

Richard Neylon  Rare books in the arts and sciences

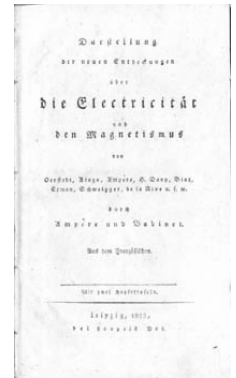
List 84 , Part 2

23. WATSON, J.G. **Mangrove Forests of the Malay Peninsula.** Kuala Lumpur (but Singapore printed), Forestry Department 1929. quarto printed boards; [10],275pp, 72 photo ills, some line drawings and diagrams. A rather good copy. Malayan Forest Records No. 6. \$120

Uncommon and one of the earliest substantial studies of mangroves; still well regarded and referred to often.

24. AMPERE, André-Marie and Jacques BABINET. **Darstellung der Neuen Entdeckungen uber die Electricitat und den Magnetismus von Oerstedt, Arago, Ampere, H. Davy, Biot, Erman, Schweigger, de la Rive u.f.w. .. aus dem Franzsischen.** Leipzig 1822. Octavo contemporary (or original?) marbled boards (spine quite rubbed but all perfectly solid and very acceptable); [2],118pp and two folding plates. A little spotting but a very good, fresh copy. \$1,250

First published in the same year in Paris (Exposé des Nouvelles Découvertes sur l'Electricité et le Magnetisme), this seems to be the only contemporary translation of this quite significant little book. Oerstedt made the basic discovery in the relationship between electricity and magnetism in 1820 and Ampere then "not only evolved the complete explanation of all the electro-magnetic phenomena observed before him, but predicted many hitherto unknown" (Mottelay).



25. [Lighthouses]. FISHER, Cyril. **A New Lighthouse Group for Green Point, Cape Town.** unpublished thesis research, June 1957. Oblong 4to by size, screw binder titled in gilt on the front; 116 leaves of typescript on rectos only, 35 original photos and, loosely inserted another 15 original photos of Fisher's plans for his proposed new lighthouse (some of these insect chewed along one edge) and a letter of authority giving Fisher to enter lighthouses. \$400

An unusual subject for an architectural thesis - lighthouses may be romantic but are not a particularly glamorous or practical project for an ambitious young architect. The loosely inserted 8x10 photos illustrate a perspective, plans and elevations for a thoroughly modernist lighthouse and the volume of research gives an historic background, examples of other lighthouses, examines the site and practical

requirements. Mr Fisher did qualify as an architect but didn't, of course, get to build his new lighthouse.

26. [Election Leaflet]. **Mothers of East Sydney! ...** [Sydney, Nationalist Party 1934]. single sheet, 29x21.5mm, printed on both sides; two photo ills. At one time folded into four. \$100

Good scare tactics campaign against communist troublemaker and now Labor Candidate Jock Garden in the 1934 battle for Cook (inner east Sydney) by the Nationalist Party fielding R.B Orchard who had been an MP (and briefly Minister for Recruiting) from 1913 to 1919. This leaflet (which is quite sophisticated and well produced on a good gloss paper) plays both the communist and the race card, showing Garden posing with a sinister group of variously coloured communists at the 1922 Third International ("a couple of years ago" according to the caption here) - a less well printed leaflet would not have so clearly shown the tinted and yellow, baby-eating red monsters. The other side of the leaflet recapitulates Garden's crimes and then concentrates on Donald Grant - candidate for the senate - convicted IWW leader who, as described by John Storey, "dreams of blood and wants to wallow in blood".



27. COOMARASWAMY, Ananda K. **Visvakarma: Examples of Indian Architecture, Sculpture, Painting, Handicraft .. first series: one hundred examples of Indian sculpture: .. [all published].** [By the author] Sold by Luzac &c. 1913-14. 8 parts quarto bound together in contemporary half

morocco (tips a bit rubbed or worn; blindstamp and crest of a library on the covers, a couple of almost invisible signs of their ownership inside); 32pp and 104 photo plates (there are two versions of plate I and three extras were printed by oversight). original wrappers, binding prospectus and other preliminary leaves bound in at the end. Edition of 1000 copies. \$400

With a preface by the recently converted Eric Gill, in deep revolt against the decadence of classical European (particularly Greek) sculpture. Tipped in are two cards from the booksellers, Luzac, stating that nothing more of the planned work had appeared, or was likely to appear.



