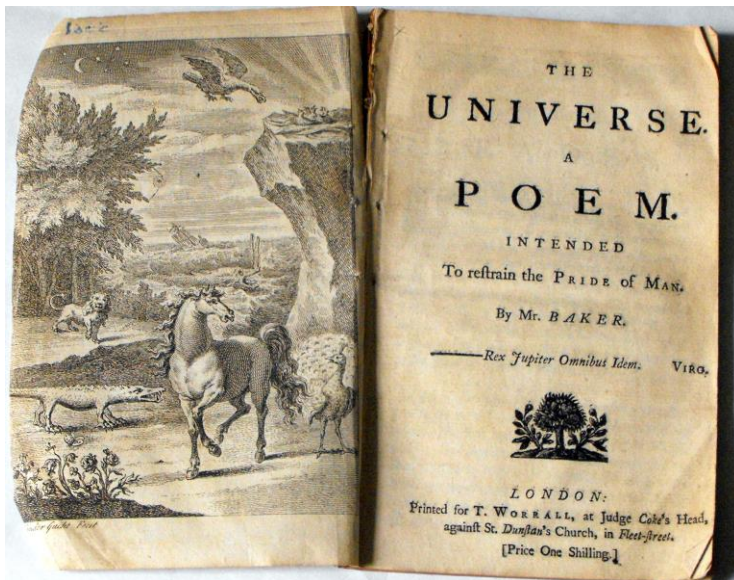


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**POETRY IN ENGLISH, INCLUDING TRANSLATIONS 1734 – 1854**  
**25 ITEMS, 3 MARCH 2022**  
**PRICES IN POUNDS STERLING, POSTAGE EXTRA**

**1 BAKER (Henry): The Universe. A Poem. Intended To restrain the Pride of Man.**



By Mr. Baker. London: Printed for T. Worrall..., [no date] [1734]. 8vo, 187 x 117 mms., pp. 8, 40 [41 - 48 adverts], engraved frontispiece (detaching at upper margin); disbound; corners creased. **£250**

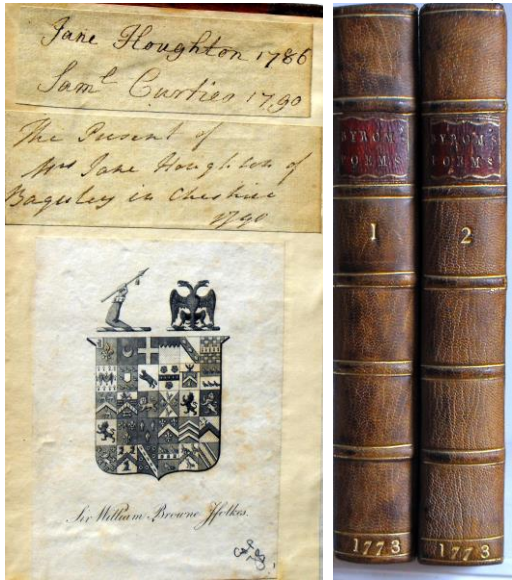
Baker (1698 - 1774) will be remembered by collectors and scholars as the author of two books on the microscope, *The Microscope Made Easy* (1742) and *Employment for the Microscope* (1753). Later editions of this work put the word "Philosophical" before "Poem."

The work was reprinted several

times in the 18th century and in 1808, with notes by A. Crocker, with the reviewer in *The Annual Review and History of Literature* for 1809 commenting that "The versification of Mr. Baker is of the good old school, that of Dryden and Prior. Though somewhat negligent, it has in parts a force and freedom which followers of Pope have vainly endeavoured to unite with their more regular harmony."

*ODNB* in its article on Baker refers an edition of 1727 as the first publication of the poem. *ESTC* does not list this edition. *OCLC* refers to a digital version "Printed for T. Morrall sic]" published in 1727 and 19840508 locates three copies, Colorado at Denver, Michigan, and Princeton. These copies are also undated and lack the adverts. However, 1727 as a conjectural date is probably wrong. See G. R. Potter's note on the dating of the work in *Modern Philology* (1932), 29, 3; 301 -321.

**2 BYROM (John):** *Miscellaneous Poems*. Manchester: Printed by J. Harrop, 1773. FIRST EDITION. 2 volumes. 8vo, 193 x 109 mms., pp. [ii], vi, 352; [ii], vi, 351 [352 blank], 2 engraved vignette head-pieces, contemporary sheepskin, neatly rebacked with old red morocco labels preserved. A very good set with the armorial bookplate of Sir William Browne Ffolkes (probably the second baronet, 1786 - 1860, and MP 1830 - 1837) on the front paste-down end-paper of each volume; and two earlier inscriptions in each volume, viz., “Jane Houghton 1786/ Saml Curteis 1790” and “The present of Mrs. Jane Houghton of Babuley in Cheshire/ 1790.” **£350**



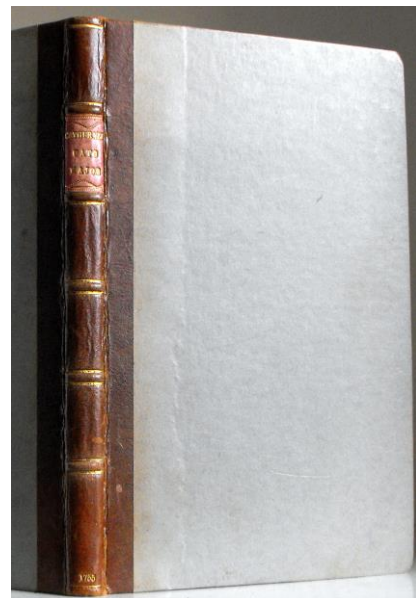
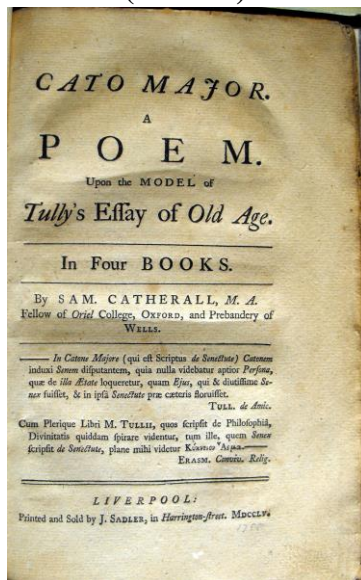
Byrom’s subjects are nothing if not eclectic, e. g., inoculation, John Brown’s *Estimate*, a quarrel between Conyers Middleton and Warburton, the fall of man, a future state, though a larger number of the poems are either hymns or on religious themes. The well-known hymn, “Christians

Awake, Salute the Happy Morn” also appears here (II, 58), as well as the six-line epigram, composed in 1725, on the feuds between Handel and Bononcini, ending, “Strange all this Difference should be, /’Twixt Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee!” Byrom (1692 - 1763) perhaps had less musical acumen than he had skill for a system of shorthand, which was used by John and Charles Wesley, David Hartley, Horace Walpole, and prominent members of the aristocracy.

