology at the University of Bologna and a member of the Benedictine order. Mazzotta belonged to the old school of Bologna scientists, attributing powers to the traditional four elements, the planets and precious stones, and defending the geocentric model of the universe against Copernicus, whose heliocentric model (he notes) had been condemned by the Church. It "beautifully illustrates scientific knowledge on the threshold of modern science, which would increasingly be based on experiments rather than on philosophical speculation" (Schuh). The work seems to have escaped the attention of alchemists, scientists, historians and collectors, perhaps because it falls in the transition from alchemy and astrology to modern science. Of special interest is the engraved frontispiece by Bartolomeo Coriolano (1599–1676), a highly gifted artist and engraver. A great deal of alchemical symbolism has been read into it. With early owner's inscriptions and a bookplate. The book uses several paper stocks and one has browned slightly and there are very minor browned patches or spots in the frontispiece and last 3 leaves, but the book is otherwise in very good condition and nearly untrimmed. Some of the sewing supports have broken at the hinges, the backstrip is damaged and there are some wormholes in the sides. A fascinating view of ideas about natural phenomena during the transition to modern scientific thought.

Frontispiece plus [10], [2 blank], 148, "252" [= 272] pp. *I See our website for the reference list.*

➤ More on our website



Mesue in Italian – the third known (second complete) copy

27 MASAWAIH AL-MARDINI (MESUE the younger).

Opus quibuslibet aromatariis: necessariu[m]. Mesue in vulgare rescripto. Primo che se ricerca allarte della aromataria como se conosseno le medicine simplice & composte li quattro canone p[er] arte in vulgare declarate alla antidotario: li dubie al configere qlle resolute.

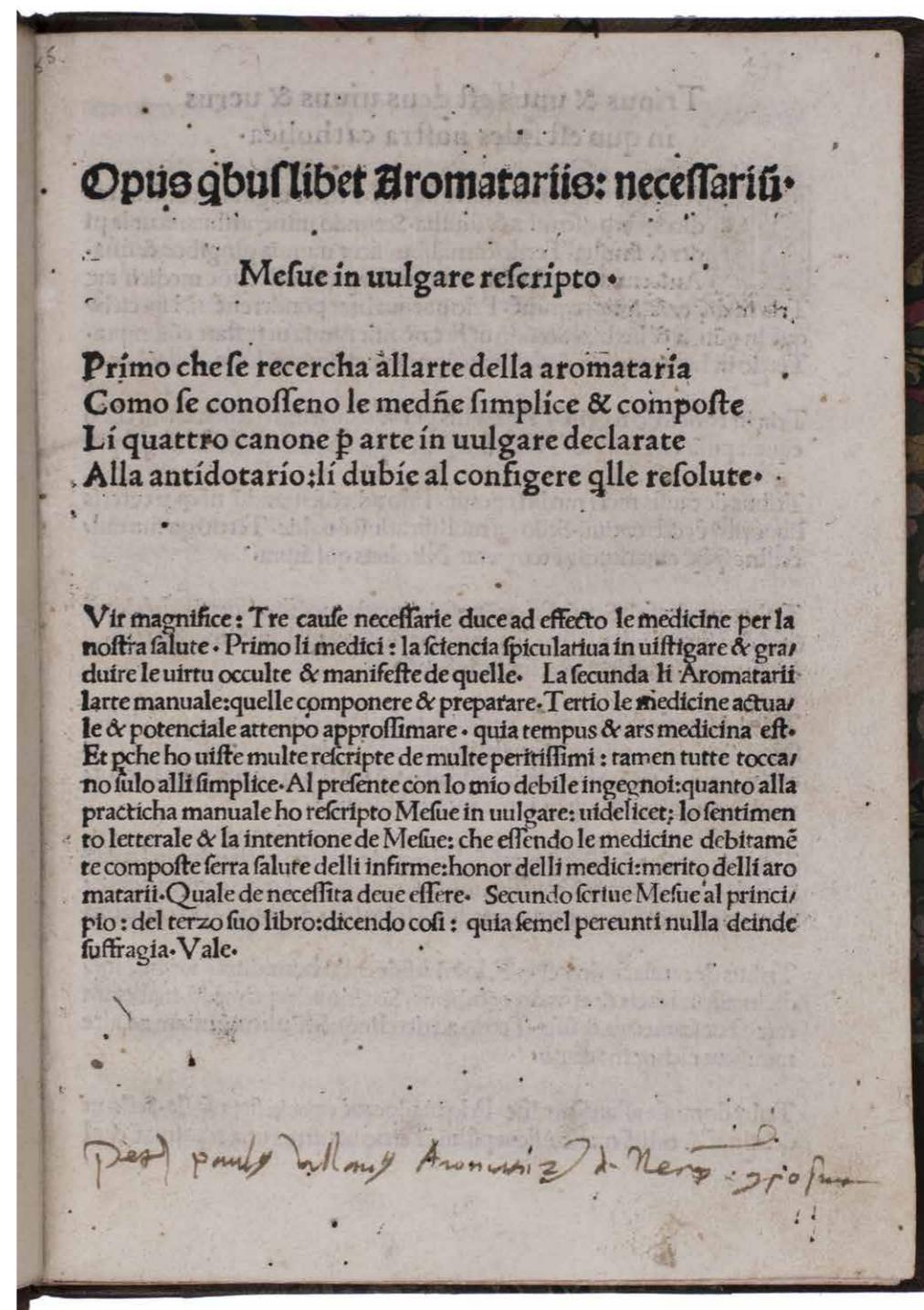
[Napels or Venice, ca. 1500?]. 4° (14.5 × 19.8 cm). Half calf over marbled boards [ca. 1900], gold-tooled spine, gold-tooled red spine label, red sprinkled edges.

€ 45 000

Rare and almost unobtainable first edition of a digest of medical prescriptions, taken from the works of the highly-regarded Arabic physician Mesue the younger (also known as Masawaih al-Mardini), including “a kind of general manual for apothecaries and perfumers” (Duveen). All recipes are in Italian, while the main title and the headings are in Latin. The literature records only two copies world-wide, at the British Library and the University of Wisconsin, the later formerly the Duveen’s. In fact, the copy in the British Library is incomplete, lacking the final leaf (Copinger erroneously describes its endleaf as a final integral blank leaf).

With a contemporary owner’s inscription on the title page. With a restored tear in the final leaf (not affecting the text), some brown specks on the title page and an insignificant water stain along the lower edge of the final gathering, but altogether in excellent condition.

[34] ll. *BM STC Italian*, p. 739; *Copinger 4011 (BM copy)*; *Duveen 651 (Duveen copy)*; *EDIT 16, CNCE 50479 (BM copy)*; *GW M23031 (same 2 copies)*; *ISTC im00521400 (same 2 copies)*; *Klebs 228 note*; *Proctor 7427 (BM copy)*; *USTC 842290 (same 2 copies)*. ➔ More on our website



First edition of a very rare manual on the construction and use of the widely used “astrolabium catholicum”

28

METIUS, Adriaan Adriaansz.

Astrolabium, hoc est astrolabii utriusque accurata descriptio ...
Franeker, Ulderick Balck [for Hendrick Laurensz, Amsterdam], 1626.
8°. With many woodcut geometrical and astronomical illustrations and figures in the text, a woodcut title vignette and woodcut initials and head – and tailpieces. Contemporary vellum with remnants of ties.

€ 5850

Very rare issue of the first edition of Adriaan Adriaansz Metius's *Astrolabium*, being an instructive manual on how to built an astrolabium catholicum, being a particular kind of astrolabe which was generally used by many Dutch pilots in the 16th and 17th century, as it is often depicted in frontispieces of Dutch atlases and pilot guides. The astrolabium catholicum (an universal astrolabe) “was an instrument for the graphic solution of various astronomical and nautical problems, based on the parallactic triangle on the celestial sphere” (Koeman).

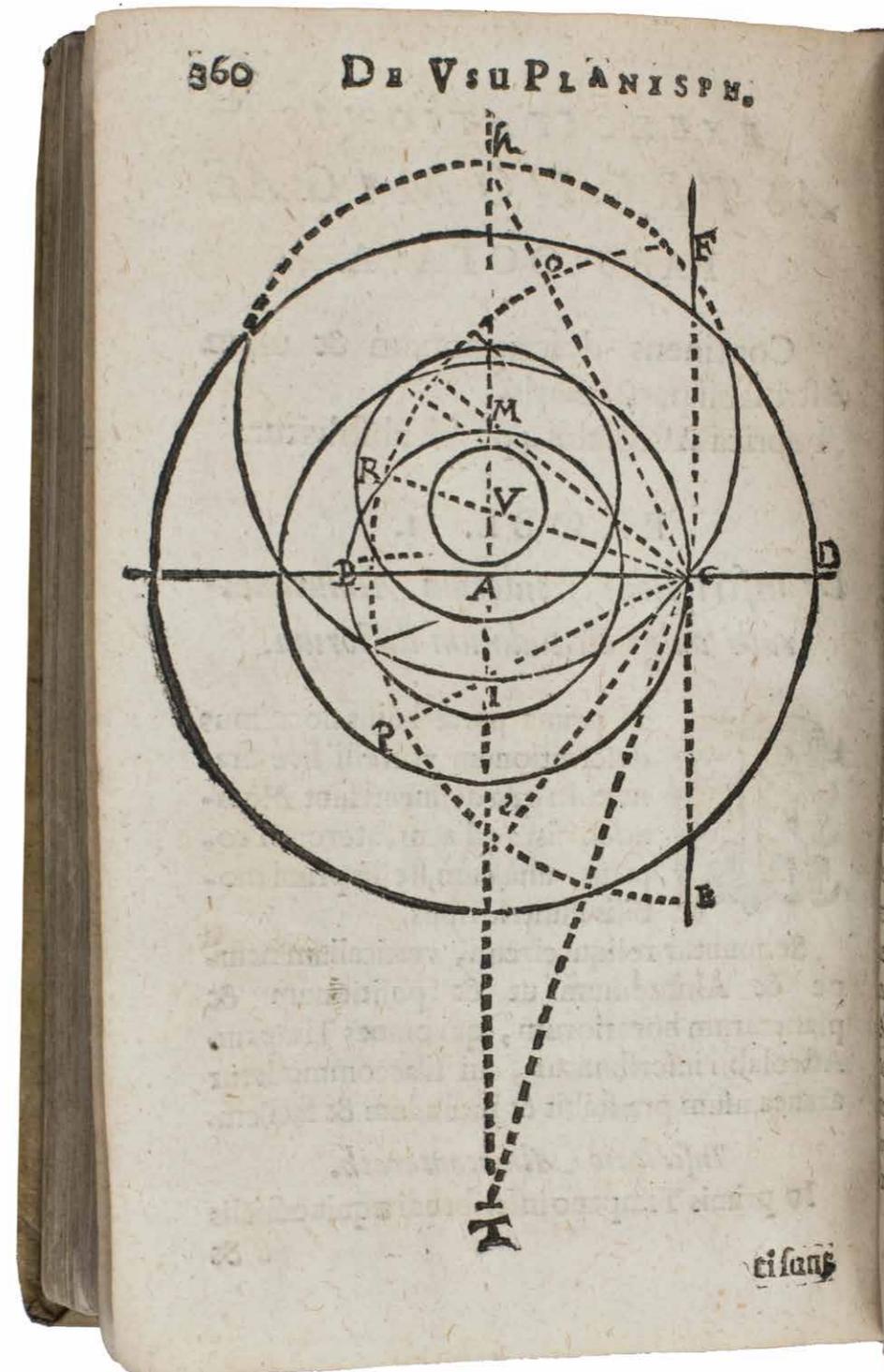
Metius (1571–1635) was a renowned Dutch mathematician, instrument maker and astronomer. He is known for his many geometrical, arithmetical and astronomical works, who were widely used in his time.

The present work by Metius is very rare: it is not recorded in the STCN and only 9 copies are recorded in WorldCat. Another copy not recorded in WorldCat, held at the university library in Budapest, is mentioned by Hoogendoorn in his bibliography. As it seems that there appear two different title pages for the first edition, as recorded by Hoogendoorn, the present copy seems to be a reissue of the first edition.

A highly interesting, very rare and widely used manual on an astronomical and mathematical instrument which was considered to be one of the most important instruments of 16th- and 17th-century Dutch seafarers.

With a bookplate, with an owner's inscription on the title page, and a few annotations in the text. Binding slightly stained and dust-soiled, some leaves very slightly browned, a few spots throughout, with a very small hole in p. 129 (with loss of a few letters), but overall in very good condition.

[16], 391, [1] pp. See our website for the reference list. [➔](#) More on our website



Manuscript log of a voyage from Suez through the Red and Arabian Seas to Bombay, Karachi and Colombo, with 8 excellent nautical charts and 5 beautiful sketches, including one of the city of Muscat

29

[OMAN NAVIGATION LOGBOOK]. MCKINNELL, T., asst. master.

Log of the proceedings. HMS "Cyclops". W. J. S. Pullen Esq. Captain. Commencing Monday 7th February 1859, ending Wednesday 22nd of May, 1861. Kept by Thos. McKinnell, Mast. Asst.

On board HMS Cyclops, 1857-1861. Folio (20×31.5 cm). Over 360 pp. of manuscript entries, written with brown ink in a legible hand on watermarked laid paper with a blue cast. With 8 pen and ink nautical charts and 5 sketches of coastal sites. Contemporary brown cloth over boards, rebacked in period-style black calf with the spine lettered in gold.

€ 45 000

Historically significant manuscript logbook, containing a detailed record of the first attempt to lay a submarine telegraph cable to connect London with British India. The expedition took place from May 1859 to February 1860. The two specially designed cable ships, the "Imperator" and "Imperatrix", were supported by HMS "Cyclops", which surveyed the coastlines and reported on the depth and structure of the ocean floor.

