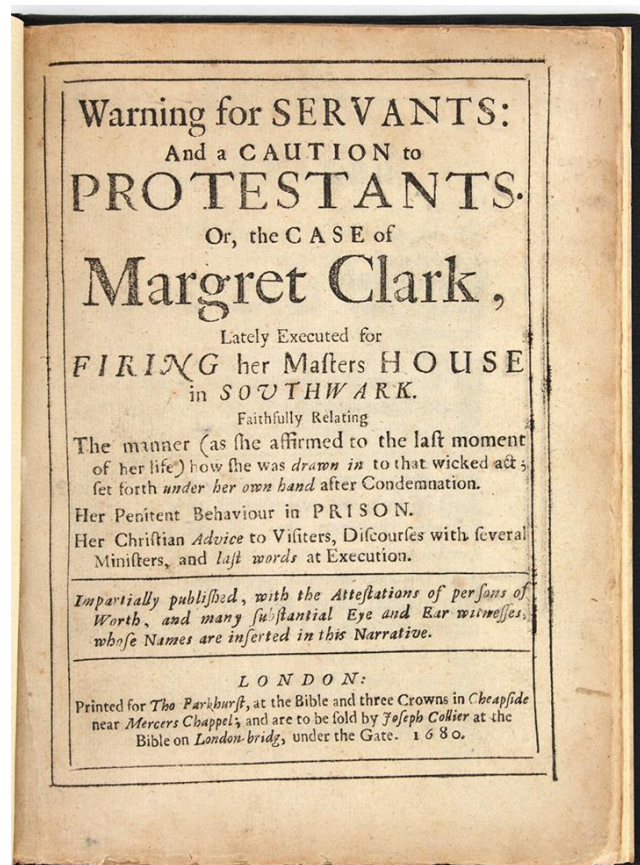


## True Crime & Punishment

1. [Clark (Margret)] **Warning for Servants: and a Caution to Protestants.** Or, the case of Margret Clark, lately Executed for Firing her Masters House in Southwark. Faithfully relating the manner (as she affirmed to the last Moment of her life) how she was drawn in to that wicked Act; set forth under her own Hand after Condemnation. Her penitent Behaviour in Prison. Her Christian Advice to Visiters, Discourses with several Ministers, and Last Words at Execution. Impartially published, with the Attestations of Persons of Worth, and many substantial Eye and Ear Witnesses, whose Names are inserted in this Narrative.

*London: Printed for Tho. Pankhurst [...] and are to be Sold by Joseph Collier. 1680, FIRST EDITION of this pamphlet, title with double-ruled border; uniformly toned with some browning to margins and the odd smudge, but a very good copy; pp. [8], 32, 4to; untrimmed in modern green straight grained morocco, gilt lettered spine. (ESTC 13610) £750*