**3 CICERO. CATHERALL (Samuel):** *Cato Major. A Poem. Upon the Model of*

*Tully’s Essay of Old age*. Liverpool: Printed and Sold by J. Sadler..., 1755. 8vo, 223 x 132 mms., pp. x, 11 - 96, uncut, recently recased in quarter calf, red morocco label, plain boards. A very good copy. **£450**

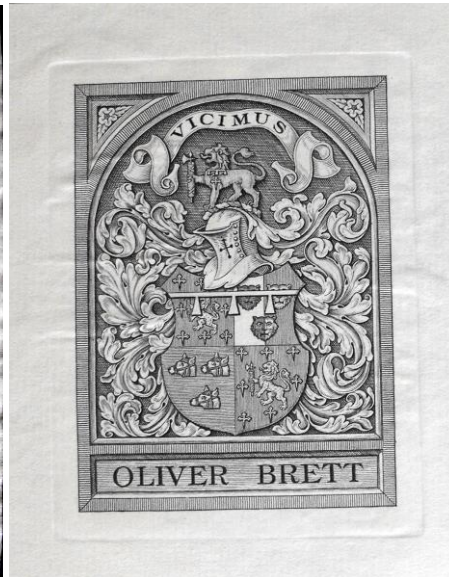
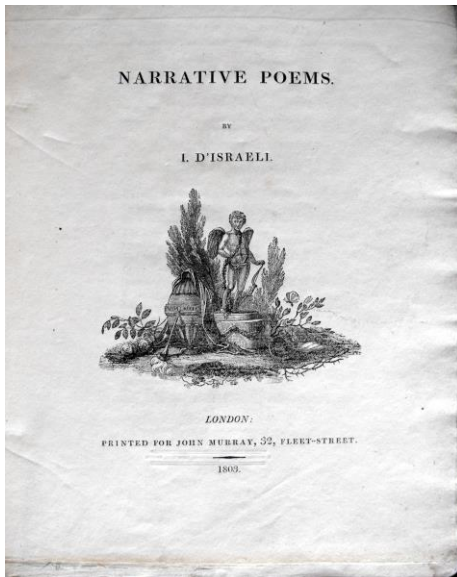
This poem by Samuel Catherall (?1661 - 1723) was published in 1725, probably printed by Samuel Richardson. Little seems to be known about him, though he was



probably a churchman of some sort. He published a sermon on the death of the Right Honourable the Lady Viscountess Dowager Cholmondeley in 1692 as well as a poem about the end of the world entitled, *An Essay on the Conflagration* in 1720.

ESTC locates four copies: BL, Liverpool Central, Liverpool University, University of Otago Central Library; Copac adds several more UK libraries.

**4 D'ISRAELI (Isaac): Narrative Poems.** London: Printed for John Murray..., 1803.



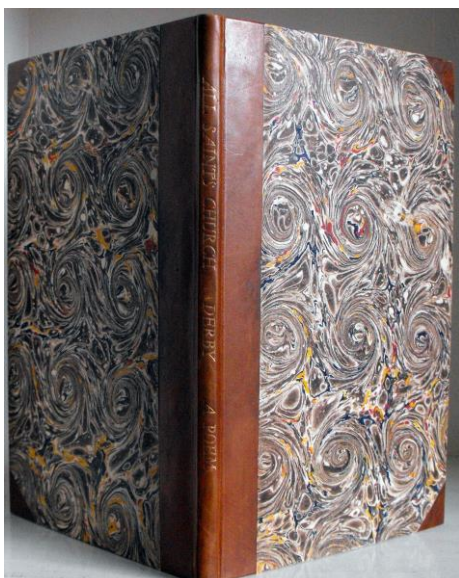
FIRST AND ONLY EDITION. 4to, 245 x 190 mms., pp. [vi], 55 [56 colophon], uncut, original boards with title printed on front cover, contained in a linen box; covers soiled, edges a bit soiled, front cover holding by one cord, extremities worn, bookplate of Oliver Brett on front paste-down end-paper.

**£350**

The volume consists of three narrative poems, which constitute, as James Ogden says in his *ODNB* article, “his most ambitious work...; [but] his neo-classical manner was by then hopelessly outmoded, but being a poet of sorts himself he had a sympathetic understanding of the poetical temperament.” Contemporary notices were not enthusiastic, and even the most favourably-disposed reviewers struggled to compliment D’Israelie, e. g., the notice in James Cobb’s *The Monthly Mirror* for 1803: “As it would be difficult for a labour of considerable magnitude to add to Mr. D’I.’s reputation as an author of taste and ingenuity, we cannot promise him much increase, from this little work, to that which he has so deservedly acquired; but if it cannot be said to enter into and augment the great bulk of his merit, we may safely venture to foretell, that it will hang on the more solid body of his fame, like one of those jewels, those *eximia*, which Nature so powerfully recommends by their excessive rarity.”

**TWO COPIES LOCATED**

**5 EDWARDS (John): All-Saints' Church, Derby: A Poem.** Derby: Printed and Sold



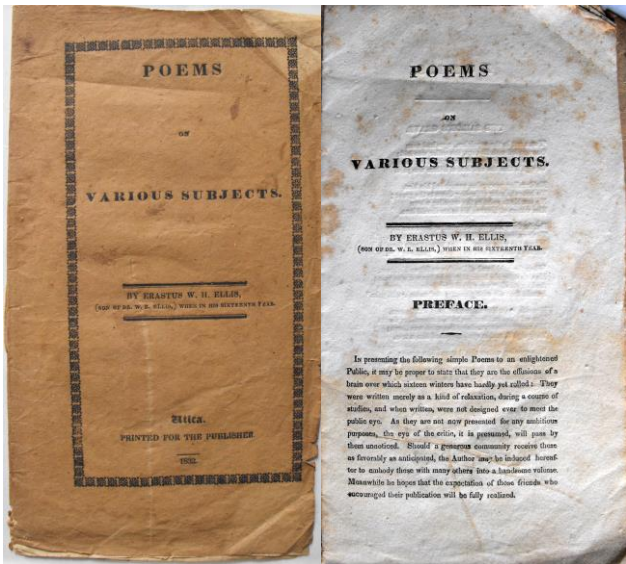
by John Drewry, for the Author. Sold also by Messrs. Rivington’s, St. Paul’s Church Yard, London. 1805. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION. 8vo (in 2s), 213 x 124 mms., pp. viii, 44, including list of subscribers, engraved frontispiece (“Drawn & Engraved by H. Moore”), last leaf appears to have been remounted, recent half calf, title in gilt on spine, marbled boards; lacks the second plate between pages 38 and 39, with a visible stub.

**£250**

Edwards dedicates his poem to the minister of All Saints Church, Derby, Charles Stead Hope, who subscribed for six copies

Uncommon: OCLC locates copies in BL and University of California, Davis only. Copac adds Nottingham.

**6 ELLIS (Erastus Winter Hewett): Poems on Various Subjects.** By Erastus W. H.



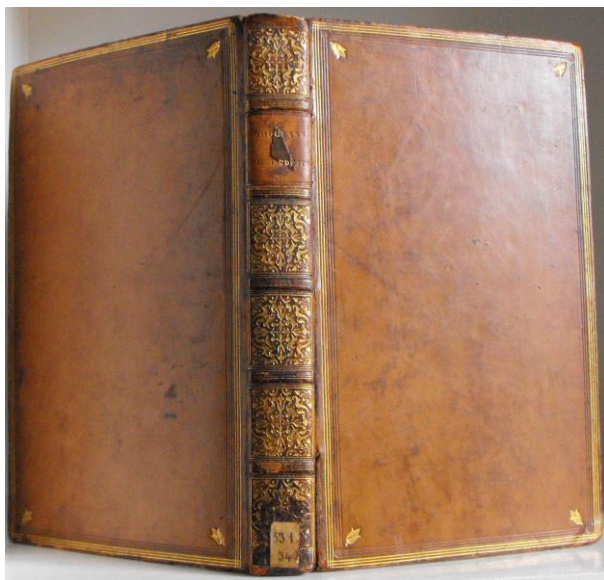
Ellis, (Son of Dr. W. R. Ellis,) When in His Sixteenth Year. Utica [New York] Printed for the Publisher, 1832. Large 12mo, 242 x 138 mms, pp. 12, paper wrappers (soiled and frayed), title, author, and publication within crooked border, no title-page (none called for), stitched as issued; a bit knocked about, but a fair to good copy of a very curious item. **£450**

The author was a well-known historical figure. Born in New York State, but later prominent in Indiana, Erastus Winter Hewett Ellis (1815-1876) was the son of Dr. William Robinson Ellis (1784-1839), the “Dr. W. R. Ellis” mentioned on the cover of the book. In *The History of Elkhart County, Indiana* (1881), Erastus W. H. Ellis, when still living, was

celebrated as “one of the most notable citizens” of the county (pp. 935-938, p. 935). After his death, the *Indiana Magazine of History* published his memoir from manuscript, titling it, “An Autobiography of a Noted Pioneer.” Interestingly, in his poem, apparently written when he was 15, “The Indian’s Lament,” Ellis sides entirely with the Indians, the First Nations. Some poems touch on Ellis’s father or grandfather serving with General Washington in the Revolutionary War.

