

**Madoc Books**

**In sunny North Wales,**

**presents**

**A small collection of  
Illustrations by  
Henry Alken**

## The Beauties & Defects in the Figure of the Horse Comparatively Delineated in a series of Coloured Plates

ALKEN Henry 1785-1851

**£875      First Edition      [1816]      008018**

Publisher:      S. & J. Fuller, London at the Temple of Fancy. 34, Rathbone Place.

### An exquisite Alken rarity

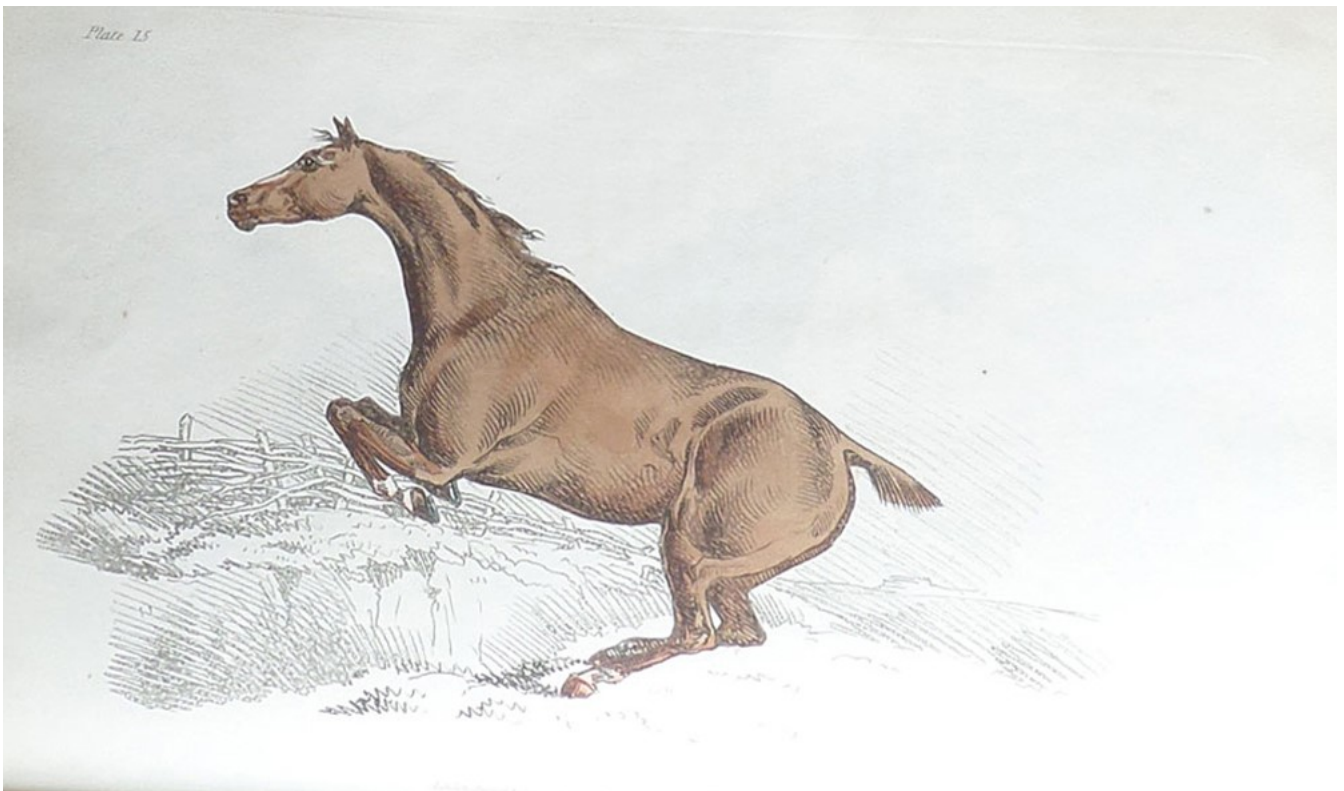
First edition. Quarto. Recent half calf, spine gilt in 6 compartments, with raised bands, black morocco label, all edges gilt; elaborate engraved title page, comprising an engraved roundel title, encompassed by small equine vignettes, and eighteen delicately hand-coloured lithographed plates by Alken; immaculate externally, but with some light offsetting of plates, this is nevertheless an excellent copy of an uncommon Alken item.

