Most of the books listed below are by Englishwomen, with a scattering of Americans, some translations into English from French women authors, one or two translations into French, and a few books by men for or about women. Almost all are newly catalogued.

Everything sent is understood to be on approval and may be returned for any reason (or none) within a reasonable time. Orders from customers unknown to me may be sent a pro-forma invoice. All orders received will be shipped Priority Mail and billed at cost. Normally I offer Media and First Class International mail service alternatives, but not with the current long lines in Post Offices. I can pre-pay Priority Mail and drop them off.

1. **[ANONYMOUS]** - Thoughts on Moral and Religious Subjects. By a Female. London: W.J. Cleaver, King Street, Portman Square, 1833. 80pp., 8vo. With the half-title. Original gray boards, printed paper spine label. $425.00

   First and only edition, the author unidentified. The first ten pieces are in verse; thereafter the poems outnumber the prose pieces by about two to one. “On the Power of Music” gives the idea:

   Come, sweet Music! charm my ear,
   Drown the fiend of wild despair;
   Tranquillize a throbbing breast,
   And lull my anxious griefs to rest.

   Not in Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*. OCLC and JISC/COPAC locate only the copy, at the Bodleian Library.

2. **[BATHURST, HENRY, Lord]**. The Case of the Unfortunate Martha Sophia Swordfeager. London: Printed in the Year 1771. 62, [2]pp., 4to. Untrimmed in the original marbled wrappers; marginal tear to the last leaf, the wrappers worn with the sewing and backstrip defective. $375.00

   First and only edition, usually described as “privately printed.” Martha Sophia Swordfeager was the illegitimate daughter of Charles, Earl of Orrery. Martha “unfortunately became acquainted with Mrs. Newton, the Widow of an English Gentleman, who, soon after returning to England, prevailed on Miss Swordfeager to follow her.”

   In England Mrs. Newton’s brother-in-law, Andrew Newton, began to dally with Martha, who first resisted and then allowed his suit. He lured her into a pretended marriage, deserted her and went to India, whence he returned in 1765 with a fortune. But he ignored Martha and instead addressed his affections to a rich young Irishwoman. The pamphlet notes that while her marriage to Mr. Newton “cannot be proved,” there were many who affirmed, and only Mr. Newton himself who denied it. Many of the letters from Newton to Martha are quoted; “smarmy” is what comes to mind. ESTC locates five North American locations: Columbia, Free Library of Philadelphia, Huntington, Lilly, and Yale.
“DICKENS’S PRIMA DONNA”

3. **BOYLE, MARY LOUISA**. The State Prisoner. London: Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, 1837. 2 vols., large 12mo. With the half-titles, and the leaf of dedication to the author’s mother not always present (see, e.g., the digitized British Library copy); a few leaves partly sprung in Vol. I. Contemporary half calf, spines gilt; Vol. I repaired, Vol. II missing its label. $175.00

First edition of the author’s first novel, set in France in the early eighteenth century. *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English* calls it a “rather wooden historical novel.” Her real talent was in the theatre, and after she met Dickens in 1849 she acted in several of his private theatricals, earning the title of “Dickens’s prima donna.” Later in life she became a friend of Lord Tennyson, who wrote a poem for her.

4. **BRAY, ANNA ELIZA**. De Foix; or Sketches of the Manners and Customs of the Fourteenth Century. An Historical Romance. By Anna Eliza Bray, late Mrs. Charles Stothard. London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown & Green, 1826. 3 vols., 8vo. Two leaves (G1 in Vol. I and R6 in Vol. II) apparently slit for cancellation, but present and no text affected. An attractive copy in contemporary half maroon straight-grained morocco, spines gilt; some slight rubbing. $300.00

First edition, the first of the author’s dozen historical novels. It was inspired by her husband reading Froissart aloud, and set the form for her subsequent researches. Garside et al., *English Novel*, 1826:19. For an earlier work by this author, see under “Stothard” in this list.


Third edition, first published in 1708, a line-by-line reset from the second edition, even preserving the mispaginations of that and the first edition. Scarce, with ESTC recording only the University of Victoria and Vassar copies in North America.

6. **BURNET, FRANCES, Madame d’Arblay**. Camilla: or, a Picture of Youth. London: Printed for T. Payne, 1796. 5 vols., 12mo. With the now-famous subscribers’ list containing “Miss J. Austen, Steventon.” A handsome copy in contemporary smooth calf, spines gilt-ruled; spines somewhat darkened and with just traces of rubbing, morocco spine labels sympathetically and almost imperceptibly renewed. Early signature, “Anne Mair, Wyseby Febr. 1828.” $1,000.00

First edition of Frances Burney’s third novel, perhaps best known now for containing the only known unambiguous subscription entry for Jane Austen. Fanny Burney’s influence on Jane Austen is too well-known to need further discussion here. *Camilla* is not a difficult book to find (4000...
copies were printed), but copies as nice as this one are now uncommon. Raven and Garside, *English Novel*, 1796:26; Rothschild 550.


First edition both of the two-volume Poems and of The Thymbriad. The first two volumes include, as Roger Lonsdale, *Eighteenth-Century Women Poets*, puts it, “ballads. . . and poems deriving from Goethe’s Werter, as well as for druids, ruins, sensibility, mice, red-breasts and other creatures.” One poem is “A Picture of a Fine Gentleman”:

... A broche is on his jabot placed,  
His finger with a diamond graced,  
And to complete the finished Beau,  
A giant buckle hides his shoe;  
A muff as vast as Ajax’ shield,  
Behold this modern Paris wield;  
A sword is dangling at his side,  
Of tempered steel, but never tried. . .

Lady Burrell was a wealthy woman who brought her husband ten thousand pounds upon their marriage and was rumored to be in line for another hundred thousand upon her father’s death. The owners of this set, M. Augusta Martin, and Richard and Julia Rowley, were probably relations from two distinguished naval families. Richard Freeman Rowley (1806-1854) was the son of an admiral, and served as Flag-Lieutenant to Admiral Sir George Martin on board the Victory at Portsmouth. Captain Rowley married Elizabeth Julia Angerstein (known as Julia) in 1838. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 46, nos. 1 and 3.
8. [CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY, MARY]. Letters of Advice from a Mother to her Son. London: For W. Cadell and T. Davies, 1803. xii, 452pp., 8vo. Contemporary calf, spine gilt; rubbed with the upper joint cracking. Contemporary inscription on front pastedown identifying the author, a few minor signs of use internally. $375.00

First edition, written to the author’s only son Sir William Champion de Crespigny. The Feminist Companion to Literature in English says this work “details reasons against extramarital relationships, and advises on cautious reconnoitring of possible partners.” It goes further, with two novellas of between thirty and forty pages, the first on the evil effects of gambling, the second on seduction. Other passages squarely face friendship, drinking, and duelling, among other things. The author also wrote a Minerva Press novel, The Pavilion, distinguished as being the only Minerva novel to be issued in both a deluxe and ordinary format.


First edition, a kind of poetical Book of Common Prayer for infants, unusual in the number and charm of its illustrations. A second edition appeared the next year, but with fewer plates. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 61, no. 1(a); OCLC and COPAC locate copies at the Bodleian, Newcastle, Trinity Dublin, Colorado, Osborne Collection, and Yale.


First edition, with a plot taken from an “obsolete comedy” which one contemporary reviewer surmised to be the work of Aphra Behn.

11. COWLEY, HANNAH. The Fate of Sparta; or, the Rival Kings. A Tragedy. As it is acted at the Theatre-Royal, in Drury-Lane. London: Printed for G.G.J. and J. Robinson, 1788. v, [iii], 85, [3]pp., 8vo. A few minor spots and one very faint stain in the lower margin, but a large and fresh, mostly untrimmed copy, disbound. $85.00

First edition, dedicated to her brother “in the counting-house,” and starring John Philip Kemble and Sarah Siddons. It was not a critical success, and Mrs. Cowley published only one more play before quitting the London theatre for good.

12. DARWALL, MARY (née WHATELEY). Original Poems on Several Occasions. By Miss Whateley. London: Printed for R. and J. Dodsley, 1764. 9, [xxvii], 11-117, [31]pp., 8vo. With a preliminary list of subscribers (see below), followed by the contents leaf. A large copy, handsomely bound in sprinkled calf antique, spine gilt, by Philip Dusel. $900.00
First edition of a significant collection of poetry. Born Mary Whateley in 1738, she moved to Walsall in 1760 to keep house for a brother. Around this time she sent some verses to *The Gentleman’s Magazine* under the pseudonym ‘Harriet Airy,’ and they were duly published. From here on Miss Whateley received the kind of meritocratic attention modern poets can only envy. She sent her manuscripts to William Shenstone, who both praised and edited them for publication. He described Mary as neither handsome, nor, I believe, in affluent circumstances; has seen mighty little of the world. On the other hand, she is young, unaffected, and unassuming; and that she has generous and delicate sentiments, as well as ingenuity, may, I think, be fairly concluded from the whole tenor of her Poetry.

But Mary Whateley cared little for what she called in one of her poems “The Vanity of external Accomplishments”:

Ye Smarts and Belles, whose Airs and Arts confess
Th’important Study of your Lives is Dress... 
Forgive an artless Maid who boldly tries
To vindicate the Notions you despise.

The subscribers’ list is quite distinguished, including Elizabeth Carter, Mary Delany, Erasmus Darwin, and the author’s future husband John Darwall, who took two copies. The book’s reception was similarly distinguished, with the *Monthly Review* calling the author one of the “British Nine.”


