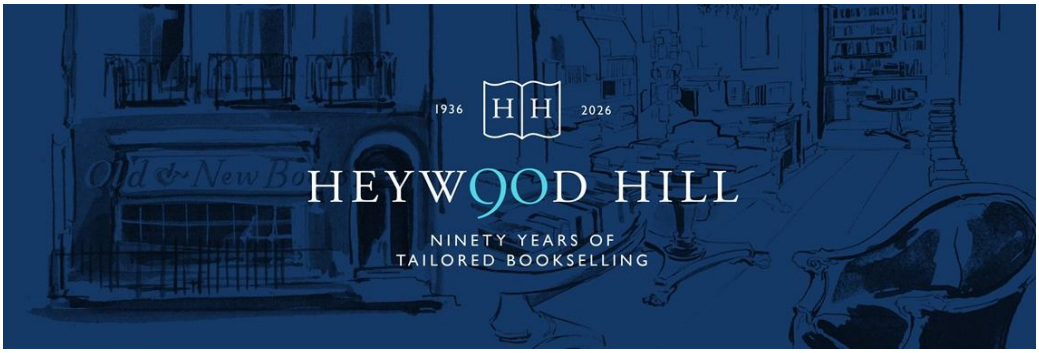


H.G. Wells

1. WELLS, H.G. **Select Conversations with an Uncle (now extinct)**

London John Lane 1895

First edition, the author's first non-scientific work, one of about 650 copies published as number III of The Mayfair Set, comprising pieces from The Pall Mall Gazette. Unusually with a complete set of advertisements at the rear. Most copies had p.5/6 excised because of the misspelling of Edmund Gosse as Edmund Goose

8vo., original watered silk lettered in gilt on spine. Spine a little darkened otherwise a very good copy.

[40126] **£395**

2. WELLS, H.G. **The Stolen Bacillus and Other Incidents**

London Methuen & Co 1895

First edition of Wells's first collection of Science Fiction stories. A collection of fifteen short stories of fantasy and science fiction. Published the same years as *The Time Machine.* With the bookplate of Neville Thomas. with 32-page publisher's catalogue dated "September 1895" in rear.

8vo., original blue cloth titled and decorated in gilt to the spine and upper board. A very bright good copy.

[40127] **£995**

3. WELLS, H.G. **The Wonderful Visit**

London J.M. Dent & Co 1895

First edition, first issue with "eader" for "reader" on p.198.

8vo., original red cloth with gilt angel block on front board. A very good copy.

The Wonderful Visit tells how an angel spends a little more than a week in southern England. He is at first mistaken for a bird because of his dazzling polychromatic plumage, for he is "neither the Angel of religious feeling nor the Angel of popular belief," but rather "the Angel of Italian art." As a result, he is hunted and shot in the wing by an amateur ornithologist, the Rev. K. Hilyer, the vicar of Siddermoton, and then taken in and cared for at the vicarage.

[40110] **£495**

4. WELLS, H.G. **The Invisible Man**

London Arthur Pearson 1897

First edition.

8vo., Publisher's red cloth, decoratively stamped in black and lettered in gilt. Spine sunned, a little inoffensive staining to lower board, otherwise a very good, bright, and noticeably clean copy.

Probably the most famous of Wells's 'scientific romances', in which a scientist finds a way of turning himself invisible without the means to make himself visible again. Wells explores the morality of being able to go unseen as it causes the protagonist to become mentally unstable.

[40058] **£3750**

5. WELLS, H.G. **The Plattner Story and Others**

London Methuen & Co 1897

First edition. One of Wells's more uncommon books, this collection includes many of his best Science Fiction and fantasy tales. Comprising ghost stories, tales of horror and even a cautionary tale about an apple

8vo., original red cloth lettered in gilt on spine and upper board. A little darkening to spine otherwise a very good copy.

[40109] **£995**

6. WELLS, H.G. **A Year of Prophesying**

London T. Fisher Unwin Ltd 1924

First edition. “This book consists of a year of journalistic writing, 55 articles altogether.”