(268\*177 mm).

(Tooley 20; Huth, p 85; Mellon & Snelgrove 73; Schwerdt 1:12)

### A rare and important work on Horses and their management

Schwerdt: "Alken was about thirty-two years of age when he published this book, and states on p. 2 of the preface that: The author's remarks are the result of the most attentive observation during many years entirely devoted to the pleasures of the field."



## A Trip To Melton Mowbray

[ALKEN Henry] 1785-1851. PAUL Sir John Dean - designer 1802-1868.

£6,000

First Edition

1822

007990

Publisher: Published for the Proprietor, by S. & I. Fuller., London: Temple of Fancy, 34, Rathbone-Place

### One of Alken's Rarest

#### First edition, first state, a portfolio (as issued) of fourteen hand coloured aquatint strips

on twelve leaves of heavy card paper, the engravings generally measure 568\*92 mm, and are mounted on leaves measuring 622\* 144 mm, two leaves have two strips and the rest are one strip to one leaf, all strips carry captions and publication information in the lower blank margins and have the original printed paper labels on the versos. Housed in the original folding muslin case which itself is housed in a near contemporary folding red cloth portfolio, with a black morocco gilt cover label.

(Abbey Life 488. Schwerdt III p3)

This is the very desirable first issue (identified with having the publisher listed 'Fuller' in the first issue and 'Fores' in the second. Abbey says of the second issue: "From a collector's point of view these are of little use, the quality of the impression and colour being decidedly inferior [compared to the first]." No engraver's name is given but Schwerdt definitely ascribes it to Alken and Alken's name is in gilt on the cover label.

The designer, Sir J.D. Paul (1806-1868), was a well known banker who illustrated various books on fox hunting. "One of the most attractive hunting pictures of this period, which marks the zenith of hunting in England" (Schwerdt). The whole panorama shows a typical day at the hunt beginning with 'We must be off to Melton' and ending with "exeunt in fumo", all executed in finely hand coloured aquatints. A fine copy of one of Alken's scarcest works (with only one copy at auction in the last thirty years and none located by OCLC).

## Symptoms of Being Amused

ALKEN Henry 1785-1851

£1,150

First Edition

1822

007965

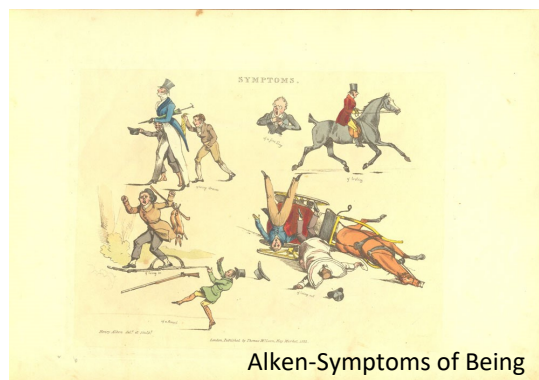
Publisher: Thos. McLean, London: Repository of Wit and Humour, No. 26, Haymarket

### Sporting, Domestic, and other humorous coloured sketches

In oblong 4to, half red morocco over red cloth (by Riviere & Sons), gilt tooling, corners worn. Spine, raised bands, gilt tooling & titles, worn along extremities. Internally, lacks the preface leaf, **42 plates** (complete - engraved titlepage with hand coloured vignette, followed by 41 hand coloured plates all dated 1822, with 2 images per plate), watermarked J Whatman Turkey Run 1822, blue marbled endpapers, old listing tipped to verso ep, a.e.g. A very nice example, with clean, sharp images. States Vol 1 on title page, but all issued. (345\*250 mm). (Tooley 57).



Alken-Melton Mowbray^



Alken-Symptoms of Being

## Specimens Of Riding Near London, Drawn from Life

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851**

£3,500

1823

007980

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: Repository of Wit and Humour, 26, Haymarket

### With Eighteen Hand-Coloured Engraved Plates by Henry Alken

Second edition (first published in 1821), oblong folio, letterpress title and eighteen hand coloured engraved plates (including frontispiece) by and after Henry Alken, plates watermarked 1822, but dated 1821. Contemporary half crimson roan over crimson boards, front cover with crimson roan label decoratively tooled and lettered in gilt, smooth spine ruled in gilt, minimal wear to board edges, front joint and ends of spine expertly and almost invisibly repaired, some very light scattered spotting and offsetting, not affecting images, armorial bookplate to fpd (Alain de Suzannet).

