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*We are specialized in science, philosophy, economics, natural history, and history of ideas in general, in the period from the 15th to the 20th century. Below are short-title descriptions of the books that we are showing at the New York International Antiquarian Book Fair, 2017. Full descriptions of all of our books are available. Please visit us in **BOOTH A9/A11**. For a full view of our entire stock, please visit our web-site, www.lynge.com, where you will be able to search and browse more than 20,000 books.*



HERMAN H. J. LYNGE

(1822-1897)

**New York International Antiquarian Book Fair,
April 7-10**

Short-title List

-Full descriptions of all items are available upon request

"ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE"

AMPÈRE, ANDRÉ-MARIE.

Théorie des Phénomènes électro-dynamiques...

1826. Scarce first edition in the very scarce first separate edition of "one of the most celebrated memoirs in the history of natural philosophy" (Whittaker), unifying electricity and magnetism. The papers published here, which Ampère had read to the Academy during the years 1820-25, appeared prior to the publication in the Memoirs of the Academy.

USD 17,400

THE EXCEEDINGLY RARE TRUE FIRST PRINTING OF "THE UGLY DUCKLING" ETC.

ANDERSEN, H.C.

Nye Eventyr og Historier. [New Fairy Tales. Complete with all five collections in two volumes, all in first issue, also the first, which contains "The Ugly Duckling"]

1844-48. First edition of Hans Christian Andersen's seminal second collection of fairy tales - the publication that caused him international fame - with all five collections in first issue, also the first, which is of the utmost rarity. It is in this legendary first collection that we find the first printing of "The Ugly Duckling" (not as is indicated in PMM in his first fairy tale collection, which does not contain his most important fairy tales). The rarity of the first issue of volume 1, collection 1 is legendary. It was published on November 11th 1843 (dated 1844 on the title-page) in a very small number, probably due to the poor sales of Andersen's first fairy tale collection. Against all belief, this first collection sold out within a few days, catapulting Andersen into worldwide fame, and a second issue was published already on December 21st 1843. Thus, only very few copies of the first issue exist, and almost all collections of the "New fairy Tales" are bound with the second issue or the third of 1847, meaning that they do not contain the actual first printing of "The Ugly Duckling", "The Nightingale", "The Angel", and "The Sweethearts".

USD 12,900

FIRST PRINTING OF ANDERSEN'S FIRST FAIRY TALE

ANDERSEN, H.C.

Digte.

1830. The rare first edition of the first published collection of Andersen's poetry - Andersen's third published book (at the age of 25) - containing, at the end, the first printing of any of his fairy tales, being also his very first fairy tale ("The Ghost", also sometimes "The Spectre"). This is the first time that Andersen uses the term "Eventyr" (fairy tale), the term which came to denote the genre for which he received world-wide fame as one of the most important writers of all time. This seminal publication lays the foundation for Andersen's activity as an author of fairy tales.

USD 6,800

"THE FINEST POSSIBLE COLLECTION IN PRIVATE HANDS"

ANDERSEN, H.C.

Collection of first editions and original autographed letters.

1822-1875. The finest Hans Christian Andersen collection anywhere in the world, containing all the fairy tale collections, all the novels, all the travel descriptions, and a few of the plays - all carefully chosen and in unique copies. It is the largest collection of Andersen-presentation-copies on private hands and only The Royal Library of Denmark and the Andersen-museum in Odense have larger collections of presentation-copies. The collection also contains some of the best letters imaginable from Andersen, e.g. from each of his two trips to England, including the long one from his stay with the Dickens-family. All items are very carefully chosen, aiming at quality, not quantity. This outstanding collection contains so many unique copies that one would never come across otherwise, e.g. one of three known copies of his first work (the only copy known on private hands), the earliest dated inscription from Andersen (1830), the first fairy tale collection in various unique copies, the first illustrated edition of his fairy tales with all five original front wrappers, all inscribed by Andersen, a unique set of New Fairy Tales with all five pamphlets, all in first issues and with the original printed wrappers, etc., etc.

USD 1,200,000

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK

ARISTOTELES (ARISTOTLE).

[Organon].