28. Lynch Family, Bellringers and Glassophonists. **Poster for the Lynch Family, Bellringers and Glassophonists.** [Melbourne c1914-17?]. 102x39cm; printed in red and blue; the nine photographic illustration in blue. A little rumpled here and there and some frays around the edges but, in all, quite good shape. \$150

The Lynch Family began their careers in Geelong in 1867 with bells imported from Mears & Stainbank (at a cost of about £200); glassophony was added to their repertoire some years later, and here they also feature their 'Aluminium Organ' and 'Marimbula Resonators (the only instrument of its kind in the world)'. The original company consisted of Henry Lynch and his four sons; William, then about ten, was billed as the world's youngest bellringer. Here Miss Ruby Lynch, who must be a granddaughter at least, performs classical scenes and dances which includes the 'Great Allied Flag Dance' - giving us an approximate date for this poster.

29. WEST, Rev. Thomas. **Ten Years in South-Central Polynesia .. the Friendly Islands and their dependencies.** London, Nisbet 1865. Octavo contemporary or early brown cloth (a remainder binding?); xvi,500pp, portrait of King Tubou, a folding map and a double page map. A few minor spots or signs of use, a rather good copy. \$600

West's ten years in Tonga were spent as a missionary, arriving there in 1846. While a certain amount of missionary smugness about the value of their work pervades the book, his stay was so eventful that his narrative rarely has time to drift into proselytising. Appended is a Tongan grammar; the first, says West, since Mariner's attempt at a grammar was appended to his account of Tonga in 1817.

30. [HOLBERG, Ludvig]. **Voyage de Nicolas Klimius dans le Monde Souterrain, contenant une nouvelle teorie de la terre, ... traduit du Latin par Mr. de Mauvillon.** Copenhagen, Jacques Preuss 1741. Octavo contemporary half speckled calf and boards; [6],388pp; frontispiece, folding map and two other plates. A very good copy. \$2,500

First edition in French; Preuss published the Latin original, a German and this French translation in the same year. In 2003 the Norwegian government established the Nils Klim prize for young Nordic scholars in the arts and humanities. This I find puzzling, for Klim, the character from Holberg's imaginary voyage and satire, was a fairly unappetising figure, thick-headed in his arrogance, greed and determination to learn nothing good from all the societies that he visits on the planet Nazar (which floats in the centre of the earth). Perhaps the prize is designed to carry a warning as much as an honour. The adventures of Nils (Niels, Nicolas; even Claas in a Dutch translation) Klim is one of few 17th or 18th century imaginary voyages, utopias and social satires that has survived as more than a cultish curiosity; there are few decades since 1741 that it has not been in print in some language somewhere in the world. Even De Quincy had a go at translating it.

31. **Voyage de Robertson, aux Terres Australes, traduit sur le manuscrit Anglois.** Amsterdam [i.e. Paris] 1766. Duodecimo contemporary (publisher's?) mottled calf (spine rubbed and a little worn; label missing); [2],474pp. Without the half title; two signatures a little sprung but rather a good, fresh copy inside. \$3,500

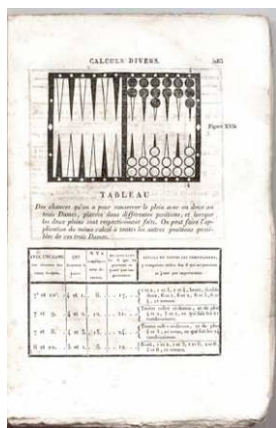
First edition of this French (and only French; it is yet to exist in English) imaginary voyage to Australia which apparently was very soon re-issued with the signature G mostly removed and replaced - an attack on parliament being replaced with an attack on the encyclopedistes - and a new title page dated 1767. This was worked out in the recent Davidson sale where both issues were offered and comment was made on the "marked rarity of this 1766 first issue".