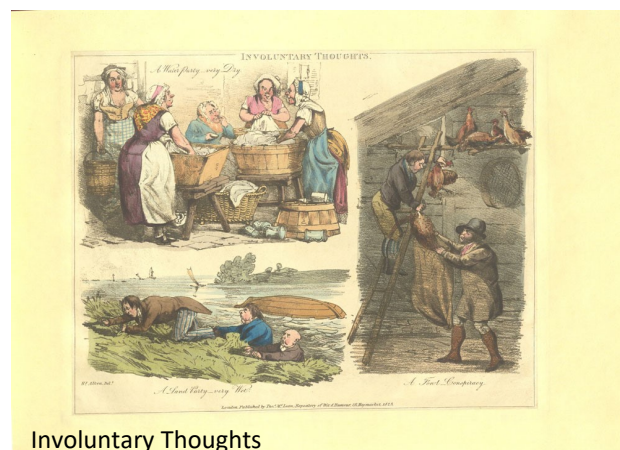
**Overall, a superb copy of this very scarce work.**

(239\*339 mm). (Tooley 52. Mellon/Snelgrove

74).



Riding Near London



Involuntary Thoughts

## Involuntary Thoughts

**ALKEN Henry [Thomas] 1784-1851**

£900

First Edition

1823

007979

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London

**First edition (first issue?)**, oblong quarto, letterpress title page and **six hand coloured soft ground etchings** by Alken depicting 18 thoughts, quarter red morocco over marbled boards, burgundy gilt morocco cover label. The plates have been sized to the printed borders and mounted on later paper, with publishers details, titled and dated 1823-25. Tooley describes the British Museum copy with eight plates, but points out that the publishers own advertisement for this work calls for six plates only. From this we assume that there may have been two issues, the second issue with an increased number of plates (355\*261 mm).

(Tooley 39. Siltzer p70).

## [Six Landscapes]

**ALKEN S [Samuel] 1756-1815**

**£800**

**First Edition**

**1795**

**007978**

Publisher: T Simpson; and Darling & Thompson, London, St. Paul's Church Yard; Great Newport Steet

### 6 wonderful landscape scenes in aquatint

In the original printers blue wrappers, oval publishers ticket to upper cover. Internally, six sepia tinted aquatints, no titles to the images, ruled borders, dated 1795, watermarked J Whatman. Housed in a grey cloth clamshell box, gilt titles to maroon calf label to upper cover. **An excellent copy** (250\*179 mm). (Similar to Abbey Life 90).



## The Knights of the Tournament

**[ALKEN Henry] 1785-1851**

**£4,600**

**First Edition**

**1831**

**007967**

Publisher: R. Ackermann. Junr.; R. Ackermann,, Eclipse Sporting Gallery, 191, Regent Street; 96, Strand

### Hand Coloured Knights in Armour

Rare, 1831, first edition, oblong quarto, twelve hand-coloured lithographed plates, title from original lithographed front wrapper, re-backed and with back wrapper renewed, plates titled & dated 1831, & watermarked 1828, repair to tear on front wrapper. **A scarce and attractive work**. Housed in a modern orange cloth portfolio. (308\*244 mm).

The work is not in Abbey or Tooley and the only institutional copy we have traced is in the National Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum, London.



## Qualified horses and unqualified riders or the reverse of sporting phrases taken from the work entitled Indispensable accomplishments

**TALLY-Ho Ben [ie ALKEN Henry] 1785-1851**

£975      First Edition      1815      007976

Publisher: S & J Fuller, London 34, Rathbone Place

### The First of Alken's coloured Books

Oblong folio, in half morocco over grey cloth (by Riviere & Sons), gilt tooling, gilt titles to morocco label. Spine, raised bands, gilt tooling & titles, rubbed along edges. Internally, engraved title page, followed by seven lively hand coloured plates of hunters and horses and their mishaps, plates dated 1815, & watermarked J Whatman 1819, red marbled endpapers, t.e.g., book labels to fpd ( Charles Cooper Townsend & Charles C Auchincloss).

A rejoinder to Sir Robert Frankland's Indispensable accomplishments, London, 1811.

(251\*350 mm).