1495. Editio princeps of Aristotle's logical works (as well as the editio princeps of Porphyrios' "Isagoge"), arguably the most important publication in the entire history of printing. When Aldus Manuzio, the first and most celebrated scholar-printer of the Renaissance, began publishing - for the first time in history - the works of Aristotle in the original Greek, he inaugurated a new era in the history of mankind, making the present volume one of the most important moments in the history of the book. The importance of his seminal Aristotle-edition can hardly be over-estimated. Constituting the first major Greek prose text (or collection of texts) to be printed in its original language, it epitomizes the role of printing in re-introducing the original classical Greek texts to the Western world after centuries of unavailability.

USD 79,400

THE REFORMATION OF KNOWLEDGE

BACON, FRANCIS.

[De Augmentis Scientiarum].

1623. The extremely rare first edition of what is arguably Bacon's main work "De Augmentis Scientiarum" (a greatly expanded and completely re-written version of the "Advancement of Learning", 1605), in which he sets out to lay the foundations of science entirely anew and reform the process of knowledge for the advancement of learning. Bacon believes that the advancement of learning will ultimately relieve mankind from its miseries and needs, and as such he not only reformed the foundations of science, he also laid the philosophical foundations for the dawning of the Industrial age. His proposed change of the collective thought of mankind completely reshaped the entire course of science in history. The aim of the present work - to investigate and re-classify philosophy and the sciences - marks a turning point in the rhetorical and theoretical framework for science, which is still essential for our conceptions of proper methodology today.

USD 37,800

EARLY INDIAN MANUSCRIPT WITH 107 MINIATURES

BHAGAVATA PURANA

Veda Vyasa (?). A Vernacular version of the Tenth Book of the Bhagavata Purana.

(1768-69). An extremely scarce, large, early and profusely illustrated Indian manuscript. The Bhagavata is widely recognized as the best known and most influential of the Puranas; it is sometimes referred to as the "Fifth Veda", along with itihasa and other puranas. It is unique in Indian religious literature, both for its emphasis on the practice of bhakti, for its redefining of dharma, and for the extent of its description of God in a human-like form. It is furthermore the source for many of the popular stories of Krishna's childhood told for centuries in the Indian subcontinent.

USD 40,000

THE FINAL EXPRESSION OF BODIN'S PHILOSOPHY

BODIN, IO. (JEAN).

Universae Naturae Theatrum.

1596. The rare first edition of Bodin's great final work, his main contribution to the field of natural philosophy and one of his most important works. It constitutes the most systematic exposition of Bodin's vision of the world and is the culmination point of his systematic examination of things, revealing to us the full extent of his entire philosophy. Here, Bodin constructs a completely new type of natural philosophy, one which attempts to combine religion with philosophy. By combining philosophical research concerning causes with a pious recognition of divine providence and the greatness of God, Bodin constantly reminds us of the importance of reason and reasoning at the same time that he refers to the Holy Scripture.

USD 8,400

CHAMPIONING THE ABSOLUTE INFINITE

BOLZANO, BERNARD.

Paradoxien des Unendlichen.

1851. The exceedingly scarce first edition of this landmark work of logical and mathematical thought, in which Bolzano anticipates, by decades, Cantor's work in Infinite Numbers, lays the foundation for set theory, and becomes a precursor to Cauchy, Cantor, and Weierstrass in the arithmetization of mathematical analysis. Needless to say, the work, which calls for a total arithmetization of mathematical analysis, was highly praised and admired by the most important logicians in the field, such as Peirce, Dedekind, and Cantor. Bolzano recognized the necessity in analyzing the paradoxes of infinity, of defining various "obvious" mathematical concepts, including that of continuity, and became the first mathematician to note that an infinite set could be considered equivalent to certain of its subsets.

USD 28,000

THE FOUNDATION OF ECONOMIC THEORY

(CANTILLON, RICHARD).

Essai sur la Nature du Commerce en général. Traduit de l'anglais.