No copy in WorldCat, COPAC, KVK, British Library, or Library of Congress. There is no copy in Columbia University Libraries (CLIO), New York University Libraries (BobCat), or NYPL. It is also not in the Library of the American Antiquarian Society. <[https://www.in.gov/library/files/S419\\_Ellis\\_E\\_H\\_W\\_Papers.pdf](https://www.in.gov/library/files/S419_Ellis_E_H_W_Papers.pdf)>, and here, <<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/imh/article/download/5872/5465/0>>. The former source seems to suggest that it was his father who served under Washington; the latter appears to suggest it was actually his grandfather.

**7 FORTEGUERRI (Nicolo), Bishop of Ancyra: The First Canto of Ricciardetto**



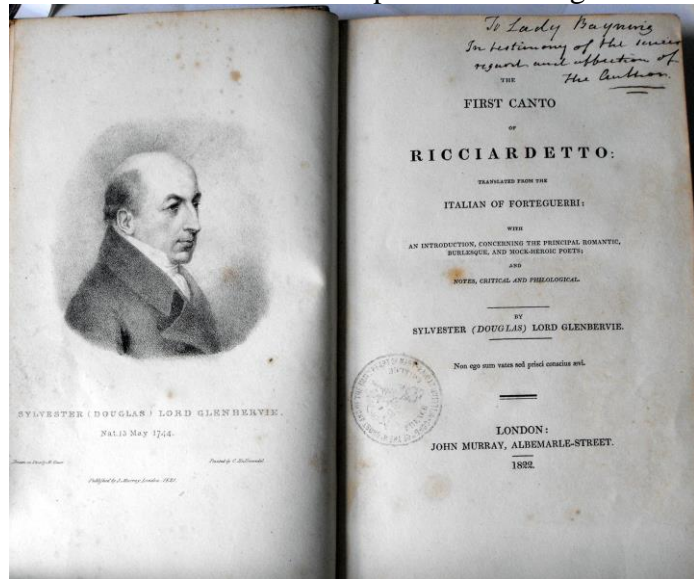
Translated from the Italian of Forteguerrri: with an introduction, concerning the principal romantic, burlesque, and mock-heroic poets; and notes, critical and philological. By Sylvester (Douglas) Lord Glenberrie. London: John Murray..., 1822. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION of this translation. Large 8vo, 217 x 130 mms., pp. xxvii [xxviii blank], 232 [233 blank, 234 colophon], including half-title, engraved portrait frontispiece of Glenberrie, 2 other engraved portraits, and two other engraved plates, contemporary calf, gilt borders on covers, spine richly gilt, all edges gilt; lacks label; upper and lower portions of joints very slightly

cracked, top and base of spine slightly chipped, lacks label, library stamp on title-page, but a good to very good copy, with the following presentation inscription on the top margin of the

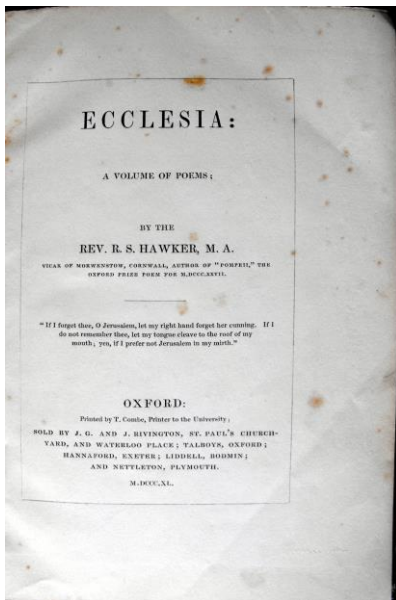
title-page: "To Lady Baynerig/ In testimony of the sincere/ regard and affection of/ the Author."

£350

Lord Glenbervie (1743 - 1823) has endeared himself to oenologists everywhere, with his first publication, an account of Tokay published in 1773 in *Philosophical Transactions*, after he visited Hungary. He distinguished himself otherwise as a politician and government minister, making oodles of money from various enterprises, including his marriage to Catherine Anne North (1760–1817), to whom he had been introduced by Lord Sheffield, and who was the eldest daughter of Frederick North, second Earl of Guilford (1732–1792). He planned to publish a biography of Lord North; it never appeared, and this was his last publication. *The Monthly Review* commented that "Lord Glenbervie is truer to his original in every sense of poetic truth; and, consequently, he is far better calculated to give the English reader a just idea of the merits and of the peculiar manner of Forteguerrri."



**8 HAWKER (Robert Stephen): Ecclesia: A Volume of Poems, by the Rev. R. S.**



Hawker, M. A. Oxford: Printed by T. Combe...; Sold by J. G. and J. Rivington...[inter alia], 1840 FIRST EDITION. later reback; binding slightly worn, but a very good copy, with the bookplate of Francis Frederick Fox on the front paste-down end-paper, and an ink inscription on the recto of the front free end-paper, "Ex libris/ P. H. Bossier/ Coll: Exon:/ Oct 19th/ 1843."

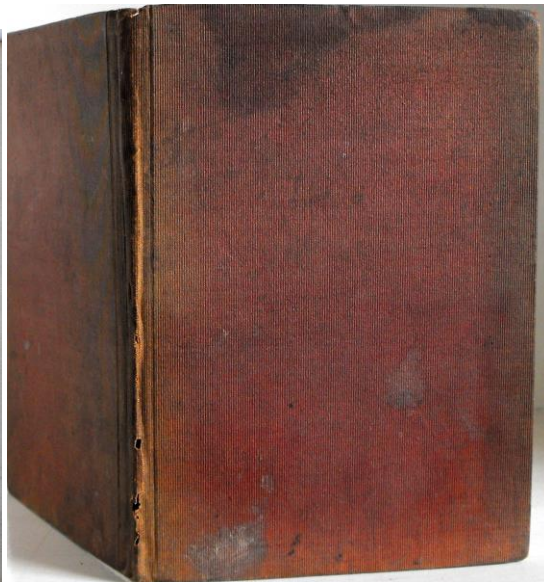
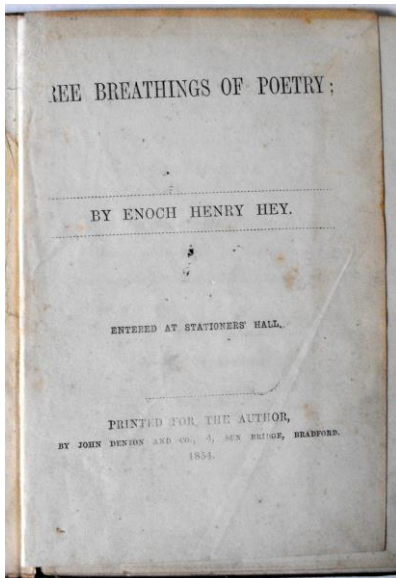
£350

Hawker (1803 - 1875) was an Anglican priest, noted for his determination to give Christian burials to seaman who died in shipwrecks. He had two interesting marriages: at the age of 19, he married Charlotte Eliza I'ans, who was 41. She died in 1863, and in the following year

he married Pauline Kuczynski, aged 20, by whom he had three daughters, Morwenna Pauline Hawker, Rosalind Hawker and Juliot Hawker. *Ecclesia* was noticed in *The Churchman's Monthly Review* for 1841: "This very handsome volume is merely a specimen, and that perhaps a favourable one, of the numerous imitators of Mr. Keble's *Christian Year*. We are induced to notice it on two grounds; - first, that it is rather above the ordinary run of such productions; and then, that it exhibits a clearer proof than most others, of the evil tendency of this style of thinking and writing." George Sainsbury said of his longest poem, *The Quest of the Snagrall* that as his "longest and most ambitious poem [it]perhaps just misses complete success."

Andrew Landale Drummond, "Parson Hawker of Morwenstow," in *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church*(June, 1964),

**9 HEY (Enoch Henry):** Free Breathings of Poetry; Entered at Stationers' Hall. Bradford Printed for the



Author, by John Denton and Co., 4, Sun Bridge, Bradford, 1854  
FIRST AND ONLY EDITION.  
Small 8vo, 156 x 109 mms., pp. [1 - iii], iv, [5] - 83 [84 Contents], original brown cloth (soiled), all edges gilt; title-page damaged, with imprint obscured, front free end-paper

removed, trace of first word of title on verso of remains of front free end-paper, shaken in casing.