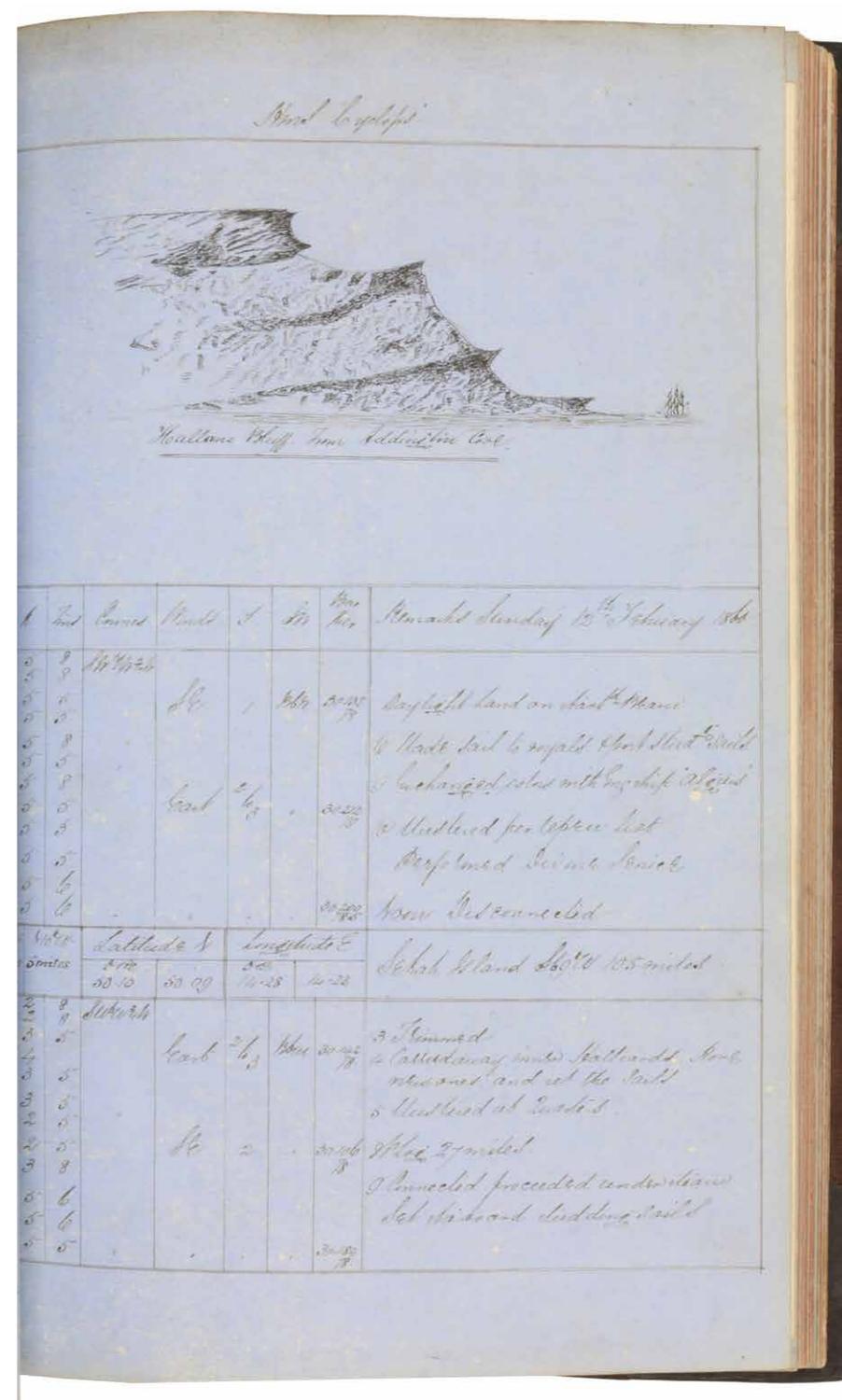
The entries from February 1859 to May 1860, documenting the ship's Red Sea and Arabian Sea mission, span over 200 pages. We first find the "Cyclops" near Cape Ras al Hadd on the eastern coast of Oman, at the entrance to the Gulf of Oman. The ship then plied in the Red and Arabian Seas between Egypt, Yemen and Oman, eventually finishing in Bombay.

Illustrated with eight well-executed pen and ink nautical charts, showing the routes of the "Cyclops" in the Red and Arabian Seas, as well as the harbours of Muscat Cove and other places.

The cable, too lightly armoured and laid with too little slack, soon failed: indeed, the 1859 section had already broken down by the time the route was completed in 1860. Messages were passed over individual sections, but the entire cable never worked as a unit. Communication to India would not be established until the 1864 Persian Gulf cable was laid.

In good condition.

[ca. 360], [32 blank] pp.  More on our website



Horblit-copy of an important early description of the “horoscopio”, with the extremely rare woodcut-printed dials etc. to construct the nocturnal & sundial-lunar dial

30

PADOVANI, Giovanni.

Opera nuova ... laqual dichiara l'uso del maraviglio so istrumento astronomico da lui intitolato horoscopio. ...

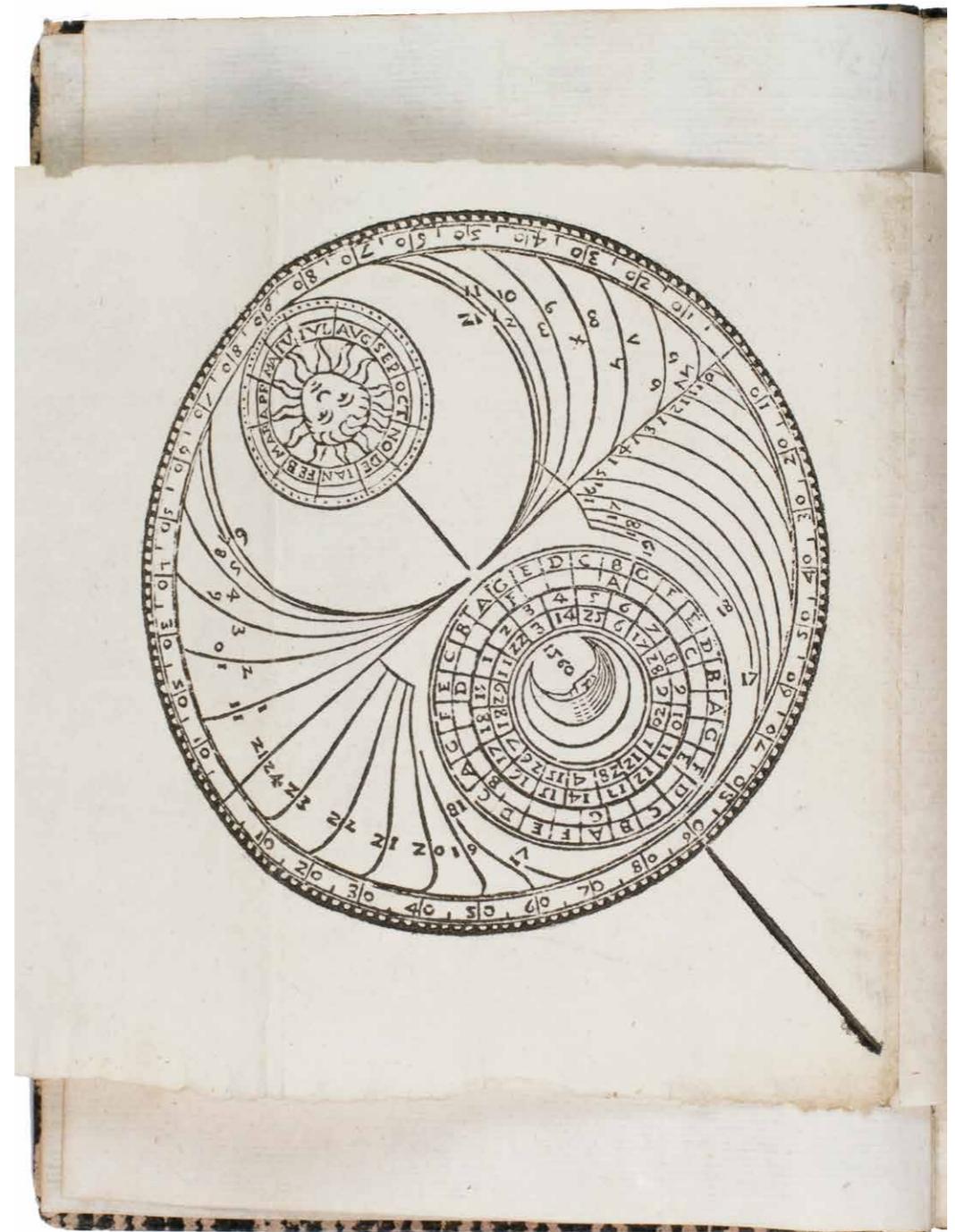
Verona, Paolo Ravagnano, 1560. 4°. With Ravagnano's woodcut device on the title page, a folding plate containing 2 woodcuts designed to be cut up to make the author's “horoscopio” in the form of a volvelle and the sundial-lunar dial, 3 decorated woodcut initials, planetary and zodiac signs, and numerous tables of numerical data. 19th-century(?) boards, covered with block-printed decorated paper (black on white).

€ 12 500

The rare first significant publication (extremely rare with the folding woodcut plate) by the Veronese astronomer Giovanni Padovani (ca. 1512-ca. 1590), explaining the use of his “horoscopio”, also known as a nocturnal or a horologium nocturnum, which he presents as his new invention. The folding plate contains two woodcuts for the owner to cut out and assemble (they could be pasted on paperboard or thin wood) to make two astronomical instruments that allow one to determine time by the sun, moon or stars. The plate may have been an option for those who could afford it, but many owners no doubt removed it in order to use it, as intended. The entire plate is lacking in nearly all copies, including those of the British Library and the Biblioteca Nazionale Naples, viewable on the Internet. Giuliari refers to “la figura incisa sul legno”, but we have seen only one clear reference to a copy that includes the plate, at the Biblioteca Nacional in Madrid: “[1] h. de grab. pleg.”. Neither Honeyman nor Houzeau & Lancaster mention the plate and Riccardi apparently knew it only from Giuliari's reference.

With an owner's stamp the at the foot of the title page and a small owner's label on the pastedown. With a few tiny brown speckles on the title page and very minor foxing in an occasional leaf, but generally in fine condition, with the paper still crisp, and only slightly trimmed giving generous margins. The pattern paper covering the later boards has torn along the front hinge.

[46], [2 blank] pp. *ASee our website for the reference list.*  More on our website



4 editions (1528–1531) containing 6 works on pharmacology, herbal medicine, and magical gems, in 16th-century blind-tooled pigskin

31

PAULUS OF AEGINA (edited by O. BRUNFELS and W. KOPP).

Pharmaca simplicia ... *Including:* De ratione victus ...

(Colophon:) Strasbourg, Georg Ulricher, September 1531.

With: (2) **VALLA, Giorgio**. De simplicium natura liber unus.

Strasbourg, Heinrich Sybold, (colophon:) August 1528.

(3) **ODO OF MEUNG**. De herbarum virtutibus ...

Including: **STRABO, Walafrid**. ... hortulus vernantissimus.

Freiburg im Breisgau, (colophon:) Johann Faber, 1530.

(4) **MARBOD OF ANJOU**. De lapidibus pretiosis encheridion ...

[Freiburg im Breisgau, Johan Faber], 1531. 4 editions containing 6 works, in 1 volume. 8°. With some woodcut decorations and initials. Blind-tooled pigskin (Freiburg or vicinity? ca. 1570?) over tapered wooden boards. With 2 engraved brass fastenings and a 19th-century paper spine label.

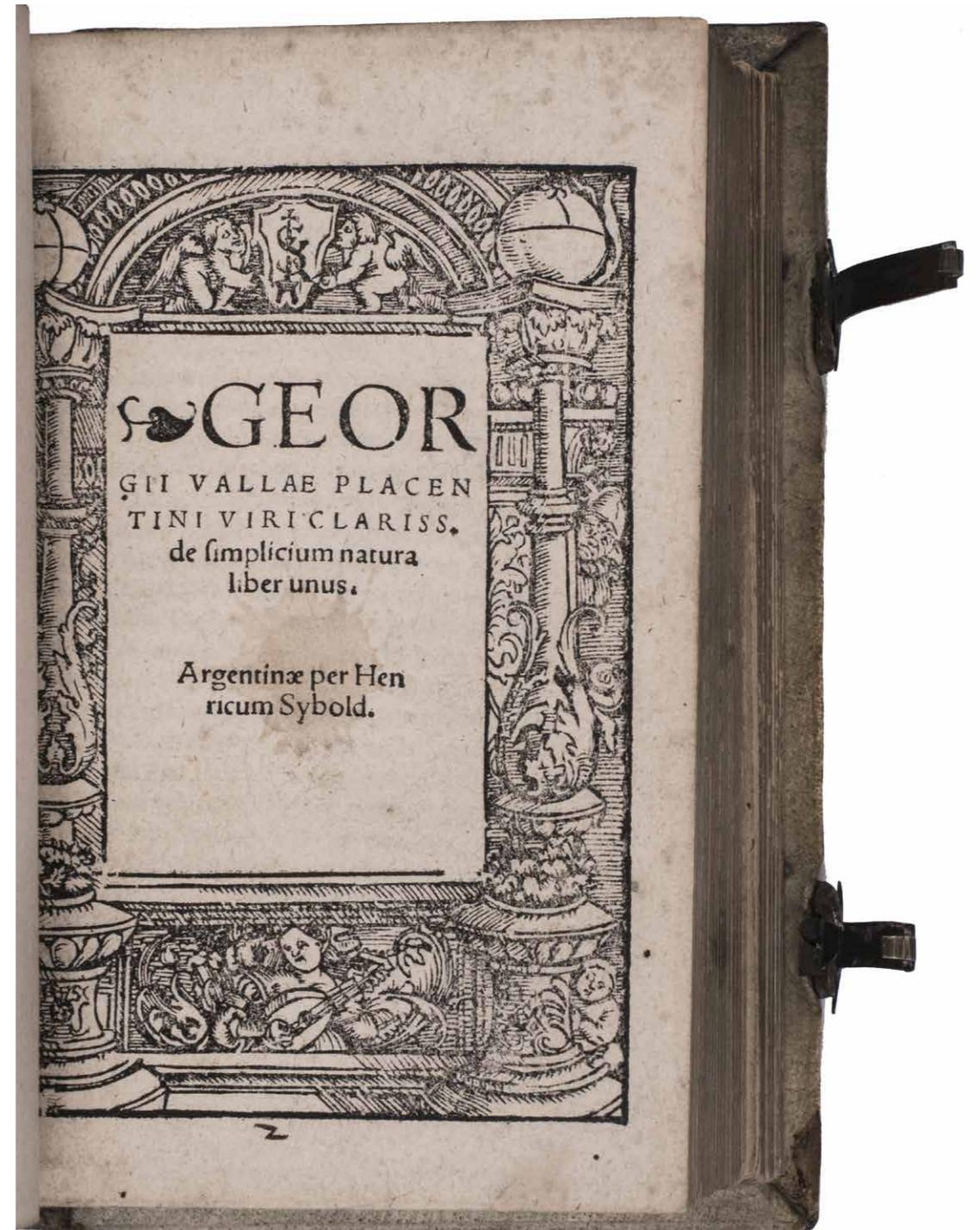
€ 45 000

Four editions printed and published in Freiburg and nearby Strasbourg from 1528 to 1531, containing six works of medical and pharmacological interest, all in the original Latin: the first edition of two Byzantine pharmacological works; the first edition of a Renaissance pharmacological work; an 11th-century verse description of nearly a hundred herbal medicines, here in the second edition to include the additions and commentaries of 1527; and the third and best edition of the first lapidary, written around 1100, discussing precious stones, especially the magical and therapeutic properties of gems.

With contemporary and later manuscript notes. With the first title page slightly dirty, a faint water stain in the second, and minor marginal defects in 3 leaves of ad 3 (not affecting the text), but otherwise in very good condition. The binding shows slight signs of wear.

[12], 86, [1 blank], [1]; [104]; [4], 108; 55, [1] ll. *See our website for the reference list.*

[➤ More on our website](#)



Extensively illustrated manuscript course of practical geometry with more than 350 figures, including perspective, projections, architecture, cartography & sundials

32

PRÉVOST, M.

Cours de géométrie pratique ...

[Lyon?, ca. 1825?]. Oblong 2° (35 × 45 cm). With a flourished calligraphic title page, and 140 leaves with more than 350 figures in black ink and sometimes pencil, red ink or coloured washes, illustrating plain and solid geometry, projections, perspective, etc., and with text and illustrations in black thick-thin borders. Contemporary green half morocco, spine richly gold-tooled.