(Tooley 44. Schwerdt 1, p. 20. Not listed in Abbey Life)

Plates are: Engraved title page 1. Going along a slapping pace; 2. Topping a flight of Rails 3. Charging an Ox-fence. 4. Got in and getting out. 5. Facing a Brook 6. Swishing at a Rasper; 7. Returning Home in Triumph.

Title continues:

In looking over that very amusing work call'd Indispensable accomplishments sign'd Billesdon Coplow with which I was very much delighted but could not forbear remarking that he consider'd it only necessary that the horse should come well into the next field, charge and ox fence, go in and out clever, face a brook & swish at a rasper he does not mention that to do all that kind of thing it is necessary he should be mounted by a rider of judgment and courage. I have undertaken beging[sic] his pardon to mount well qualified horses with unqualified riders and to shew the figure those horses are likely to cut during the day.

### The National Sports of Great Britain

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851**

£5,000      First Edition      1825      007953

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: Haymarket

### With Fifty Hand Coloured Sporting Plates

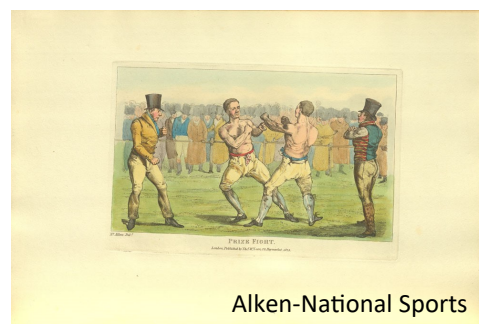
The Rare **Large Paper** issue of the Royal Octavo edition in full red morocco (by W Matthews), gilt edge tooling corners rubbed. Re-backed, original spine, raised bands, decorative gilt tooling & titles. Internally, [3], (iv-vi), [1] pl list, [1], followed by 50 pls each with a leaf of descriptive text, plates are all hand coloured and dated 1824 & watermarked J Whatman 1823, text leaves watermarked 1822, t.e.g., some light offsetting & spotting, binders stamp to fpd. An excellent example of this, the **first edition with these illustrations - the plates are different to the folio edition**. Although this has the same title as a work published by Alken in 1821, the illustrations are different and represent "a collection of new and original drawings and descriptions" (preface).

(360\*247 mm).

(Mellon/Podeschi 121; Schwerdt I:19; Tooley 43).



Alken-Qualified horses



Alken-National Sports

## Illustrations to Popular Songs

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851**

**£1,850**

**First Edition**

**1826**

**007964**

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: Repository of Wit and Humour, No. 26, Haymarket

### **“True Sportsmen are We for the Game Once in View”**

First edition, later issue, oblong folio, [2] leaves (containing letterpress title and “Address” leaf), forty **three hand coloured etched plates** (including added pictorial title), with the original tissue guards, title and plates dated 1822 & some watermarked 1825, each plate contains two to six comical scenes, including several hunting or sporting scenes, illustrating titles of popular songs. Publisher’s half dark green road over marbled boards, original green road gilt lettering label on front cover, smooth spine, decoratively tooled and lettered in gilt, all edges gilt, marbled endpapers, with the original printed paper label mounted on front paste down, book label to fpd (Ward), neatly repaired tear to lower margin of one plate \_“With--mixture without measure”), contemporary ink owners inscription to ffep (1828) . A superb copy “First issued in 1822, re-issued in 1823, 1825, 1826, 1831” (Tooley). (260\*355 mm). (Schwerdt IV, p4 (1823 issue). Tooley 37. Not in Abbey).

## **Tutor's Assistant, Containing A Variety of Amusing Scenes**

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851**

**£2,000**

**First Edition**

**1823**

**007963**

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: Repository of Wit and Humour, No. 26, Haymarket, 1823

### **Six Humorous Hand-Coloured Engraved Plates by Alken illustrative of the declension of verbs and other grammatical parts of speech**

First edition, cover title, large oblong folio, six hand coloured engraved plates containing twenty six “amusing scenes”, plates dated & watermarked 1823. Original quarter dark green moire cloth over dark grey printed wrappers, back wrapper with advertisements for other works “Lately published by Thomas M'Lean”, including several by Henry Alken, wrappers expertly and almost invisibly repaired at extremities, a few short marginal tears to plates, not affecting images. Housed in a cloth clamshell case. (353\*248 mm). (Tooley 59).