32. LENTZNER, Karl. **Colonial English: A Glossary of Australian, Anglo-Indian, Pidgin English, West Indian, and South African Words. Worterbuch der Englischen Volkssprache Australiens.** London, Kegan Paul; Halle-Leipzig, Karras 1891. Largish octavo publisher's printed wrapper (dusty, hinge split the top of the spine); [18],237,[2]pp. Last leaf (a list of the author's works) with some silverfish nibbling in the margin. A very good, partly unopened copy. Titled in German on the wrapper and first title page; following this is the English title page, and the rest is all in English. \$850

Fairly rare and quite fabulous. This is the first dictionary of colonial Australian, with slang, words introduced from aboriginal languages and pidgin. Lentzner seems to have spent some years in New South Wales in the 1870's (he taught languages at Sydney Grammar and Kings School and mentions coming across "Yokahama-Pidgin" as spoken by Japanese naval officers in Sydney in 1877) which gives the Australian portions some claim to originality and importance; for the rest he relies heavily on other authorities. The claim to originality and importance may be arguable and the use of other authorities questionable - as 'The Bulletin', in a scathing notice of January 30, 1892, wrote: "published at the end of last year ... [and] almost instantly withdrawn. The latter step was the proper one ... as the material, badly compiled at best, violated several copyrights." They went on: "The very faults of the work, however, will give it value in collectors' eyes, and those fortunate enough to get hold of one of the few copies which reached Australia may now be interested to know that the book is already selling at fancy prices." Whether, or however, the difficulties of copyright were resolved the same sheets were re-issued with a cancel title page and a new title, 'Dictionary of the Slang-English of Australia', dated 1892. Copies with either title seem equally hard to come by.







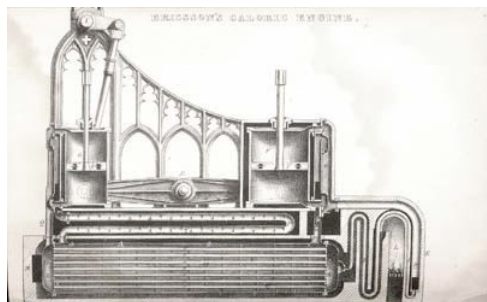
33. [Guiton, N. (aine)]. **Traité Complet du Jeu de Trictrac ... contenant les principes et règles de ce jeu, avec des tables de calculs qui ne se trouvent dans aucun des traités connus.** Paris, Michaud 1816. Octavo, untrimmed and unpressed in publisher's mottled wrapper with printed spine label (piece torn from the front edge of the back wrapper); [4],311pp, woodcut figures through the text. Some spotting but an impressive survival in absolutely original form. \$500

First edition and quite scarce; the second, which appeared in 1822, seems a bit easier to find. Despite appearances trictrac is not backgammon. I'm told that it is not a racing game but a game of probabilities. In vogue with the French aristocracy during the 17th and 18th centuries, there seems to have been a lull in books between the revolution and this work (coincident with the Bourbon restoration). Guiton's introduction has no political references though, merely stating that the most modern work (possibly Falavel's book of 1776?) is often erroneous and otherwise superficial. It is an appealing notion that until quite recently the most extensive writing in English on trictrac was in Willard Fiske's "Chess in Iceland" (1905).

34. GOUGER, Robert. **South Australia in 1837; in a series of letters: with a postscript as to 1838.** London, Harvey & Darton 1838. Smallish octavo blindstamped publisher's cloth; viii,136pp. Some spotting or browning but a rather good copy. \$750

First edition and a good association copy: Frederick Tuckett's copy, with his inscription at the head of the title. Tuckett's troubled (and according to some records, troublesome) career in New Zealand as civil engineer and surveyor for the New Zealand Company only lasted five years (with a year off travelling in Australia) but he did play a major part in the founding of the settlements of Nelson and Dunedin. Even with Wakefield's divergence from the South Australian scheme there are few books that it makes more sense for Tuckett to study. And as a second edition of this book appeared within a few months it doesn't seem unreasonable to speculate that Tuckett's interest in these colonization schemes dates from well before he left for New Zealand.

If Wakefield can be called the architect of the settlements of both South Australia and New Zealand then Gouger can fairly be termed the engineer of South Australia - he appears to have shouldered most of the burden of practical organization. This book is part sales talk and part practical advice for prospective emigrants, so of course there is nothing of Gouger's tragedy (the death of his wife and child) and travails (the factional fighting that led to a brawl and his suspension as colonial secretary) during this first, quite brief, stay in South Australia.