Second edition in English, not so stated, a reissue with a cancel title leaf of the 1726 *The Exiles of the Court of Augustus Cæsar*, and apparently a new version leaving out a fourth part which appeared in the earlier 1679 translation. Madame Desjardins (also known as de Villedieu) titled the original French text *Exilez de la Cour d’Auguste*. This was first translated into English in 1679 under the title *The Unfotunate [sic.] Heroes: or, the Adventures of Ten Famous Men, viz, Ovid, Lentullus, Hortensius, Herennius, Cepion, Horace, Virgill, Cornelius Gallus, Crassus, Agrippa. Banished from the Court of Augustus Cæsar. In Ten Novels.*

The novels are as racy as her better-known novels set in the French court of the sixteenth century. According to *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English*, Mme. Desjardins was “said to have eloped from her parents’ home, borne an illegitimate son, donned male dress to issue a challenge, and made two bigamous marriages.” McBurney, *Check List of English Prose Fiction, 1700-1739*, 203b (McBurney’s 203a, taken from an advertisement, appears to be a ghost).

“IN THE CHARACTER OF A LADY”

14. [DOUGLAS, FRANCIS]. Familiar Letters on a Variety of Important and Interesting Subjects, From Lady Hariet Morley, and Others. London: Printed for W. Strahan, and T. Caddel [sic.], in the Strand, 1773. viii, [iv], “560” [i.e. 460]pp., 8vo. Issue without the subscribers’ list (see below). Contemporary flame calf gilt, morocco label “Morley’s Letters”; joints worn and gilt rubbed, but holding firmly. $125.00

First and only edition, also issued with a sixteen-page list of subscribers. Francis Douglas was a miscellaneous author and bookseller who published a tract on the Douglas cause as well as poems,
topographical and historical works, and Reflections on Celibacy and Marriage. This work is dedicated to Queen Charlotte ("the highest example of those virtues which he wished to recommend"), and Douglas manages his female persona fairly effectively, with his primary goal to better educate "decency and decorum of character, so graceful, so indispensably necessary in the Fair Sex." ESTC records thirteen copies, most with the subscribers’ list and the preliminaries differently arranged.

15. DUNCON, JOHN. The Returns of Spiritual comfort and grief in a Devout Soul. Represented (by entercourse of Letters) to the Right Honorable, the Ladie Lettice, Vi-Countess Falkland, in her life time. And exemplified in the holy Life and Death of the said Honorable Ladie. Published for the benefit and ease of all who labour under Spiritual Affliction. By John Duncon, Parson (Sequestred) of Rattenden in Essex. London: Printed for R. Royston, at the Angel in Ivy-lane, 1649. [xxiv], 208, [6]pp., 12mo. Engraved portrait by W. Marshall, included in the pagination, with pp. [145-146] a separate title-page for "A Letter conteining Many remarkable passages in the most holy Life & Death of the late Lady Lettice," and a final leaf of errata. Not an ideal copy: the edges of the first and last few leaves are chipped, well clear of text, and an old stain at the lower corner extends through the first twenty or so leaves. Neatly bound in sprinkled vellum-style boards, morocco label on spine. Modern bookplate of Christopher Rowe on front pastedown.

"The second Edition, enlarged" - a four-page “Elegie, Written to some Ladies of these Times,” by “R.W.” following p. 208 of the main text, is new.
The book was written by Lady Falkland’s chaplain, the brother of Nicholas Ferrar’s friend Edmund Duncon. John Duncon probably brought with him the Little Gidding pattern of an extended family living as a praying community, and in this book Duncon wrote that Lady Falkland daily catechized and prayed with her maids.
Under this regime, established after her husband died at the battle of Newbury in 1643, she was transformed to a point where she could finally write “my heart is ravished with spiritual joy.” She abandoned elaborate clothes and lavish living, used her medicinal skills to treat the sick, and spent her money in the service of God and the poor. She built a school at Great Tew, where children learned reading and vocational skills. The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, which reproduces the engraved portrait from this book, reports that “Edward Hyde, a frequent visitor, described her as a lady of most extraordinary intelligence and judgement, and by that time she had acquired considerable theological knowledge.” Wing, Short-Title Catalogue 1641-1700, D2606.

16. DUTTON, ANNE. A Discourse upon Walking with God: in a Letter to a Friend. . . As also A brief Account how the Author was brought into Gospel-Liberty. By A.D. London: Printed for the Author: And Sold by E. Gardner, in Bartholomew-Close, near West-Smithfield, 1735. [ii], 170pp., 8vo. Occasional minor spotting, but printed on excellent paper and still a fresh copy. Modern half calf, spine gilt-lettered.

First edition, a compendium of spiritual insights for practical daily living, acknowledged as one of her most important books and almost certainly the one John Wesley noted in his journal as having read. It was also referred to by George Whitefield, and it has been recently argued that she was a significant influence on Jonathan Edwards as well.
From the meager bibliographical information I can obtain about this pioneering woman evangelist, it appears that she published something on the order of fifty books and pamphlets during her lifetime, many now lost. In the last year of her life alone, when she could no longer swallow food, she wrote, as the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* puts it, “by her own account, 16–18 hours per day. . . . The sheer magnitude of her published corpus, both in diversity of topic and number of correspondents, deserves to be acknowledged as a unique contribution to the English Baptist heritage.” Five copies in ESTC: British Library, Dr. Williams’s, Regent Park College Oxford; Duke, and Union Theological.

17. **EDEN, LIZZIE SELINA.** Fairy Fancies. From the German. By Lizzie Selina Eden. Illustrated by the Marchioness of Hastings. London: Hurst and Blackett, 1870. [vi], 323, [1], 16pp., 8vo. Wood-engraved frontispiece, two plates, and title vignette, title and plates printed within red borders. Original purple cloth gilt; spine faded. **$75.00**

First and only edition, by an adventurous author who was clearly fluent in German: her other two books are *A Lady’s Glimpse of the Late War in Bohemia* (1867), and *My Holiday in Austria* (1869). The three tales here translated are “The Wandering Lights,” “Princess Ilse” by Marie Petersen, and “Forget Me Not” by Christoph von Schmid.

18. **EVANCE, Miss S., afterwards Mrs. Hooper.** A Poem Occasioned by the Cessation of Public Mourning for Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, together with Sonnets and other Productions. By Mrs. B. Hooper. London: Printed for the Author, and sold by Messrs. Suttaby, Evance, and Fox, Stationers’ Court, 1818. xi, [i], 143, [1]pp., sm. 8vo. With the half-title and an inserted errata slip at end, title inscribed “Charlotte Dudley With the Author’s affectionate regards.” Modern half green morocco, unlettered. **$450.00**

First edition, the author’s preface acknowledging that the title poem, “on account of its principal theme. . . will be met by a much wider flow of sympathy that any of the succeeding pieces.” It seems a fairly safe guess that the Mr. Evance in the imprint is a relation of the author. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, pp. 120-121, no. 2. OCLC records only the Lilly Library copy outside the United Kingdom.


First edition of this translation, dedicated “To the Ladies of the Ancient English Community of Brussels, now established at Bishop-House, St. Peter’s Street, Winton,” and with a long introductory essay by the translator explaining his substantial additions to the text from various “modern writers” with a view to making the work current. Six copies in OCLC, three of them (Emory, Newberry, and St. Thomas’s Seminary) in the U.S.A.
20. FREEMAN, Mrs. JULIET. A Visit to Ireland. [No place or scribe, but likely London] 1877. (12pp.), 4to (9 x 7½ inches). Manuscript in purple ink, about 20-22 lines per page, in rhymed couplets, each page with a gilt-ruled border intertwined with green shamrocks, drop-head title on the first page of text, preceded by a leaf in blue, green and red ink “Presented to Mrs. A. Freeman by Jas. W. Freeman with his love 1877. Composed by Mrs. Juliet Freeman.” Handsomely bound in full green morocco, gilt borders and a central frame enclosing the title on the upper cover and a large ornament on the lower. $800.00

A charming and apparently unpublished manuscript poem recounting a mother-and-daughter visit to a family in Newry, possibly the family into which the authoress subsequently married. The two ladies arrive by train, met by a tall man:

His face was long and had a comical look
As though he for someone else had me mistook.

His hair - dear me - I can hardly describe,
As though he for someone else had me mistook.

His hair - dear me - I can hardly describe,
As though he for someone else had me mistook.

The man later does propose, but our authoress . . . did not know what to do, you know;
So I told him “to get up, I could not say
What answer to give, so go away.”

More time passes, with walks and carriage rides among beautiful scenery.

He was the most courteous of beaux - quite a lady’s swain
And his brogue was as sweet as a sugar cane.

The holiday comes to an end, and the young swain delivers the two travellers to the railway station, seeing them off in tears. Mother and daughter board their ferry and

When we got near home we began to feel frisky,
For to tell you the truth we had been drinking whisky -

Sure enough, they are apprehended in customs and “after more bother” pay the duty, and arrive home.

21. GENLIS, STEPHANIE FELICITE, Comtesse de. La Bruyere the Less: or Characters and Manners of the Children of the Present Age. Written for the Use of Children of Twelve or Thirteen Years of Age. . . Translated from the French of Madame de Genlis. London: Printed by A. Strahan . . . for T.N. Longman and O. Rees, 1800. xii, 269, [1]pp., 12mo. Without the publishers’ advertisements at end. Contemporary sheep; covers detached. $90.00

First edition in English, dedicated to the author’s grandson, an original book of maxims and characters adopting La Bruyère’s name but not his subjects. At the end of her preface she notes “We are apt in our pictures of life to take our colouring from the times in which we live. . . .”