**An excellent Example of a very original subject, illustrated in Alken's most brilliant style**



Alken-Popular Songs



Alken-Tutors Assistant

**A Touch of the Fine Arts:  
Illustrated by Twelve Plates, With Descriptions,**

**ALKEN Henry [Thomas] 1784-1851**

**£1,975**

**First Edition**

**1824**

**007703**

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: Repository of Wit and Humour, No 20, Haymarket

**Alken's Amusing Satire of Artists**

(3 leaves - half title, title and preface), (12 leaves descriptive text), (1 leaf adverts), printed on recto's only, with twelve hand-coloured plates. Original dull gray boards, front cover with pink printed paper label, newly re-backed to style in red straight-grain morocco, gilt, label and edges of boards a little worn, old booksellers description tipped in at front end papers, some mild foxing, generally to versos of plates.

Fine impressions of these etchings, brilliantly coloured. An excellent copy in the original boards. Chemised in a quarter red morocco slip case, small mark.

Alken's amusing satire of artists, "an attempt to elucidate, by graphic delineation's, a variety of terms generally and perhaps exclusively made use of by artists, amateurs, connoisseurs, virtuosos and the like. This work includes plates with such titles as "An imposing effect" and "The subject far from good, but rich".

(278\*200 mm).

(Tooley 58).

**A Few Ideas  
Being Hints on Hunting and Driving**

**[ALKEN Henry] 1784-1851**

**£20,250**

**First Edition**

**c1830**

**007877**

Publisher: Thomas McLean, London: 26, Haymarket

**ONE OF THE RAREST COLOUR PLATE SPORTING BOOKS**

c1830, First edition, early issue, with some plates watermarked 1828 and 1829, folio, letterpress title, and forty two hand coloured etched plates, some heightened with gum arabic.

In contemporary half dark green morocco over ripple grain olive cloth, spine with gilt bands and lettering, light brown endpapers, spine tips expertly repaired, cloth sides slightly spotted, marginal tears on eighth and twenty fourth plates (not affecting lettering of image) neatly repaired, evidence of book label removal to fpd.

(329\*226 mm).

(Mellon/Podeschi 136. Scherdt I p17-18. Siltzer p72. Tooley 36).

**An Excellent example in a contemporary binding**



Alken-A Few Ideas





## The Melange of Humour

[ALKEN Henry Thomas] 1784-1851. [EGERTON Daniel Thomas] 1800?-1847

£17,500

First Edition

c1835

007878

Illustrator: ALKEN Henry Thomas. EGERTON Daniel Thomas. etc  
 Publisher: Printed by W. Lewis, London: Finch-Lane, Cornhill

**First collected edition of this acclaimed series of humorous situations with Fifty Hand Coloured Plates Caricaturing the English Lifestyle of the 1820s.**

c1835, Folio, letterpress title and fifty hand coloured plates (including frontispiece). Most plates with tissue guards, plates watermarked 1835, 1824, and 1822. In contemporary half black roan, ruled in gilt, over brown pebble grain cloth boards. Spine decoratively tooled and lettered in gilt, with three wide raised bands, all edges gilt, front cover expertly and almost invisibly repaired, corners and board edges slightly rubbed, occasional light soiling and browning to margins, a few plates with tiny marginal tears, tissue guard to title worn & tipped to title. The collection comprises:

The collection comprises:

Six hand-coloured plates after Henry Alken (London: Published by Thos. McLean, Repository of Wit & Humour, 1823): "Learning to drive Tandem"; "Learning to drive A Dennett"; "A Horse! A Horse! my Kingdom for a Horse!"; "Give me another Horse—bind up my wounds—The lights burn blue—"; "The Prospect of Hunting.....all Right"; and "The Reality of Hunting.....all Wrong."

Six hand-coloured aquatint plates [A Day's Journal of a Sponge] (London: Published by W. Egerton, 1824) captioned: "Was 'stirring with the lark,' bent on fixing myself for a month's sponge on a friend..."; "Feeling one of those pangs 'which flesh is heir to'..."; "Having returned, & hired a chaise, the only method of conveyance..."; "Former fears confirmed, by being driven, on my return, without orders into the Stable Yard..."; "Sauntering down Bond Street, in the evening, to 'Lose & neglect the creeping hours of time'..."; and "Being recovered from the effects of the last catastrophe, resolved on making one more effort, to gain a supper..."