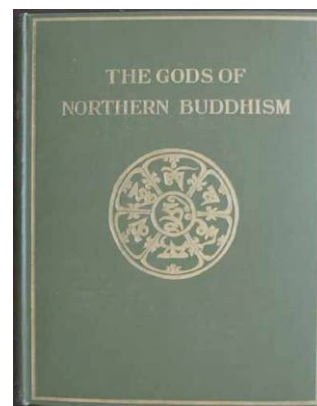


35. ERICSSON, [John]. **The Caloric Engine, Invented by J. Ericsson.** n.p. 1833 [London, printed by Jobbins and Cheffins, Lithographers &c.] Octavo; 16pp (last leaf blank); lithograph frontispiece. The frontispiece mildly stained; a rather good copy. Bound in contemporary half calf at the end of a collection of French political pamphlets, most dating from 1820-22, one or two earlier. Many of these are by, or published by, Lacretelle the elder. With the library label of Swedish reformer Carl Henrik Anckarsvard who played a leading part in deposing Gustav IV. \$1,500

Ericsson arrived in England from Sweden in 1826 with the model of a new heat engine which was pretty much a complete failure. After technical success but financial stalemate with steam engines he presented this working caloric engine in 1833. Still not the triumph he hoped for, Ericsson continued to improve his engine, with occasional successes, for the rest of his life. In the meantime he made great improvements to steam engines, invented the propellor (emigrating to America with the first Atlantic crossing by a propellor driven ship), built the 'Monitor' for the US Navy. While a caloric powered ship was built and, eventually, thousands of caloric engines were in use, each of his triumphs (he had a song written in his honour in 1862) seems to have been matched by disaster (the ship sank) or ignominy (when it was raised it was fitted with a steam engine) and it was only after his death that he was accorded his place in engineering. In fact the most impressive account of his work to appear was the substantial "Contributions to the Centennial Exhibition" - self published in reaction to the Commissioner of the exhibition "omitting" to invite him to exhibit his work. This account of his caloric engine is rare; finding its way, presumably by accident, into a collection of worthy but irrelevant pamphlets has been, as is the case with many rare pamphlets, its saving. The engine itself, a handsome gothic revival machine, is illustrated in section and described in detail.

36. GETTY, Alice. **The Gods of Northern Buddhism. Their history, iconography and progressive evolution through the northern Buddhist countries.** Oxford University Press 1914. Quarto, very good in publisher's gilt cloth; lii,196pp, 65 plates (nine colour, with printed tissue guards) and a colour diagram. \$700

First edition, quite scarce, and an elegant book.



37. LISTER, Joseph, Baron. **The Collected Papers ...** Oxford University Press 1909. 2 volumes quarto publisher's cloth (a little wear to extremities); 17 plates (a couple colour), a few ills through the text. Endpapers a bit browned as often, quite a good set. With the bookplate of Rockhampton medico Francis Voss (1860-1940), described in the ADB as a disciple of Lister and notable for being one of the first to bring an x-ray machine to Australia. \$400

Original and best edition.

38. HUME, Fergus. **A Knight of the Road. A Romance.** in the 1894 Christmas Number of Household Words. Quarto publisher's printed wrapper; pp5-35 (of 64pp including adverts). \$175

Probably the only printing of this tale (no other has been traced) - a thriller of almost 50,000 words involving a "modern Dick Turpin"; with an amateur gentleman detective, a somewhat slow police officer and a twist at the end.



39. [Catalogue - Printing Type]. Gottlieb Gistel & Co. Vienna. **Schriftproben der Buchdruckerei von Gottlieb Gistel & Co. Wien.** Vienna, the company [1897]. Small quarto publisher's cloth decorated in gilt and blind; chromolitho title page, dedication leaf and leaves of examples numbered to 234 printed on one side (plus a number bis; some double page plates carry two numbers but not all do); one leaf as well as the title printed in colours. An outstanding copy. \$800

An elaborate, substantial and celebratory trade catalogue or specimen book showing off the range of types, ornaments, symbols, rules, borders, vignettes, stock cuts, and so on, available from this distinguished and sophisticated Viennese printing house. Printing could be undertaken in any European language, as well as Hebrew (Russian, Greek and any accented type well catered for); mathematical symbols and music are covered; all styles, periods and fashions can be accommodated. As part of my sales spiel I