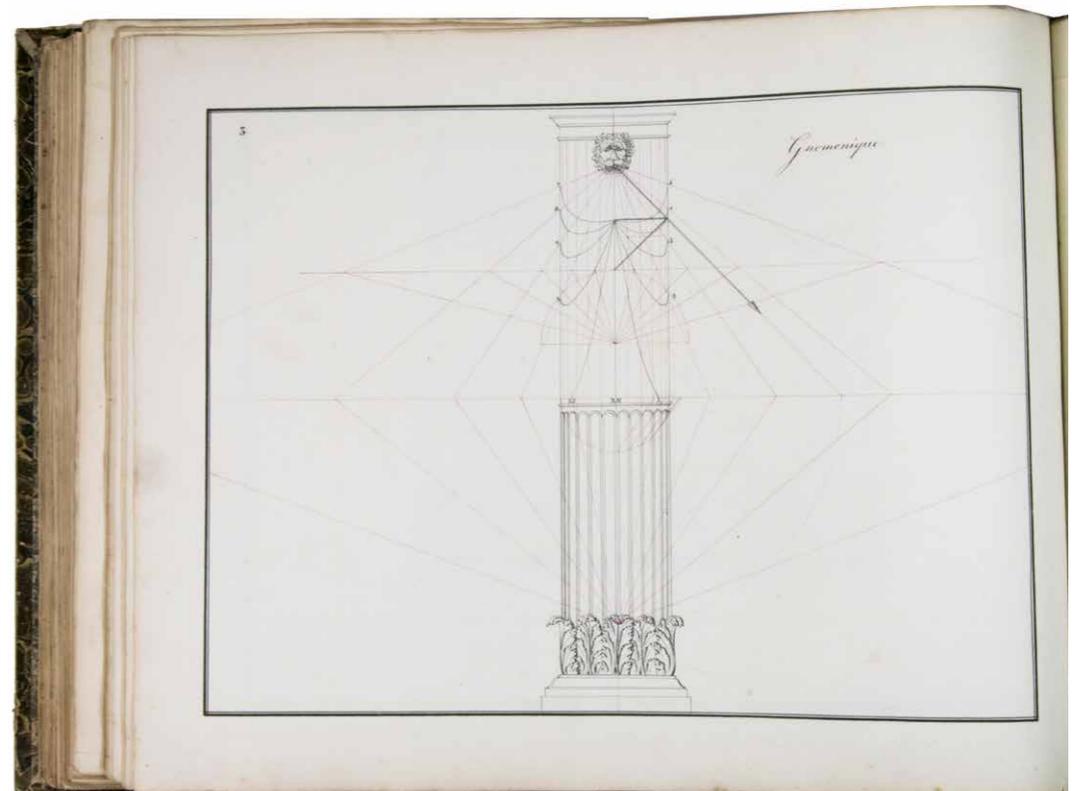
€ 25 000

Complete and thoroughly illustrated course of practical plane and solid geometry (including conic and other sections), with applications to projections, perspective, surveying, bridges, architecture and stone masonry, cartography, geodesy and globes, sundials, etc. The title suggests it was a series of lectures by "M. Prevost", followed by C.F. Frenet, who apparently wrote up Prévost's lectures and drew the finely executed illustrations. The texts are mostly captions to the figures in the illustrations and are usually keyed to them with numbers. The title page divides the text into two numbered parts. The first has 5 subdivisions, and the second has 8 subdivisions. The extent of the course suggests it continued for more than one year. Frenet probably set down Prévost's words and sketched his illustrations during the lectures, but made the present fair copies of both at home afterward. The ninth plate includes the captions of figures 73 to 80 in a trompe l'oeil drawing of a piece of paper as if it were attached with sealing wax and had its corners curling up.

A few leaves are bound out of order. The ink of the flourishes at the head of the title page has eaten through the paper, and in a couple illustration leaves the paper has torn along a border line. The title page and last leaf are creased and a few leaves show browning or foxing, but most leaves remain in very good condition. The binding is rubbed and the hinges worn, but the tooling on the spine remains clear.

[1], [1 blank], [97], [1 blank] pp. plus 140 illustration ll. partly numbered in 13 series.

➤ More on our website



New designs for a sluice and dredging machine, beautifully illustrated, presentation copy to Christiaan Brunings, inspector of the original design and writer of a preliminary text and writer of a preliminary text

33

REDELYKHEID, Cornelis.

De nieuw uitgevonden sluis met in- en uitschuivende deuren.

With: (2) **IDEM.** De nieuw uitgevonden diep-machine.

The Hague, Hendrik Christoffel Gutteling; Amsterdam, Jacob Yntema & Jacob Tieboel, 1774. 2 works in 1 volume. Large 2° (49.5 × 31 cm). Ad 1 with 6 large folding engraved plates and ad 2 with 3 large folding engraved plates. Contemporary half calf.

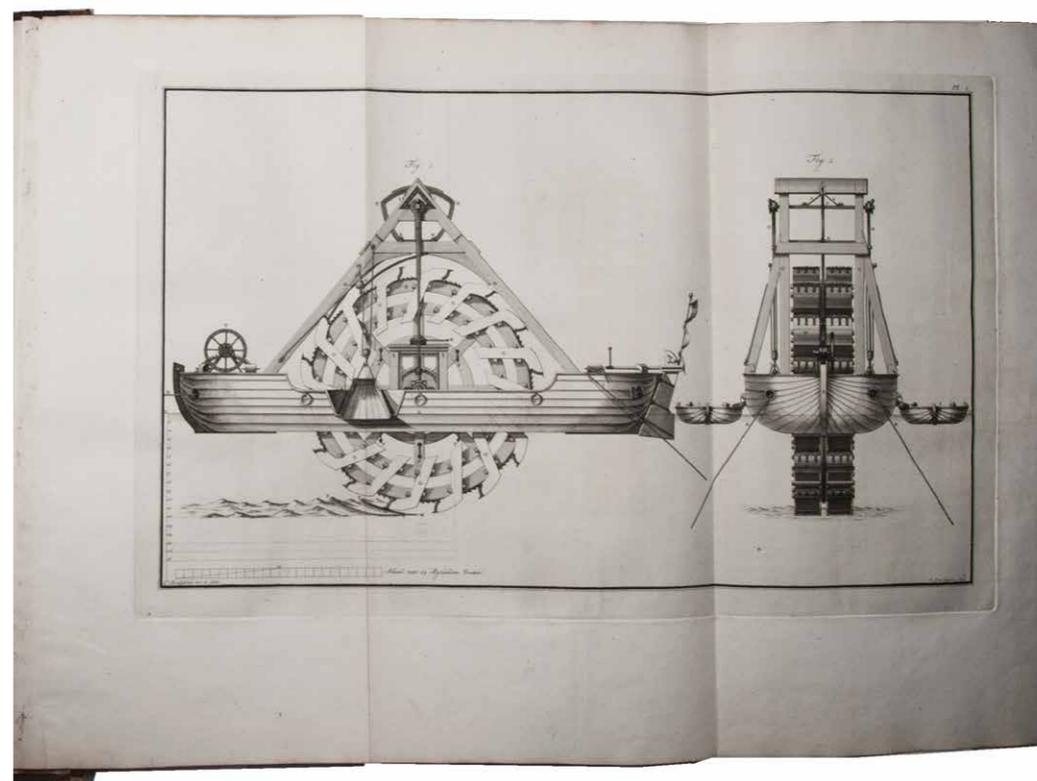
€ 7500

Two rare first editions, in the original Dutch, containing detailed descriptions and illustrations of two new inventions in hydraulic engineering: a sluice with sliding gates and a dredging machine. They were designed by the accomplished engineer Cornelis Redelykheid (1728–1788), well-known in his time, but often overlooked in modern literature. The descriptions are accompanied by a total of 9 detailed large folding plates. The dredging machine looks especially ingenious.

Redelykheid was already working on his sluice with sliding gates in 1772 and a model was built, one fourth its intended size. The model was inspected and tested by the hydraulic engineer Christiaan Brunings (1736–1805), then inspector general of rivers & waterways, who later founded the Dutch water management department now known as "Rijkswaterstaat". Brunings wrote an extensive and positive rapport on the sluice, which led Redelykheid to be awarded with 1,000 gold ducats by the States of Holland. The award enabled the inventor to publish the present two works at his own expense, both including a preface by Brunings. As a grateful gesture Redelykheid presented the present copy to Brunings, with an inscription on each of the two title pages.

With a library stamp and a tiny bookplate. Only some minor thumbing in the margins of a few leaves and the leaves facing the plates slightly discoloured where the leaves overlap the fold of the plates, binding rubbed, with ends of the spine slightly damaged. Overall in good condition.

XII, 26; XI, [1], 18 pp. *Bierens de Haan* 3902 & 3900; *Sloos, Gewapend met kennis*, pp. 208–209; not in *Roberts & Trent*; for the author: *NNBW VIII*, cols. 1266–1268. [➤](#) More on our website



Fine calligraphic manuscript teaching traditional science to the son of Comte de Choiseul-Gouffier, French ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, finely bound in contemporary gold-tooled morocco

34

REMY, Claude.

Traité des elemens présenté à M. Raoul de Choiseul-Gouffier.
Paris, 1786. Small 8°. Calligraphic manuscript written in French in dark brown ink on paper, in a formal Latin script hand, with an ornamental, calligraphic title page, each page in a border, running heads in the border. Contemporary red, gold-tooled morocco, with a dark green title-label, gold-tooled turn-ins and board edges, gilt edges.

€ 16 000

Beautiful calligraphic manuscript by Claude Remy, writing master and tutor of the children of the Paris beau monde for more than a decade before the French Revolution. The author-calligrapher notes in an epilogue that he had executed more than 60 similar instructive manuscripts, not only for his pupils but also for their parents, who greatly valued them, but few have survived. Remy executed it for and presented to Raoul de Choiseul-Gouffier, the young son of the author of *Voyage pittoresque en Grèce*, who served as French ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1784 to the French Revolution, then fled to Russia in 1793 where he served Catharine the Great and her successors. Raoul became head of the Russian branch of the Knights of Malta and appears to have succeeded his father as count in 1817. Remy's "avertissement" notes that he taught not only writing, but also reading, arithmetic, Latin, geography and several other subjects, but that he especially loved to teach the science of the four elements, the principal subject of the present manuscript. It clearly and methodically presents the traditional scientific ideas about the elements, including chapters on their properties, weather, perspective and geography, and way more. He even strays to topics such as the church, nobility, government, etc.. The 6-page table of contents lists nearly a hundred topics covered. With an armorial bookplate. An occasional very minor spot and very slight browning, but otherwise in fine condition. Binding very slightly worn at the extremities but otherwise also fine.

[2], 186, [4] pp. For *Choiseul-Gouffier: S.H. Allen, Finding the walls of Troy (1999), pp. 41-44; A.F. Spada, Ephémérides Russes ... vol. 2 (1816), pp. 221-222.* [More on our website](#)



Influential book on optics by a noted protégé and colleague of Peter Ramus, based on the work of Ibn al-Haytham (AlHazen)

35

RISNER, Friedrich.

Opticae libri quatuor ...

Kassel, Wilhelm Wessel (sold by Johann Berner in Frankfurt), 1615. 4°. With numerous optical, astronomical and mathematical woodcut diagrams in text, woodcut headpieces, tailpieces and initials, and headpieces built up from cast fleurons. 18th-century tan calf, gold-tooled double fillets, re-backed in sheepskin.

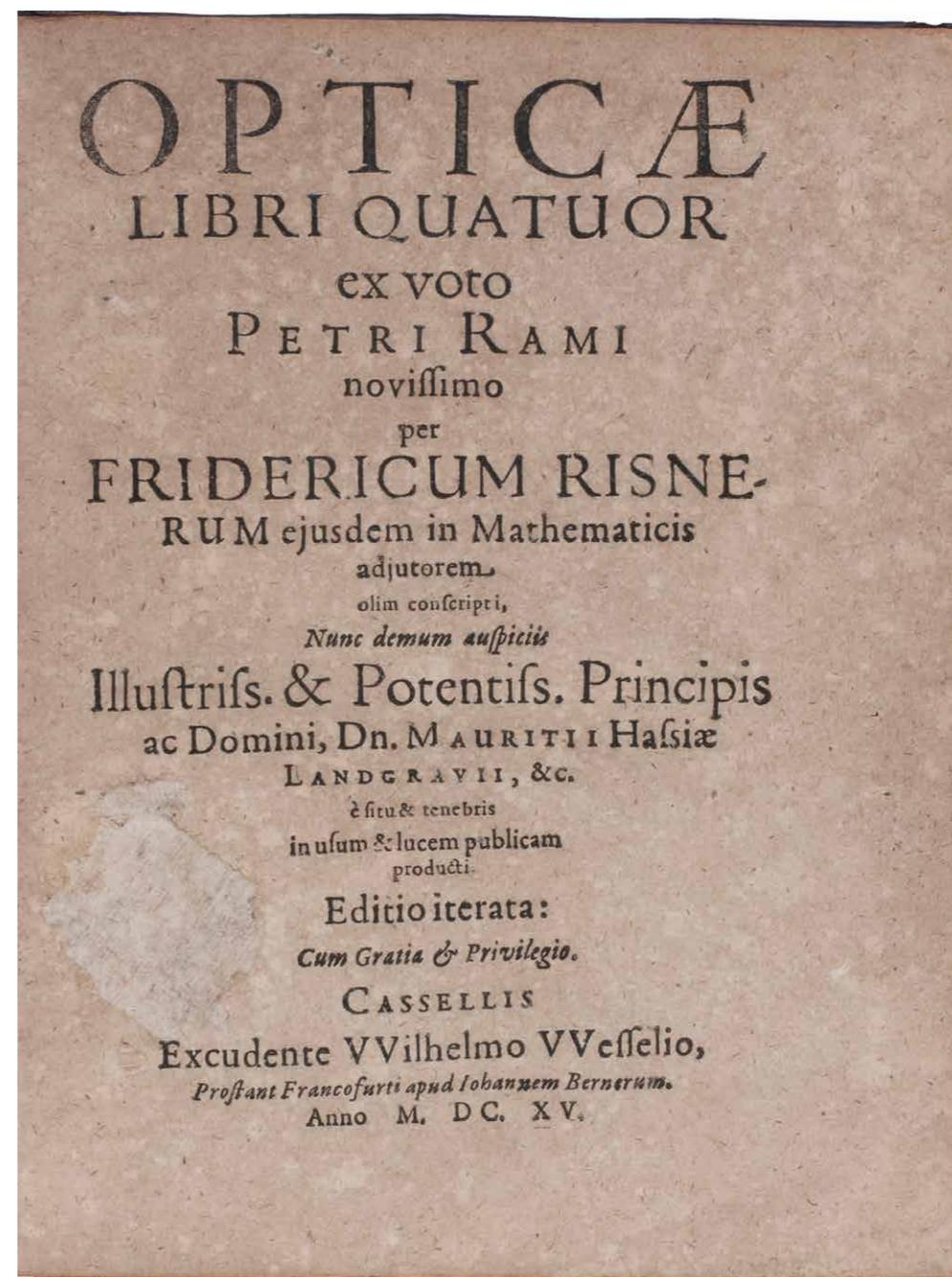
€ 19 500

Rare work on optics and mathematics by Friedrich Risner (1533–1580), apprentice and colleague of Peter Ramus, the famous anti-Aristotelian humanist and educational reformer. The first edition appeared in 1606.

Risner's mathematical abilities were highly praised by Ramus, who, in his will, even established a chair in mathematics at the Collège Royal de France with Risner as its first occupant. The first major result of the collaboration between Risner and Ramus was Risner's edition (1572) of two manuscripts discovered by Ramus: the first edition of *Optics* by Ibn al-Haytham (in Latin Alhazen), who worked at Cairo in the first half of the 11th century; and a greatly improved edition of *Perspectiva* by Witelo (in Latin Vitello), a Polish scientist of the second half of the 13th century. Alhazen's work preserved all that was known by the ancients in the field of optics, and Risner's edition and his own observations and corrections helped establish the science upon a new foundation. Risner's present *Opticae*, based partly on Witelo, appeared only posthumously, but was probably outlined by Ramus and further developed by Risner during the early years of their collaboration. It exerted a great influence on Snell and others.