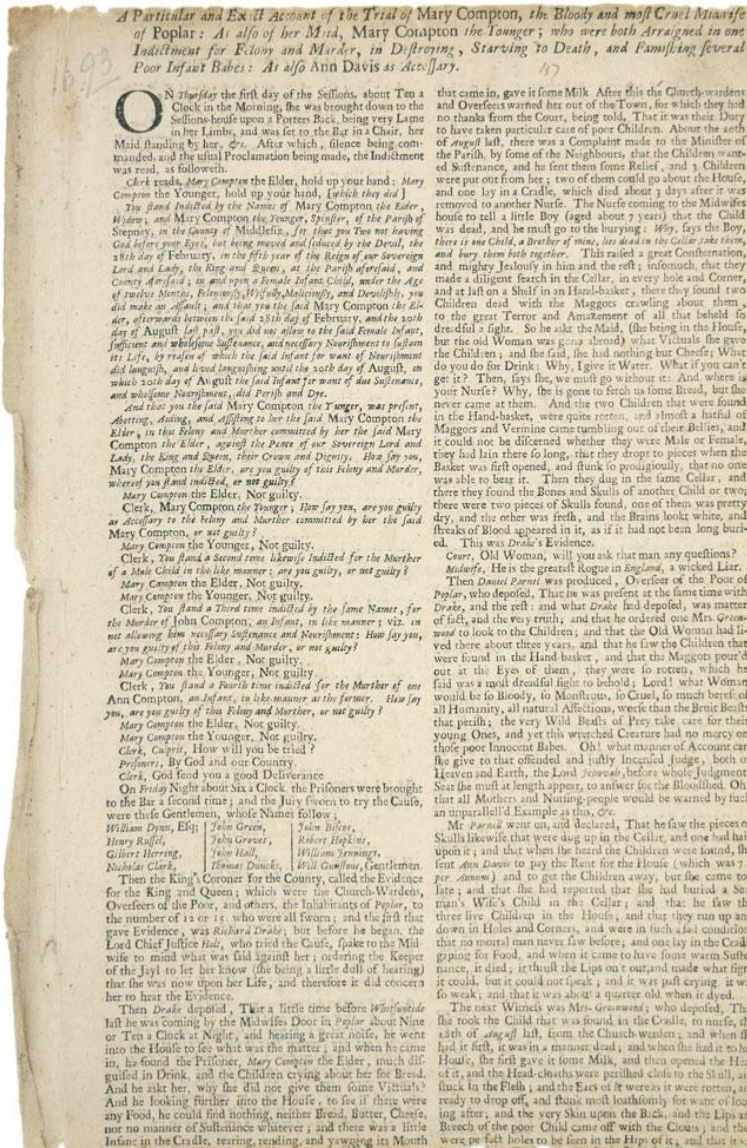
Margret Clark was a domestic servant to one Mr. Delaney, a wealthy dyer of Southwark. While the family were away, their townhouse was set on fire. Neighbours staunchly the blaze, and Margret was swiftly apprehended. She named soldier John Satterthwayt, alleging that he had promised to pay her handsomely for admittance to the house as part of a Catholic plot to set fire to London. They were both tried at Kingston assizes, but Satterthwayt was acquitted when he convinced the jury of his Protestantism, and when others of his regiment provided an alibi. Clark declined to ask for a pardon, blaming avarice and sabbath-breaking for her



sins, and was put to death by hanging on 22 March 1680. She announced at the gallows that she had penned a pamphlet; the present work is one of two such, both of which expanded on her defence that she had been bribed by Satterthwayt, himself as an agent of devilish popery. Indeed, the case became a flashpoint for anti-Catholic sentiment, at a moment when tensions were running high as a result of the fictitious Popish Plot fabricated by Titus Oates.

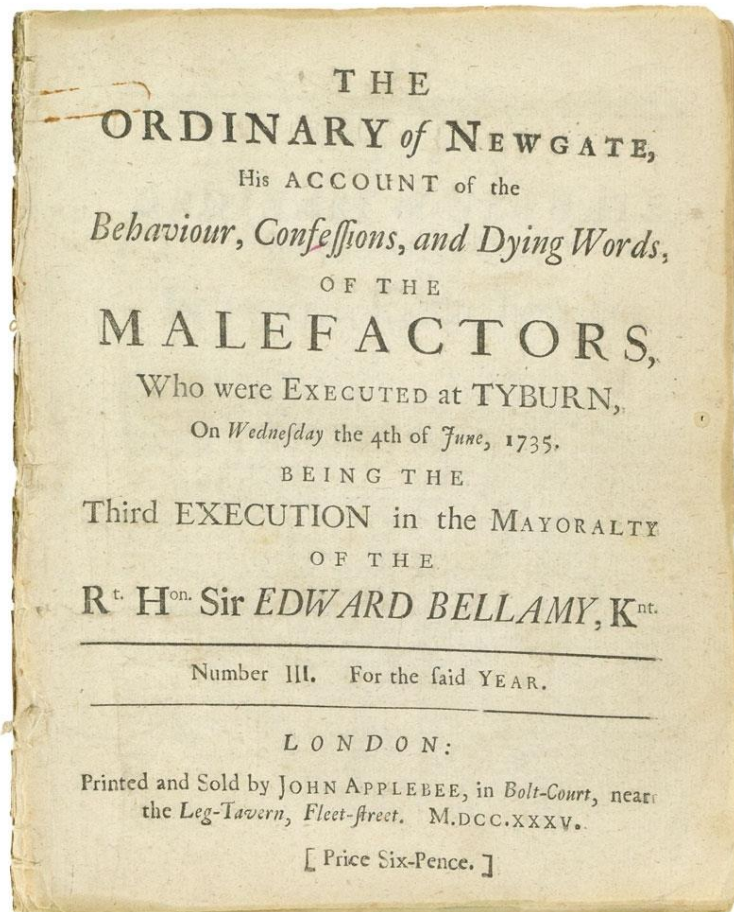
**2. (Infanticide.) [Compton (Mary)] A Particular and Exact Account of the Trial of Mary Compton, the Bloody and most Cruel Midwife of Poplar.** As also of her Maid, Mary Compton the Younger, who were both Arraigned in one Indictment for Felony and Murder, in Destroying, Starving to Death, and Famishing several Poor Infant Babies: As also Ann Davis as Accessary. Printed for Richard Baldwin, near the Oxford-Arms in Warwick Lane, 1693, two columns, printed on both sides of single sheet, upper and lower edge frayed affecting upper line and last two lines of text, pp. 2, bifolio, gutter margin with binding needle holes and short tear, fore-margin, upper and lower edges with a few nicks, good (ESTC R181482). **£1500**