I have been the witness of crimes surpassing all of which I ever read; I have been the victim of calumny; I am a fugitive, proscribed and despoiled; but I have not lost all: the love of truth is still left me.
22. **GENLIS, STEPHANIE FELICITE, Comtesse de.** Zuma, or the Tree of Health. To which are added, The Fair Pauline, - Zeneida, - The Reeds of the Tiber, - and the Widow of Luzi. London: Printed for Henry Colburn, Conduit Street, 1818. iv, 277, [7]pp., large 12mo. With a Colburn publisher’s catalogue at end, and a separate twelve-page catalogue of Longman publications dated January 1818 bound in at the beginning. A fine, entirely untrimmed copy in the original blue boards; neatly rebacked with a modern paper spine label. **$225.00**

First edition in English, Colburn published the plays in French the same year. The title play is on the discovery of quinine; “Zeneida” is a fairy tale. Very uncommon, with OCLC giving three locations (Cornell, Harvard, and Temple) in the U.S.A.

**THE COMPLETE TEXT**

23. **GRIFFITH, ELIZABETH and RICHARD.** A Series of Genuine Letters, between Henry and Frances. London: Printed for W. Johnston [- W. Richardson and L. Urquhart - J. Bew], 1757-1766-1770-1786. Together 10 vols., 12mo, consisting of Vols. I-II, and IV-VI of the first edition (I-II dated 1757, IV dated 1766, and V-VI dated 1770), and Vols. I-V (missing Vol. VI) of the first collected edition dated 1786. All in contemporary calf; the first editions showing significant wear to the bindings and some offsetting from the turn-ins, the collected edition still sound and attractive though missing some labels and with wear to the spine ends. **$275.00**

First editions of the sequential volumes, sadly lacking Vol. III, together with the first collected edition of the set, this lacking Vol. VI - the result being a complete text, albeit not the way this cataloguer would prefer. This is a significant work in that it publishes, as *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English* puts it, “their actual courtship letters. . . . Her ‘sense and worth’ brought him to a marriage he did not at first intend; tension between plain speaking and current ideals of sentiment gives the letters bite and humour.”

The *Genuine Letters* were first published in three pairs, the first two volumes in 1757, III-IV in 1766, and V-VI in 1770. Vols. II, IV, and VI all end “Finis”, suggesting the work’s continuing popularity brought on the subsequent publications. The 1770 Vols. V-VI, however, are much more scarce than the others, with ESTC giving only four locations (BL; Harvard, Illinois, and Library of Congress).

24. **[GRIFFITH, ELIZABETH].** The Platonic Wife, a Comedy, As it is Performed at the Theatre-Royal in Drury-Lane. London: Printed for W. Johnston in Ludgate-street; J. Didsley. . . and T. Davies, 1765. [viii], 97, [3]pp., 8vo. A little wear to the extreme lower outer corners, but a large copy, disbound. **$175.00**

First edition of Elizabeth Griffith’s debut as a playwright. This, her most sharply satiric comedy, was not well received, but her next play was a financial success and allowed Mrs. Griffith to buy a house and move permanently to London. Numerous other plays and novels followed, several being critical of what the *Oxford Guide to British Women Writers* calls the “fashionable and mercenary marriage market.”
25. [HAKE, LUCY]. Something New on Men and Manners, a Critique on the Follies and Vices of the Age; interspersed with Amusing Anecdotes, Biographical Sketches, and Useful Suggestions on Various Interesting Topics. Hailsham: Printed by B. Breads, and sold by him for the Author. Sold in London by Baldwin and Cradock. . . and by other Booksellers, 1828. [xvi], 295, [1]pp., 8vo. With two leaves of subscribers, and an errata slip pasted over the printed errata on p. [xvi]. Mid-nineteenth century half purple calf; faded. $275.00

First and only edition, by an author otherwise known only for an exposition on the Ten Commandments for children. The present work is a wide-ranging series of “numbers,” expressed in several characters such as “Frivola,” an agreeable eccentric who condemns the “gibes and jeers” of “Flirtilla,” and much on the dangers of allowing romance reading to influence romantic passions. Number XXVIII is “On Kissing,” at one time widely practiced in England but now “transferred to our continental neighbours.” Seven pages of preliminary contents list the range of subjects covered. Around a dozen locations in OCLC.

26. HEMANS, FELICIA DOROTHEA. The Domestic Affections, and other Poems. By Felicia Dorothea Browne. London: Printed for T. Cadell and W. Davies, 1812. [viii], 172pp., 12mo. With the half-title. One or two very minor spots, but a nice copy in contemporary half calf; upper joint repaired. $450.00

First edition, the author’s second book of poetry, much scarcer than her first or, for that matter, her publications from the 1820s and 1830s. Several of the poems remind the reader that the author was a child of the Napoleonic Wars: “War Son of the Spanish Patriots,” “War and Peace,” and “To my eldest Brother with the British Army in Portugal”: How many an hour, on silent wing is past, O my lov’d brother! since we saw thee last! Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 152, no. 3.

27. HEMANS, FELICIA DOROTHEA. The Siege of Valencia; a Dramatic Poem. The Last Constantine: with Other Poems. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1823. [iv], 319, [1]pp., 8vo. With a final page of advertisements for other works by Mrs. Hemans; a few minor stains. Contemporary half green calf, spine fully gilt; rubbed with a short crack in the upper joint, but a handsome copy. $175.00

First edition, with the first ninety pages devoted to a poem about the last emperor of Byzantium and a series of “Greek Songs.” Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 153, no. 12.


First edition, one of several larger collections of poetry published in the 1820s and 1830s that ended up making Mrs. Hemans even more popular in the United States than in England. She was admired by George Eliot and
Wordsworth, the latter describing her as “That holy spirit,/ Sweet as the spring, as ocean deep.”
Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 156, no. 22.

29. HEMANS, FELICIA DOROTHEA. Hymns for Childhood. Dublin: William Curry, Jun. and Company, 1839. 64pp., 32mo (4½ x 3¾ inches). With the half-title. A fresh copy in the original purple cloth, upper cover gilt-titled with a vignette, g.e.; somewhat faded and the cloth covering on the spine missing, the little book structurally sound. $35.00

“New Edition,” in fact the second Dublin edition, following the first of 1834. An American edition under a longer title was printed in 1827, followed by a London edition of 1833; the poems were “originally written exclusively for the Author’s family circle.” For the earlier editions see Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p.154, nos. 17(a)-17(c). This is one of Mrs. Hemans’s scarcer titles.


First edition, the first of four works translated from the French by Charlotte Herdman, about whom nothing else seems to be known. The original work was by Félicité, Comtesse de Choiseul-Meuse. The tales are charming, as are the delicately engraved and colored plates. OCLC records copies at National Library of Wales, Chicago, Indiana, Morgan, and Princeton. JISC/COPAC adds no more.

31. HOFLAND, BARBARA. Poems, by Barbara Hoole. Sheffield: Printed by J. Montgomery, [1805]. li, [1], 256pp., sm. 8vo. Large woodcut vignette on title, with a subscribers’ list. An excellent copy, with all edges but the top one untrimmed, in later nineteenth century half calf; rubbed but sound, modern ballpoint inscription on the front flyleaf. $375.00

First edition of the author’s first book, published by subscription after the death of her husband and the collapse of his business, and the insolvency of the trustees who were to manage their son’s inheritance. Some of the poems here are personal, especially the “Lines occasioned by the death of a Little Relative” on the death of her baby daughter; others are on literary and political subjects, including Ann Radcliffe and Erasmus Darwin. The publication of this book by James Montgomery was no accident: the author was fearless in her support when Montgomery was jailed for a seditious ballad in 1795.

The success of this book - some 2000 subscriptions were taken at six shillings each - prompted the author to continue to write, even as she ran a boarding school. Four years later, John Harris published her History of an Officer’s Widow, beginning her long career as a successful children’s writer. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 163, no. 1.
32. HOLBROOK, ANN CATHARINE. Realities and Reflections, in which Virtue and Vice are Contrasted. The Incidents taken from Real Life, and designed under an Entertaining Form, strongly to impress upon the youthful mind, a Reverence for Christian and Social duties. Burton-upon-Trent: Printed and Sold by Scott and Chatfield, 1822. [vii], 9-157, [1]pp., sm. 8vo. Engraved frontispiece “Drawn & Engr. by T. Simms, Birm.m,” with an initial leaf of Patrons and Patronesses, and a terminal list of subscribers arranged by locality. Untrimmed in the original gray boards; extremities worn and printed spine label partly chipped. $200.00

“The Second Edition, Enlarged.” The author was a provincial actress as well as a novelist; she published her memoirs in 1807, and a three-decker novel, Rebecca, or the Victim of Duplicity, the following year. This book of moralizing tales - full of incident and even, appropriately enough, drama - was first published in Uttoxeter in 1821. This second edition is located by OCLC and JISC/COPAC at the British Library and Stanford. The Uttoxeter edition is located only at the BL; two further editions followed, both at new places of publication.

33. [HUGHES, MARY ROBSON]. The Metamorphoses: or Effects of Education. A Tale. By the Author of “Aunt Mary’s Tales,” “The Ornaments Discovered,” &c. &c. London: Printed by R. and A. Taylor, Shoe-Lane, for William Darton, 58, Holborn-Hill, 1822. iv, 176pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece, neat excision of a title or two from the first leaf of publisher’s advertisements on pp. [165]-166. Original red roan-backed marbled boards, spine gilt with title and price “2s 6d.”; corners worn and spine rubbed. $40.00

Second edition, not so stated and preserving the 1818 first edition frontispiece. The book is dedicated to Maria Edgeworth and acknowledges her theory of education’s influence on it: “I have found it a difficult task to avoid the inclination to copy, rather than to imitate.” The Dartons H769(2).