**£300**

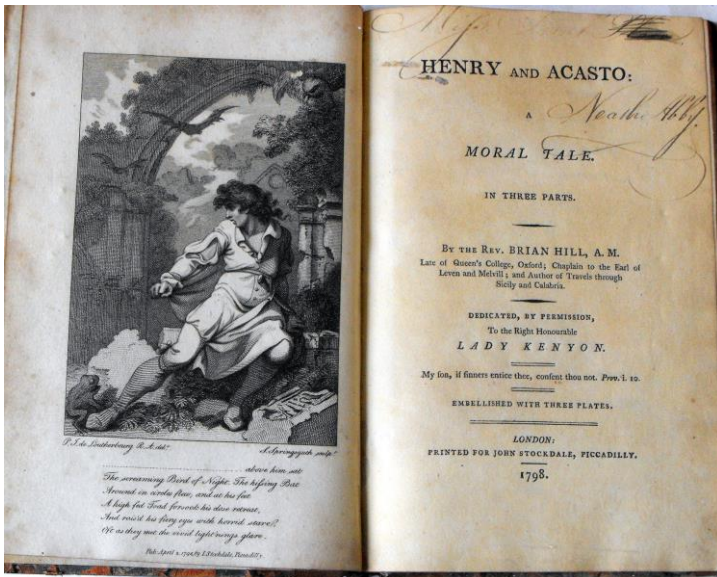
Hey describes himself as being born in 1833, but I have not found any record of his death. His longest poem (pp. 15 - 28) is entitled "Essay on Woman," though it is unlikely that the title is an allusion to John Wilkes' notorious poem (1763) of the same title. Most of the poems are written in heroic couplets. There is also an eight-page drama in verse titled, "The Council of Three: A Dramatic Scene.--From Roman History", with the three characters being "Augustus, Emperor of Rome; Agrippa, a Roman general; and Mecenas, a Minister of State", which spans pp. 47-54 of the book.

One copy located in BL.

**10 HILL (Brian), Rev.:** Henry and Acasto: A Moral Tale. In Three Parts. Dedicated, by Permission, To the Right Honourable Lady Kenyon. London: Printed for John Stockdale..., 1798. 8vo, pp. viii, [3], 12 - 115 [116 - 120 adverts], engraved frontispiece (by S. Springguth after P. J. Louthembourg) and two other engraved plates (by Stallard and Sanders), contemporary half calf, gilt spine, red morocco label, marbled boards (very slightly soiled); two plates closely cropped at lower margin, probably removing "Published as the act directs" information, joints a little creased, but a very good copy.

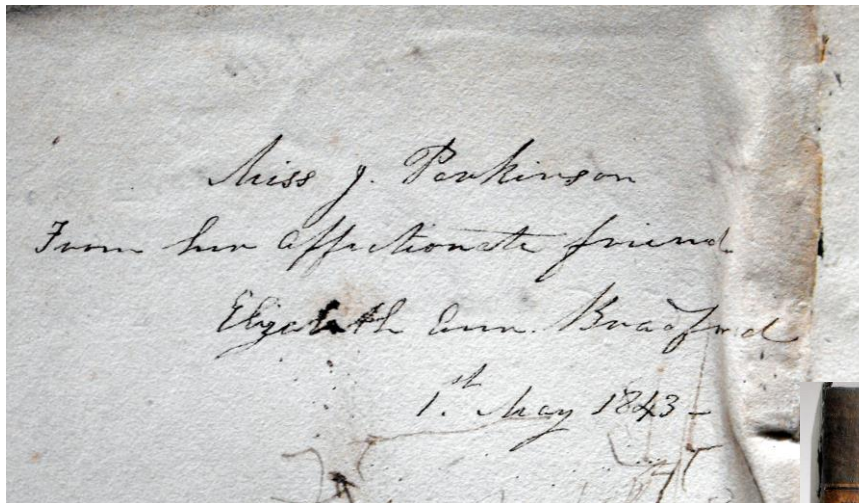
**£300**

Brian Hill (1755 or 1756 - 1831) published this first in, probably, 1786, though it was written in 1783. This edition is considerably expanded from editions published in 1786, which consisted of 44 pages of text and no illustrations.



**11 MARTYR STUDENT.** The Portfolio of the Martyr=Student. London: Printed for

Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, and Green..., 1830. **FIRST AND ONLY EDITION.** 12mo, 178 x 104 mms., pp. xxi [xxii blank], 191 [192 blank, 193 colophon leaf, 194 blank], uncut, original cloth



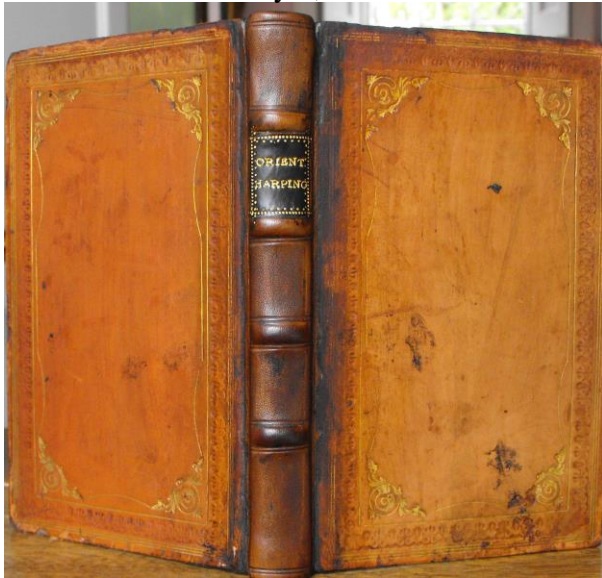
spine, green boards, paper label (soiled); binding a bit soiled, spine and joints rather carelessly repaired, but a goodish copy, with the bookplate of Percival F. Hinton on the front paste-down end-paper, with an inscription on the top margin of the recto of the front free end-paper, "John [?Piper]? box on Manderø/ with/ [illegible; preceding transcription not guaranteed]," and on the verso of that leaf, "Miss J. Parkinson/ From her affectionate friend/ Elizabeth Ann Bradford/ 1st July 1843." The papers of the journalist and local historian Percival Frank Hinton (1896-c1977) are held at the University of Birmingham. **£300**

*The Monthly Review* in 1830 noticed this work along with

several others: “The author...tells a romantic tale of the manner in which he came by the poems he now publishes. The writer of them, he would have us believe, was a German youth of intense poetical feeling, who, upon his removal to university, was so ambitious of distinguishing himself in his pursuits that he fell a martyr to them. This, of course, is a fiction..., [but] it may not be denied that they merit a high rank in the scale of minor poetry.”

**12 LAWSON (John):** Orient Harping: A Desultory Poem, in Two Parts. London: Printed for F. Westley..., 1820 FIRST EDITION. 12mo, 157 x 92 mms., pp. [v] viii - xi [xii blank], [3] 4 - 227 [228 adverts], contemporary calf, gilt borders on covers, rebaked in darker calf, black morocco label; some darkening of spine at joints.

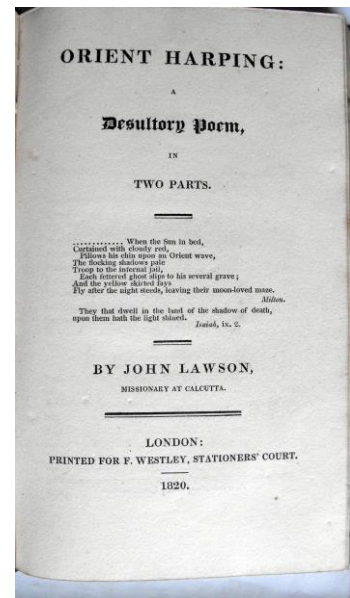
**£650**



John Lawson (1787 - 1825) was apprenticed to a wood engraver in London but later became a Baptist preacher and went to Philadelphia, where he published his first book, *The Maniac*, which is advertised on the verso of the last leaf of text in the present volume. From Philadelphia, he made his way to Calcutta, where his skills as an engraver enabled him to produce a cheap edition of the Bible. *Orient Harping* was

reviewed in *The Monthly Review* for 1820: “Here is a book full of that grotesque mixture of piety and profane jesting, which distinguished the speeches and writings of the Puritans of former days; and which is the characteristic of modern Methodists, both in and out of the Established Church. We have no means of knowing which class the present Calcutta missionary belongs: but he is certainly destitute of that solemn awe and reverence of feeling, when talking of religious subjects, which become a member of any church when so talking, and which are still more plainly suited to a professed propagator of our holy faith.” Mary Ellis Gibson, in *Anglophone Poetry in Colonial India, 1780-1913* (2011), when she asserts “Lawson seldom poetically indulged in a positive thought. Rather his experience of severe depression characterizing *The Maniac* colored all his poetry.”