Badly browned, but otherwise in good condition, with an abrasion on the title page and last text page (probably erasing a library stamp), not affecting the text. Re-backed and with some restorations to the boards.

[20], 259, [1 blank] pp. *VD17 12:159504X; cf. DSB 11, p. 468; Poggendorff II, col. 648; not in Honeyman; Houzeau-Lancaster.* [More on our website](#)



Ruysch's anatomical specimen: "The eighth wonder of the world"

36

RUYSCH, Frederik.

Alle de ontleed- genees- en heilkundige werken ...

Amsterdam, Janssoons van Waesberge, 1744. 3 volumes. Large 4°. Engraved allegorical frontispiece, 3 titles in red & black, engraved portrait of Ruysch designed by I. Wandelaar and executed by D. Hoogstraten, 7 engraved illustrations in text, 2 woodcut illustrations in text and 133 engraved folding plates with anatomical designs and anatomical specimen. Contemporary marbled calf, spines ribbed and gilt with red-morocco title-labels.

€ 17500

Very rare complete works of the great Dutch anatomist, Frederik Ruysch (1638–1731). Ruysch was a surgeon and anatomist, and a professor at Leiden and Amsterdam. He was the first to demonstrate the occurrence of blood vessels in almost all tissues of the human body, made many important anatomical investigations including those of the valves in the lymphatics, the bronchial arteries, and the vascular plexuses of the heart, and he was the first also to point out the nourishment of the foetus through the umbilical cord. His works are richly illustrated with excellent engravings, no doubt enhanced by his injection techniques. And especially the engravings of anatomical specimen, which Ruysch prepared with great skill, both of individual organs and entire corpses, deserve special attention for their fantastic, almost surrealistic beauty, showing stuffed monsters, strange reptiles, dried plants, sea creatures, and smiling skeletons arranged in a quaint landscape of organs. Ruysch's fame inspired Giacomo Leopardi to his fantastic *Dialogo di F. Ruysch e delle sue mummie in his Operette Morali*.

A detailed description is available upon request.

Good copy.

[4], 1280, [184] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* [➤](#) More on our website



First book devoted to stage design and technique

37

SABBATTINI, Nicola.

Pratica di fabricar scene, e machine ne' teatri.

Pesaro, Flaminio Concordia, 1637. 4°. With the woodcut coat of arms of the dedicatee Cardinal Grimaldi on the title page and 49 woodcut diagrams and illustrations of decors and stage settings in the text, many illustrating the use of perspective to give an illusion of three dimensions and some showing mechanical systems, such as screens raised and lowered with pulleys. Decorated paper wrappers (ca. 1700?).

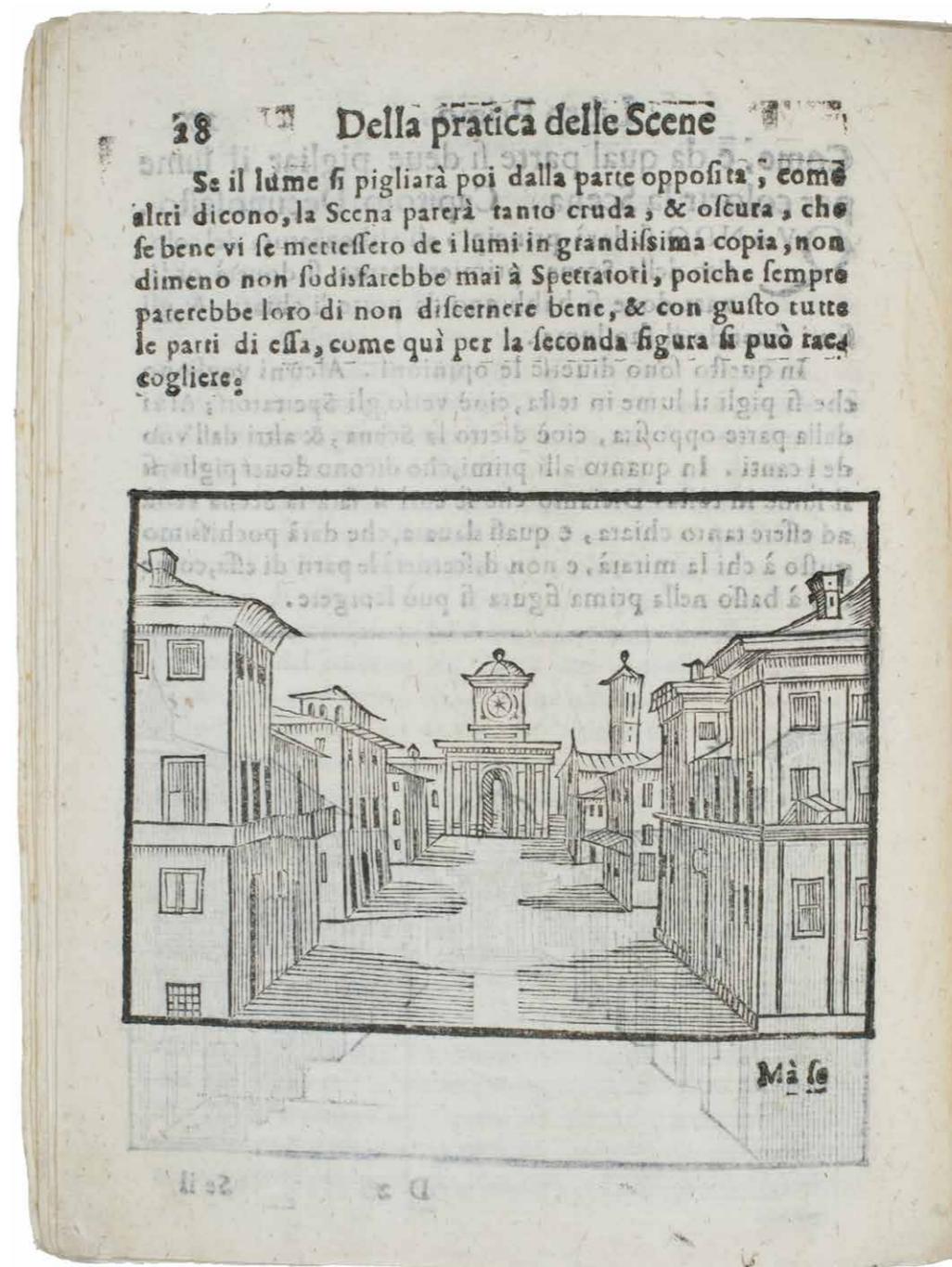
€ 35 000

Rare first edition, in the original Italian, of the first book devoted exclusively to stage design, stage architecture, machinery and special effects on stage. It is written in the form of directions to the architect who must transform a hall of state into a theatre. The author takes the reader backstage and reveals the secrets of the elaborate effects so often found in Renaissance theatre. He deals with the general problems of theatre construction, audience arrangement, scene construction and lighting. It is our main source of information on the scenic practice in the Italian Renaissance theatre and helped to spread that practice throughout Europe. From 1610 Sabbattini (1574–1654) had worked in Pesaro as chief architect and engineer in service of Francesco Maria Della Rovere (1549–1631), last Duke of Urbino.

With early owners' inscriptions on title page. With unobtrusive marginal restorations in the first and last leaves, including the blank lower half of the final leaf, and some faint stains, but otherwise in good condition. Spine of wrapper restored. Rare first edition of an essential source for any study of Renaissance theatre.

[4], 89, [2] pp. *Berlin Kat.* 2785; *ICCU* (5 copies); *Percy Muir, Talks on book collecting, 1952, p. 96; Elena Povoledo, introduction and notes to a facsimile of the 1638 ed., 1955; Quagliarini, Costruzioni in legno nei teatri ..., 2008, pp. 100–101; Günter Schöne, Die Entwicklung der Perspektivbühne, Leipzig, 1933, pp. 39–48; cf. Cicognara 70 (1638 ed.); not in BAL; Fowler; Roberts & Trent.*

➤ More on our website



Cranes, hoists, clocks, water wheels and cannon carriages, with 12 engraved plates

38

SCALETTA, Carlo Cesare.

Scuola mecanico-speculativo-pratica in cui si esamina la proporzione, che ha la potenza alla resistenza del corpo grave; per l'uso civile, e militare utile e necessaria ad ogni matematico, ingegnerio, architetto, machinista, e bombardiere, ... Edizione prima Veneta.

Venice, Antonio Mora, 1745. Folio. With engraved frontispiece and 12 numbered engraved plates with hundreds of figures. Contemporary sheepskin parchment.

€ 8500

Rare second (first Venetian) edition of an extensively illustrated practical handbook on the construction and use of mechanical devices including hoists, cranes and other equipment for constructing buildings, monuments, bridges, fountains and monuments, as well as water wheels, clocks, canon carriages etc., and simple machines such as levers, pulleys and screws. It also provides detailed information about the use of artillery, with tables of angles and distances. The text is divided into 3 parts, the first covering mechanics in six chapters, the second statics and the third practical applications. An appendix gives instructions for determining the centre of gravity of an object.

In very good condition, with only a small stain in the gutter margin of 1 leaf. The binding has a small chip at the head of the spine, a tear in one pastedown and a few worm holes in the endpapers, but is still very good. A practical handbook of mechanical devices, with hundreds of illustrations.

[16], 204 pp. ICCU (6 copies); Riccardi II, col. 427; WorldCat (1 copy); cf. Roberts & Trent, *Bib. mechanica*, pp. 290–291 (1711 ed.); not in Kemp, *Science of art*; Vagnetti. ➔ More on our website



First and only Latin edition of Schöner's main astronomical and astrological work, referring to the brand-new Copernican heliocentric model of the universe

39

SCHÖNER, Johannes.

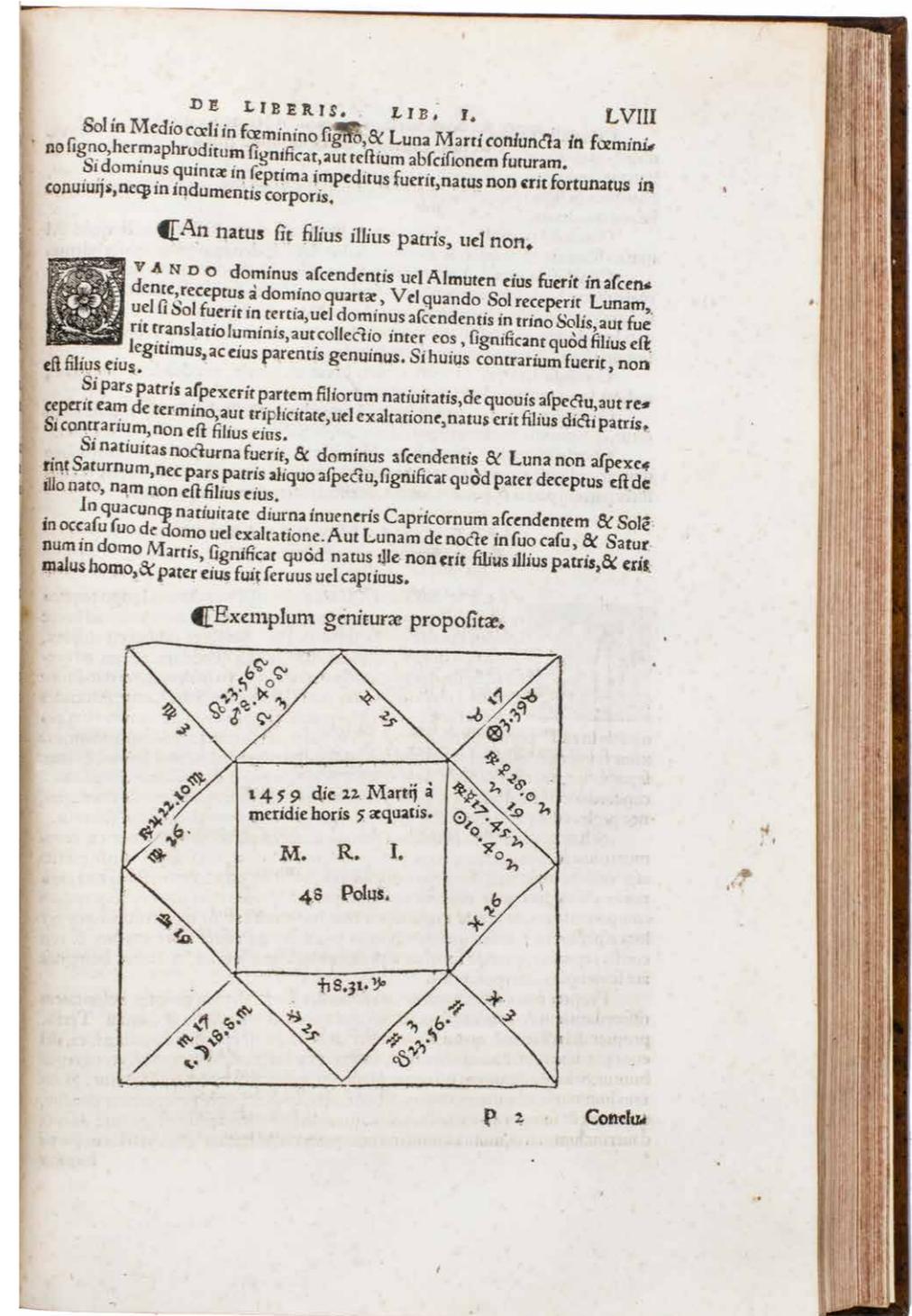
De iudiciis nativitatum libri tres ... Item praefatio D. Philippi Melanthonis ...

Nuremberg, Johann vom Berg and Ulrich Neuber, 1545. Folio . With a woodcut headpiece and vignette on the title page, a large woodcut printer's device on the verso of the last leaf. Further with numerous envelope horoscope diagrams, letterpress tables, and decorated woodcut initials in the text. Modern gold-tooled sprinkled leather.

€ 28 000

Rare first and only edition in Latin of the main astronomical and astrological work written by the German polymath Johannes Schöner (1477–1547) concerning the judgements of nativities and the method of finding the ascendant at birth. In 1543, Copernicus' ground-breaking work *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* (On the revolutions of the heavenly spheres) was published in Nuremberg, an endeavour in which Schöner was partially involved by encouraging Copernicus to publish his magnum opus, replacing the geocentric model of the universe (Ptolemaic System) with the heliocentric model. "... although preferring the method of Ptolemy in astrological judgments, Schöner maintained that the Copernican model was not unfavorable to astrology" (Thorndike). The preface was written by the German Lutheran reformer and philosopher Philip Melancthon (1497–1560). Johannes Schöner, born in 1477 in Karlstadt am Main, was a German polymath who studied theology at the University of Erfurt. He started his career as a Roman Catholic priest. He is best known as a mathematician, but was also active as astronomer, astrologer, geographer, cosmographer, cartographer, and maker of globes and scientific instruments. With a few manuscript annotations and corrections in black ink in the text, some water staining in the head margin of most text leaves, occasionally slightly soiled or ink stained, lower margin of 4 leaves (Z1, c4, d1 & f2) partly torn and strengthened with paper. Otherwise in good condition.