Second edition, first published in 1803, a series of epistolary novellas, many on domestic themes. Titles include “The Ball; or the History of Miss Crosby,” “The Card-Party; with the History of the
Stanley Family,” “The West-Indians,” and “The Pearl Necklace; or the History of Miss Hanway.” The whole is prefaced with an “apology” in the form of “A Dialogue between the Author and His Reader, Mr. Not-at-All.” Rachel Hunter was quite a prolific novelist in the first decade of the nineteenth century, publishing a half-dozen titles including such things as Lady MacLairn: the Victim of Villany, and Letitia: or, The Castle without a Spectre.


35. [JOHNSTONE, CHRISTIAN ISOBEL]. The Students; or Biography of Grecian Philosophers. By the author of “Wars of the Jews,” “Scenes of Industry,” &c. &c. London: John Harris, [1827]. [ii], 217pp., 12mo. Engraved frontispiece and seven plates; a little foxing to the plates. Original roan-backed printed boards; some wear, but intact. $85.00

First edition. The biographies are narrated, somewhat improbably, by “three active-minded boys who went by the name of the ‘Students’. . . they spent most of their play hours reading to each other some history or instructive book.” One said, “I am not half-satisfied with . . . the shallow history we have been reading, of the Grecian philosophers; let us each write a life of . . . them, and read it together on our next half-holiday.” Moon, John Harris, 418.

36. [KEIR, ELIZABETH]. The History of Miss Greville. In Three Volumes. By the Author of Interesting Memoirs. London: Printed and Sold for the Author at Mr Carruthers’s, No. 36. Cheapside, and by T. Cadell, Strand, 1787. 3 vols., 12mo. With the half-titles; a couple of marginal paper flaws (one of these, at p. 97 in Vol. III touching text and expertly repaired without loss of any letters). An attractive copy in contemporary sprinkled sheep; attractively rebacked with the original spine labels. $1,250.00

First edition of the author’s second novel, entirely epistolary. It tells the story of an aristocratic pair of lovers, Julia, and Lord Rivers, whom cruel parents determine to separate by declaring them both faithless. Julia nearly dies when she discovers the deception, but finally marries elsewhere and becomes truly happy. Lord Rivers volunteers for service in the American rebellion, and finds a heroic death in a suicidal assault against enemy positions - he leaves a legacy to one of Julia’s sons. As The Feminist Companion to Literature in English notes, “reviewers, otherwise enthusiastic, doubted that first love could be so outlived.”

UNRECORDED ENLARGED SECOND EDITION

grubby and spotted, especially the title which has a tiny marginal hole, some wear and paper loss to the extreme blank forecorners; still a sound copy, missing any wrappers if so issued. **$250.00**

Second edition, enlarged as stated, with “The Dying Robber.” The author is said to have been born in 1783; almost nothing else is known of her beyond her publications. Loeber and Loeber, *Irish Fiction*, K147, spell her name “Knot,” describing the copy of the first edition at the British Library, this with only 37 pages. OCLC and JISC/COPAC add another copy of the first edition at Glasgow, and a third edition, same year, at Aberdeen.

38. **LADY, A.** Ancient Ballads; Selected from Percy’s Collection; with Explanatory Notes, taken from different Authors, for the use and entertainment of Young Persons. By a Lady. London: Printed for Vernor and Hood; J. Harris; and E. Upham, Exeter, at the Union Printing Office, by W. Wilson, 1807. iv, 211, [1]pp., 12mo. Stipple-engraved frontispiece and one plate. Contemporary tree calf; very worn, the text fresh. **$40.00**


**AUTHOR’S SAMMELBAND FOR PRESENTATION**


First edition of each of these three privately-printed works, in a specially-bound volume for presentation. These are decidedly silver-fork poems, including such things as “The Descent of Venus in Kensington Gardens,” and “Belinda’s Lamentations at the Close of the London Season.”

Elizabeth Susan Law was the daughter of Baron Ellenborough, the Lord Chief Justice, and Anne Towry, a famous beauty. She married Lord Colchester in her late thirties. The recipient of this volume was probably the wife of the second Marquess of Salisbury, born Lady Mary Catherine Sackville-West, daughter of George Sackville-West, 5th Earl De La Warr. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 193, nos. 3 and 6. OCLC records several copies of all three titles, some in presentation format like the present volume; the most uncommon of the three is the *Views in London*, of which OCLC locates four copies: Cincinnati, Newberry, Texas, and Yale.

**BLUE PASTE WRAPPERS**

unusually attractive copy, stitched in contemporary French blue paste wrappers, with pink printed ticket “Librairie étrangère. Baudry et Lance, Libraires, rue Croix-des-Petits-Champs, no. 50, à Paris.”

Third edition, first published the preceding year. It was at first wrongly rejected as being borrowed from Diderot, says The Feminist Companion to Literature in English, but “did well on stage and in print.” The plot “brings its heroine to happy marriage despite earlier seduction.”

EDITED BY JOHN WESLEY

41. LEEFREVRE, Mrs. An Extract of Letters by Mrs. L***. Bristol: Printed by William Pine, 1773. 111, [1]pp., 12mo. Clean marginal tear to the last leaf, well clear of text, otherwise a sound copy, disbound. $225.00

Second edition, not so stated, and possibly a reissue of the first of 1769 as the pagination and publisher are the same. Mrs. Lefevre’s letters were originally and anonymously published soon after her death in 1756 as Letters upon Sacred Subjects. They became even more important to Methodists after John Wesley published this selection of extracts. Charles Wesley eulogized her in a manuscript poem in his own copy.

Mrs. Lefevre clearly had more than spiritual charms. John Wesley described her as a “dove-like woman, full of faith and humble love.” But Wesley’s wife thought there was more to it than that, and dared question, as Wesley put it, “if I did not lie with her.” ESTC locates four copies in North America (Duke, Emory, Southern Methodist, and Wesleyan).

42. LE HARDY, ESTHER. Agabus; or, the Last of the Druids: an Historical Poem. London: William Pickering, 1851. xi, [i], 156pp., sm. 8vo. Nice copy in the original wavy-grain green cloth; no spine label and a small patch of fading at the head of the upper cover. $85.00

First edition, based on the author’s research into Druid temples on her native island of Jersey, with some thirty pages of historical notes at the end.

43. LUTTON, ANNE. Poems on Moral and Religious Subjects. Dublin: J. O. Bonsall & Co., 20, Grafton Street. T. W. Doolittle. . . M. Jellett, Belfast; J. Mason, Paternoster Row, London; Kaye, Liverpool; and J. Everett, Manchester, 1829. [iii]-viii, [9]-208pp., 8vo. Faint old stain to the first few leaves, and a more severe one to the inner corner of the last few, with a little loss of paper to the upper margins. Pages 96-97 have been replaced with an apparent proof, in smaller type, of the same poem with manuscript corrections (see below). Late nineteenth century half black roan over cloth; worn and chafed but sound. $250.00

First and only edition of the Irish authoress’s only book, published when she was nineteen. She wrote, according to Jackson, “an epitaph for a mouse when she was five and was precociously bookish.” The present copy has one poem, which in the book takes up pp. 97-98, excised and replaced by what appears to be a proof, in smaller type and on different paper, with five presumably authorial manuscript revisions. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 207, no. 1.

First edition, with poems on such things as “On Seeing Mrs. Kean as Constance, in King John,” “Lines on an Incident Observed from the Deck of a Steamboat on the Mississippi River,” “Byron among the Ruins of Greece,” “To a Poet’s Wife,” and “Little Red Riding Hood.”

45. **[MACKENZIE, HENRY].** Julia de Roubigné. A Tale. In a Series of Letters. Published by the Author of The Man of Feeling, and The Man of the World. London: Printed for W. Strahan; and T. Cadell, in the Strand, 1777. 2 vols., 12mo. Without the half-titles or the terminal advertisement leaf in Vol. II, but a fresh copy in contemporary calf-backed marbled boards; spines (especially that of Vol. II) worn in places, labels missing, but sound. **$300.00**

First edition, the last of Mackenzie’s three novels of sensibility and, as at least one recent critic has argued, perhaps the best, offering “a subtler understanding of the processes by which a mind comes to disorder.” The novel was influenced, even to the point of its title, by the success of Rousseau’s *Julie, ou la Nouvelle Héloïse*, which had a couple of English translations by the early 1770s. Mackenzie’s book proved even more popular in England than Rousseau’s, with a dozen eighteenth-century editions, and a French translation in 1789. Walter Scott called it “one of the most heart-wringing histories that has ever been written.”


46. **[MANLEY, DELARIVIER].** Memoirs of the Life of Mrs. Manley. (Author of the Atalantis.) Containing Not only the History of Her Adventures, but likewise an Account of the most considerable Amours in the Court of King Charles the IId. . . . To which is added, A Compleat Key. London: Printed for E. Curll at the Dial and Bible against St. Dunstan’s Church in Fleetstreet, 1717. [ii], iv, 120, [2]pp., 8vo. Engraved frontispiece, with the last, unpaginated leaf, being “A Key to the Adventures of Rivella,” this in the first state (see below); some foxing and a few minor stains, but an entirely untrimmed copy in later calf; neatly rebacked and recornered. Contemporary ownership inscription “Jo: Nairne” on title. **$600.00**


Delarivier Manley wrote the work in middle age after an amazing career as playwright, businesswoman, political hack, and novelist, especially of the “roman à clef” variety, for which she
earned a spell in prison. As befits the author of the *Atalantis*, even this autobiography is a roman à clef, in which, as *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English* puts it, Mrs. Manley “constructs herself as writer through male eyes, castigates the sexual double standard, and mixes titillation with serious self-defence.” McBurney, *Check-List of English Prose Fiction 1700-1739*, 72a; Straus, *Unspeakable Curll*, pp. 44-47, telling the story of the book’s publication and reprinting correspondence between Curll and Mrs. Manley, this account further enlarged in Baines and Rogers, *Edmund Curll*, pp. 51-52. The “Key” here is in the first state, with Lord Crafty not identified and Mrs. Settee identified as “Mrs. P-m”.