A salacious account of this notorious trial in which midwife Mary Compton was accused of the murder of four children, including one of her own.



The narrative is full of macabre detail, from the reported speech of a 7-year-old boy in Compton's charge: "There is one Child, a Brother of mine, lies dead in the cellar," to the unfortunate description of unwrapping an infant corpse, '...the clothes dragged the Ears along with it,' much is made of maggots and vermin. The maid was acquitted, Ann Davis found guilty and 'burnt in the Hand', and Compton herself also found guilty and executed at Tyburn, her final interview recorded in Samuel Smith's *A True Account of the Behaviour, Confession, and Last Dying Speeches of the Criminals that were Executed at Tyburn, On Monday the 23rd of October, 1693*. Compton's crimes were commemorated in at least 3 contemporary ballads, two by J. Bissel and T. Moore's 'The Bloody Midwife'. WorldCat and ESTC cite only 3 copies (Newberry, Newberry Library, Library of Congress); no copies traced in UK.

3. (Newgate.) GUTHRIE (James) *The Ordinary of Newgate, His Account of the Behaviour, Confessions, and Dying Words, of the Malefactors who were Executed at Tyburn On Monday the 5th of this Instant June, 1732... London: Printed and Sold by John Applebee, 1732. browned and lightly spotted, pp. 20, 4to, [together with] Another, for 4th of June, 1735, similar condition, pp. 24, both disbound. £1200*



The most notorious prison in London, for over six hundred years Newgate was renowned for its appalling conditions. ‘The Ordinary of Newgate was the chaplain of Newgate prison, and it was his duty to provide spiritual care to prisoners who were condemned to death. One of the perquisites of the position was the right to publish an account of the prisoners’ last dying speeches and behaviour on the scaffold, together with stories of their lives and crimes. Sold at the affordable price of three or six pence, print runs ran into the thousands. As a result, this was a profitable sideline for the Ordinary, earning him up to £200 a year in the early eighteenth century’ (The Proceedings of the Old Bailey [online], 1674-1913). The Ordinary’s accounts ‘are a valuable source of information about both elite attitudes towards criminality

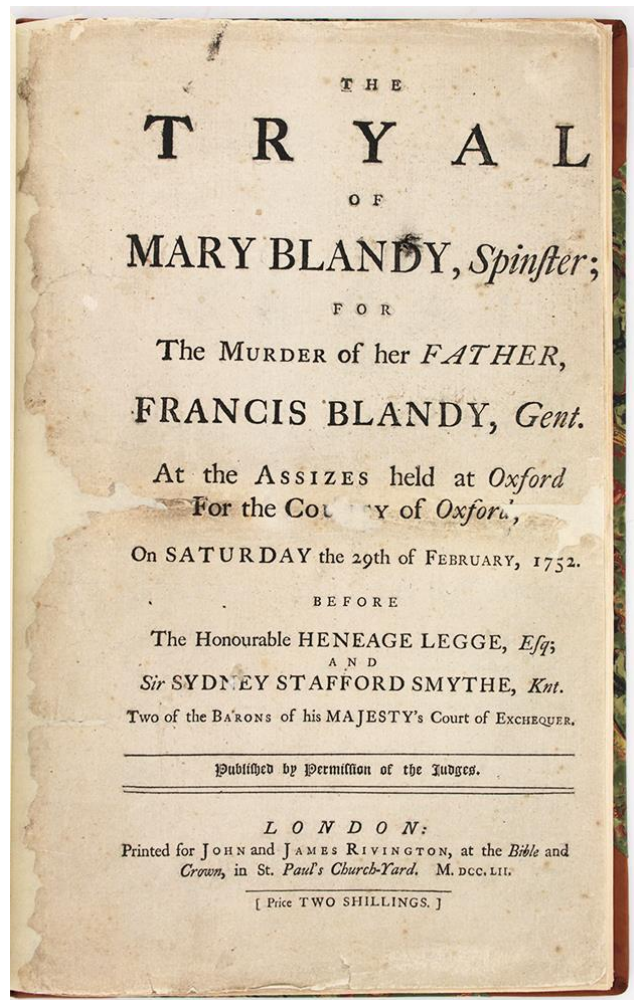
and the lives, attitudes, and dying behaviour of executed convicts’ (Ibid.).