[8], CLII II. See our website for the reference list. ➤ More on our website



Robert Smith's influential theories on light and optics together in the first edition of an illustrated textbook for university students

40

[SMITH, Robert and others].

The elementary parts of Dr. Smith's compleat system of opticks, selected and arranged for the use of students at the universities: to which are added in the form of notes some explanatory propositions from other authors.

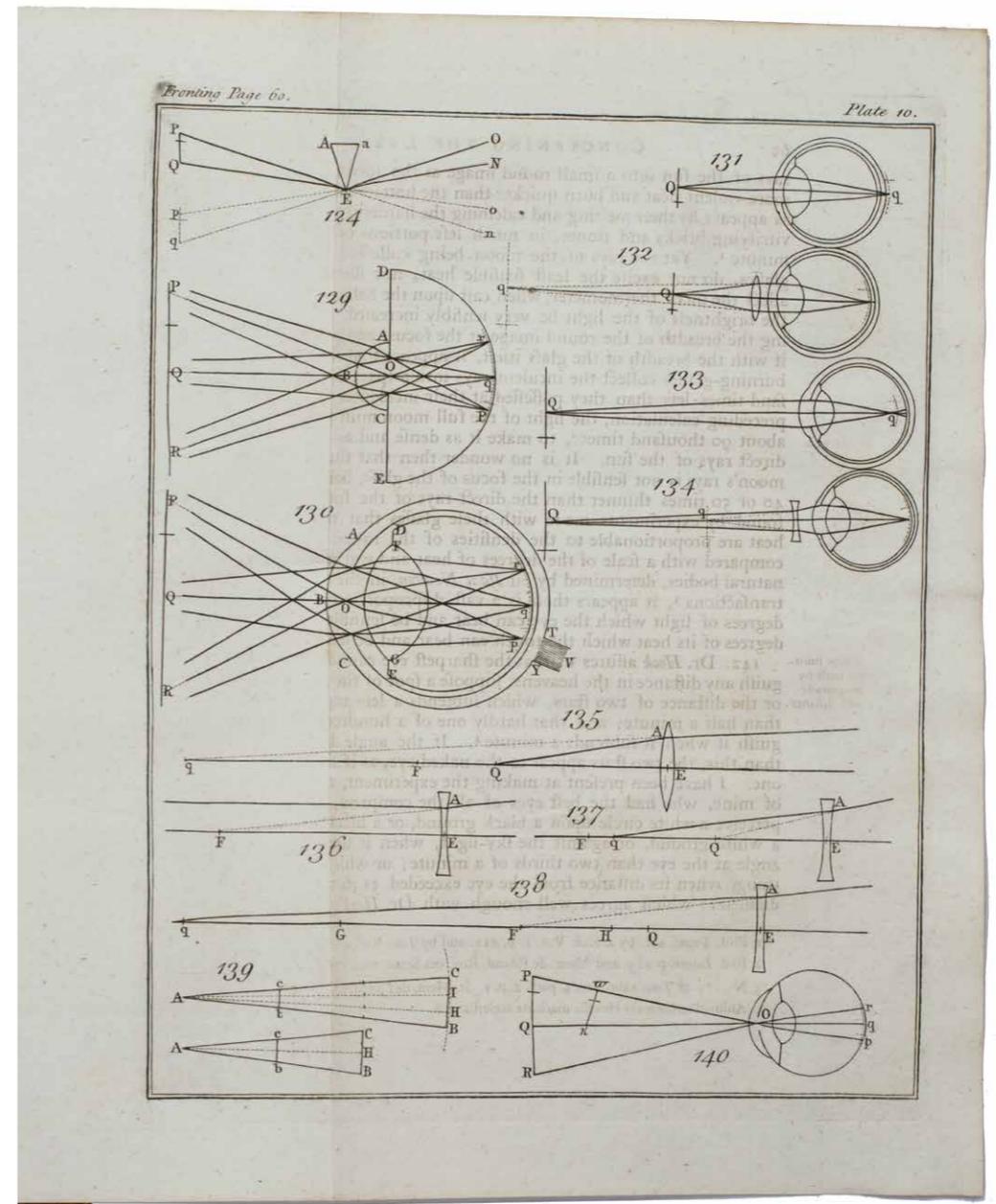
Cambridge, printed by J. Archdeacon, 1778. Large 4° (27×20.5 cm). With 17 numbered, folding engraved plates. Contemporary gold-tooled brown sprinkled calf, gold-tooled red morocco spine label, gold-tooled board edges.

€ 6000

First edition of an abridged, adapted and illustrated version of the first, and widely read, textbook on the subject of optics, by the English mathematician and music theorist Robert Smith (1689–1768). The present adaptation not only includes Smith's influential theories on the different properties of light, but also related works by others such as Newton's experiments to prove that white light contains many colours, edited and published for the benefit of university students. The original, *A compleat system of opticks*, published in 1738 was translated into French, Dutch and German in the second half of the 18th century. The books presenting Smith's theories, including the present one, were considered the best textbooks on optics for more than 150 years after the publication of his *Compleat system*. Smith was Plumian professor of astronomy and experimental philosophy at Cambridge University from 1716 to 1760 and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1718.

With the armorial bookplate of the Massy (or Massey) family (with the name and the motto "pro libertate patriae") on the front pastedown, and with an owner's inscription on the title page: "The R. Hon.bl. HH. Lord Baron Massy, Hermitage Co Limerick". Boards and spine show slight signs of wear, without affecting the integrity of the binding, occasional, very light foxing, but overall in very good condition.

VI, [9], [1 blank], 119, [1 blank] pp. ESTC T112877. For the author: J. Barrow-Green, "A corrective to the spirit [...]", *Annals of Science* 56 (1999) pp. 271–316. [More on our website](#)



One of the first Gulf oil trade records

41

SORENSEN, W. L.

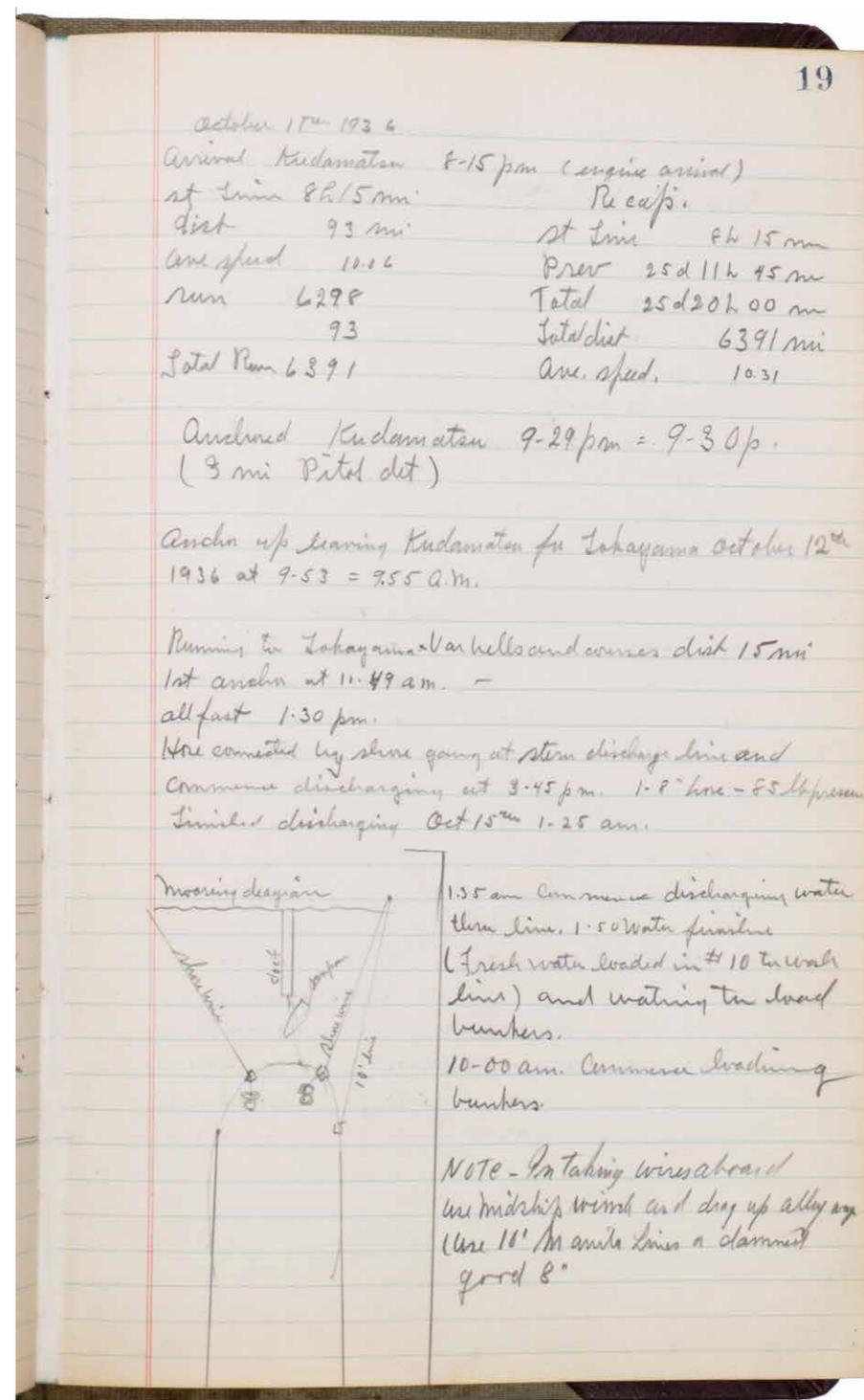
Logbook of the oil tankers S.S. W.S. Rheem, and S.S. W.S. Miller, between Bahrain, Japan, California and Vladivostock, 1936-1937.

[On board of the oil tankers S.S.W.S. Rheem and S.S.W.S. Miller], 1936-1937. Folio. Manuscript in English, written mostly in pencil in a very neat hand and with blue stamped page numbers in the upper outer corners of the pages. Contemporary blueish-grey black- and blind-stamped linen over boards with red leather corners, black and red paper (title) labels on the spine, with a manuscript inscription on the front board.

€ 12 500

Private logbook of the oil tankers S.S. W.S. Rheem and S.S. W.S. Miller, recording voyages between Bahrain, Japan, California, and Vladivostok from October 1936 to November 1937. The present work comprises 300 pages of manuscript in pen and pencil on ruled paper, filled throughout with detailed navigational entries noting courses, bearings, distances, speeds, and daily performance against targets, interspersed with observations on ports, crews, and cargo operations. The logbook constitutes an exceptional primary document from the earliest phase of the Persian Gulf oil export industry and is directly connected to the strategic and economic conditions that shaped Japanese militarisation in the 1930s. Oil was discovered in Bahrain in 1932, and the first commercial exports, undertaken by the Bahrain Petroleum Company in June 1934, were carried to Yokohama by the S.S. W.S. Rheem, an event widely regarded as the foundation of Bahrain-Japan diplomatic relations. The W.S. Rheem operated extensively between Bahrain, Japan and the west coast of the United States during a period in which Japan's rapid industrial expansion, combined with its scarcity of natural resources, made imported oil a matter of national survival. The gutters of the flyleaves and pastedowns have been reinforced with white linnen tape, the boards are lightly stained and the spine shows some wear. Otherwise in very good condition.

300 pp.  More on our website



Finely executed Royal Naval Academy exercises by the teenage future Admiral, Charles Sotheby 493 pages including nautical charts, fortification plans, astronomical diagrams, topographic views, etc.

42

SOTHEBY, Charles.

[Engraved title page:] A plan of mathematical learning taught in the Royal Academy Portsmouth performed by [in pencil: Charles Sotheby] a student there.

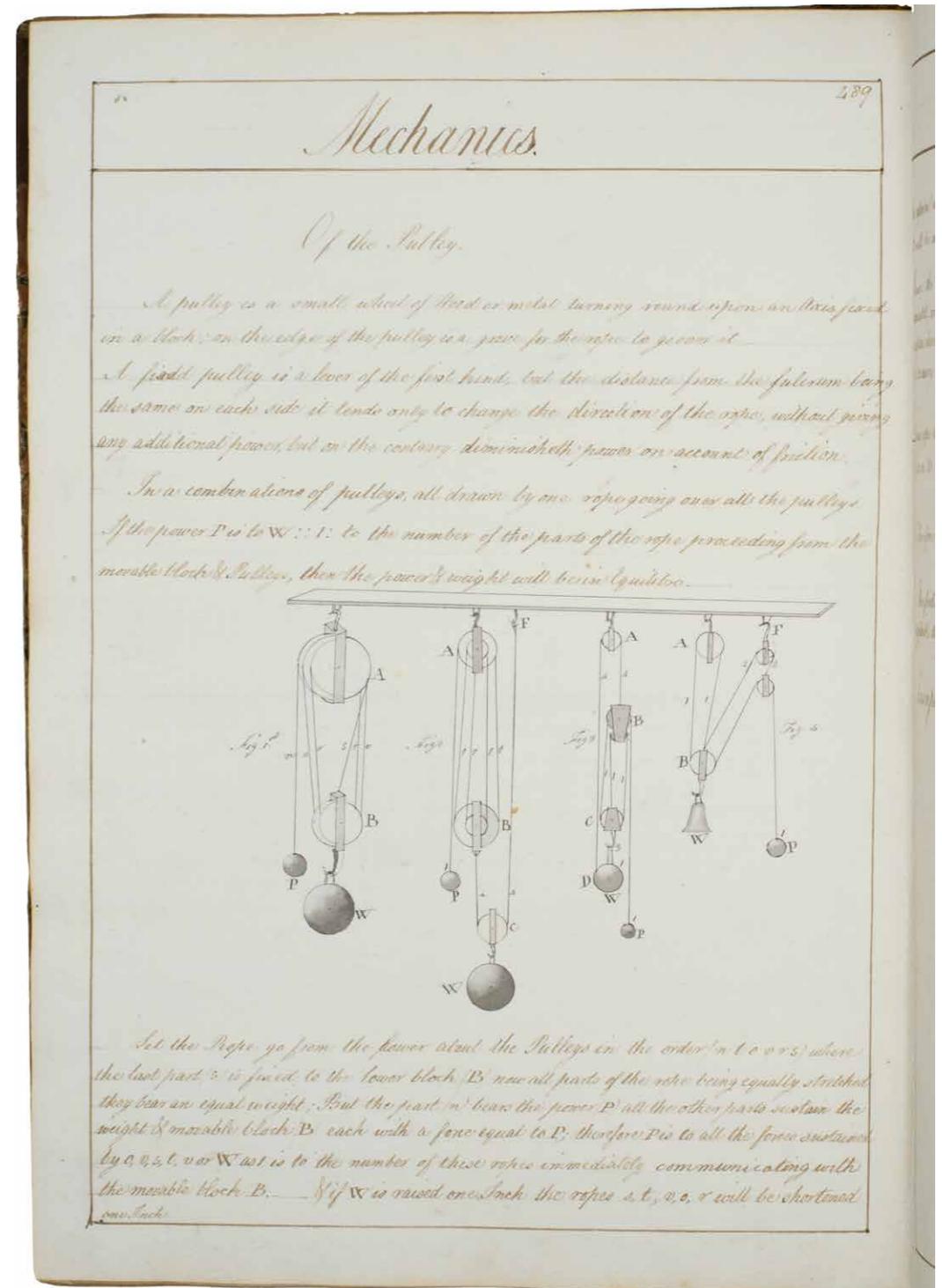
[Portsmouth], "177" [recté 1795–1798]. 2 volumes. Imperial 4° (37.5 × 27 cm). Manuscript school exercises with a pre-printed engraved title page with a blank space for the student to add his name, with 4 full-page and 1 larger folding nautical charts, 7 full-page fortification plans, 4 full-page astronomical diagrams, a full-page compass rose, 23 pen and ink wash views in the text, and numerous other diagrams and some illustrations in the text. Near contemporary (ca. 1803) blind- and gold-tooled half calf, blue sprinkled edges.