Hand-coloured engraved title and twelve hand-coloured aquatint plates (the first six plates are numbered) "Design'd & Etch'd by D.T. Egerton": "Fashionable Bores or Coolers in High Life by Peter Quiz" (London: Published by Thos. McLean, 1824); "The Silent Rebuke"; "The Leech"; "The Tables Turn'd"; "The Unfortunate Discovery"; "The Insolence of Office"; and "The Trial of Nerves"; "Vis a Vis"; "The Unpleasant Rencontre"; "The Unwelcome Visit"; "The Disappointment"; "The Pressing Invitation"; and "The Finishing Bore."

Abbey, Life, 287 and Colas 937 (with imprint of W. Sams).

Twelve numbered hand-coloured aquatint plates by Daniel Thomas Egerton originally published as The Necessary Qualifications of a Man of Fashion (London: Published by Thomas M'Lean, Repository of Wit & Humour, 1823).

The plates are captioned: "Negligence," "Assurance," "Confidence," "Impudence," "Intemperance," "Indifference," "Unfeelingness," "Forgetfulness," "Selfishness," "Intrigue," "Eccentricity," and "Inconsistency." Six plates by H. Alken (London: Published...by Thomas McLean, 1821): "Perfectly Satisfied," "Dissatisfied," "Delighted," "Surpris'd," "Displeas'd," and "Terrified."

Seven hand-coloured lithographed plates by Pigal and L. Boilly captioned: "Phoo! Anglais Pah! Pish!" (Pigal); "The Scratch"; "Nasty Old Fellow you shan't" (Pigal); "Le petite famille" (L. Boilly); Uncaptioned (L. Boilly); "as it used to be" (Pigal); and "This is mine Heir" (Pigal).

In addition, this copy contains, pasted to the rear free endpaper, an uncoloured plate numbered "25" and captioned: "The Farmers Visit To his married Daughter in Town" (London: Publish'd by...G. Thompson, 1796



## A Collection of Interesting Subjects of Military Occurrences Costumes &c

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851 and HEATH William 1794-1840**

**£14,500**

**First Edition**

**007702**

Illustrators: ALKEN Henry and HEATH William  
 Publisher: Thomas McLean, London, 26, Haymarket

### AN EXTREMELY RARE COLLECTION OF MILITARY COSTUME PLATES

Large octavo, manuscript title, hand coloured folding engraved title (Foreign Military Costume) and **eighty four hand coloured engraved plates** (two folding), title and plates cut and inlaid to size within a panel cut from a leaf of paper with an elaborately engraved border surrounding the print, the first forty plates with manuscript title labels. Contemporary half red straight grain morocco, ruled in gilt, over marbled boards, spine decoratively tooled and lettered in gilt in compartments, all edges gilt, bookplate to fpd (Julia Parker Wightman).

The first forty plates are from *A Collection of Interesting Subjects of Marine Views*, Military Parade, Hunting, Coursing, Racing &c &c by Henry Alken, which according to Abbey is "the rarest Alken item: unknown to Siltzer, Slater and Schwerdt. Two other copies only can be traced: one, in the possession of D.C. Colman, Esq, and the second a sale room record for December 1905... According to the sale record the date of the book is 1830, but it would appear highly probable that it was considerably earlier, for the following reasons: spelling of the publisher's name as McLane and not McLean places it before 1830, and the few plates that portray actual historical incidents all bear on the Russian campaign against Napoleon. Further, by 1830 the work of Alken was devoted to sporting subjects only.

A reasonable guess at the correct date is more likely than 1822 or 1823, and probably even before 1820" (Abbey).

Of the remaining forty four plates, the first twenty four, plus the folding title, appear to be from William Heath's *Foreign Military Costume* (London: T. McLean, 1823), which contained an engraved title and six engraved plates, each containing four subjects. The plates in this copy are all lettered in pencil, consist of the following military costumes: French (four plates), Austrian (four plates), Russian (four plates), Prussian (four plates), Spanish (four), Chinese (one plate), Greek (one plate), Persian (one plate), and Turkish (one plate). The final twenty plates appear to be from William Heath's *British Military Costume* (London: T. McLean, 1824), which contained an engraved title and six engraved plates, each containing four subjects.

(268\*182 mm).

(Abbey, Life, 394. Colas 1396. Hiler p419).