Neither of these issues is recorded in ESTC, but the 1732 appears in The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913. Both of these issues carry advertisements at the end, the later one announcing the publication of ‘Select Trials’ (ESTC T82604, total of 8 copies, 4 on either side of the Atlantic). The earlier one advertises ‘The Best Water in the World... [for the ] ITCH, and a Panacea, while the penultimate page advertises the fifteenth edition on Onania.

4. (Female patricide) *The Tryal of Mary Blandy, Spinster; for the Murder of her Father, Francis Blandy, Gent. At the Assizes held at Oxford for the County of Oxford, on Saturday the 29th of February, 1752 [...] London: Printed for John and James Rivington [...] 1752. FIRST EDITION. Sympathetically repaired marginal and gutter tears to the title-page and elsewhere, sometime folded but withal a good copy; pp. [2],46, folio; recent binding of half goatskin and marbled paper over boards, spine with raised bands. (ESTC T51990). £575*

A contemporary account of the trial of Mary Blandy, a thirty-two-year-old woman executed for parricide in eighteenth-century Oxford.

The case was sensational; Blandy was a respectable and well-educated young woman from Henley upon Thames who was convicted of murdering her father with arsenic, despite her defence that she believed the poison to have been a love potion. She alleged that the tincture had been supplied by her lover, William Henry Cranstoun. Cranstoun had a wife in Scotland, and Blandy's father was increasingly suspicious of his claim that he planned to annul this pre-existing union. The 'love potion' was supposedly intended to sway her father to their cause, but instead it caused his death - Francis Blandy's gradual and agonising decline is here reported in detail. The trial was of some forensic interest, as there was expert testimony about arsenic presented by Dr. Anthony Addington. Addington's testing for trace residues of arsenic would be rudimentary by today's standards, but it was at the cutting edge of proto-forensic medicine. Addington's testimony made his career, and he eventually became the family doctor to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. His son was Henry Addington, future Prime Minister and Home Secretary (as Viscount Sidmouth). On Easter Monday, 6 April 1752, Blandy was hanged outside Oxford Castle prison for the crime of parricide. Her case attracted a great deal of attention from the press; many pamphlets claiming to be the 'genuine account' of Mary Blandy were published in the months following her execution. Scarce to market; only one copy recorded at auction, incomplete, and within a sammelband of other works.



5. (French Revolution.) [MARIE ANTOINETTE] *Authentic trial at large of Marie Antoinette, late Queen of France, before the Revolutionary Tribunal at Paris, on Tuesday, October 15, 1793... Printed for Chapman & Co., 1793, second edition, with a delicately hand-coloured portrait frontispiece, tipped onto the recto of the frontispiece is a somewhat crude depiction of a guillotine execution about to take place (140 x 155 mm, folded), frontispiece a little foxed, slight browning spotting, last page loose, pp. 92, 8vo, [together with:] Short account of the revolt and massacre which took place in Paris, On the 10th of August 1792. With A Variety of Facts relating to Transactions previous to that Date, which throw Light on the real instigators Of those horrid and premeditated Crimes. To which is prefixed A Plan of the Palace of the Thuilleries, and its Environs [...] Printed for John Stockdale, 1792, with engraved frontispiece, offset onto title, half-title almost loose; pp. 42, 8vo, both disbound (ESTC T96760 and T63174). £500*



