ACROSS THE CHANNEL: A SHORTLIST OF TITLES FROM ENGLAND & FRANCE
Across the Channel: A Short List of French & British Works

Books about books


Reviewed in Library Quarterly. (941) $225.00

Law, Politics & Social Sciences


Code of contractual law from before the French revolution, approved by Louis the XVI prior to his demise. Text in French. (347) $50.00


Mary A Delany (née Granville) was an English artist, letter-writer, and Bluestocking, equally famous for her "paper-mosaicks" and botanic drawing, needlework and her lively correspondence. --- wikipedia

"DELANY, MARY GRANVILLE (1700-1788), an Englishwoman of literary tastes, was born at Coulston, Wilt, on the 14th of May 1700. She was a niece of the ISL Lord Lansdowne. In 1717 or 1718 she was unhappily married to Alexander Pendarves, a rich old Cornish landowner, who died in 1724. During a visit to Ireland she met Dean Swift and his intimate friend, the Irish divine, Patrick Delany, whose second wife she became in 1743. After his death in 1768 she passed all her summers with her bosom friend the dowager duchess of Portland—Prior's "Peggy"—and when the latter died George III. and Queen Charlotte, whose affection for their "dearest Mrs Delany" seems to have been most genuine, gave her a small house at Windsor and a pension of £300 a year. Fanny Burney (Madam e'DArblay) was introduced to her in 1783, and frequently visited her at her London home and at Windsor, and owed to her friendship her court appointment. At this time Mrs Delany was a charming and sweet old lady, with a reputation for cutting out and making the ingenious "paper mosaiks" now in the British Museum; she had known every one worth knowing in her day," ---1911 Encyclopaedia Britannica (922) $600.00

Literature & Classics


Text in French. Levy, Sand's official publisher, released this New Edition in the author's lifetime. (294) $240.00
Philosophy & Religions


James Hayday (1796–1872), was a British bookbinder. Born in London in 1796, he served his time with Charles Marchant, vellum-binder, 12 Gloucester Street, Queen Square, and then for some time worked as a journeyman. In 1825 he became one of the auditors of the Journeymen Bookbinders’ Trade Society. He commenced business in a very humble way. In 1833 he rented premises at 31 Little Queen Street, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, where he continued until his retirement in 1861. Hayday had long seen that it was desirable to make printed books open freely and lie flat; his attention is believed to have been drawn to this matter by seeing Bagster’s polyglot bibles, which were bound by Joseph Welsh of 10 Queen Street, Golden Square, in what was known as ‘Bagster’s Renowned Binding.’ These books were made flexible, and covered with purple pin-headed sealskin with a blind tool ornament. In his own binding he sewed the books all along every sheet, and to remedy the extra thickness that would be caused by sewing with thread, used silk, and to equalise the thickness rounded the fore edges more than was customary. To make the back tight he dispensed with the ordinary backing of paper, and fastened the leather cover down to the back. Still the constant opening of the book disfigured the grain of the leather, and to obviate this he introduced the cross or pin-headed grain, or what is now termed Turkey Morocco. Works bound by Hayday became famous, and his name attached to a book raised its value twenty-five per cent. Edward Gardner of the Oxford Warehouse, 7 Paternoster Row, secured Hayday’s services for the Oxford books exclusively. William Pickering, bookseller, of 57 Chancery Lane, gave him the benefit of his long experience, and introduced him to many wealthy patrons. After entering into a brief partnership with Mr. Boyce, ‘a finisher,’ he again started on his own account at 31 Little Queen Street. Unable to compete with other and cheaper binders, he was adjudicated a bankrupt on 10 June 1861. He sold the use of his name to William Mansell, who succeeded to the bookbinding establishment. Retiring to St Leonards-on-Sea, Hayday died there on 19 March 1872, aged 76. --- Dictionary of National Biography (819) $425.00
Poetry & Drama


"The Mourning Bride is a tragedy written by British playwright William Congreve. It premiered in 1697 at Betterton's Co., Lincoln's Inn Fields. The play centres on Zara, a queen held captive by Manuel, King of Granada, and a web of love and deception which results in the mistaken murder of Manuel who is in disguise, and Zara's also mistaken suicide in response.