8vo., original cloth lettered in gilt on spine. Neat ink inscription, otherwise a very good copy.

[40234] **£75**

7. WELLS, H.G. **The Works Of H. G. Wells. The Essex Thin Paper Edition**

London Published by Ernest Benn 1926-7

The Essex Thin Paper edition in twenty four volumes. With an additional volume *Joan and Peter* bound to style but not printed on thin paper

8vo. 7 x 4.25 inches, 25 volumes in original cloth, spines richly gilt. Preserved in a custom-made slipcase.

Starting in 1926 the collected thin paper edition ceased publication in 1927 after 24 volumes were issued. Ernest Benn continued using the binding format without the thin paper, and issued further editions of Wells' novels - they are notably fatter due to the standard paper thickness being used, as shown in copy of *Joan and Peter* added to this set.

The set comprises:

1 The History of Mr. Polly.

2. Kipps.

3. The New Machaivelli.

4. The Invisible Man.

5. The Food of the Gods.

6. The Stolen Bacillus.

7. Tono Bungay.

8. The First Men in the Moon.

9. Love and Mr. Lewisham.

10. The Sleeper Awakes.

11.Twelve Stories and a Dream.

12. In the Days of the Comet.

13. The War of the Worlds.

14. The Island of Dr. Moreau.

15. The Plattner Story and Others.

16. The Time Machine and other Stories.

17. Tales of Time and Space.

18, Ann Veronica.

19. Bealby.

20. The Passionate Friends.

21. The Sea Lady.

22. Marriage.

23. The World Set Free.

24. The Research Magnificent.

25. Joan and Peter

[39292] **£995**

8. WELLS, H.G. **The Adventures of Tommy**

London George G. Harrap 1929

First UK trade edition. “Many years ago Mr Wells was lying ill at the house of a friend, and complained of feeling bored. A box of paints, found in the children’s room, was given to him at the suggestion of his wife, and a few days later Mr Wells produced this amusing story with its quaint illustrations, dedicated to his friend’s daughter.” This edition show the original manuscript text and illustrations facing the printed text.

4to., original cloth backed yellow paper covered board, with (later variant?) red dust wrapper. A little chipping and sunning to wrapper, otherwise a very good copy.

[39960] **£95**

9. MAUGHAM, William Somerset **The Vagrant Mood. Six Essays**

London, William Heinemann, 1952

First edition, edition de luxe, limited to 500 numbered copies signed by the author.

8vo. quarter white calf binding over blue calf boards, ruled in gilt and embossed to upper cover with publisher's device; contrasting black leather label to spine; upper edge gilt, else untrimmed; in the original slipcase. Just a little rubbing to head and tail of spine, otherwise a very good, partially unopened, copy

"The Vagrant Mood" is a collection of literary essays. From Kant to Raymond Chandler; from the legend of Zurbaran to the art of the detective story; and, from Burke to Augustus Hare. With character sketches of Henry James, H.G. Wells and Arnold Bennett

[39679] **£395**

10. [H.G. WELLS] MEYER, M.M. **H.G. Wells and his Family (As I have known them) With a Preface by F.R. Wells**

Edinburgh International Publishing Co. [1955]

First edition, warmly inscribed by the author to Anne Gathorne Hardy, later Anne Hill “A Anne mon ancienne élève et chère amie qui, (hélas pour moi) m’a éclipsée totalement, quand nous avons fait notre coup d’assai litéraire, presque simultanement!! Avec souvenir affectieux de sa vielle ‘Mademoiselle’(M.M. Meyer) Londres le 30 April 1956”

8vo., original brown cloth with dust wrapper Illustrated with black and white photographs. Large chip to head of spine of wrapper, otherwise a very good copy.

“Mis M.M. Meyer was the first and only governess of the two sons of H.G. Wells. In this book she writes of her experiences in the household of that remarkable man and gives us glimpses of characteristics not touched upon by other writers. The attractiveness of the volume is enhanced by the reproductions of sketches by H.G. Wells and others, and by photographs of special interest.”

An appealing copy inscribed to another of her pupils Anne Gathorne Hardy.

[37508] **£195**