€ 25 000

Exercises in mathematics, navigation, fortification, surveying, mechanics, etc., at the Royal Naval Academy in Portsmouth, finely executed by the future Admiral Charles Sotheby (1782–1854) when he studied there in the years 1795 to 1798 (probably ages 13 to 15). Sotheby entered the Royal Naval Academy at Portsmouth on 5 September 1795 and studied there until he began his service in the British navy on 31 March 1798, seeing duty at the Battle of the Nile in that year. He commanded a ship by 1809 and rose steadily through the ranks until he became Rear-Admiral in 1848.

Each volume with the engraved bookplate of Charles Sotheby, with the rampant talbot crest from the Sotheby coat of arms, and also with the bookplate of the Dutch cartographic historian C. Koeman (1918–2006). In very good condition, with only a small chip in one leaf and a tattered fore-edge in a few others. The bindings are rubbed and the spines worn, with a crack in the front hinge of vol. II, but the tooling remains clear.

Engraved title page + "229" [= 228]; 230–493, [2 blank] pp., with pp. 229 and 493 blank excepting the page numbers. [➤](#) More on our website



Second and best edition of André Tacquet's collected works on applied mathematics

43

TACQUET, André.

Opera mathematica, quorum elenchus in fine praefationis typographia ad lectorem exhibetur. Opera sane aurea in lucem publicam & usum erudita posteritatis gratulantibus litteratorum geniis edita.

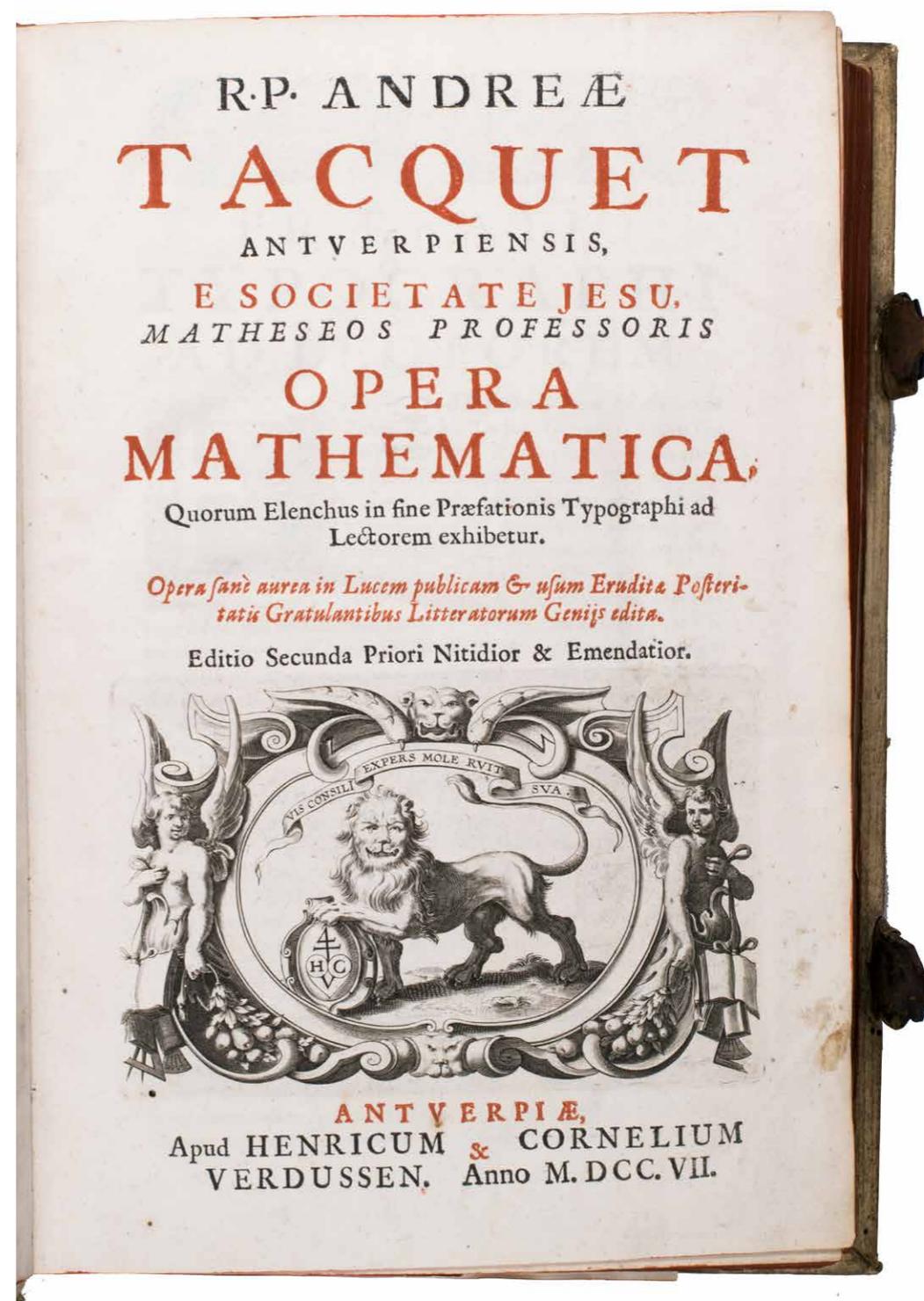
Antwerp, Henricus & Cornelius Verdussen, 1707. Folio. With a richly engraved allegorical frontispiece illustrating light refraction through lenses and the teaching of drawing with compasses, large engraved publisher's device on title page, title in red and black, and numerous illustrations and figures on 87 folding engraved plates. Contemporary richly blind – and gold-tooled vellum over wooden boards, on the front board, the coat-of-arms of the Cartusiae Maurbacensis as centrepiece on the back board, red edges, two metal clasps.

€ 6950

Second and best edition of the collected works on applied mathematics, by André Tacquet (1612–1660), a Belgian Jesuit scientist and professor in mathematics at Louvain and Antwerp. It is richly illustrated with mathematical drawings concerning the applications of perspective and with projections of cylinders, rings and circles. The present collected works, published posthumously by Tacquet's pupil Simone Laurentio Veterani, includes several works published here for the first time, namely his works on astronomy and on optics. The additional work on military engineering also is of interest, nicely illustrated with plans of fortifications and strongholds. Tacquet's works are exemplary text books, clearly demonstrating the theory, and also offering useful exercises for the pupils.

Fine copy of a rare work in an interesting contemporary binding.

[32], 553, [1 blank] pp. *De Backer & Sommervogel II, col. 616; DSB XIII, p. 236; Houzeau & Lancaster 3406; Poggendorff II, p. 1064; not in STCV.* [➤](#) More on our website



Three important first editions on analytical geometry, differential calculus and infinitesimals

44

TORELLI, Guiseppe.

De nihilo geometrico, libri II.

Verona, Augustino Carattoni, 1758.

With: (2) **SALADINI, Girolamo.** Elementa geometriae infinitesimorum. Libri tres.

Bologna, Tommaso d'Aquino, 1760.

(3) **CARNOT, Lazare.** Oeuvres mathématiques.

Basel, J. Decker, 1797. 3 works in 1 volume. 8°. Ad 1 with a woodcut vignette on the title page, and many fine-line diagrams in text. Ad 2 with an engraved vignette on the title page, and with numerous diagrams on 9 folding engraved plates. Ad 3 with an engraved frontispiece portrait, and 6 diagrams on a folding engraved plate. Contemporary half tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spine.

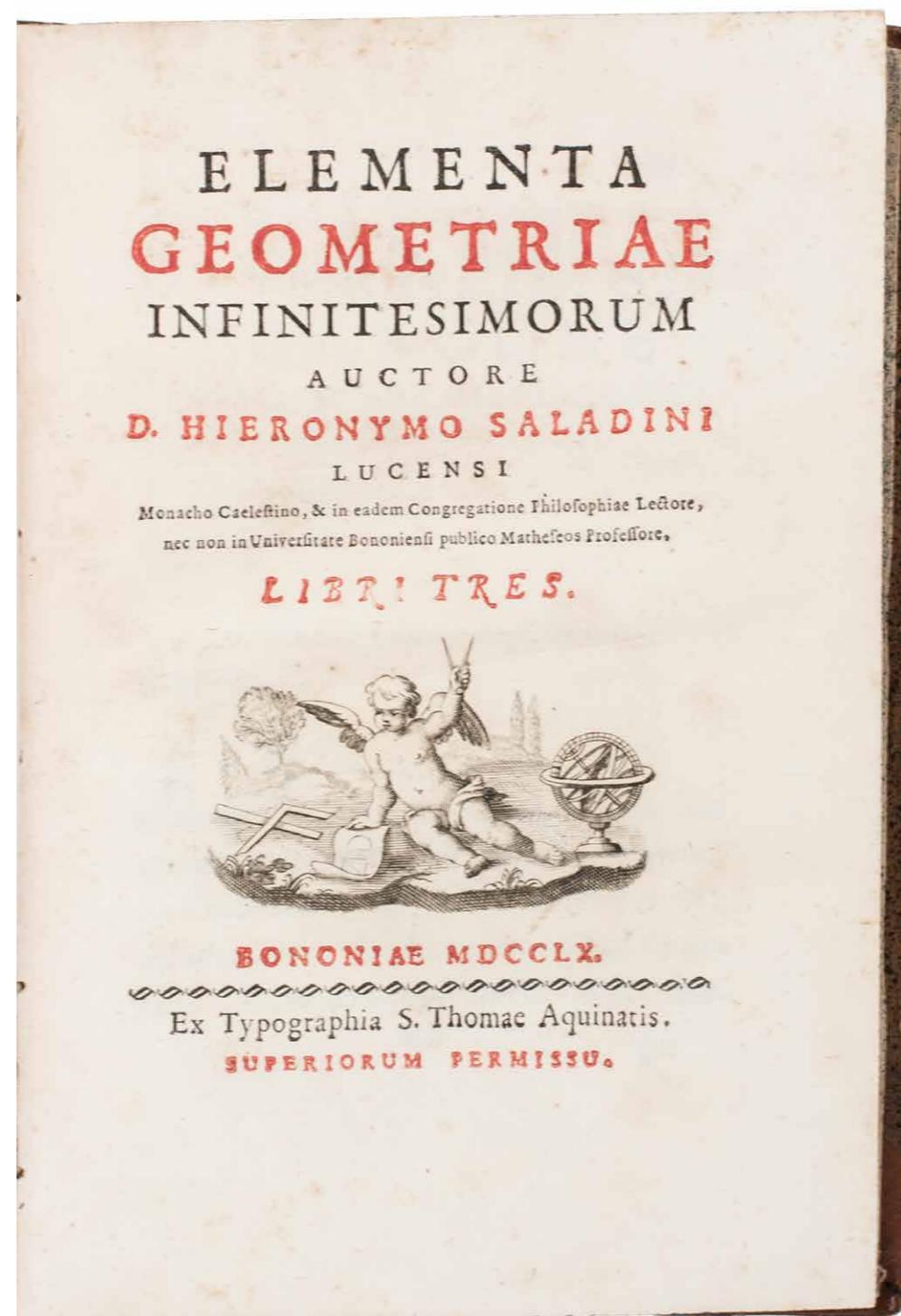
€ 9000

Three important 18th-century mathematical first editions, together in one volume. Ad 1: First (and only?) edition of a text book on infinitesimal geometry by Guiseppe Torelli (1721–1781). His *De nihilo geometrico* presents a new basis for infinitesimal analysis, which had been started but not exhaustively treated by Newton and Leibniz. His rejection of the concept of limits and his support of the ideas of Nieuwentijt against Leibniz caused his work to be largely ignored in modern times. Ad 2: First and only edition of another work on infinitesimal geometry, the first major work of the Italian mathematician Girolamo Saladini (1731–1813), with full references to Newton and Leibniz. Ad 3: First edition of the mathematical works of Lazare Carnot (1753–1823), much better known than the treatises of Torelli and Saladini above.

With occasional minor foxing and slight browning. The binding is slightly scuffed around the extremities, with a small crack at the head of the back hinge, but otherwise also very good.

117, [3 blank]; XIV, [2], 139, [2], [1 blank]; XVI, 208 pp. *See our website for the reference list.*

[➔ More on our website](#)



Beautifully illustrated astronomy and more by “the most important Italian thinker of his times”

45

VENETUS, Paolo Nicoletti [and Restoro d'AREZZO].

Summa philosophiae naturalis ...

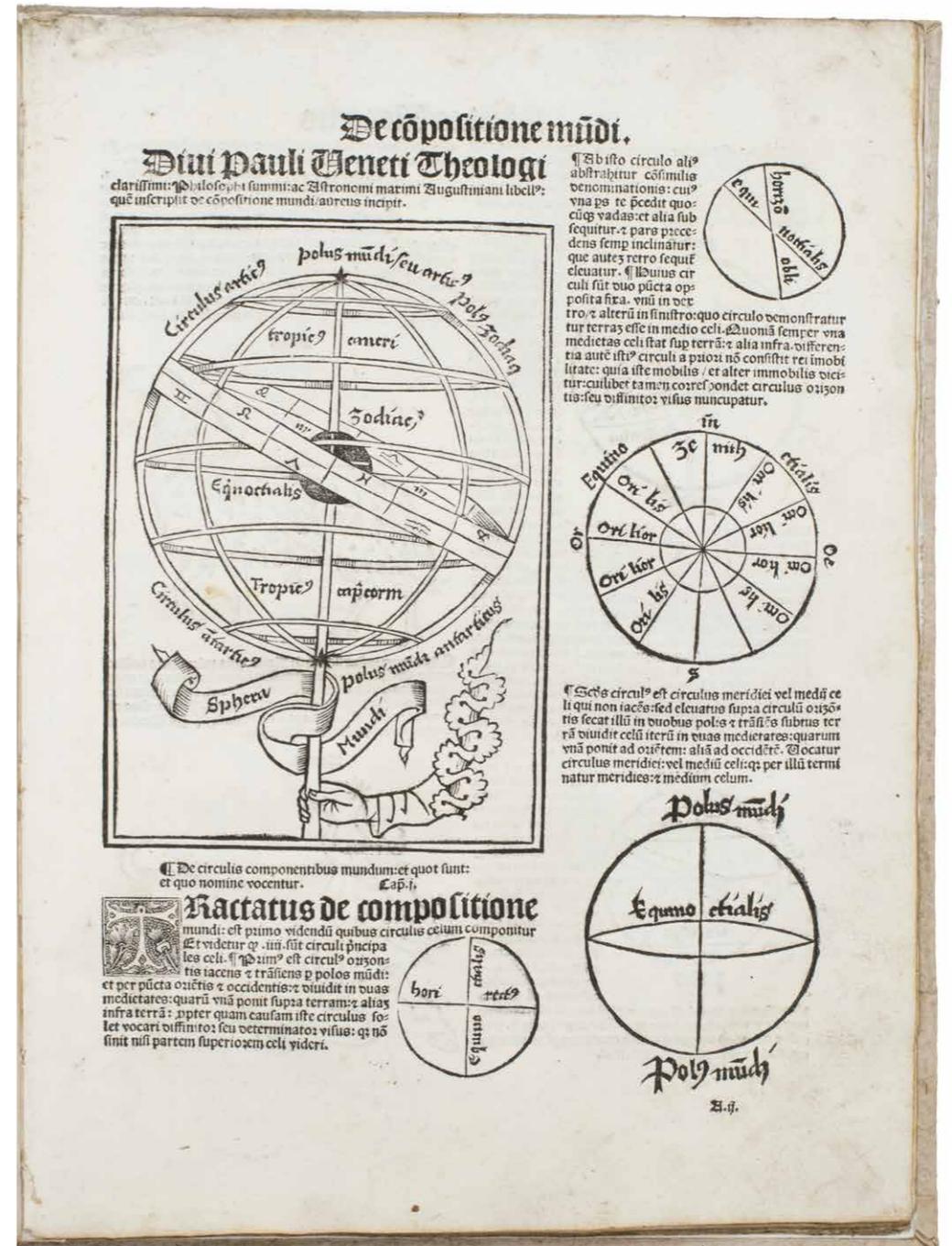
Paris, Jean Lambert, (colophon:) 1513). Small 4° (28 × 20.5 cm). With 55 woodcut illustrations in the text, including 12 northern and 12 southern pictorial constellations with stars. Flexible wrap-around paperboards (ca. 1750?).