*The Evangelical Magazine and Missionary Chronicle* (1826), pp. 202-203.





**13 MASON (William):** Poems by William Mason. Glasgow: Printed by Robert and Andrew Foulis, 1777. 2 volumes. 12mo (in 6s), 154 x 68 mms., pp. [iv], 139 [140 blank]; 229 [230 blank, 231 Contents, 232 blank], contemporary polished calf, spines ornately gilt, red morocco labels, marbled end-papers; spine very slightly rubbed but a very good copy, with the contemporary inscription on the recto of the front free end-papers, "Wm Hughes/ Cowards Academy/ Hoxton" and "P. F. Vernon/ 1959" underneath, on the recto of the front free end-paper, as well as a later "Wm. Hughes/ Widecomebe/ Isle of Wight" on the verso of the preceding leaf in volume 2.



**£250**

Gaskell 622; first issued in 1774.

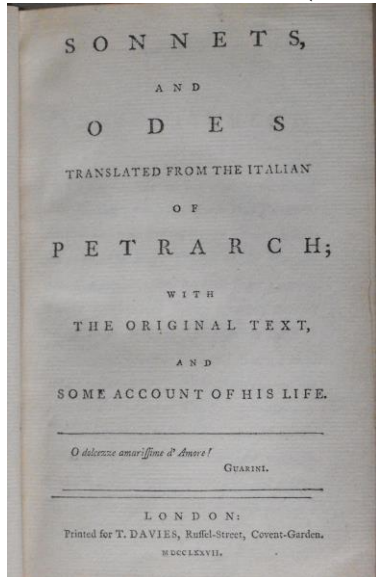
**14 NEWBERY (Francis):** Donum Amicis. Verses on Various Occasions By Francis Newbery, Esquire. London: Printed for the Author, by Thomas Davison..., 1815 FIRST EDITION. Tall 8vo, 196 x 125 mms., pp. [vi], 72, including half-title, printed on fine paper, uncut, original boards; spine defective, with loss of paper, boards still attached but loose. Inscribed on half-title, "John Hope Esqr/ From the Author." There are several John Hopes who might have received this from Newbery, but in this case, I don't think it is the military officer, Sir John Hope (1765 - 1836). I am, however, happy to be proved wrong. **£450**



The publisher Francis Newbery (1743 - 1818) started his life selling patent medicines, but turned to publishing on the death of his father, John Newbery (1713 - 1767). He was a gifted musician, keen on the violin and amateur theatricals, and his ambitions there were not helped by Samuel Johnson's remark "telling him that he had better give his fiddle to the first beggar-man he met, on the grounds that the time required for practice interfered with professional pursuits" (ODNB). William Crotch (1775 - 1841) set many of his poems to music, as did William Callcott. The present text contains a translation of the second epistle of Horace (with Latin text)

John Martin: *Bibliographical Catalogue of Books Privately Printed* (1834), p. 146.

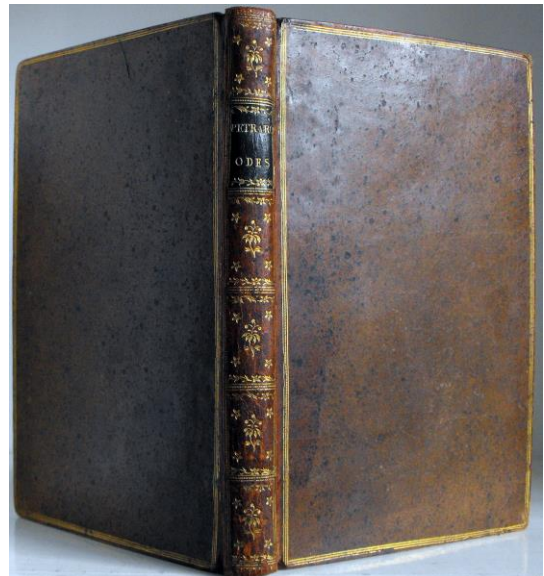
**15 PETRARCA (Francesco): Sonnets, and Odes Translated from the Italian of**



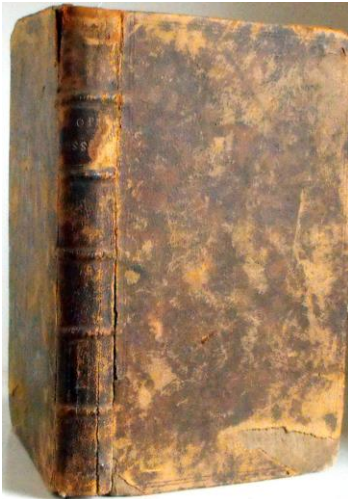
Petrarch; with original Text, and an Account of his Life. London: Printed for T. Davies..., 1787. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION of this translation. 8vo, 187 x 113 mms., pp. [iv], v - xxiii [xxiv blank], 105 [106 blank, 107 drop-title, 108 - 111 contents, 112 blank], cypher ownership initials with animal figure on recto of blank leaf before half-title, contemporary calf, spine ornately gilt to a floral motif, black leather label, gilt border on covers; closed tear in front free end-paper, earlier ownership bookplate on front paste-down end-paper damaged, spine slightly dried, joints slightly rubbed, but a very good copy. **£350**

Francesco Petrarca (1304 – 1374) is often called the “Father of Humanism,” but readers are more likely to remember that he gave up his vocation as a priest when he was attracted by the sight “Laura” in 1327 in the church of Sainte-Claire d'Avignon. He composed some 366 poems, *Il Canzoniere*,

thirty of which are here translated into English, along with three odes. In *Petrarch's Canzoniere 164: An Anthology of English Translations with a New Version* (1996), J. G. Nichols includes one of the translations in this volume, and suggests that the translator might be the physician and classical scholar John Nott (1751 - 1825), and the BL listing names Nott as the translator. Alas for any high hopes that the author might have had for his translation: the anonymous reviewer in the *Monthly Review* (1778) was not sympathetic: “To translate Petrarch is a task for the first poetical abilities, supported by the truest and most delicate judgement; but it is a task of the forbidding kind. Interwoven with the finest poetical imagery and sentiment, there are so many trifling conceits, that the labour of selection and exclusion would be at once tedious and difficult. The little that this author has done towards translating him, is done badly, and what he calls *Some Account* of the Author’s life, would disgrace the pen of an apothecary’s apprentice” (page 161). Perhaps the last two words are an oblique confirmation of Nott’s identity.



- 16 POPE (Alexander). URIE (Robert):** An Essay on Man. Carefully Corrected. Glasgow: Printed by R. Urie, 1754. 8vo (in 4s), 183 x 102 mms., pp. [ii], 220, including half-title.