There are two very widely known quotations in the play; from the opening to the play:

Music has charms to soothe a savage breast,
The word "breast" is often misquoted as "beast" and "has" sometimes appears as "hath".

Also often repeated is a quotation of Zara in Act III, Scene VIII:

Heav'n has no rage, like love to hatred turn'd,
Nor hell a fury, like a woman scorn'd.
This is usually paraphrased as "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." --- Wikipedia (867) $500.00
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7. Jean Baptiste Poquelin de Molière. **The Works of Molière [Complete 12 volume set]**. Paris: Chez Barrie Frères and George Barrie & Son, [1891]. First Thus; Astral Edition. A exquisitely bound, very good plus first thus, limited edition in full crushed Levant morocco leather with gold tooling. Number 35 of 100 copies on Japan Vellum paper that were offered by subscription only. Binding is sturdy and square. All edges in brilliant gilt. Marbled endpapers. Over 150 engravings, some colored, all with captioned tissue guards. Original title pages to each play are reproduced in French. Text in English. Heavy rubbing to all joints, with dye transferring to one’s fingers from rubbed joints. Rubbered corners. Still a lovely and prestigious set, even with the flaws noted below. Quarto, 9 x 12 inches tall. **Heavy set will require additional postage overseas, billed at actual cost.**

Volume I: Frontis, tissue guard and 4 pages show cleaned mold stain (cleaned with denatured alcohol---conservation standard)
Volume II: 1/8 inch loss at head of spine over 1/3 of crown
Volume III: Miniscule tear at foot of spine
Volume IV & V: Tiny hole on spine
Volume VII: Tiny loss at head and foot of spine
Volume IX: Old, narrow bookworm tunnel on top front corner, measuring 1/2 inch (see photo)
Volume XI: Two old, narrow bookworm tunnels on top front corner, measuring 1/4 and 1 inch respectively.

Very good. Full leather.

*Volume I.* Memoir; The Blunderer; Love Tiff.
*Volume II.* The Pretentious Young Ladies; Sganarelle; The Jealousy of Le Barbouille; The Flying Doctor; Don Garcia of Navarre.
*Volume III.* The School for Husbands; The Bores; The School for Wives.
*Volume IV.* The School for wives Criticised; The Impromptu of Versailles; The Forced Marriage; The Princess of Elis.
*Volume V.* Don Juan; Love is the Best Doctor; The Misanthrope.
*Volume VI.* The Physician in Spite of Himself; Melicerte; A Comic Pastoral; The Sicilian.
*Volume VII.* Tartuffe; Amphitryon.
*Volume VIII.* This Miser; George Dandin.
*Volume IX.* Monsieur de Pourceaugnac; The Magnificent Lovers.
*Volume X.* The Citizen Who apes the Nobleman; Psyche.
*Volume XI.* The Rogueries of Scapin; The Countess of Escarbnas.
*Volume XII.* The Learned Ladies; The Imaginary Friend; Poems. (944) $3,999.00
8. Virgilius Maro Publius [Virgil]; John Dryden, trans. The Works of Virgil: Containing His Pastorals, Georgics, and Æneis: adorn'd with a hundred sculptures. London: Jacob Tonson, 1697. First Illustrated Edition. A very good, complete, small paper copy of the First Illustrated edition. Full older red leather with bright gold tooling on cover and bright gold titling on spine. Five raised bands. Rebacked full leather binding is tight and square. Starting mild red rot at joints. Shelfwear to covers. Complete and untrimmed. Frontis backed onto art paper plus 101 plates. Some waved pages beginning at pg. 45. Moderate to heavy toning and foxing throughout. Multiple pages with loss not affecting text or plates. One long closed tear to page 61. Three short strike through corrections inked by hand to page 35 and page 133, otherwise clean. Three misprinted page numbers, but text is complete (224 for 220, 448 for 484, and 503 for 493) page 638 bound in last (out of order). 640 pp. plus errata, unpaginated dedications, [102] plates, and reviews. Folio, 8 & 3/4 x 14 & 1/2 inches tall (text block). This is very large and heavy and will require extra shipping charges, billed at cost.