47. **MANT, ALICIA CATHERINE.** The Cottage in the Chalk-Pit. London: Printed for Harvey and Darton, Gracechurch-Street, 1822. [iv], 255, [5]pp., 18mo. Engraved frontispiece (here shown sideways), two leaves of publishers’ catalogue at end; small stain in the upper margin of the frontispiece, a little spotting. Original red roan-backed marbled boards, spine gilt; slight wear to spine ends. Ownership inscription “Augusta H. Hawley April 20th 1825” on pastedown. **$175.00**

First edition, on the trials of a family suddenly bereft of its fortune. Harvey Darton notes that Miss Mant “was didactic, but she tried with some success to be kind and amusing,” and that “she had a virtue not common in nursery moralists of the day - she made her incidents frequent and almost dramatic.” The Dartons G609(1); Harvey Darton, *Children’s Books in England*, pp.166-67.

48. **[MARTIN, SELINA].** A Sister’s Stories. By the Author of “Three Years’ Residence in Italy,” “Protestant Rector,” &c. &c. Kirkby Lonsdale: Published by Arthur Foster; and L.B. Seeley and Sons, Fleet Street, London, 1833. [ii], vi, 207, [1]pp., 12mo. Woodcut frontispiece and 29 plates. Original cloth; spine repaired, preserving much of the original printed paper label. Title-page inscribed “Florence Williams from her affect. coz. . . Octr. 1835.” **$275.00**

First and only edition, a series of stories for children interspersed with lessons on biology, and particularly entomology. The author was Irish and a friend of Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna; the full title of the second book mentioned on the title-page of this one is *The Protestant Rector; or, a Tale of Other Times in Ireland*. Loeb and Loeber, *Irish Fiction*, M299; OCLC locates two copies (Princeton and UCLA) outside the British Isles.

49. **MORE, GERTRUDE.** The Spiritual Exercises Of the most Vertvovs and Religious D. Gertrvde More of the holy Order of S. Bennet and English Congregation of our Ladies of Comfort in Cambray, she called them. Amor ordinem nescit. And Ideots Deuotions. Her only Spiritual Father and Director the Ven. Fa. Baker stiled them. Confessiones Amantis. A Louers Confessions. Printed at Paris, by Lewis de la Fosse, in the Carme Street, at the signe of the Looking Glasse, 1658. [vii], 112, 312pp., 12mo. Lacking the frontispiece portrait, and with pp. 23-24 of the first pagination in attractive early manuscript facsimile, this copy with the two leaves including the “Approbation” bound after the title-page and with the poem on Gertrude and her great-great grandfather Thomas More following (this leaf showing the offset of the now-missing portrait); minor staining at the
beginning and end. Mid-Victorian half green roan; joints splitting but secure. Early signature “Mary Barnes” on p. 3 of the first sequence. $700.00

First and only early edition. Gertrude More was the daughter of Cresacre More, the biographer of his great-grandfather Thomas More. She was one of the founders of the English Congregation of our Ladies of Comfort. Her writings were discovered after her death in 1633 at the age of 27, including the “Confessio Amantis” based on St. Augustine’s *Confessions*, interwoven into the divine office and here published for the first time. She was at first a rebellious nun, especially against the contemplative practices of medieval mystics which formed much of the original practices of the order.

But, encouraged by Father Augustine Baker, she gradually came round, living her “way of love.” She expressed it as “Consider your call, That’s all in all.” And, according to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, she laughingly quoted her ancestor, Thomas More, concerning her past scruples: “The urchin wench goes whining up and down as if nothing she did or could do did please [God].” ESTC locates a half dozen copies in America, at least some of them also defective. I can find no auction record in the last forty-five years, and I’m not aware of another copy offered for sale during that time.

50. [MORTIMER, FAVELL LEE]. The Night of Toil; or a Familiar Account of the Labours of the First Missionaries in the South Sea Islands. London: J. Hatchard and Son, 187, Piccadilly; John Harris, St. Paul’s Church-Yard, 1838. [xvi], 462, [2]pp., sm. 8vo. Woodcut frontispiece, title vignette, and illustrations including a portrait of Pomare II, a view of Papeete, and a map of the Georgian and Society Islands; first couple of leaves very slightly spotted, with a contemporary signature “Fr. Thistlethwayte” on the title-page. Original blind-stamped cloth; neatly, though not attractively, rebacked preserving the spine title-panel. $100.00

First edition, by “the only woman he ever met”, her doctor was quoted as saying, “who wished to die.” This account for children of the missionaries in the South Sea Islands takes the same gloomy approach the author brought to her other travelogues. The Tahitians, she wrote, “appeared merry and good-natured, and were generally laughing and playing.” But . . . “they were thieves, liars, and murderers - could they be happy?”

There were some people who loved God in England who were grieved to think of the poor natives of Tahiti. “Ah!” thought they, “you may sit beneath your spreading trees, eating the golden bread-fruit, or drinking the sweet milk of the cocoa-nut: but how can you be happy when you know not of the paradise above. . . ?”

Marjorie Moon didn’t include this work in *John Harris’s Books for Youth*, although it is clearly meant for children. I don’t blame her.
51. **Morton, Elizabeth.** The Daughter’s Defence of her Father; or, an Answer to the letter addressed to Mr. Huntington, written by Madame (de Mara) Flora, and Co. Containing Critical Remarks on that Performance, and a Defence of the “Modern Plasterer Detected.” London: Sold by G. Terry, Paternoster-Row. . . Mrs. Howes, no 15, Charles-street. Wells-street; at Monkwell-street Chapel every Tuesday evening. . . , 1788. 53, [1]pp., 8vo. Without the final leaf of publisher’s advertisements. A nice large copy, disbound. $85.00

First and only edition, part of a pamphlet war between Maria de Fleury and the popular Baptist preacher Samuel Huntington. Elizabeth Morton calls Huntington her “father” because of his converting her from Catholicism.

De Fleury soon after published “An Answer” to the present pamphlet. For more on Maria de Fleury’s pamphlet war with Huntington, see Timothy Whelan, “‘For the Hand of a Woman, has Levell’d the Blow’: Maria de Fleury’s Pamphlet War with William Huntington, 1787–1791,” Women’s Studies, 36:6, 431-454 (2007).

52. **Nealds, Adeline Martha.** Poems. By Mrs. Charles Nealds. London: Printed for C.J.G. & F. Rivington, St. Paul’s Church-Yard, 1829. xx, 140pp., 8vo. With a subscribers’ list, and an inserted slip with “Additional Subscribers” after p. xx. Untrimmed in the original drab boards; rebacked preserving part of the printed spine label. Small old inkstamp of the American Congregational Association on title, sold to me by a Massachusetts bookseller who acquired a quantity of their library discards. $250.00

First edition, a series of very domestic poems on such things as a primrose blooming in January, “to my eldest Boy, on his tenderly inquiring why I so often looked unhappy,” and “To a young Friend, who, with some others and myself, had represented characters in Miss Porter’s beautiful Novel of ‘the Scottish Chiefs.’” Mrs. Nealds lived in Norfolk, and this appears to be her only volume of poems. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 242, no. 1; seven copies in OCLC, two of which, Alberta and UCLA, are in North America.

53. **Newton, John.** A Monument to the Praise of the Lord’s Goodness, and to the Memory of Dear Eliza Cuningham. Published for the Benefit of a Charitable Institution. London: Printed by H. Trapp, No. 1. Pater-noster-Row; And to be had at Mr. Neal’s, [1785]. vii, [i], 32pp., sm. 8vo. A couple of very minor stains. Disbound. $175.00

First edition, Newton’s eulogy on the death of a fourteen year-old girl: “O my dear young friends, had you seen with what dignity she filled up the last scene of her life. . . .” ESTC T18615, doubtless referring to the present edition and noting the catchword at p. 25, gives six locations (NYPL in North America), but it gives the subject’s name on the title-page as “Cunningham.” OCLC adds one more location, at U.C. Santa Barbara, with the subject’s name spelled as in the present copy.


First edition of a fine and comprehensive summary not only of the duties of young women, but of moral duties generally. Susan Nicklin was a governess, and this book is addressed to her charge who is about to become old enough to dispense with a governess’s services. The book is therefore presented as a review of virtue and vice from childhood on, with comparisons of boys and girls -
“simplicity and sincerity are found in the minds of boys much longer than they can be discovered in those of girls” - and men and women. Entire chapters are devoted to truth, contentment, fortitude, pride, and an especially long one “On the Duties of Children to Parents.” Hugh Montgomerie, 12th Earl of Eglinton KT (5 November 1739 – 14 December 1819), was a Scottish peer and, unusually, a composer and patron of music. Seven locations in ESTC.