Two examples of the instant print reaction in London to events unfolding in Paris in October 1793. The deposed queen Marie Antoinette was tried by the Revolutionary Tribunal on 14 October, having been given less than one day to prepare her defence. Among the accusations, many previously published in the libelles, were: orchestrating orgies in Versailles, sending millions of livres of treasury money to her family in Austria, planning the massacre of the *gardes françaises* in 1792, declaring her son to be the new King of France, and incest, a

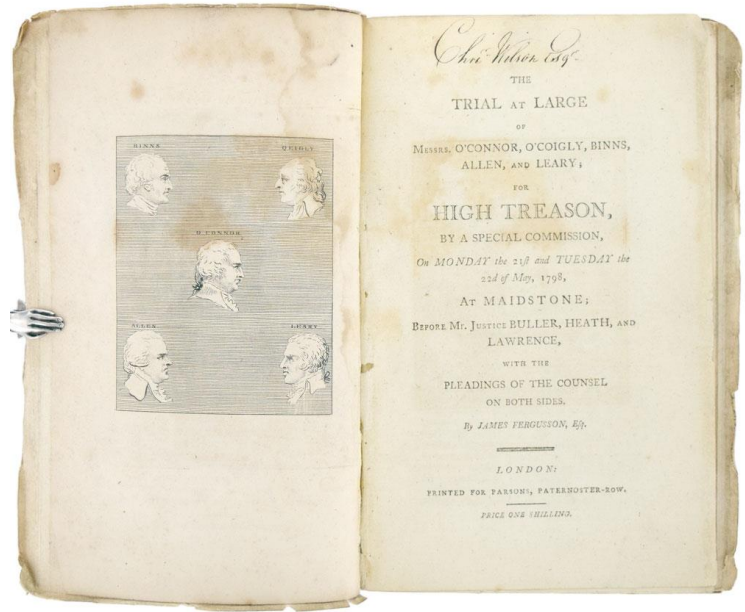
charge made under duress by her son Louis Charles.

She was guillotined two days after her trial, on 16 October 1793. The present works include ‘private interrogations’ which predated the trial, as well as an overview of the trial itself. While salacious, the present work reflects the general abhorrence with which her execution was met in Britain: The murder of the Queen of France is, with out example, the most cowardly, as well as the most atrocious act that ever was perpetrated’. *The Trial* went through 3 editions before the end of the year (none of them terribly common in ESTC). The guillotine print (above) appeared in other publications at the time.

**6. (Trial. United Irishmen.)** *The Trial at Large of Arthur O'Connor, Esq. John Binns, John Allen, Jeremiah Leary, and James Coigley, for High Treason...* on Monday the 21st and Tuesday the 22d of May, 1798, at Maidstone;... By James Fergusson. *Printed for Parsons, [?1798], with an engraved portrait frontispiece (profile heads of the suspects), damp-stain at the beginning, pp. 51, 8vo, old marbled wrappers, paper label on upper cover titled in ink, another pamphlet possibly removed from binding, neat signature at head of title of Chri[stophe]r Wilson, sound.* (ESTC T179161). **£750**

‘The Binns brothers were closely involved with both Arthur O'Connor, editor of *The Press*, the semi-official paper of the United Irishmen, and Father James Coigley, a Catholic priest who acted as an emissary from the United Irishmen to both France and the United Englishmen. Early in 1798 John travelled to Kent seeking to arrange passage to France for O'Connor and Coigley. On 28 February he was arrested in Margate, together with O'Connor, Coigley, and their two servants. Charged with high treason, the five were imprisoned in the Tower of London before being tried at the assizes held in Maidstone in May. Leading members of the parliamentary opposition testified on O'Connor's behalf and the government

was reluctant to reveal the origins of its secret information on the United Irishmen. As a result all were acquitted, except Coigley, who had been arrested with incriminating correspondence in his pocket, and who was executed on 7 June' (ODNB). Coigley (or Quigley)'s sentence was to be 'hanged, but not till he is dead; his heart and bowels to be taken out and burned before his face, his head to be severed from his body, and his body to be divided into four quarters.' Hanging, drawing and quartering was not abolished in England until the Forfeiture Act of 1870.