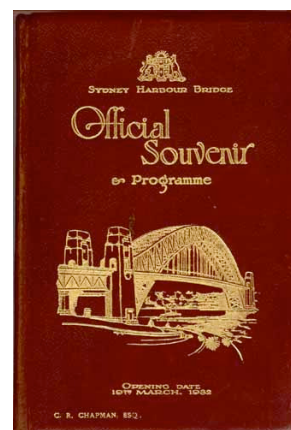
must point out that, additional to its value as a record of what was available to middle European printer, publisher, book maker of the late 19th century, all the modern faces (whatever the style, fractur, gothic, grotesque, cursive, wood-type poster, Greek, Russian or accented) are dated and identified by type-foundry - making it something of a type encyclopaedia. That this is a celebratory catalogue is made clear in the dedication (to publisher Alfred Holder), marking their 25th anniversary. Gottlieb Gistel seems to have survived to recent years (printing and publishing along the way a lot of scholarly works) but I have not been able to uncover anything else similar to this.

40. KOCH, Alex. [ed]. **British Competitions in Architecture. Vol. 1 Part 1 -12. [and Vol 2 Part 13 - 24].** London, Academy Architecture 1905 -1909. 2 volumes quarto (publisher's?) cloth; with publisher's title and contents leaves for each volume; each part separately paginated; hundreds of plans, elevations, renderings, measured drawings. Some minor signs of use. \$350

Rare. This is half the complete run it seems - the RIBA Library holds volumes 1 to 4 (to 1914), which is the only place I can find more than these first two volumes; few libraries have any volumes at all. This a serious review of competitions, open and by invitation, and offers a comprehensive view of British public and institutional architecture of the period. One exception is the international competition for the Peace Palace at the Hague. Here Koch has covered the British competitors, including himself. The competitors' entries are well illustrated, the competition conditions, instructions and reports are given and on occasion Koch has felt obliged to add his own comments on the organisation of particular competitions (such as the Peace Palace). Given the subject and approach it is hard to imagine an audience extending much beyond a few public institutions and the handful of architects interested enough and equipped to enter such competitions. The scarcity of this periodical is easily explained, what remains a mystery is how it lasted as long as it did.

41. **Sydney Harbour Bridge Official Souvenir & Programme.** [with] **The Bridge Opened. Illustrated Supplement to Official Souvenir. March 1932.** Sydney, Govt Printer 1932. small quarto publisher's gilt morocco (spine and edges rubbed); iv,180pp & errata slip; [and] quarto publisher's illustrated wrapper (frayed a bit silverfished); 32pp. Numerous ills in both. \$375

The deluxe presentation binding in maroon morocco lettered and illustrated in gilt on the front, spine unlettered. Additionally gilt stamped with the name of the recipient - in this case senior public servant, C.R. Chapman. Copies in the deluxe binding do exist with the supplement bound in at the end - though I have never seen a personalised copy in that form. It makes sense - the supplement, which records the actual opening, was obviously printed after the event and the personalised deluxe copies were for dignitaries who attended the opening. A rather handsome and quite uncommon form of the book.



42. [Li Jie]. [in Chinese] **Yingzao Fashi [or Ying Tsao Fa Shi].** [Shanghai, Commercial Press] 1954. Four volumes octavo, publisher's printed wraps; hundreds of illustrations in volumes three and four, a few folding, some with the annotations printed in red. Some signs of having been in a library. \$500

A reduced reprint of the 1933 edition which is in turn, I think, pretty much an unchanged reprint of the 1925 edition - the best edition of all. The Yingzao Fashi is the 12th century building standards - the earliest and most extensive exemplar of classical Chinese architecture. It is interesting to plot the modern publishing history of the Yingzao Fashi alongside the career of Liang Sicheng, the first and foremost of the scholars of the Yingzao Fashi. The earliest modern edition was taken from a manuscript that was criticised as hopelessly corrupted, which led to the exquisite 1925 edition; Liang Sicheng was given a copy by his father while in America studying architecture. It was reprinted in 1933, at the time that Liang Sicheng and his colleagues were making known their first essays at deciphering the work. Next, after the war and liberation comes this third, modest, working or proletariat edition - just at the time when accusations of scholarly elitism and reactionary bourgeois idealism were laid against Liang Sicheng and historicism. Though denounced by others, and himself in 1955, he continued his studies until the cultural revolution put an end to him and his work; from 1966 until his death in 1972 he had a miserable existence. Only at the end of the cultural revolution, almost thirty years after this edition, were Liang Sicheng and the Yingzao Fashi revived - his collected writings began to appear and studies of the Yingzao Fashi blossomed.