**BOUND WITH:**

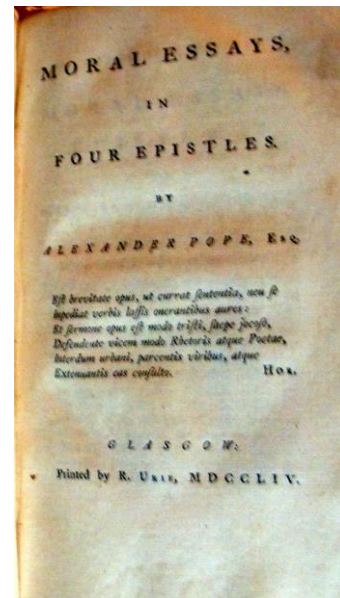
**POPE (Alexander):** Moral Essays, in Four Epistles. Glasgow: Printed by R. Urie, 1754. 8vo (in 4s), pp. [ii], 89 [90 adverts], including half-title;

**AND: POPE (Alexander):** An Essay on Criticism. Written in the Year 1709. Glasgow: Printed by R. Urie, 1754. 8vo (in 4s), pp. [ii], iii - v [vi blank], 7 - 60 [61 adverts, 62 blank]. 3 volumes in 1, bound in

contemporary sheepskin, very worn, joints cracked, some leather missing from covers, corner cut from front free end-paper. **£450**

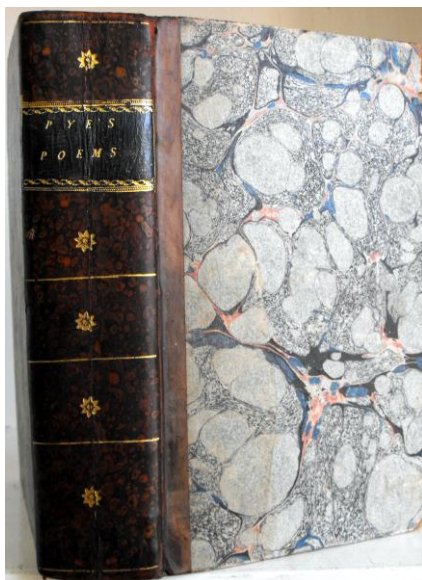
The adverts indicate that the volumes were printed in the same format, to be uniform with each other.

ESTC lists several copies of all three items in universities in these islands, but the only copies in North America are at Harvard.



**THE FIRST POEM IN ENGLISH TO CELEBRATE HOT-AIR BALLOONING**

- 17 PYE (Henry James):** Poems on Various Subjects. Ornamented with Frontispieces. London: Printed for John Stockdale..., 1787. FIRST COLLECTED EDITION. 2 volumes in 1. 8vo, 206 X 123 mms., pp. vi, 294; [iv], 335n [336 blank], engraved frontispiece of poetic muse in volume 1, engraved frontispiece of Faringdon Hill in volume 2, contemporary quarter calf, gilt spine, black morocco label, marbled boards, A very good copy. **£350**



Pye (1745 - 1813) is conventionally described as England's worst poet laureate, a post he held from 1790 until his death. However, he exhibited a range of abilities, as translator, literary theorist, and textual critic, that later laureates would not have been able to emulate. One of his more interesting poems is *Aerophorion*, first published in 1784, probably the first poem in English to celebrate hot-air ballooning. It is reprinted in volume 1 and commemorates "Mr. Sadler, the first English Aeronaut, [and his ascent] in his Balloon from the Physic Garden in Oxford, in November 1784." James Sadler (1753 - 1828) ascended on 4 October 1784 in a hot-air balloon to 3600 feet and landed some six miles away, having designed, built, and flown the balloon entirely by himself. There is also a poem on shooting, which was not a sport that attracted many poetic encomiums in the

18th century. The reviewer in *The Critical Review* for 1787, concluded, "our judgment is, that he possesses an eminent share of classical taste, that his diction is correct and elegant, and his numbers harmonious. His invention is not equal to his judgment; whatever he adopts he embellishes, and almost makes his own, by the propriety of its application, and felicity of his expression."

**THE ONLY LIFETIME EDITION  
OF RAMSAY'S VERSE PUBLISHED IN BERWICK**

**18 RAMSAY (Allan):** Poems on Several Occasions. Berwick: Printed by W. Phorson..., 1793. 2 volumes. 12mo (in 6s), 173 x 95 mms., pp. xii, 245 [246 blank, 247 - 248 Contents]; 198 [199 - 200 Contents], contemporary sheepskin, spines richly gilt (but faded and rubbed), red morocco labels; joints slightly cracked, more severely on volume 2, tops and base of spines chipped.



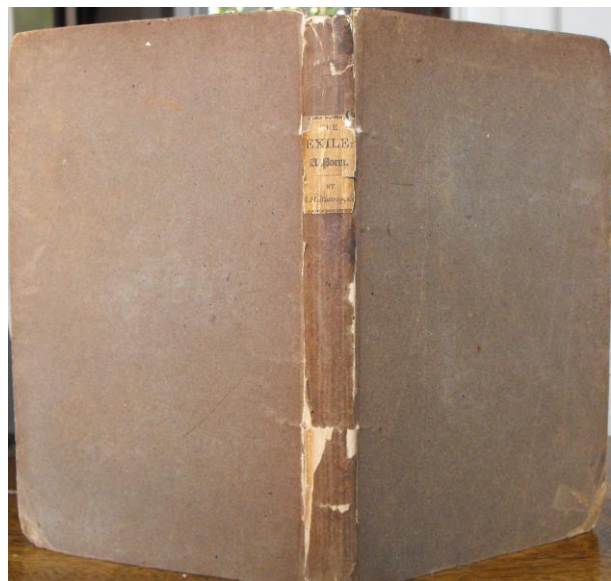
**£250**

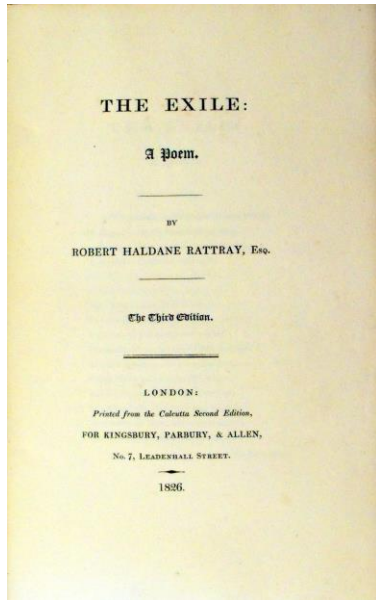
Although Ramsay (1684 - 1758) was appointed a Constable in Edinburgh in 1716, he was chiefly interested in literature and operated a bookshop where he was able to publish, very successfully, his own works. He made 400 guineas from the sale in 1721 of his Poems and made a further success with his Tea Table Miscellany. He described himself as "A black-a-vic'd, snod, dapper fellow ... With phiz of a Morocco cut", whose 'tripping gait ... earned for him the sobriquet of Denty Allan."

Burns Martin 227. This was the only edition of Ramsay's poems to be published in Berwick in the 18th century.

**19 RATTRAY (Robert Haldane):** The Exile: A Poem. The Third Edition. London: Printed from the Calcutta Second Edition, for Kingsbury, Parbury, & Allen..., 1826. FIRST ENGLISH EDITION. Tall 8vo, 200 x 119 mms., pp. vii [viii blank], 159 [160 blank], original boards, uncut, paper label on spine; corners worn, spine chipped, but a very good copy.

**£350**





Haldane's poem is based on the loss of a ship, *The Athol*, a few years before the publication of the poem, with the commander of the ship escorting his two daughters to the East Indies to be married to two of their fellow passengers. It was favourably received, with, for example, *The Oriental Herald and Journal of General Literature* for 1827 remarking that, "it is a work of much merit, containing a tale of pathos, narrated in sounding versification, generally chaste, and distinguished for abrupt vigour, mingling occasionally with peculiar smoothness. No impure thoughts, no prurient allusions, no Janus-faced expression moulded to convey voluptuous images, while escaping censure.... The love depicted...is that of that gentle species which usually springs in young and amiable bosoms, and flows uninterruptedly in an honourable channel." *The Monthly Review* apologized for not noticing the poem sooner, and ridiculed its poetic merit in the conclusion: "If the reader be not satisfied with the taste of its quality, we

recommend him to the perusal of the whole poem, notes and all, in which he will find much elaborate geographical information, about the length and breadth, &c. &c. of that hitherto unknown country, the Isle of Wight, with nautical and other information equally curious and original."