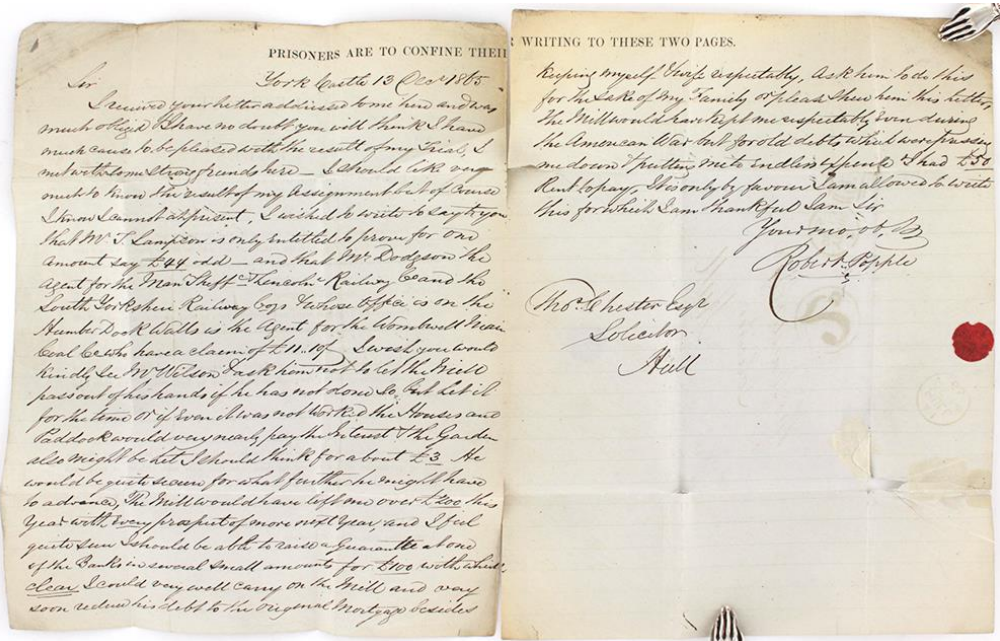


Various versions of this sensational trial were published in its immediate aftermath, both in England (London and Maidstone) and Ireland (Dublin and Cork). Of this particular edition ESTC records 5 copies, 2 in the UK (not in the BL), and 3 in Ireland.

**7. (York Debtors' Prison letter.) POPPLE (Robert) An Autograph Letter to his solicitor, on prison stationery.** 13th December 1865, written in black ink on prison paper, a bifolium with the rules for prisoner correspondence on the front page, the two ruled internal pages for the content of the letter (written 'on the line only, and on no account to cross them'), the rear with the address of Popple's solicitor in Hull, folded for sending with the postmarks for both despatch and receipt on successive days, pp. [4], 4to, a little grubby to edges, some splitting at folds, in a couple of instances leading to small tears, but with no loss of text, good condition. **£550**

An interesting document, sent from the Debtors' Prison at York Castle, where, before 1869, individuals could be imprisoned for commercial debt until it had been paid off – the fate befalling Robert Popple, a Yorkshire oil merchant.

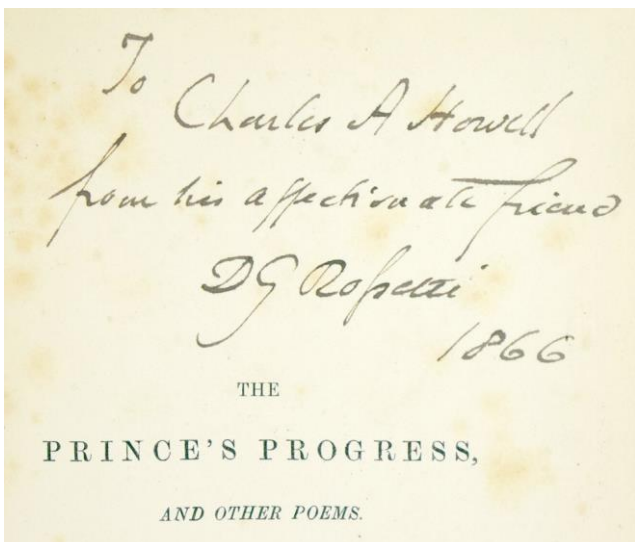
Popple's letter relates to his outstanding debts – the extent of which in relation to individual claimants he specifies – but principally discusses his anxiety over the fate of his Mill. He asks his solicitor, Thomas Chester in Hull, to 'see Mr Wilson & ask him not to let the Mill pass out of his hands', explaining that various parts of the land might be let in order to provide security. Popple is adamant that prospects are good – the Mill, he writes, 'would have left me over £200 this year with every prospect of more next year', keeping him 'respectably even during this American War' [i.e., the American Civil War], had it not been for 'old debts which were pressing me down'.