€ 18 000

First edition of one of the best early attempts to give a scientific account of astronomy, cosmography, geology, meteorology, tides, springs and rivers, by Paolo Nicoletti Venetus (ca. 1369/70–1429), edited by Jean Dullaert of Ghent (ca. 1470–1513). The book is also a splendid display of the woodblock cutter's art. In addition to the many astronomical diagrams and an armillary sphere, it shows 24 pictorial constellations with stars, 12 for the northern hemisphere and, more unusually, 12 for the southern hemisphere. Venetus joined the Augustinians at Venice at age 14, then studied in Oxford and Padua, continuing as a lecturer there, in Bologna and elsewhere, and wrote his *Summa philosophiae naturalis* in 1408. While Venetus's *Summa naturalium Aristotelis*, a commentary on Aristotle, first published at Venice in 1476, was published at Venice under the present title in 1503, it is a completely different work, so Dullaert's present edition is the first edition of the present text. Venetus based his book largely on Restoro or Ristoro d'Arezzo, *Composizione del mondo*, written ca. 1282, and it is sometimes regarded as a Latin translation of that (Italian) work, but the ideas circulated via Dullaert's present edition of Venetus's text until d'Arezzo's Italian text was published in 1859.

With a few minor spots and smudges, but still in very good condition and with generous margins (some deckles preserved at the fore-edge). An important compendium of scientific knowledge about the earth and the heavens, especially valuable for its astronomical information and beautiful, sometimes fantastic woodcuts.

[35], [1 blank] pp. Moreau II, 679 (7 copies of 5 issues, not distinguished); *USTC 20912* (citing Moreau); cf. *Houzeau & Lancaster 2272* (other issue); not in Adams; Mortimer, French; for the author: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/paul-venice>. ➔ More on our website



Early work of one of the greatest French mathematicians

46

VIÈTE, François.

Principes de cosmographie, tirez d'un manuscrit de Viète, & traduits en François. Corrigées et augmentées.

Paris, Jean Behourt, 1647. 12°. With 2 woodcut illustrations in the text (a geocentric universe and a simple geometric figure). Contemporary limp sheepskin parchment.

€ 11 500

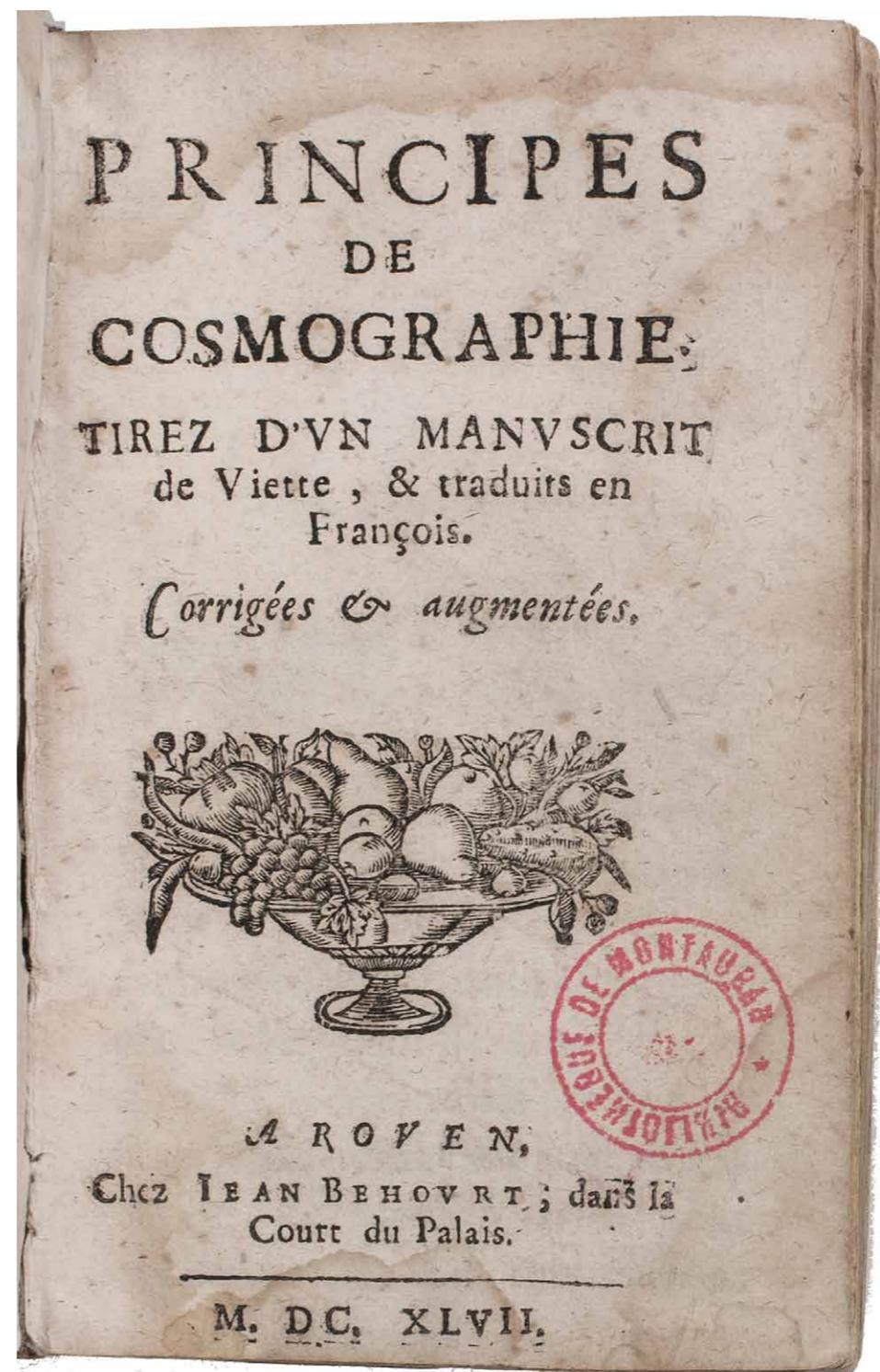
Third edition of one of the first scientific works of the greatest French mathematician of the 16th century, François Viète (1540–1603). Viète graduated in 1560 from the University of Poitiers with a law degree. "In 1564, Viète accepted a position in the household of the prominent family of Jean de Parthenay and his wife, Antoinette d'Aubeterre. In fulfilment of his responsibilities as tutor for their daughter Catherine, he wrote a collection of essays on various scientific subjects." (Bradley). The present compilation of three of these works first appeared posthumously in 1637, based on Viète's manuscript, under the title *Principes de cosmographie ...*, the three essays forming the three divisions of the book, on the geocentric universe, geography, and astronomy..

It includes a section covering the geography of the Arabian peninsula (pp. 96–97), naming: Bahrain, Mecca, Aden, Ormuz etc.

With owners' inscriptions (one dated 1657) and library stamps. Browned and with mostly marginal, water stains throughout. A reasonable copy. Binding still good.

[8], "72" [=172] pp. Cf. *DSB XIV*, pp. 18–25; M.J. Bradley, *Pioneers in Mathematics*, p. 16.

➔ More on our website



Second recorded copy of the first edition of a collection of texts on astronomy and physics

47

VIVIERS, Emmanuel de.

Recueil des memoires curieux. Tirez des Journaux Historiques de 1719. 1723. 1724. & 1725.

Paris, Etienne Ganeau, "MDXXV" [=1725]. 12°. With a woodcut vignette on the title page, a woodcut headpiece, and a decorated woodcut initial. Contemporary brown calf, gold-tooled spine.

€ 4750

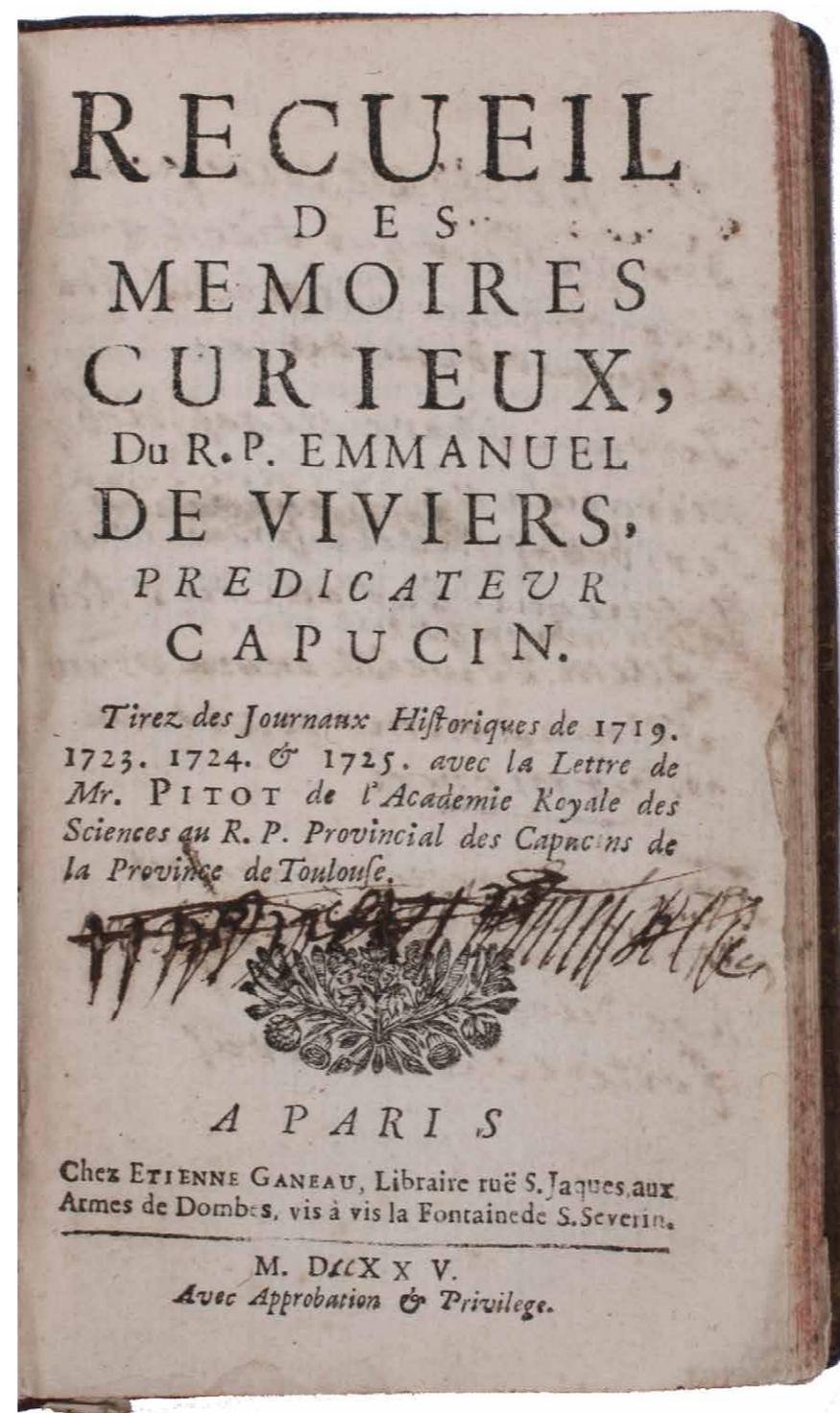
Second recorded copy of the first edition of a collection of texts on astronomy and physics by the French Capuchin monk Emmanuel de Viviers, originally published in the *Journal Historique* between 1719 and 1725. Not only the first but also the second edition published in 1728 is very rare, and both are not mentioned in the authoritative reference works in this field. With owner's inscription on title page and flyleaf struck through and dampstains in last few leaves. Good copy of a very rare work .

The following texts are included:

- 1) Horologe astronomique, & universelle;
- 2) Observations sur les eclipses;
- 3) A qu'elle heure l'eclipse du soleil du 22. May 1724. doit paroître en Lorraine;
- 4) Questions faites à l'auteur du traité des eclipses sur ce qui concerne la lueur de la lune & c.;
- 5) Remarques sur l'eclipse du soleil du 22. May 1724;
- 6) Machine perpetuelle pour les eclipses & un calendrier universel;
- 7) Nouveau systeme pour découvrir l'erreur des philosophes sur la maniere dont se fait la vision;
- 8) Nouveau microscope, & découvertes singulieres;
- 9) Lettre de Mr. Pitot.

58 pp. Conlon XXV, 409; not in Cioranescu; Daumas; Houzeau-Lancaster; KVK/WorldCat; Quérard.

➤ More on our website



Beautiful contemporary portrait of the famous French astronomer Lalande (1732–1807)

48

[VOIRIOT, Guillaume].

[Portrait of Joseph-Jérôme le Français de Lalande].

Late 18th century (ca. 1780). Oil on canvas (88 × 68 cm). In an elegant contemporary gilt frame with pearled inner border.