Contents:
To the Lord Clifford
The Life of Virgil
Preface to the Pastorals
To Mr. Dryden [Five reviews]
Errata
The Names of the First Subscribers
The Names of the Second Subscribers
Pt. I: Pastorals (1-10)
To the Right Honorable Phillip
An Essay on the Georgics
Pt. II: The Georgics (1-4)
To the Most Honorable John of Normandy
Pt. III: Virgil’s Æneis (1-12)
Post Script
Notes and Observations
Very good in none as issued dust-jacket. Full leather.

Same edition as copy held by the British Library [Wing V-616].


"This magnificently illustrated book is the first edition of John Dryden’s translation of Virgil, the ancient Roman poet. The collection includes the Pastorals or Eclogues, a source for the Renaissance Arcadian ideal; Georgics, an agricultural poem in four parts; and Virgil’s masterpiece the Æneid, an epic poem chronicling the adventures of Æneas, legendary ancestor of the Romans.

The Works of Virgil (1694–97) was conceived, created and circulated by Dryden and the publisher Jacob Tonson. Their successful partnership established publishing methods and an aesthetic movement that shaped and defined literary production in the 18th century.

Translation
Dryden did not translate Virgil’s work directly or literally into English. Instead, he revised, added to and reworked the classical Latin to make the poetry vivid and relevant to late 17th-century readers. In his ‘Dedication to John, Lord Marquess of Normanby, Earl of Mulgrave’, Dryden explains that his alterations were done with great reverence, and were only ever intended to extend and expand upon Virgil’s poetry: ‘They will seem (at least I have the vanity to think so), not struck into him, but growing out of him’ (sig. E4v).

This translation technique was immensely popular. It sparked a new, more intuitive appreciation for classical literature and its translation which, in turn, grew into the clever, confident literary movement of the early 18th century known as the English Augustan Age, a
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period characterised by the poetry of Alexander Pope, the drama of John Gay and Jonathan Swift’s satire.

Subscription
Dryden’s work translating the text and the overall publishing costs were funded in advance by private subscribers, all of whom are named and acknowledged at the opening of the book (Sig. ++1r–++2v) and within cartouches at the bottom of the intricate illustrations that appear throughout. This innovative way of financing a large and lavish text was, like Dryden’s approach to translation, adopted with great success in the 18th and 19th centuries." --- The British Library (940) $2,600.00


World Authors


"SANDEAU, LÉONARD SYLVAIN JULIEN [Jules] (1811–1883), French novelist, was born at Aubusson (Creuse) on the 19th of February 1811. He was sent to Paris to study law, but spent much of his time with unruly students. He met Madame Dudevant (George Sand) at Le Coudray in the house of a friend, and when she came to Paris in 1831 she joined Sandeau. The intimacy did not last long, but it produced Rose et Blanche (1831), a novel written in common under the pseudonym Jules Sand, from which George Sand took the idea of her famous nom de guerre.

Sandeau continued for nearly fifty years to produce novels and to collaborate in plays. His best works are Marianna (1839), in which he draws a portrait of George Sand; Le Docteur Herbeau (1841); Catherine (1845); Mademoiselle de la Seigliére (1848), a successful picture of society under Louis Philippe, dramatized in 1851; Madeleine (1848); La Chasse au roman (1849); Sacs et parchemins (1851); La Maison de Penarvan (1858); La Roche aux mouettes (1871). The famous play of Le Gendre de M. Poirier is one of several which he wrote with Émile Augier—the novelist usually contributing the story and the dramatist the theatrical working up. Meanwhile Sandeau had been made conservateur of the Mazarin library in 1853, elected to the Academy in 1858, and next year appointed librarian of St Cloud. At the suppression of this latter office, after the fall of the empire, he was pensioned. He died on the 24th of April 1883. He was never a very popular novelist, and the quiet grace of his style, and his refusal to pander to the popular taste in the morals and incidents of his novels, may have disqualified him for popularity" --- Britannica (693) $60.00