55. [NORTON, CAROLINE ELIZABETH]. The Sorrows of Rosalie. A Tale. With other Poems. London: John Ebers and Co., 1829. [iii]-xii, 136pp., sm. 8vo. Without the half-title. A good fresh copy in contemporary half calf; but sometime clumsily rebacked leaving a few leaves towards the end partly sprung. $75.00

Evidently the first edition, but there are some differences between this copy and that digitized on Google Books. The Google copy has the fly-title to the first poem “The Sorrows of Rosalie; or, Love’s Sacrifice. A Tale” with no signature mark. The present copy has “The Sorrows of Rosalie” with signature mark “B.” with signature mark “B.” This was the author’s first book of poems, earning her the title “The Female Byron.” It was sufficiently successful to call for a fourth edition the same year, but no stated second and third editions are recorded – perhaps either the digitized copy or the one offered here is an example. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 244, 1(a), or possibly (b) or (c).

56. NORTON, CAROLINE ELIZABETH. The Child of the Islands: a Poem. London: Chapman and Hall, 1845. xvi, 238pp., royal 8vo. Engraved frontispiece and additional title (these spotted as almost invariably). Still a nice copy in contemporary diced tan calf gilt; a bit scuffed. $85.00

First edition of a fine poem on the inequities of society. The “Child of the Islands” is the infant Prince of Wales and the poem is an exhortation to him to ameliorate the plight of the poor, and especially the poor children, whose travails in factories, mines and prisons are described in detail and documented in some extensive endnotes. NCBEL III, 544.

57. OPIE, AMELIA. Poems. London: Printed for T.N. Longman and O. Rees, Paternoster-Row, 1802. iv, 192pp., sm. 8vo. Engraved frontispiece by Reynolds after a design by the author’s husband. Contemporary calf, spine gilt; joints cracking and spine rubbed. $100.00

First edition of the author’s first collection exclusively of poems, with some fine pieces on the evils of society including “the fiend-delighting” slave trade, the fate of the children of convicts, often left to starvation or virtual enslavement, and the fate of people imprisoned for small debts. The last poem is in praise of Edmund Burke, and interspersed are many graceful verses on more traditionally romantic subjects. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 247, 3(a).

58. OPIE, AMELIA. Lays of the Dead. London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green, & Longman, 1834. viii, 144pp., 12mo. Lithographed frontispiece by Harding after Briggs (this very slightly spotted), flyleaf inscribed “Mary Richardson from Mrs. Opie.” A very nice copy in contemporary gilt and blind-ruled calf. $250.00

First edition of this rather bleak collection, one of the author’s last in verse. Some years ago I catalogued another copy which had manuscript identifications of some of the subjects of the poems; they included Rachel and various other Gurneys, Dr. Alderson, Viscount Galway, Mrs. Dingle, and Captain Monckton. The presentation inscription here bears some resemblance to Mrs. Opie’s handwriting, but I suspect it is more likely that of a publisher’s clerk. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 248, no. 7.
59. **OWENSON, SYDNEY, afterwards Lady MORGAN.** The Lay of an Irish Harp; or Metrical Fragments. By Miss Owenson. New-York: Published by E. Sargeant, D. Longworth, George Jansen. . . and Benj. Crane, 1808. 152pp., sm. 8vo. Woodcut title vignette, with the half-title (this with a small old stain at the outer margin). Printed on unexpectedly good paper, and a sound and pleasant copy in contemporary half red roan; extremities just a little worn and the boards a bit grubby. $125.00

First American edition of these romantic pieces, beginning with the patriotic “Why Sleeps the Harp of Erin’s Pride?” This was the author’s second and last volume of poems, published after the enormous success of her novel *The Wild Irish Girl*. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 249, no. 2(b).

60. **OWENSON, SYDNEY, Lady Morgan.** La Novice de Saint-Dominique, Roman Traduit de l’Anglais de Miss Owenson (Lady Morgan); Par Madame de R***. Paris: H. Nicoll, à La Librairie Stéréotype, 1817. 4 vols. in two, 12mo. With the half-titles. Nice copy in slightly later green roan-backed marbled boards, double red labels. $450.00

First edition in French, published eleven years after the original; the translator was the Vicomtesse de Ruolz. This was the author’s second novel, set in sixteenth-century France. It has an idealized fictionalization of the poet Thomas Moore, and features a self-referential heroine who crosses France as a troubador. Lady Charlotte Bury recounts a friend telling her to “Read it without delay, for the enthusiasm and exquisite sentiments which are conspicuous throughout the whole work, will enchant you. It is a most fascinating book.” *The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* notes that “it anticipated the historical novels of Scott.” Loeber and Loeber, *Irish Fiction*, M551, mis-dating this translation to 1816; see also Garside et al., *English Novel 1800-1829*, note to 1806:53. OCLC records four locations on the Continent and two, National Library of Ireland and UCLA, elsewhere.

61. **PARKER, EMMA.** Important Trifles: Chiefly Appropriate to Females on their Entrance into Society. By Emma Parker, Author of Elfrida, Heiress of Bellegrove; Aretas; Virginia, &c. London: A.K. Newman and Company, 1834. xi, [i], 225, [1]pp., 12mo. Engraved frontispiece (this and the cancel title-leaf a bit stained), with the half-title. Contemporary, almost certainly original, green roan-backed marbled boards, spine gilt-titled; corners and spine ends worn, but sound. With a bifolium on yellow paper of advertisements pasted across the front endpapers. $800.00

First edition, second issue, originally published in 1817 by Jane Austen’s publisher Thomas Egerton and here reissued seventeen years later with a cancel title by Newman, the successor to William Lane’s Minerva Press. The author, a poor but professedly genteel writer, got her start publishing her first novel with that same Minerva Press; the novels given on the 1817 title-page are here replaced with others more recent. *Important Trifles* appears to be Miss Parker’s only work of non-fiction; *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English* describes it as “strong-minded and well-informed.” The work is a series of thirty “numbers. . . written at various periods, as circumstances, or situations, gave rise to the ideas which prompted them.” They are intended for young women just entering society, and offer subjects like “Reining the Imagination,”
“Judging of others by Ourselves,” “Absurd Impressions,” “The powerful effect of Manners . . . Heartless Mirth, &c.,” “The Races,” “The Ball,” “Genuine Good-breeding,” and “Superfluous Compassion.” Particularly fine is No. 9, one of the longest, titled “The Influence of Dress and Manners,” which describes the fear young people of both sexes can have when they think that every body’s eyes are fixed on him or her . . . when in reality no creature is attending to them. [This] excites such unpleasant sensations as, in some cases, almost to tempt them to abjure society. These feelings arise from a painful degree of bashfulness, which is really entitled to compassion, and the ridicule it sometimes unjustly excites should be reserved for the flippant, conceited, simpering daughter of vanity and affectation, who betrays by the more than usual absurdity of her gestures, and demeanor, that she is equally convinced that all eyes are fixed on her.

There follow fine descriptions of ladies’ peculiarities of demeanor and especially walking: One advances with a start, another with a stamp, a third with a mincing irregular trip; which if they did not think about it they might get on very well. . . . A certain toss, or continual motion of the head, as if it were fixed on an elastic wire, is also by no means uncommon. . . . But stiffness should be avoided; we would not have a lady appear like a recruit under the hands of a drill sergeant, or as if her thumbs were sewed to her petticoats. . . .

OCLC records four copies in North America of the first issue, at New York Public, Newberry, Smith, and Stanford, and only Stanford for this 1834 reissue.


First edition, the author’s only publication, provincially printed. The introduction declares the author a native of Bristol, and the first poem is “on the relics of antiquity” in that city. There is also a fine long poem on Robert Burns, occasioned by the Prince of Wales donating fifty guineas towards a monument to the poet and, in addition to the two other poems mentioned in the title, another on the death of Princess Charlotte and an “Impromptu, On hearing a Lady play the Harp.” Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 262, no. 1; Johnson, *Provincial Poetry*, 718. Johnson notes the terminal eight-page subscribers’ list, also present in this copy, but it is not recorded by Jackson, nor is it in the OCLC entry.

63. **[PREVOST D’EXILES, ANTOINE FRANCOIS, Abbé]**. The Memoirs and Adventures of the Marquis de Bretagne, and Duc D’Harcourt: or, the wonderful Vicissitudes of Fortune, exemplified in the Lives of those Noblemen. To which is added, the History of the Chevalier de Grieu and Moll Lescaut, an extravagant Love-adventure. Translated from the original French, by Mr. Erskine. London: Printed for T. Cooper, at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row, 1743. 3 vols., 12mo. Edges of the title-leaves slightly browned from the binding turn-ins. Contemporary calf; spine heads worn and labels missing, but an entirely sound and unsophisticated copy. Nineteenth-century vellum bookplate of Chandos Leigh in each volume.

$350.00

$2,250.00
The first edition in English of the work that contains one of the great love stories of all time, reaching its tragic climax in New Orleans and the surrounding wilderness which in Puccini’s opera famously became a desert.

The French original of the Memoirs first appeared in 1731; a partial translation, Memoirs of a Man of Quality (not including the story of Manon Lescaut), appeared in 1738 and 1742. The story of Manon herself first appeared separately in French in 1753 and in English in 1767.

The translator, William Erskine, has his own preface: “the Fair Sex, besides the Entertainment of agreeable Reading, may learn, from the fatal Experience of others, how carefully they ought to guard their Hearts against Love Engagements, from which they can expect nothing but Disappointments that will render them miserable and wretched.”

New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature 142, confirms this as the first English translation of Manon Lescaut; Beasley, Check List of Prose Fiction 1740-1749, 130. ESTC locates seven copies: Advocates Library, British Library; Columbia, Harvard, Huntington, NYU, and Rice. OCLC adds Chicago and Sheffield; no more in JISC/COPAC.