### A Fine example of this Extremely Rare Collection.



## Original Water Colour Drawings

ALKEN Henry 1785-1851

£8,000

007657

### 18 Stunning water colours by Henry Alken

In a superb green long grain morocco (by Riviere and Son), elaborate gilt & blind tooling, gilt titles, corners rubbed. Spine, gilt titles & tooling, raised bands, edges brushed. Internally, gilt tooling to board edges & turn-ins, green marbled endpapers, eighteen water colours, mostly signed and captioned, mounted on thick cards, not dated, a.e.g., binders stamp to verso fep. (266\*377 mm).

Images are:

1. No Caption, Gentleman seated with arms folding, picture of chicken on wall, 126\*143 mm. 2. Hunting With Pleasure, signed, 285\*197 mm. 3. Leaving it With Pain, signed, 285\*198 mm. 4. A Smasher, signed, 286\*196 mm. 5. Rather to Forward, signed, 286\*198 mm. 6. Going to Cover, signed, 284\*195 mm. 7. A Horse Caught, signed, 274\*174 mm. 8. Comming in at the Death, signed, 285\*198 mm. 9. No 1. L1 of Hunting Nuisances [sic] A Large Field, 251\*176 mm. 10. No 3 Well laid on, signed, 251\*175 mm. 11. Stag Hunting Misieries [sic] No 4, The First Stop, signed, 247\*176 mm. 12. Not Invited, signed, 276\*194 mm. 13. The Thief Detected, signed, 280\*187 mm. 14. The Thief Caught, signed, 275\*187 mm. 15. Sportsman Pets, signed, 271\*173 mm. 16. Sportsmans Pets, signed, 279\*171 mm. 17. No Caption, Two dogs standing over a dead rabbit, 279\*186 mm. 18. No Caption, A Cock Fight, signed, 261\*167 mm.

## Sons of the Desert - Original Water Colour Drawings

ALKEN Henry [Thomas] 1785-1851

£13,000

c1829

007658

### An Album of Original Water Colour Drawings by Henry Alken c1829

Oblong, in blue long grained morocco by Riviere & Son, elaborate gilt tooling & titles, edges & corners worn. Spine, raised bands, decorative gilt tooling & titles, edges worn. Internally, **five pencil and water colour drawings** of Arab horses and riders. Mounted on cards, 4to, a.e.g., gilt board edges and turn-ins, green marbled endpapers, binders stamp to verso of fep. (407\*274 mm & 393\*267 mm).

Contains: 1. [ink title] "Freedom is dear to the sons of the Desert," an Arab horse and rider in a town, with an Arab on foot, 7 1/4\*10 1/2 in, signed. 2. A warrior on foot holding his spirited horse by the bridle, 6 5/8\*9 5/8, signed and dated 1829. 3. A horse bending towards its fallen and wounded rider, 5 7/8\*8 7/8 in, spurious signature. 4. A dismounted Arab pointing to his companions dead horse, 6 5/8\*9 1/4 in, spurious signature. 5. Two armed and mounted Arabs, sheet darkened and slightly torn, 4 1/8\*5 1/2 in, signed.

Alken, born into a successful family of artists, was one of the most prolific and acclaimed British sporting artists of his days. He produced a great body of work, from water colours and oils to popular cartoons and fine lithographs and engravings.

These water colours are delicate and beautiful pieces, unusual in their subject matter, but characteristic of Alken's genius for the fine depiction of horses.