1755. The exceedingly rare first edition of one of the most important and influential works of economic literature, as well as one of the scarcest. The author is considered a pioneer of economic theory, anticipating and influencing the likes of Smith, Malthus, Turgot, Quesnay, Mirabeau, etc. This, Cantillon's only published work, is considered the first actual work of theoretical economics, an absolutely ground-breaking work which by Jevons was characterized as the "Cradle of Political Economy".

USD 46,900

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION IN THE MAKING

CHERNYSHEVSKY.

Chto Delat? [Russian. i.e. What is to be Done?]. [In the original printing of issues 3-5 of "Sovremennik", March-May, 1863].

[1863]. The extremely scarce first edition of the most influential Russian novel ever written, Chernyshevsky's magnum opus, which is considered the single most important work of modern revolutionary thought. "If one were to ask for the title of the nineteenth-century Russian novel that has had the greatest influence on Russian society, it is likely that a non-Russian would choose among the books of the mighty triumvirate: Turgenev, Tolstoy, or Dostoyevsky. Fathers and Sons? War and Peace? Crime and Punishment? These would certainly be among the suggested answers; but ... the novel that can claim this honor with most justice is N. G. Chernyshevsky's What Is to Be Done?... no work in modern literature, with the possible exception of Uncle Tom's Cabin, can compete with What Is to Be Done? in its effect on human lives and its power to make history. For Chernyshevsky's novel far more than Marx's Capital, supplied the emotional dynamic that eventually went to make the Russian Revolution."

USD 25,000

EXTREMELY RARE INCUNABLE WITH MAGNIFICENT WOODCUT ILLUSTRATIONS, IN A CONTEMPORARY BINDING

CONRAD DINCKMUT.

[Epistolae et Evangelia]. ["Hye hebt sich an das Evangeli Buch"]. [Evangelienbuch].

[14]83. The exceedingly rare first (and only) printing of Conrad Dinckmut's "Plenarium", being a German translation of the Epistles and Gospels for the Sundays and festivals of the entire liturgical year. Richly illustrated with numerous magnificent woodcuts of a very high quality, all coloured (beautifully, but later), bound in a fully contemporary and completely unrestored south German binding, possibly from Dinckmut's own workshop, or possibly by Johannes Richenbach of Geislingen (just north of Ulm, active 1467-1485, and known as one of the first German binders to use roll tools on his bindings). This magnificent illustrated incunable by one of the earliest printers of Ulm (the 4th) is of the utmost scarcity. OCLC lists merely 1 copy in libraries worldwide. It seems, however, that there are a few more copies and some fragments in a few German libraries. 246 (of 256 leaves), lacking first leaf (blank?), f. 39, and one entire quire, being ff. 193-200.

USD 37,800

THE CORNERSTONE OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

DAVY, HUMPHRY.

Researches, Chemical and Philosophical...

1800. "Excessively rare" (Duveen) first edition of this milestone in the history of anaesthesia, "one of the most remarkable books in the history of science" (Fulton), being Davy's groundbreaking first important work, in which he suggests the possible anaesthetic qualities of nitrous oxide and describes for the first time the use of "laughing gas".

USD 10,600

THE FIRST TEXTBOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY

DESCARTES, RENATUS.

De Homine...

1662. First edition of Descartes' seminal treatise on man, the first European textbook of physiology, constituting an epochal work of modern thought, defining the mechanism of man as it does. "In the Treatise of man, Descartes did not describe man, but a kind of conceptual models of man, namely creatures, created by God, which consist of two ingredients, a body and a soul. "These men will be composed, as we are, of a soul and a body. First I must describe the body on its own; then the soul, again on its own; and finally I must show how these two natures would have to be joined and united in order to constitute men who resemble us"." This highly influential work was the first to present a coherent description of bodily responses in neurophysiological terms that are still, to a wide extent, accepted today.

USD 12,100

EINSTEIN'S "SOLUTION" TO "THE THIRD STAGE OF RELATIVITY", THE UNIFIED FIELD THEORY.

EINSTEIN, ALBERT.

Autograph letter, signed "A. Einstein", in German, to herman Müntz, dated 10.XII.28, together with the envelope addressed in Einstein's hand and with a three-line note (and equation) in Einstein's hand to the back of the envelope.