Of additional interest is the printed matter outlining the ‘Rules for the Guidance of Prisoners and Their Friends’: most refer to those incoming, requiring those corresponding with prisoners ‘not to contain any irrelevant matter, as news of the day, [...] improper advice, [...] or unbecoming language’, and of course restricts the sending of ‘Clothes, or other articles’.

Inscribed by D. G. Rossetti

8. **Rossetti (Christina) *The Prince's Progress, and Other Poems***. London: Macmillan, 1866, *FIRST EDITION*, wood engraved frontispiece and additional title-page from designs by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, light foxing to half-title, and at head of final few pages, pp. viii, 216, foolscap 8vo, original dark green cloth by Burn (his ticket to rear pastedown) with an overall design stamped in gilt incorporating lettering to the backstrip, lightly rubbed to extremities with a hint of fraying at head of upper joint, very good (Ashley Library Vol.IV, p.100-1: Colbeck p.689: Fredeman 44.4: Tinker 1786). **£10,000**



Inscribed by the illustrator, the poet’s brother, on the half-title: ‘To Charles A Howell, From his affectionate friend, D.G. Rossetti, 1866’.

Charles Augustus Howell (1840-1890) was one of the most notorious figures of his day, thinly fictionalized, and roundly vilified, by Arthur Conan Doyle in his story 'The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton', where he was decried as ‘the worst man in London’. Burne-Jones called him ‘a base, treacherous, unscrupulous and malignant fellow’, and Swinburne labelled Howell ‘the vilest wretch I ever came across’. Swinburne,

like Ruskin, was one of those who had for a time been seduced by the abundant charm and nous of this art dealer and alleged blackmailer. He was an agent to both, and whilst in their

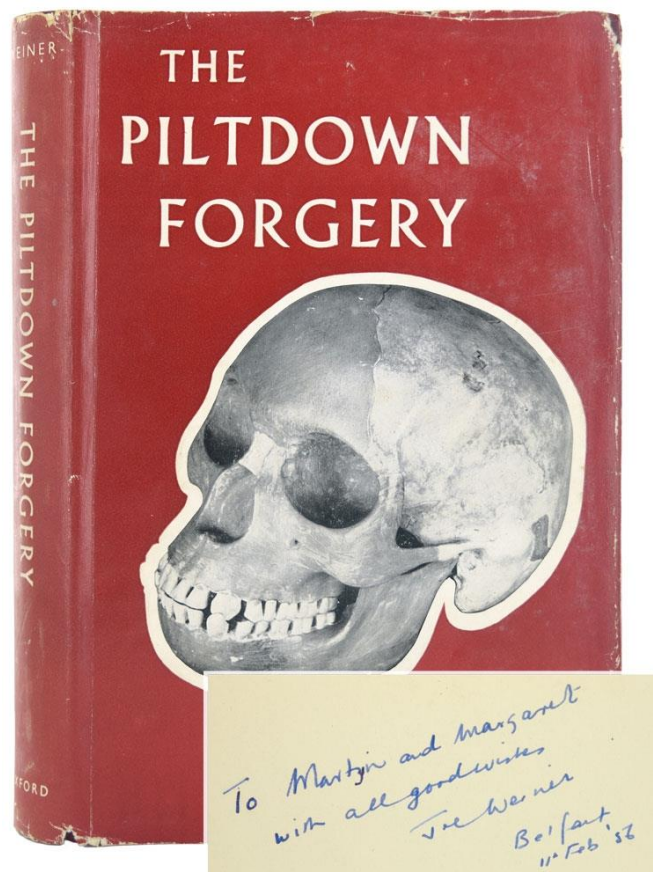
favour was utterly in their confidence, a position he seems never to have failed to abuse. Whistler was another who admired, and harnessed, Howell's flamboyant approach to business and life, before gaining an insight into his chicanery. But no-one came under his sway, or suffered from his machinations, more sharply than Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Rossetti painted Howell's portrait, and the latter was for a time amongst the most intimate of the artist's circle. This inscription dates from those years; a few years later, Howell would provide the means of exhuming from Lizzie Siddal's grave the poems that Rossetti had buried with her - the act upon which a large part of his notoriety rests.