64. [REEVE, CLARA]. The Two Mentors: a Modern Story. By the Author of The Old English Baron. London: Printed for Charles Dilly, 1783. 2 vols. in one: [iv], 308; and [iv], 315, 1]pp., 12mo. With a preliminary “Advertisement” in Vol. I and a half-title in Vol. II; the first three leaves with a light stain. Contemporary calf-backed boards, spine gilt with label; chafed with the marbled covering on the boards largely missing, but sound. Early ownership inscriptions “E.E. Greene”, “Elizabeth E. Boswell 1780” and “E.E. Collins” (possibly the same woman? - certainly not Elizabeth Boswell, Countess of Auchinleck). $950.00

First edition, an entirely different kind of fiction to the author’s earlier, gothic and wildly successful, Old English Baron. The Two Mentors is contemporary and epistolary, with Edward Saville, the genteel young protagonist, advised by two different mentors, one worldly and the other moralizing, and ultimately triumphing over a decadent courtly social world full of what The Feminist Companion to Literature in English calls “evil aristocrats.” A plot-within-a-plot gives the autobiography of a middle-class clerk and his family. Raven and Garside, English Novel, 1783:19.

65. [SCOTT, SARAH ROBINSON]. The Life of Theodore Agrippa D’Aubigné, containing a Succinct Account of the most remarkable Occurrences during the Civil Wars of France in the reigns of Charles IX. Henry III. Henry IV. and in the Minority of Lewis XIII. London: Printed for Edward and Charles Dilly, in the Poultry, 1772. xv, [i], 421, [11]pp., 8vo. With the half-title, and a terminal index. Occasional minor spotting, but a handsome copy in contemporary sprinkled calf; rebacked with a gilt spine and morocco label, by Philip Dusel. $400.00

First edition, one of the bluestocking Sarah Scott’s last publications, addressing the politics of populism and assertions by writers like Voltaire of the superiority of French culture under an absolute monarchy. The life of d’Aubigné, according to Scott’s biographer, is a rebuttal of Voltaire; it celebrates the French protestant hero’s resistance, as the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography puts it, “to combined Catholic conspiracy, absolutist court monarchy, and plebeian violence.”

66. SEALLY, JOHN. Belles Lettres for the Ladies: Or, A new and easy Introduction to Polite Literature. Comprehending not only the Elements of Oratory, but a summary Account of the Lives and
Characters of the most illustrious Writers, who have distinguished themselves either as Poets, Orators, or Historians: and also, the Beauties of Composition; with Examples in every Species of Style. By J. Seally. Author of the New Guide to Astronomy and Geography, &c. London: Printed for W. Goldsmith, No. 24, Pater-noster-Row; and P. Elmsly, opposite Southampton-street, Strand, [1772]. 2 vols., 12mo. A handsome set in contemporary flame sheep; expertly rebacked with the original gilt spines and double red labels. $550.00

First and apparently only edition, dedicated “By Permission” to the six year-old daughter of George III, Charlotte-Augusta-Matilda. An introduction “To the Ladies of Great-Britain” remarks that women are “born with a sensibility men cannot boast” and “have it more in your power to excel in every polite art or science.”

A detailed explanation of rhetoric and oratory precedes selections of poetry (“the connexion between poetry and eloquence is so close. . . “), with selections taken from classical and English authors.

Although the title-pages are undated, the book’s preface is dated December 10, 1772 which makes it puzzling that ESTC would offer the publication date as [1785?]. It gives three locations: Bodleian, Cambridge and California State Library. OCLC has two entries, one for [1785?] and the other for [1772]. One location for [1772] appears to be the same Cambridge copy as under [1785?], the other is at the National Library of Scotland.

67. **SEWELL, MARY YOUNG.** Poems and Essays, By Mrs. G. Sewell, relict of the late Rev. George Sewell, Rector of Byfleet, Surrey. In Three Volumes. Vol. III. Chertsey: Printed for and Sold by R. Wetton. Sold also by Longman, Hurst . . . Crutwell and Hazard, Bath; Lake, Uxbridge; and C.C. Wetton, Egham, 1809. [vii], iv, x, ii, 224pp., sm. 8vo. With the half-title and a distinguished subscribers’ list (the final “ii” pages being addenda). Nice copy in contemporary half olive morocco; darkened and slightly rubbed. $150.00

First edition of the third volume (only). Although so titled, it is really a new collection, with a new preface and its own subscribers’ list, and of course new contents; the first two volumes were published, respectively, in 1803 and 1805. Many of the poems are on military themes, reflected in the many military subscribers; others are on quizzesing. “A New Riddle,” and “To an Infidel fashionable Writer.” Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 295, no. 4 (there was an intervening poem on the battle of Trafalgar between Vols. II and III; the text may be the same as that appearing here at pp. 82-90). OCLC records some twenty locations for the first volume in the sequence, dropping to four or five including this Vol. III.

68. **[SHERIDAN, FRANCES].** The Dupe, a Comedy. As it is Now Acting at the Theatre-Royal in Drury-Lane, by His Majesty’s Servants. By the Author of the Discovery. London: Printed for A. Millar, in the Strand, 1764. [viii], 68, [4]pp., 8vo. With the half-title and terminal blank leaf; half-title dusty and with one letter punched through in printing. Brown wrappers. $85.00

First edition, the last of Mrs. Sheridan’s plays published during her lifetime. It was not a success and was withdrawn after three performances. Pressed by creditors, the family subsequently withdrew to France, where Mrs. Sheridan died in 1766.
69. [SIGOURNEY], LYDIA HUNTLEY. Moral Pieces in Prose and Verse. By Lydia Huntley. Hartford: Sheldon & Goodwin, Printers, 1815. xii, 267, [9]pp., large 12mo. With a terminal page of errata and an eight-page list of subscribers; a couple of leaves slightly chipped at head and a clean tear across part of pp. 137-138. Still a sound, decent and entirely unsophisticated copy in contemporary half roan, spine gilt-ruled but unlettered; the marbled paper sides chafed. $175.00


70. SMITH, CHARLOTTE. Beachy Head: with other Poems. Now First Published. London: Printed for the Author; and Sold by J. Johnson, 1807. viii, 219, [1]pp., sm. 8vo. With the half-title, and a final page of advertisements for works “By the Same Author.” An attractive copy in later nineteenth-century polished calf gilt. $375.00

First edition, likely the earlier of two issues; the later one added a portrait, and cancelled the publisher’s “advertisement” which constitutes pp. [v]-viii here and discusses the delay in the book’s publication due to the author’s illness and death. This was the last significant collection of Charlotte Smith’s work, after four hugely-successful novels, and the equally popular Elegiac Sonnets, which first appeared in 1784 and rapidly went through ten editions. Summers, Gothic Bibliography, p. 185. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 302, no. 5 (with incorrect pagination).

71. SMITH, LYDIA B. Songs of Granada and the Alhambra. With other Poems. London: Saunders and Otley, 1836. [ii], xiv, 231, [5]pp., sm. 8vo. With the half-title, and a publishers’ catalogue at end. Original pebbled cream cloth, spine gilt; faded and a bit grubby, with the spine extremities slightly chipped, but sound. $225.00

First edition. The poems on the Alhambra and Granada take up about a third of the book, followed by a section of “Poetical Pictures,” and “Songs and Ballads,” with poems on flowers, fairies, gypsies, music, suitors, and one called “I’ll Never Braid My Hair Again.” OCLC records eight copies, only Duke and Florida State outside Great Britain.

72. [SMYTH, AMELIA GILLESPIE]. Tales of the Moors: or, Rainy Days in Rossshire. By the Author of Selwyn in Search of a Daughter. Edinburgh: William Blackwood: and T. Cadell, Strand, London, 1828. xix, [i], 437, [1]pp., 8vo. With the half-title, and a leaf of dedication to Walter Scott. Nice copy in slightly later half blue calf over cloth, spine fully gilt, t.e.g., other edges untrimmed. $150.00

First edition, apparently the prolific author’s first published book: “Selwyn in Search of a Daughter” was serialized in Blackwood’s Magazine the preceding year but not collected until 1835. Garside et al., English Novel1800-1829, 1828:76.
73. [SPENCER, Mrs. WALTER]. Commemorative Feelings, or Miscellaneous Poems. Interspersed with Sketches in Prose on the Sources of Pensive Pleasure. London: Printed for the Author, 1812. ix, [i], 152, [2], 153-163, [1]pp., sm. 8vo. Contemporary olive calf gilt; a little rubbed. $400.00

First edition of this collection of highly romantic effusions on such things as “The Memory of a Beautiful Ballad,” and with some thoughts on fellow-writers such as Charlotte Smith (invoking the Muses’ sighs “o’er the sorrows, thou art doom’d to know”) and Sydney Owenson (“a garland”). Mrs. Spencer - whose first name seems to have eluded bibliographers - published a smaller collection over thirty years previously, in 1781; both are uncommon. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 310, no. 2; four of the seven locations in OCLC are said to be at campuses of the University of California, with the others at the Bodleian, British Library, and University of Colorado.

74. STOTHARD, ANNA ELIZA. Letters Written during a Tour through Normandy, Brittany, and other parts of France, In 1818; including Local and Historical Descriptions; with Remarks on the Manners and Character of the People. London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown, 1820. iv, 322pp., 4to. Hand-colored engraved frontispiece and 22 plates, of which five are also hand-colored. A very nice, fresh, unspotted copy with some tissue guards still present, but in worn contemporary half calf with repairs to the spine. $325.00

First edition of the author’s first book. In 1818, she married Charles Alfred Stothard, son of the painter Thomas Stothard R.A., and these letters seem to have been the product of their honeymoon. Her husband was an illustrator of sculptured monuments, some of which feature in the present book, but in 1821 he died from a fall from a ladder while investigating a church in Devon. Mrs. Stothard later remarried, and as Anna Eliza Bray became a successful writer of historical novels.