1928. 1 page. An unpublished and unrecorded letter of seminal importance to the understanding of Einstein's path towards his great final theory, perhaps the most ambitious and complex achievement of the 20th century, namely the all-embracing formula that would unite all forces of nature, showing them as merely different manifestations of a single, universal force and as such disclosing the secret laws of nature - the great UNIFIED FIELD THEORY, marrying the electromagnetic and gravitational fields. Predating the submission of Einstein's "Zur einheitlichen feldtheorie" by a month, the letter represents one of the final steps towards the UTF, presenting us with the essential parts of Einstein's solution hereto. In the letter Einstein draws a conclusion that comes to be fundamental for his groundbreaking work and even on the back of the envelope gives to this "solution" a more explicit formulation. The letter ends thus: "In any case, we [i.e. Einstein himself and Müntz] are on the right path with the theory of distant parallelism."

USD 128,500

ONE OF THE FINEST OF ALL ANATOMICAL TREATISES

ESTIENNE, CHARLES.

De dissectione partium corporis humani.

1545. The very rare first edition of one of the most important works in the history of medicine, being the first published work to include illustrations of the whole external venous, arterial, and nervous systems, and the most magnificent anatomical atlas of the sixteenth century, next to Vesalius' "Fabrica". Although the work was published two years after Vesalius', the anatomy itself is pre-Vesalian and antedates the "Fabrica" by some years in actual composition. "This magnificent folio volume is one of the finest of all anatomical treatises." (Heirs of Hippocrates). "One of the finest woodcut books of the French Renaissance, in which science and art are ideally merged." (Schreiber).

USD 58,200

EDITIO PRINCEPS OF THE ELEMENTS OF EUCLID

EUCLID OF ALEXANDRIA.

STOICHEION... (Elementa geometriae).

1533. The monumental editio princeps of the "Elements" of Euclid, "the greatest mathematical textbook of all times", being the first printing of the original Greek text, including the first printing of Proclus' seminal commentary to the first book (the so-called "Herwagiana"). The present editio princeps constitutes one of the most important publications in the history of scientific (and philosophical) thought, and it profoundly influenced Renaissance, and in turn all modern, thought.

USD 43,000

THE MAIN WORK OF RENAISSANCE PLATONISM

FICINO, MARSILIO.

Sopra lo Amorem o ver' Convito de Platone.

1544. Scarce first edition thus of Ficino's most important work as well as one of the most influential texts of the Renaissance. This is the editio princeps of the Italian text, being Ficino's own Italian translation of the work; furthermore, this Italian edition also constitutes the first separate edition of the work and it contains several additions and emendations compared to the Latin version.

USD 10,600

THE CONDUCTION OF HEAT

FOURIER.

Théorie analytique de la Chaleur.

1822. First edition of Fourier's seminal main work, an epochal achievement in the history of science, being "the first outstanding publication on the conduction of heat" and the "source of all modern methods in mathematical physics involving the integration of partial differential equations in problems where boundary values are fixed". "Fourier demonstrated that problems in mathematical physics can be solved for any complex condition when one knows how to solve the simple periodic initial condition."

USD 26,500

THE STARTING POINT OF ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY - PRESENTATION-COPY

FREGE, G.

Die Grundlagen der Arithmetik.

1884. The rare first edition with a handwritten presentation-inscription from Frege ("Freundschaftlichst/ überreicht vom/ Verfasser.") of this pioneering work of modern logic, which constitutes the starting point of analytic philosophy, of the philosophy of mathematics, and of logicism. This cornerstone of modern logic was pivotal to the development of the two main disciplines: the foundation of mathematics and the foundation of philosophy, and with it, Frege founded the discipline of logicism. The work profoundly influenced Russell and Wittgenstein, who both used Frege's "The Foundations of Arithmetic" as a steppingstone for their own work (e.g. In the preface of the "Principia Mathematica" Russell and Whitehead state that "In all questions of logical analysis our chief debt is to Frege").

USD 34,000

THE FOUNDATION OF SURGICAL ANATOMY

GENGA, BERNARDINO.

Anatomia chirurgica...