Alken-Original Water Colour Drawings



Alken-Sons of the Desert



## [An Album of sixteen water colour and pencil drawings of game birds]

**ALKEN Henry 1785-1851**

£6,750

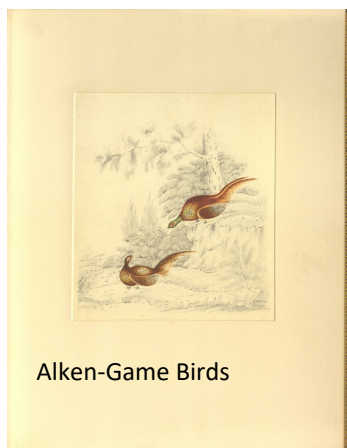
007686

### With Sixteen superb Water Colours

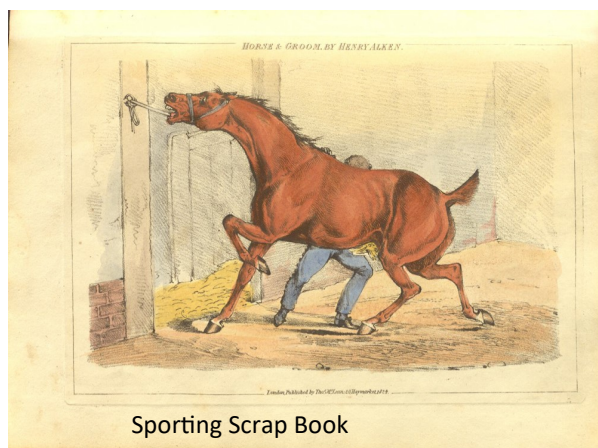
An Album of sixteen water colour and pencil drawings of game birds, one unsigned, the others bearing the signature "H. Alken." The drawings range from 2.5\*4 inches to 10\* 7.75 inches, Folio.

Each drawing elaborately matted and bound into an imposing dark green straight grain morocco album, elaborately tooled in gilt and blind on upper and lower covers, panelled spine gilt with emblematic devices, all edges gilt, by Riviere, faint rubbing to extremities, else fine, one drawing very slightly foxed.

These are superb drawings, most of them feature brilliantly coloured studies of cock and hen pheasants, set against un-coloured pencil backgrounds of woods, moors, and country views; in one case a dog pursues a bird, in another a hunter and his dogs approach a convey of quail. The delineation of the birds is meticulous, in some cases virtually every feather is shown. The drawings are in uniformly fine condition. Un-published, un-dated, & no printers details, small bookseller label to fpd (Crossroads of Sport Inc NY)..



Alken-Game Birds



Sporting Scrap Book

### Sporting Scrap Book Containing fifty Plates, Designed and Engraved by Himself

**ALKEN Henry [Thomas] 1785-1851**

£3,250

First Edition

[1824]

007698

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London 26, Haymarket

#### 50 hand coloured plates in the original boards

First edition, [1824], in contemporary red half calf over the publishers printed maroon boards, corners worn. Re-spined, old laid down, gilt titles. Internally, frontis, title leaf, followed by 49 sporting plates, each with a tissue guard, all 50 plates with contemporary hand colouring, all dated 1824, pls with 1 image others with 5 or 6, book-plate to fpd (Nathan of Churt 1945).

(256\*181 mm).

**Very uncommon**

(not in Tooley/Abbey. Schwerdt, I, 24. Cox British Sport V3. 752).



**Scraps from The Sketch Book of Henry Alken  
Engraved by Himself. Containing Forty-Two Plates.**

**ALKEN Henry [Thomas] 1785-1851**

**£2,750**

**First Edition**

**1821**

**007714**

Publisher: Thomas M'Lean, London: 26, Haymarket

First edition, VG+, in half white calf over Spanish marbled boards, with two green morocco lettering labels on the spine, tooled and lettered in gilt, covers ruled in gilt. Internally, frontis, title page, **forty two hand coloured plates** (Broadsides) of soft-ground etchings, mostly depicting hunting or military scenes with horses by Alken, paper watermarked **Whatman 1820**, some foxing and browning to margins, but an excellent Copy.

This edition was first published in 1821 as uncoloured on Whatman 1820 watermarked paper. A second edition appeared in 1823, with the same drawings (in a different order), all hand-coloured, and on Whatman 1822 watermarked paper.

**This particular volume may be unique, or possibly one of several copies which was hand-coloured out of the 1821 edition**

Hardie, as well as Schwerdt mention the 1821 edition as being uncoloured, rendering this coloured copy quite rare. Additionally, there are no institutional copies listed non OCLC, and there have been no copies appear at auction in the last twenty-five years, coloured or uncoloured.

From 1816 to 1824, Alken published several drawing books, illustrated by uncoloured soft-ground etchings or lithographs.. Among those are... Sketches of Cattle, and Rudiments for Drawing the Horse (1822). Scraps from the Sketch Book (1821), [the work offered here]; A Sporting Scrap Book (1824), and Sketches (1824) are in reality drawing books, but aim at a wider popularity by giving groups and scenes that have a certain life and interest apart from their value for a copyist...

His appeal is the sportsman who wishes every horse that meets his eye in book or print to be a creature of blood and mettle, a potential winner of the Derby or the Oaks. (Hardie p178-180).

(282\*223 mm).

(Schwerdt p21; Hardie p179. Not listed in Tooley or Abbey)