PRESENTATION COPY

75. STRICKLAND, AGNES. Alda, the British Captive. London: Joseph Rickerby, Sherbourne Lane, 1841. [vi], 251, [1]pp., 8vo. Engraved and printed titles (the former browned and spotted), half-title inscribed by the author “To Frances Elizabeth Cottrel Dormer With kindest regards and best wishes from Agnes Strickland. Rousham August 8 1862. In Memoriam.” Original embossed purple cloth; worn with the head of spine chipped. $175.00

First edition, presentation copy, of Agnes Strickland’s first novel. Alda, the “British captive,” is the daughter of one of Boadicea’s generals, taken prisoner by the Romans. Wolff, Nineteenth-Century Fiction, 6600. The recipient of this copy, Frances Elizabeth Cottrell Dormer, published An Account of Rousham Oxfordshire in 1865.

the half-title but with errata leaf. Nice copy in contemporary half black calf; slightly rubbed. $325.00

First edition of one of the author’s scarcer books, with an affectionate two-page dedication to Hannah More, who befriended the author when she came to Bristol in 1824 after the collapse of her marriage. The second edition of this title was printed in London in 1826, but this scarce first edition testifies to the author’s continuing connection with Ireland. Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 255, no. 2(a); seven copies in OCLC.

**PRESENTATION COPY FROM MRS. TRIMMER’S DAUGHTERS**

77. **TRIMMER, SARAH.** Some Account of the Life and Writings of Mrs. Trimmer. With Original Letters, and Meditations and Prayers, Selected from her Journal. London: Printed for F. C. and J. Rivington, 1814. 2 vols., 8vo. Stipple-engraved portrait of Mrs. Trimmer (somewhat foxed), with a four-page catalogue of her publications at the end of Vol. II. Slightly later half green sheep, spines gilt; joints worn. Front free endpaper inscribed by the recipient “Anne Katherine Crane, from her affectionate Friends Sarah & Juliana Lydia Trimmer. Brentford, 1815” and with a manuscript fragment laid down on a flyleaf (see below) along with a clipped signature “Anne Crane.” $150.00

First edition, edited by Mrs. Trimmer’s son, with this copy presumably a gift from Mrs. Trimmer’s daughters from their house in Brentford where they lived with their mother until her death. The manuscript fragment is not in Anne Crane’s hand, is clearly contemporary with the book’s publication, and seems likely to be a clipping from a letter by Mrs. Trimmer’s daughters. It reads, in part,

. . . you will like Mrs. Trimmer’s Journal it is a sweet thing and characteristic of her
. . . she had indeed a heavenly mind and was as humble as good - this book is quite a closet companion & as comforting as a beloved friend - it is quite a balm of Gilead.

78. **TUCKEY, MARY B.** Old James, the Irish Pedlar. Written for the American Sunday-School Union, by Mary B. Tuckey, of Cork, Ireland. Philadelphia: American Sunday-School Union [1850]. 61, [1]pp., 4to. Woodcut frontispiece (this included in the pagination) and six plates, with the half-title; some minor spotting. Original blind-stamped olive cloth, upper cover and spine gilt; a few stains. $50.00

First edition, in verse, the story of a pedlar selling Bibles through Ireland in 1848. The author earlier published *The Wrongs of Africa; a Tribute to the Anti-Slavery Cause*.

79. **[VINCÉ, ELIZABETH, and SUSAN WINTER].** The Mystic Wreath; or, Evening Pastime: consisting of Enigmatical Poems, Charades, Anagrams, Conundrums, Rebuses, &c. &c. By Susan and Elizabeth. London: Printed for the Authors, and sold by Sherwood, Gilbert, and Piper, Pasternoster Row, 1829. xxiv, 276pp., large 12mo. With the half-title, a list of subscribers, and the solutions at the end. A fresh and entirely untrimmed copy in the original drab boards; backstrip worn but most of the printed paper label intact. $400.00

First and only edition, and apparently the only publication by these two sisters. In verse throughout, and dedicated to the widow of Charles James Fox, with the sisters declaring that even critics will find in it “some touches of sublimity.” Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 357, no. 1; six locations in OCLC.
“THE OPENING OF THE THEATRE AT BOTANY BAY”

80. **WATTS, SUSANNA.** Original Poems, and Translations; particularly Ambra. From Lorenzo de’ Medici. Chiefly by Susanna Watts. London: Printed by Nichols and Son, Red Lion Passage, Fleet Street, for F. and C. Rivington. . . and sold by all the Booksellers in Leicester, 1802. [iv], vii, [i], 144 pp., 8vo. Preliminaries mis-paged, but corresponding to the copy online at the HathiTrust. A well-margined copy in contemporary calf; plainly rebacked in calf and gilt-lettered. $375.00

   First and only edition, including a poem from the perspective of a cedar tree, a tree which the author (an accomplished artist), drew. Another is titled “Complaint of the Genius of the Flowers.” There are also various contributions by “A Gentleman” including “Prologue, supposed to have been spoken at the Opening of the Theatre at Botany Bay” dated 1801:
   
   He, who to midnight ladders is no stranger,
   You’ll grant will make an admirable Ranger;
   To seek Macheath we have not far to roam,
   And sure in Filch I shall be quite at home. . . .

   Jackson, *Romantic Poetry by Women*, p. 362, no. 2. OCLC records eight or so copies (one of the records is mixed up with computer files).

81. **[WELLS, MARY]**. The Triumph of Faith over the World, the Flesh, and the Devil; exemplified in the Life, Death, and spiritual Experience, of that burning and shining light Mrs. Joanna Turner, Who departed this Life on the 24th of December 1784, In the Fifty-Third Year of her Age. Bristol: Printed for T. Mills, in Wine-Street, 1787. 329, [1] pp., 12mo. Early ownership inscription of Thomas Stratton on title, along with an attractive orange two-part stamp of Cheshunt College (their bookplate and withdrawn stamp are on the front pastedown. A fresh and pleasant copy in contemporary calf; upper joint splitting. $175.00

   First edition, a quite detailed exploration of how Mrs. Turner, initially attracted to “the fashionable amusements of the age,” came to shun things “such as reading romances, conformity to the world in vain and unbecoming modes of dress! &c &c.” What some may call the book’s “tedious length . . . must be ascribed to the pressing desire of some spiritual friends, to have as many as possible of Mrs. Turner’s valuable papers inserted.” Nine copies in ESTC, three of them (Duke, Emory, and Missouri) in North America.

82. **WINSCOMB, JANE CAVE.** Poems on Various Subjects, Entertaining, Elegiac, and Religious. With a few select poems from other authors. By Miss Cave. Now Mrs. W----. Bristol: Printed for the Author, 1786. [xx], 172 pp., 12mo. Engraved portrait by “Owen sc. Bristol”, with a subscribers’ list, some errata corrected in
contemporary manuscript; upper margins of the first eight leaves with mild stains and a couple of small holes now expertly restored, otherwise a fresh and attractive copy in calf gilt, morocco spine label, by Philip Dusel. $375.00

First edition of this collection. Some of the poems here were also printed by the author in Winchester in 1783, also in a subscription edition, and three years later another edition appeared in Shrewsbury. Could some of the wide dispersal of these poems have been due to the influence of Mrs. Winscomb’s husband, an exciseman? In any event, the poems are charming, with many on amorous subjects, and a few more serious reflections on the American Revolution (one is called “A Poem Occasioned by hearing prophane Cursing and Swearing at the Time of the American war”), on the death of friends, and on an orphan. Jackson, Romantic Poetry by Women, p. 378, 1(b).


First and only edition, written “for the amusement of the Authoress during her leisure hours. . . the juvenile production of a young person in her sixteenth year.” Grace Darling’s famous heroism during the rescue of passengers and crew from the wrecked “Forfarshire,” broken on the rocks of Northumberland, resulted in a number of accounts, including G.W. Reynolds’s *Grace Darling; or, The Heroine of the Fern Islands*. The present novelistic retelling, by a sixteen year-old girl, is rare, with OCLC recording only the University of Illinois copy outside Great Britain.

WITH A NEW NOVELLA IN THE FOURTH VOLUME

84. **[YOUNG, MARY JULIA].** A Summer at Brighton. A Modern Novel, in Four Volumes. The Fourth Volume contains The Story of the Modern Laïs. London: Printed by D.N. Shury, Berwick Street, Soho, for J.F. Highes, Wigmore-Street, Cavendish Suuare [sic.], 1807. 4 vols., 12mo. With the half-titles, and a leaf of publisher’s advertisements at the end of Vol. II; Vol. I with a brown stain at the lower blank corners throughout, the paper intact. A handsome copy in contemporary half calf, spines fully gilt with double black labels. Contemporary signature (“Antrim”? ) dated “June 2d 1807” in each volume (cropped in the first), and with an unnamed nobleman’s armorial bookplate which I cannot trace (and doesn’t seem to be that of the Earls of Antrim). $450.00

Third edition, but the first to add “The Story of the Modern Laïs,” a startlingly frank tale of a young woman prepared to sell herself for money and position. This is a well-written and uncommon novel, popular enough on publication to call for five editions (the first two in three volumes) the same year. Garside et al, English Novel, 1807:69; of this third edition OCLC locates three copies: Manchester; Harvard, and Penn; others are equally rare.