1672. The rare first edition of the first book devoted entirely to surgical anatomy. Genga's milestone work founded the discipline of anatomical surgery; it was frequently reprinted and remained a widely used manual for decades after its first appearance. Genga furthermore, in the tract appended to this work (i.e the "Breve Discorso" on the circulation of the blood, pp. 420-448), showed himself to be one of the first Italians to accept Harvey's theory on the circulation of blood.

USD 9,100

GLEICHEN'S MICROSCOPE

GLEICHEN, WILHELM FRIEDRICH von [RUSSWORM / GLEICHEN-RUSSWORM / RUSSWURM].

Das Neueste aus dem Reiche der Pflanzen, oder Mikroskopische Untersuchungen...

1764 [recte: 1763-66]. The scarce first edition of this splendid work, in which the outstanding microscopist Baron Gleichen-Russworm recorded his observations of plants and insects. The 51 astonishingly beautiful hand-coloured copperplates show the morphology of plants and insects in great detail as well as his magnificent specially constructed microscope and its different parts, making it of the utmost importance to the history of the microscope as well as the fertilization processes in plants.

USD 25,000

EXTREMELY SCARCE FIRST ISSUE OF "FAUST"

GOETHE.

Faust.

1790. First edition, first issue - in the extremely scarce offprint (Sonderdruck) from Goethe's collected works, vol. 7 - in the even scarcer variant of the first issue (hitherto only known in one other copy, recorded in 1966) which has preserved the quire denomination "W.7.B." (Werke 7. Band) on D1 - of one of the peaks of world literature, the main work by one of the greatest writers that ever lived. Few other writers have been as influential as Goethe and his works were an immense source of inspiration for everything from drama and music to science and philosophy. Goethe is generally accepted as one of the most important Western thinkers and his main work "Faust" arguably constitutes the most important and influential work of world literature. "If Goethe may justly be called the last representative of the renaissance ideal of the "oumo universale", his "Faust" embodies the sum total of his poetical growth." (PMM).

USD 15,200

PRESENTATION-COPY OF THE EXCEEDINGLY RARE FIRST ISSUE

(HELVETIUS, CLAUDE ADRIEN).

De l'Esprit.

1758. Extremely rare first edition, first issue, with manuscript dedication-inscription from the author, of this monumental work of the French Enlightenment. This magnum opus of modern thought is considered the founding work of modern Utilitarianism, as it is here that Helvétius articulates the greatest happiness principle ("the greatest happiness for the greatest number") for the first time and becomes the first to define social welfare upon this utilitarian maxim, directly influencing Bentham and Mill. The materialistic philosophy of Helvétius' "De l'Esprit" also directly influenced Karl Marx, who had studied the work while in Paris and called the ideas presented in it "the social basis of communism". "De l'Esprit" arguably constitutes the greatest "succès de scandale" of Western thought and one of the most influential works of Western philosophy. This magnificent copy is stunning in all ways. It contains all the extremely rare condemned and repressed leaves of the first issue (bound in the back), it is printed on large paper, contemporarily bound (presumably under instruction by Helvétius himself) in a stunning full calf gift binding and with two manuscript ex-dono- (presentation-) inscriptions by Helvétius himself. One of them, on the verso of the title-page, is crossed out, but is still legible (reading "donum auctoris 17 avril 1760 Cl. Helvetius"), the second, on the front free end-paper reads "ex dono auctoris 1761" - thus indicating that Helvétius, who had the copy in his possession, to give away when he felt it appropriate, had first intended to give it away - perhaps late in the year - in 1760, and then ended up giving it away in 1761.

USD 118,000

THE FIRST INSIGHT INTO THE VISIONARY SOURCE OF HERMETISM

HERMES TRISMEGISTOS.

Poimandres. Asklepiou Oroï pros Ammona Basliea (Greek).