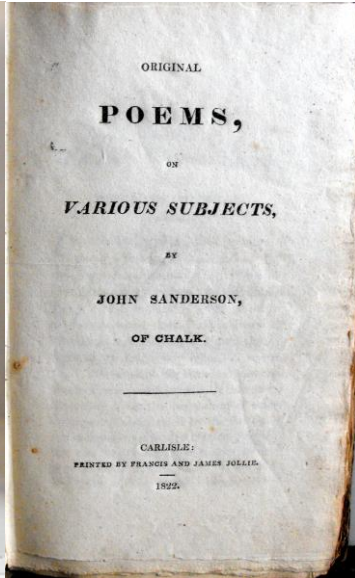
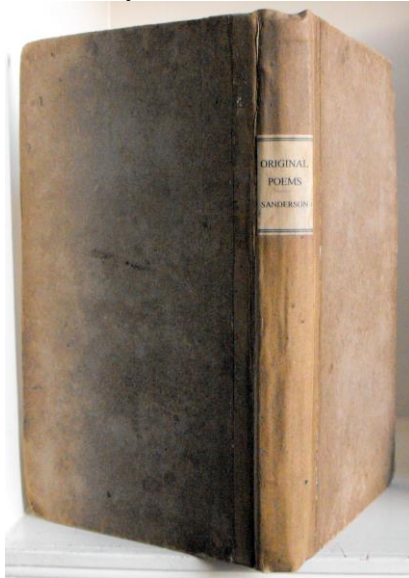
### RIFFING ON CASTI'S *PARLIAMENT OF BEASTS*

**20 ROSE (William Stewart):** *The Court and Parliament of Beasts* freely translated from *The Animali Parlanti* of Giambattista Casti. A Poem In seven Cantos. London: John Murray..., 1819. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION. Small 8vo, 173 x 98 mms., pp. [iv] [3] - 119 [120 colophon], including half-title, uncut, newly rebound in boards, paper label on spine. A very good copy, with a small circular cipher bookplate on the front paste-down end-paper.

**£450**

Giovanni Battista Casti (1724 - 1803) published the poetical allegory *Gli Animali Parlanti* in 1802, having spent eight years in preparing it. The translation by Rose (1775 - 1843) is a free one with several additions by Rose. Rose also translated Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*. "This work constitutes his chief claim to critical attention. The original poem is a burlesque telling of a parliament of talking animals who elect a lion as king but fall into dispute and civil war after his death. In Rose's version, each of the seven cantos is prefaced by an address to a dedicatee. These addresses, with their far-fetched rhymes and quirky rhythms, are in some ways the most engaging sections of the work" (*ODNB*). The reviewer in *The British Critic, and Quarterly Theological Review* for 1819 was less impressed: "We have no quarrel with this little jeu d'esprit, but that we understand nothing of its drift, and very little of its matter. The reader who looks for any resemblance in it to the celebrated poem of the Abbate Casti will be egregiously disappointed."

**21 SANDERSON (John), of Chalk:** Original Poems, on Various Subjects. Carlisle: Printed by Francis and James Jollie, 1822. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION. 12mo, 191 x



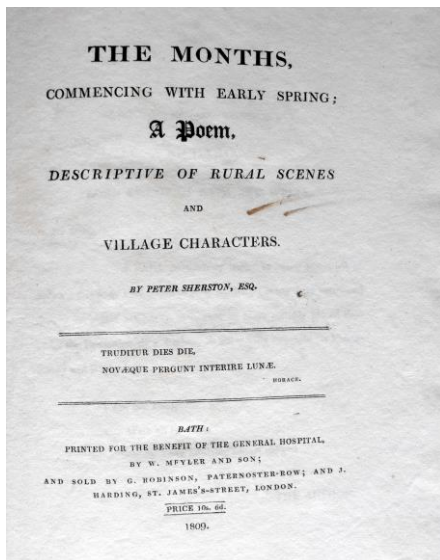
105 mms., pp. [8] 9 - 240, including half-title and eight pages of subscribers, uncut, original boards, neatly respined, with paper label. A very good copy **£650**

The Author is not the American John Sanderson (1818 - 1864) but I have found out very little about him. He is (appropriately) unassuming about his poetical talent, and he seems to have turned to verse after he was 51: "Or [sic, for Ere?] I begun, near three-score years were fled,/ Fully fifty-one

I've labour'd for my bread...." Some of his poems are topical - Queen Caroline, slavery - while others are traditional. Some are indeed witty, some are self-reflective, but he is unlikely to join the immortals.

OCLC locates copies in BL; NYPL, UCLA, Stanford, Toronto. There are about 400 names in the subscribers' pages at the end of the, so I wonder what happened to most of the books. Chalk is not small village in Kent, but a modern day (1822) version of Shawk because there is a Shawk Quarry (with a Roman inscription) near Dalston near Carlisle. Sanderson was a quarry owner and it may be his quarry. Chalk could also be a shortening of Chalkfoot a hamlet in the area. A lot of the poems are very local if you read through them. He had very impressive local support though curiously there seem to be no gentlemen or clergy. (With thanks to TM for this information.)

**22 SHERSTON (Peter):** The Months, commencing with Early Spring; A Poem,

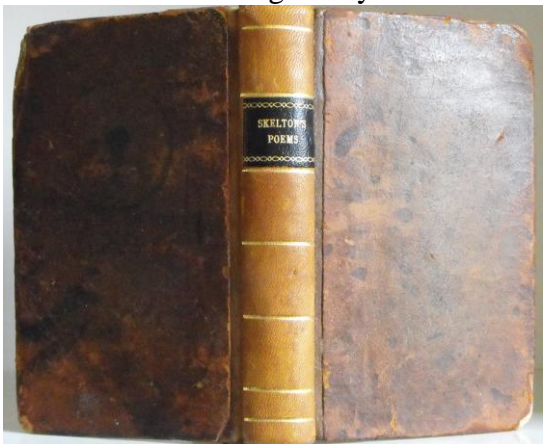


Descriptive of Rural Scenes and Village Characters. Bath: Printed for the Benefit of the

General Hospital, by W. Meyler and Son; And sold by G. Robinson..., 1809. FIRST AND ONLY EDITION. 4to, 242 x 190, pp. [iv] [5] - 84, including list of subscribers, engraved frontispiece and 2 other engraved plates, with tissues, all engraved by Corbould after Barker, contemporary boards (soiled), recent cloth spine; tiny ink stain on title-page, but a clean and clear copy. **£250**

The author is perhaps Peter Davis Sherston, of Wells, as the volume is dedicated to the Bishop of Bath and Wells; and he matriculated Queens' College, Oxford, in 1n 1802, aged 19. The cost of the volume was 10s. 6d. (half a guinea), the same price as the second edition of Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, published in 1805. One hopes that Sherston's verse raised funds for the General Hospital, as the opening quatrain doesn't raise our hopes for the quality of the verse: "Bleak March delays impatient Spring;/ The earliest Butterfly/ Scarce dares, with desultory wing,/ To trust the faithless sky." Yup, I can confirm that for Spring 2022.

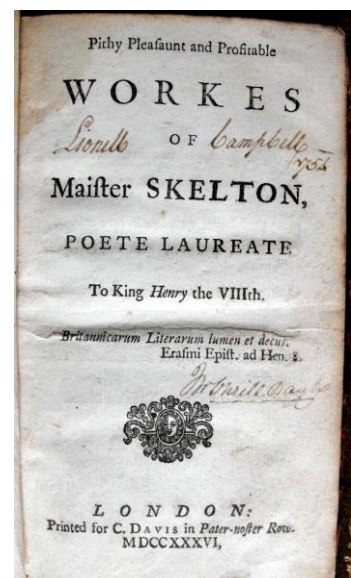
**23 SKELTON (John):** Pithy Pleasaunt and Profitable Workes of Maister Skelton, Poete Laureate. To King Henry the VIIIth. London: Printed for C. Davis..., 1736. 12mo, 168 x 94