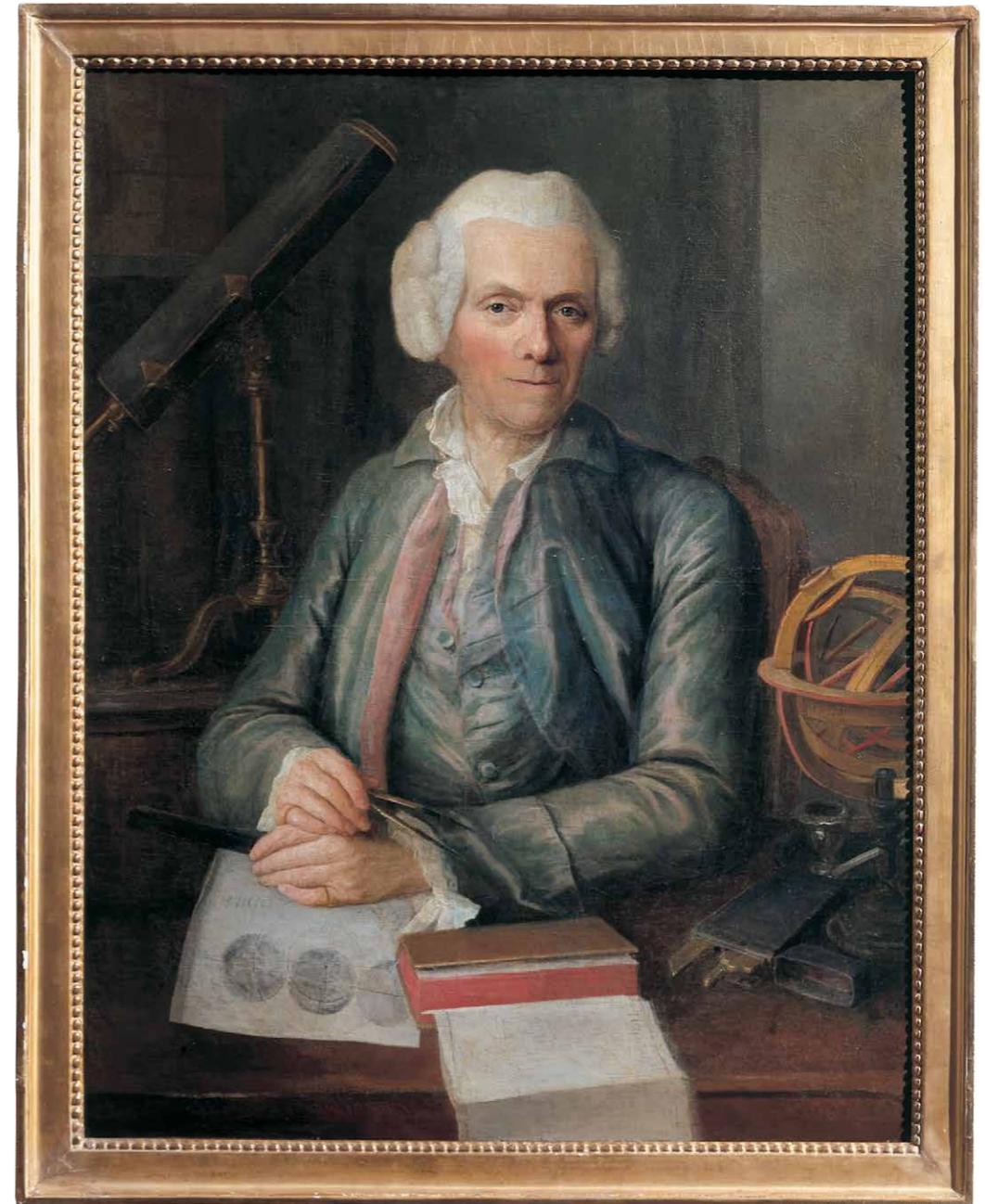
€ 50 000

Beautiful contemporary portrait of the famous French astronomer Joseph-Jérôme (le Français) de Lalande (1732–1807), depicted as a middle-aged man around 1780. The portrait can be attributed to the famous French portrait painter Guillaume Voiriot (Paris 1713–1799), who studied for a short time in Rome under Lenormant de Tournehem, Louis XV's Minister of Fine Art. In 1752 he exhibited for the first time at the Salon of the Academie de Saint Luc. In 1757, Voiriot was made an associate member of the Academie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture and in 1759 he submitted his reception pieces: portraits of the artists Jean-Marc Nattier (Louvre) and Jean-Baptiste Marie Pierre (Chateau de Versailles) and was elected to full membership, which gained him the right to participate in the biennial Salons. By 1785, he had achieved the rank of "conseiller" in the Royal Academy. For thirty years Voiriot's studio was located in the Cour des Miracles on the rue Neuve-des-Petits-Champs, but during the Revolution he moved to the Quartier Saint Germain. We would like to thank Mr. Eric Turquin, the most competent specialist of 18th century French portraits, for this attribution.

Lalande started his career as a jurist, but changed his focus completely to astronomy as soon as he had attended the first lectures of De Lisle and Le Monnier in Paris around 1750. In 1751, he stayed a year at the court of Frederic the Great in Berlin spending the nights in the observatory to make observations on the parallax of the moon, and the days studying the integral calculus in the company of Euler, Voltaire, and Maupertuis, all gathered at the court in Berlin at the time. Back in Paris, he immediately became a member of the Academy in 1753. During the next years he studied and published on the comet of Halley and on the planet Venus. In 1760, he became professor of astronomy in the Collège de France as the successor of De Lisle, holding the post for 46 years. He published many astronomical works.

Very fine painting in excellent condition.

Nouv. biogr. gén., 27, cols. 948–53. [➔](#) More on our website



Highlight of architectural history: extremely rare and important plate collection by the master architect Frank Lloyd Wright

49

WRIGHT, Frank Lloyd.

Ausgeführte Bauten und Entwürfe von Frank Lloyd Wright.

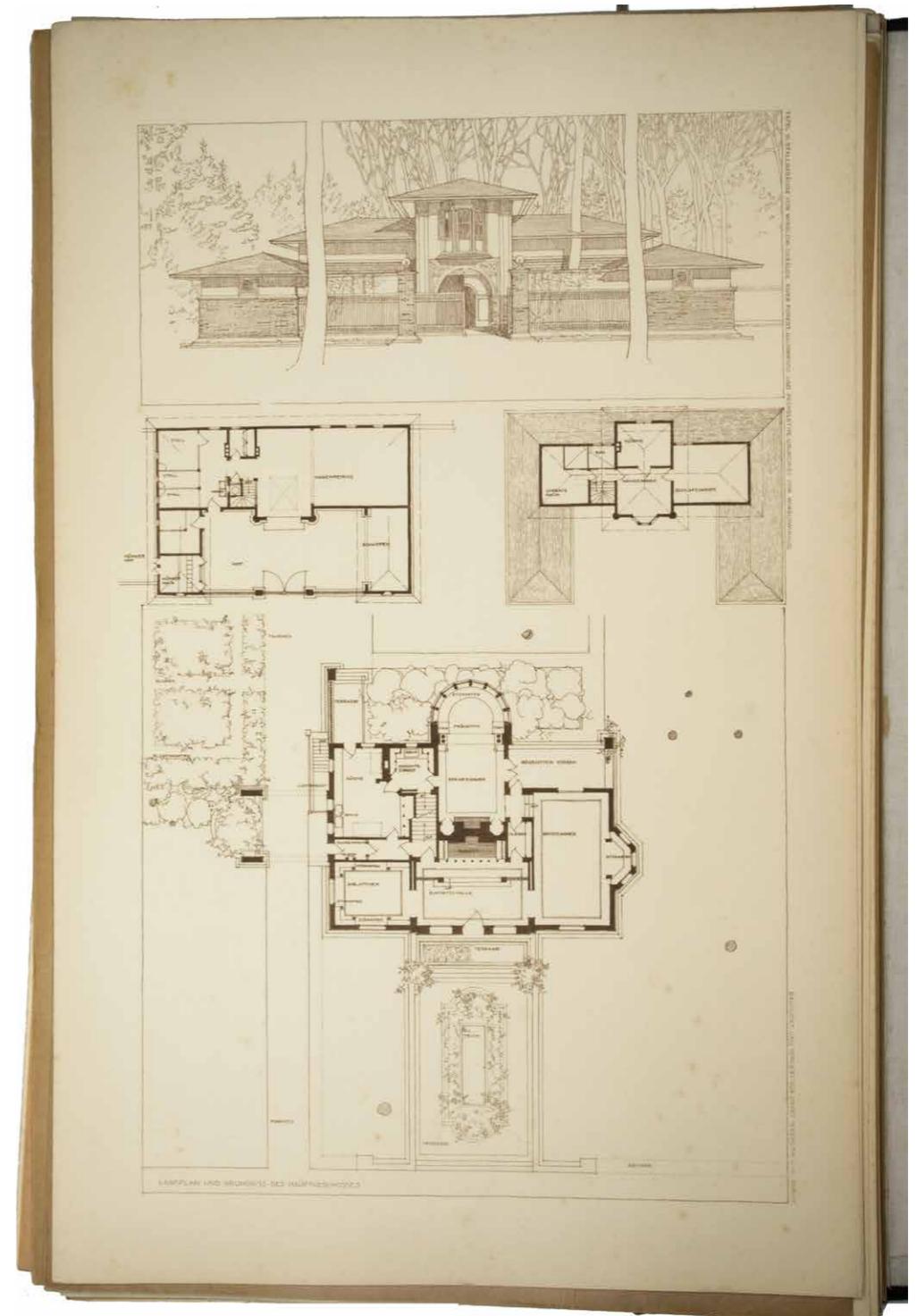
Berlin, Ernst Wasmuth, [1910]. 1 text volume and 2 portfolios. 1° (plates, ca. 64 × 40 cm) and 2° (text volume, ca. 41 × 32 cm). Text volume with the title printed in gold. With a total of 100 lithographed plates in 2 portfolios: 72 plates numbered I-LXIV, and 28 overlays, printed in brown on tissue paper. Each plate embossed with Wright's blind stamp. Kept loose, as issued, in the original portfolios, both dark blue half cloth with the original publisher's printed grey wrappers over boards with all white ties present. Both portfolios and text leaves are kept in a later beige half cloth portfolio with brown paper sides, three protective flaps and white ties.

€ 65 000

Extremely rare first edition, of the complete collection of plates prepared from drawings made by master architect Frank Lloyd Wright (1867–1959) at his Oak Park Studio, illustrating seventy buildings and projects completed between 1893 and 1909. It is the first major publication by one of the greatest innovators of modern architecture. The work boosted Wright's fame in European architectural circles and influenced key figures in contemporary architecture. The plates show perspective views, plans, sections and interior and exterior details. The edition is scarce due to a fire at Wright's home and studio, Taliesin, in August 1914.

The later portfolio worn: a little stained, edges a little worn, head and outer protective flap half loose, bottom protective flap loose but present, linen ties somewhat frayed. Two ties of the second plates portfolio are torn and frayed. Text volume, some plates and the wrappers of both portfolios somewhat foxed, some plates with occasional marginal tears (never affecting image), overlays a little toned. Overall a complete set with the plates, booklet and the two original publisher's portfolios still in good condition.

30, [1], [1 blank] pp.; plus 100 lithographed plates. *Kruft* 210; *Robert L. Sweeney, Frank Lloyd Wright: an annotated bibliography, 1978, 87; Thieme-Becker XXXVI, 279.* [More on our website](#)



The work that revolutionised ocean navigation

50

[ZACUTO, Abraham Ben Samuel].

Ephemerides sive Almanach perpetuu[m].

(Colophon:) Venice, Petrus Liechtenstein, for Johannes Lucilius Santritter, October 1498. 4°. With a woodcut title page and numerous tables. 20th-century limp vellum, sewn on 2 thin vellum straps laced through the joints, with the manuscript name of the (wrong) author and year of publication on the spine.

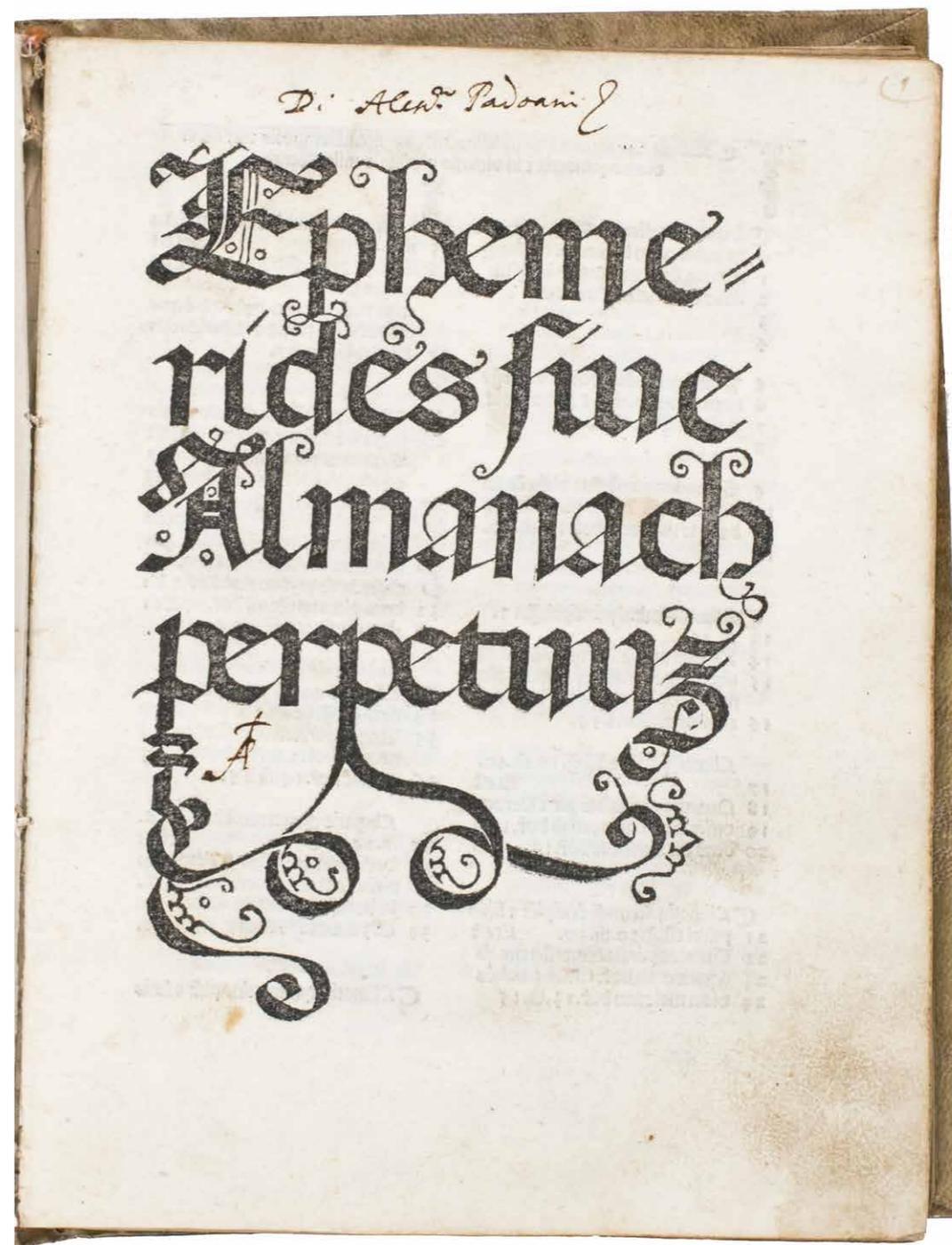
€ 165 000

Highly important 15th-century work on navigation, which helped sailors navigate more accurately. According to Gunn, the work "immediately helped to revolutionize ocean navigation. Prior to the Almanach, navigators seeking to determine their position in the high seas had to correct for "compass error" by recourse to the quadrant and the Pole Star. But this proved less useful as they approached the equator and the Pole Star began to disappear into the horizon. Zacuto's Almanach supplied the first accurate table of solar declination, allowing navigators to use the sun instead". The work contains dozens of astronomical tables, charting the position of the sun, moon, and five planets, between 1473 and 1530.

Abraham Zacuto (1452-ca. 1515) was one of the most important geographers and cosmographers in the age of Columbus. His astrolabe, astronomical tables and charts played a fundamental role in Portuguese and Spanish navigation to America and India, as they were used by Vasco da Gama and Columbus. The navigators to Brazil and India also took Zacuto's charts with them. As such, Zacuto is one of the men who helped usher Portuguese global expansion.

With a later ownership annotation on the title page and contemporary annotations in the margins throughout. The vellum is somewhat creased and browned, with a dent on the back. The lower corner of the first few leaves shows some thumbing, with brown (ink) stains on some leaves, a water stain in the lower outer corner of leaves 81 and 82, not affecting the text. Otherwise in good condition.

[122] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)



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