1554. The rare editio princeps of the Hermetic corpus, being the seminal first and chief work of the "Corpus Hermeticum", the "Poemander", which became one of the most important texts of the Renaissance (in which Hermes was considered a contemporary of Moses and the founder of theology), as well as the editio princeps of the "Definitiones" of Asklepios. The two works in the present publication have for centuries been synonymous with the "Corpus Hermeticum". The "Poemander" is assumed to be the first text of the corpus to have been written. It has always been considered the central work of the corpus and was thus unsurprisingly the first to be published in the original Greek. Appearing in the original Greek in 1554, it had an enormous influence upon Renaissance thought, both philosophical and scientific. It competed in influence with Neoplatonism and also came to be considered a form of Platonism, being quickly adopted into the corpus of classical texts formative for modern thought. In fact, for a long period, the "Poemander" outshone even the texts of Plato and were considered on par with them in importance.

USD 12,100

FOUNDING THE MODERN ART OF ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATION

HORREBOW, PEDER. [RØMER, ROEMER].

Basis Astronomiae...

1735. The extremely rare first edition, presentation-copy, of this highly important work, which shows for the first time Ole Roemer's astronomical instruments by which he was the first to discover and measure "The Speed of Light". Nearly all of Roemer's papers and observations were destroyed in the great fire of Copenhagen in 1728, and as Roemer never published anything himself, the present publication constitutes all that we have documenting his instruments, his methods, and his discoveries, making this publication one of the most important astronomical works of modern times. "Not the splendid and magnificent Observatory in Paris, but the little hut Tusculanum (Roemer's small private observatory outside Copenhagen), became the place, from which the modern art of astronomical observation began."

USD 30,300

"OF ALL MY WRITINGS... INCOMPARABLY THE BEST."

HUME, DAVID.

An Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals.

1751. First edition, first issue (L3 in the uncanceled state) of Hume's ethical masterpiece, according to Hume himself "of all my writings, historical, philosophical or literary, incomparably the best" (Hume, "My Own Life, 1776). The present work is a cornerstone of moral philosophy, laying bare to us the foundation of ethics. It hugely influenced all later writings on ethics and constitutes a milestone in the history of moral thought.

USD 9,800

PMM 226 - PURE REASON - CHANGING THE FACE OF PHILOSOPHY

KANT, IMMANUEL.

Critik der reinen Vernunft.

1781. Rare first edition of Kant's monumental main work, arguably the most important work in the history of philosophy since Aristotle.

USD 28,000

A MAGNIFICENT SET OF ALL OF KIERKEGAARD'S WORKS IN FIRST EDITIONS

KIERKEGAARD.

A complete collection of Søren Kierkegaard's works - all first editions.

1838-59. A beautiful and highly decorative set almost completely in contemporary and original state - and including a presentation-copy. Without doubt the most magnificent Kierkegaard-set that we have ever collected. Here, we have collected all of his works in first editions - which is not too easy a task (apart from two of the works, which were printed in ab. 250 and 100 copies respectively, the rest were printed in ab. 525 copies each) - and attempted to make the very best set that one could hope for.

USD 53,000

THE BASIS OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

LINNAEUS, CAROLUS (CARL LINNÉ).

Systema Naturae.

1758-59. The extremely rare seminal tenth edition of Linnaeus' main work, being the most important edition of this foundational work, as "[i]t is in this edition that Linnaeus carried out the definitive plan of binominal nomenclature, with diagnosis and synonyms, for the first time, including the generic and the trivial names, which together form the specific name of each animal. This edition has therefore been accepted as "the basis of zoological nomenclature". "Systema Natura" is considered the bible of natural history, and with the definitive tenth edition of it, it founded modern zoological nomenclature and changed the science more profoundly than any other work before or after.

USD 18,900

1 OF 20 COPIES ON GOAT SKIN VELLUM

LONGUS - ARISTIDE MAILLOL (Illustr.).

Daphnis et Chloé.

(1937). First edition - nr. VII of 20 copies on goat skin vellum, all hors commerce and signed by Maillol - of this magnificent work, which is considered the finest and most harmonious of Maillol's illustrated works. In a magnificent profusely gilt full morocco binding by Huser, dated 1944.

USD 25,000

ONE OF 100 COPIES OF THE FIRST EDITION

MANN, THOMAS.

Der Tod in Venedig.