Howell died in mysterious circumstances; he was found in Chelsea with his throat slit and a coin in his mouth. Private correspondence of prominent persons were found in his home, which lead to increased speculation that he had been engaged in blackmail.

9. (Piltdown hoax.) LEWIS ABBOTT (W.J.) 3 offprints, comprising:- - 'The Ossiferous Fissures in the Valley of the Shode near Igtham, Kent' [followed by 'The Vertebrate Fauna collected by Mr. Lewis Abbott from the Fissure near Igtham, Kent, by E.T.Newton], from The Journal of the Geological Society of London, Vol. 50, Part 2, No. 198 (1894)
- 'The Prehistoric Races of Hastings' (Reprinted from the Saint Paul's Magazine), 1894
  - 'The Geology & Prehistoric Races of the Hastings District', Oxford: Horace Hart, n.d. [circa 1912?] *Oxford and London: various, 1894- 1912, the first with 6 figures and 2 plates at rear, the second with frontispiece photograph of found objects, the third with single illustration to the text, pp. 170-212; 12; 8, various size 8vos, various size 8vos, the first bound in plain wrappers backed with cloth-tape, the others in original stapled wrappers, these a little chipped, good condition. £400*

[With:] Weiner (J.S.) The Piltdown Forgery. [Second printing.] Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press, 1955, 8 monochrome plates, pp. xii, 214, crown 8vo, original maroon boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, dustjacket a little chipped, very good.

Weiner's book is inscribed by the author on the initial blank: 'To Martin [corrected to Martyn] and Margaret, with all good wishes, Joe Weiner, Belfast, 11th Feb '56'. The recipient, as a letter from Weiner (headed to the Department of Human Anatomy, University Museum, Oxford) laid into the first article clarifies, was Dr E.M. Jope, Oxford archaeologist – a graduate of Oriel College and sometime secretary and president of the Oxford University Archaeological Society – subsequently transplanted to Belfast in 1949, where he was a lecturer and





professor in the subject for the remainder of his career. This group of material indicates his natural interest in this major case of paleoanthropological fraud, in which bone fragments were presented as fossilised remains of a previously unknown human species - the 'missing link' in evolutionary biology.

In his book, Weiner documents some of the activities of 'that remarkable amateur geologist of St. Leonards-on-Sea, the jeweller Lewis Abbott' (p. 96), and his significance in relation to the Piltdown discoveries of his associate Charles Dawson – a role sufficiently integral to lead Lewis Abbott to declare 'no Lewis Abbott, no Piltdown', whilst the first wave of excitement at the find was still cresting; inevitably, this has subsequently led to this 'fiery, bombastic, inspiring, and weird character' (p. 104) being regarded by some (see particularly, Charles Blinderman) as more than simply influential and actually the perpetrator of the hoax. This trio of scarce articles provide some account of the work that Lewis Abbott felt had paved the way for Dawson; in the case of the second, it also – in the advertisements for his business as a jeweller and watchmaker that adorn the covers – puts this sideline into relation with his profession.

**10. Lytton (Constance, a.k.a. Jane Warton, Spinster) Prisons & Prisoners: Some Personal Experiences.** With Portraits. *London: William Heinemann, [1914,] FIRST EDITION, tissue-guarded frontispiece photographic portrait of Lytton, further plate with photograph of the same as Jane Warton, pp. xi, 337, [1], 16 [Publisher's list], crown 8vo, original purple cloth, backstrip sunned with lettering dulled, lean to spine, the W.S.P.U. motif to upper board stamped in green and white, trifle rubbed at extremities, a few faint spots to edges, inscription and small sticker with numeral at head of flyleaf, good.* **£650**

An important work by the suffragette Lady Constance Georgina Bulwer-Lytton (1869–1923), who assumed an alternate identity as a working-class spinster named Jane Warton in order to investigate the treatment of low-income women in English prisons. She documents her arrest and incarceration, highlighting the appalling treatment of suffragettes, and the brutality of force-feeding, which was meted out in response to an organised hunger-strike.