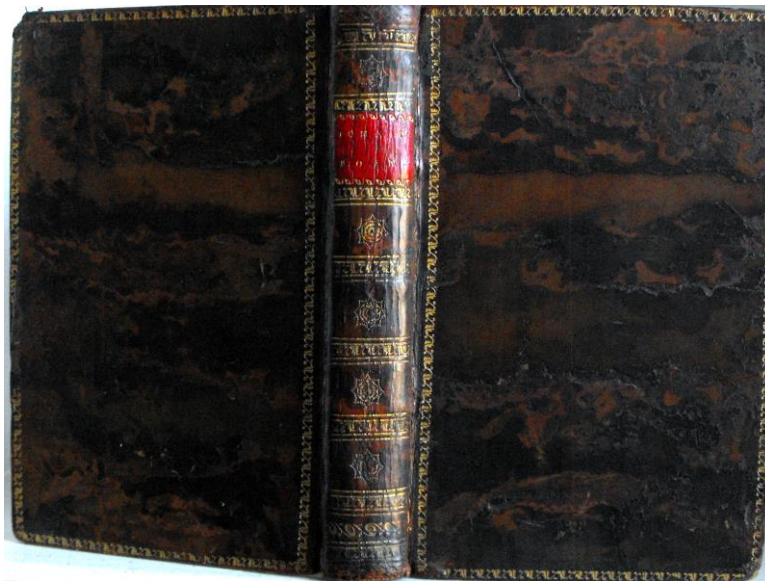
mms., pp. xiv, 294 [295 - 296 adverts], title leaf a cancel with visible stub, with ms. note in 18th century hand on recto of second front end-paper (leaf very soiled but readable), "Lionelle Campbelle - 1756" inscribed on title-page and another 18th century name below, and "John Orville Bayley" and purchase information on verso of last leaf, with other 18th century inscriptions, contemporary calf (worn), rebaked, gilt spine, black leather label. A modest copy. Lionelle Campbell of Campbeltown, Scotland was an early Scottish surgeon and physician. He was also a correspondent of the much

more famous Scottish physician Dr William Cullen. See <http://cullenproject.ac.uk/docs/181> for a later example of his signature. One of the inscriptions is a contemporary endorsement of the quality of Skelton's verse: "This book written upwards/ of 260 years back may/ Serve as a scale to compare/ the advance or ... in/ the English language during/ that period./ As this is the production/ of the Laureate of the then/ Reigning Monarch we may Conclude the Language/ The most beautiful of its Day." **£300**

The collection was first published in 1568 and edited by John Stow. Skelton (ca. 1460 - 1529) is one of English literature's more obscure figures. In his masterly *Critical History of English Literature* (1960), David Daiches said of him that he "is the most interesting and original of all the transitional poets who, while considering themselves in the tradition of Chaucer, Gower, and Lydgate, are in fact Janus-faced, looking both toward the medieval past and to the Renaissance future. As a satirist, Skelton attack the abuses of courtly life, new fashions in thought, religion, and behavior, personal enemies, Scots, and aspects of the contemporary scene which he found annoying." John Scattergood in his excellent recent edition (1983) says of the poems "Skelton's greatest poems are learned, difficult, allusive, multilingual, intensely self-conscious and self-reflexive. With their verbal play and many-layered meaning they demand careful and repeated reading...."



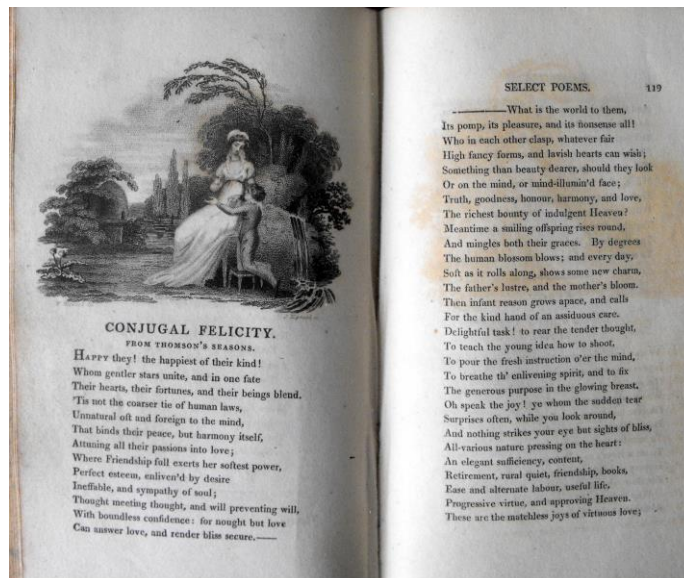
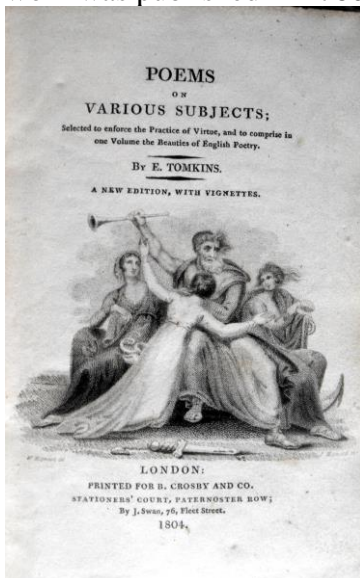
24 TOMKINS (E. [sic, for Thomas]): Poems on Various Subjects; Selected to enforce the Practice of Virtue, and to comprise in one Volume the Beauties of English Poetry. A



New Edition, with Vignettes. London: Printed for B. Crosby and Co....By J. Swan..., 1804. 12mo, 153 x 92 mms., pp. [vi], 256, engraved vignette on title-page and three other engraved vignettes, contemporary calf, gilt border on covers, gilt spine, red leather label; one front free end-paper removed, binding a little worn, but a good to very good copy. **£250**

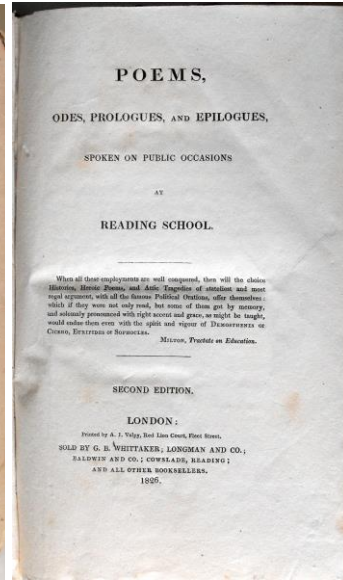
Tomkins (1743 - 1816) was noted for his calligraphy and produced a number of decorative works for various publishers, though little of his

original work seems to have survived. ODNB gives the first date for the publication of *Poems on Various Subjects* as 1806. In the introduction, Tomkins is agreeably laconic: "The Editor of this Collection has not much to say on the present occasion." Having said something similar, many editors would then proceed to say a lot. Tomkins published a prelude to this work in 1777, entitled *The Beauties of Writing*; the first edition of the above work was published in 1780.





25 [VALPY (Richard)], editor: Poems, Odes, Prologues, and Epilogues, Spoken on Public Occasions at Reading School. Second Edition. London: Printed by A. J. Valpy...Sold



by G. B. Whittaker, Longman and Co.; Baldwin and Co.; Cowslade Reading...; 1826. Large 8vo, 228 x 138 mms., pp. vii [viii blank], 208, uncut, original boards; front free end-paper creased, spine slightly worn, joints with some paper missing, label defective, corners crushed, but a good copy. **£500**

In the preface, the classics scholar and schoolmaster Richard Valpy (1754 - 1836) notes that these poems were first recited in 1782 in

Reading School; and the first edition was published in 1806. This revised, second edition, with several poems dated 1824, has textual changes as well as new poems. Among the contributors are William Benwell (1765 - 1796), whose sister was married to Valpy; George Butt (1741 - 1795), who contributes a hilarious parody of Milton's *L'allegro ed Il Penseroso*; William Bolland (1772 - 1840), who was instrumental in forming the Roxburghe Club; Henry James Pye (1745 - 1813), later the Poet Laureate; and William Seward (1747 - 1799). Valpy observes as well that the practice of acting plays at a school, "however sanction by...many ages, and of venerable establishments, has been questioned by some writers. If their objections are founded on actual experience, the Editor cannot but respect them. He would scarcely have wished to persist in a branch of Instruction, which he has found to be the most laborious to the Teacher.... He can only assert, after a long and varied trial of the system, that he has found it attended with many beneficial, but not one detrimental, consequence to his Scholars. He cannot be deterred from the proper use of an institution by the sophism of dwelling only on its possible abuse."

Uncommon. Copac locates copies of this second edition at BL and Bodleian; WorldCat adds Illinois at Urbana and lists a number of others as "Book," but they turn out to be eBooks.