1912. The very scarce first edition, nr. 32 of 100 copies, of Thomas Mann's disturbing masterpiece, probably the most famous story of obsession ever written. "The Death in Venice" is considered one of the most important literary productions of the 20th century.

USD 31,800

COINING - AND FOUNDING - "POLITICAL ECONOMY"

MAYERNE, LOUIS TURQUET de.

La monarchie aristodémocratique...

1611. The very rare first edition of this milestone work of political science, which contains the first noted occurrence in any modern language of the phrase "political economy", otherwise thought to have been coined by Montchrétien in 1615, four years after the present work. "La Monarchie" marks the beginning of one of the most important political-economical enterprises, which continues to this day, namely the attempt at generalizing Aristotle's "economics" to the level of "state". The work constitutes a precursor to Montchrétien in almost all ways. Not only is it the first attempt at re-creating civil order by activating governmental authority, the first work to re-define the worth of the Old Nobility and establish the Reason State, it also founds the entire "culture of merit" and is furthermore one of the first utopia-programmes for a police-state. "The author of this treatise was a prophet without honor in his own time - indeed, Marie de Médicis's regency banned the essay immediately after its publication in 1611 - but he nonetheless set the essential sociopolitical agenda for the entire ancien régime."

USD 23,500

THE FIRST MAN OF LETTERS

PETRARCA, FRANCISCUS.

Epistole Familiares.

1492. Very rare first edition of the most important and influential of Petrarca's publications, his seminal "Epistolae Familiares", which constitutes one of the most significant works of the Renaissance - the first documentation of "modern man". The present publication constitutes the only separately published incunable edition of Petrarch's letters. Later on, in all 350 letters to his friends were published; the present work is made up of the first 102 and the publication thus marks the beginning of one of the most important enterprises of humanism, namely the publication of the letters that reveal to us the man Petrarca. Petrarca is the first modern man whose life can be traced accurately (due to the publication of his letters) and he is considered the embodiment of the transition from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. The many outer and inner conflicts that we witness in the person Petrarca is a testament to the times in which he lived - a time in which the Middle Ages evolved into the Renaissance and in which man became the centre of the world, a time in which humanism was born.

USD 16,600

ONE OF THE EARLIEST INTERPRETATIONS OF THE MEANING OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

PICO DELLA MIRANDOLA, GIOVANNI FRANCESCO.

De morte Christi & propria cogitanda libri tres.

1497. Exceedingly scarce first edition of the two highly important works "On Remembering the Death of Christ and Oneself", which is dedicated to Savonarola in the year before he was condemned and hanged, and "On the Study Divine and Human Philosophy", being Gianfrancesco Pico's seminal first philosophical work, in which the foundation for his philosophical theories are laid and which foreshadows the scepticism of his "Examen", for which he became famous as the first modern Sceptic. The present publication is furthermore the first in which Gianfr. Pico refers to the discovery of America; the work was written merely a couple of years after Columbus' discovery became known; Pico's references in the present work constitute one of the first testimonies to the awareness of the meaning and importance of the discovery of the New World and it is considered a highly important piece of 15th century Americana.

USD 26,500

THE FIRST SYSTEMATIC HANDBOOK OF PAPAL HISTORY

PLATINA, BARTOLOMEO (BARTHOLOMEO SACCHI).

[Vitae Pontificum].

1481. First edition thus, being the first Koberger-printing of Platina's main work, his highly influential history of the "Lives of the Popes" - from St. Peter down to his own time -, which for centuries remained the standard reference work for Papal history, highly influencing the way the different popes were viewed and portrayed.

USD 14,400

THE GREAT PETIT & BADIUS-EDITION

PLATON [PLATO].

Opera a Marsilio Ficino traducta...

(1518). First edition thus, being one of the most important (and beautiful) Plato-editions, namely the famous first Jean Petit and Badius-edition, which includes for the first time the pseudo-Platonic dialogues "Axiochus" (translated by Rodolphus Agricola) and "Halcyon" (translated by Agostino Dati), alongside Ficino's seminal translation of Plato's works. This edition became the standard Plato-edition for decades to follow; numerous editions followed this first, and it greatly influenced Renaissance readings of Plato.

USD 12,900

ESTABLISHING THE ENLIGHTENMENT

POMPONAZZI, PIETRO.

De naturalium effectuum causis...

1556. Exceedingly scarce first edition of Pomponazzi's seminal "De Incantationibus", perhaps the most original work of natural philosophy of the Renaissance and arguably the first work of what comes to be the Enlightenment. The work, which is one of Pomponazzi's most important productions (along with his treatise on the immortality of the soul), constitutes a forerunner of Naturalism and Empiricism and could be considered the first true Enlightenment work ever, causing Pomponazzi, our greatest Renaissance philosopher, to be generally considered "The last Scholastic and the first man of the Enlightenment" (Sandy, Randall, Kristeller). The appeal to experience is the main concern of the work, and its strict and completely novel way of treating the subject matter resulted in a hitherto unattained elevated position of philosophy in the Latin West, providing to philosophy a new method that remains dominant to this day and without which we would scarcely be able to imagine modern philosophy. Proclaiming the victory of philosophy over religion, the "de Incantationibus" changed the entire history of philosophy - philosophy being to Pomponazzi the supreme truth and the final judge of all phenomena.

USD 37,000

"THE BIBLE OF ASTROLOGY"

PTOLEMAEUS, CLAUDIUS.

[Tetrabiblos].

1535. The very rare first Greek/Latin edition, i.e. the editio princeps of the Greek text and the first edition of Camerarius' seminal translation into Latin, of Ptolemy's famous textbook of astrology. The work "ranks as the Bible of Astrology", and Ptolemy himself regarded it as the natural complement to his "Almagest": "as the latter enables one to predict the positions of the heavenly bodies, so the former expounds the theory of their influences on terrestrial things." The "Tetrabiblos" is one of the most important surviving ancient texts on astrology, and its impact and influence on this field has been immense. It was by far the most popular astrological work of Antiquity and it also greatly influenced the Islamic world, the Medieval Latin West, and the Renaissance. It was reprinted continuously for centuries; its great popularity is attributed to the fact that it is a textbook on the art of astrology itself and a "scientific" defense of it rather than a mere manual instructing lay people on how to practice the art. The present edition also contains the editio princeps of the Greek text of the "Karpas", or "Centiloquium", erroneously attributed to Ptolemy, as well as Pontano's famous Latin version of it.

USD 22,700

ONE OF 15 COPIES - PRESENTATION-COPY

SARTRE, JEAN-PAUL.

Les Mouches. Drame en trois actes.

(1943). The seminal first edition, presentation-copy for Claude Gallimard, one of 15 large paper copies, of Sartre's groundbreaking play, "The Flies", which constitutes his very first play as well as the only one he himself characterized as a "drama". With its dramatical exposition of Sartre's central philosophical themes, "The Flies" became a main exponent for his existentialism. As such it is also one of the most important and influential plays of the 20th century, reaching a far greater public than his strictly philosophical "l'Être et le Néant" from the same year, and immensely influencing 20th century thought, philosophy, and literature.

USD 13,300

MEASURING THE EARTH - FOUNDING THE MODERN ART OF MAPMAKING

SNELLIUS, WILLEBRORD.

Erathosthenes Batavus.

1617. Very rare first edition of Snell's seminal magnum opus, in which he founded the modern systematic use of triangulation, thus also founding the modern art of map-making. It is due to his development of triangulation presented in the present work - a method that was used for accurate large-scale land surveying until the rise of global navigation satellite systems in the 1980'ies - that Snell "may rightfully be called the father of triangulation". (D.S.B.).

USD 15,200

INTRODUCING MARITIME AND COMMERCIAL LAW

STRACCHA, BENUENUTI.

De mercatura, seu Mercatore tractatus.

1553. Exceedingly rare first edition of Stracca's highly important work on merchant- and economic insurance- and insurance-law. With the present work, Stracca provided the first systematic exposition of commercial law, in particular maritime law, which he was the first to view as distinct from civil law. He was furthermore the first to consider these aspects of the law from a practical point of view, thereby breaking with the late Medieval scholastic law-tradition.

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